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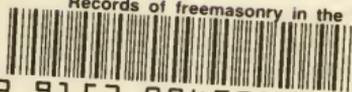
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Freemasons. Connecticut.
Grand Lodge.
The Records of Freemasonry

IN THE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,

COMPILED

FROM THE JOURNALS

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE,

From 1845 to 1854.

By R. W. E. G. STORER, G. Secretary.



New Haven;

PRINTED BY E. G. & H. B. STORER, 297 CHAPEL STREET.

1861.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS
OF THE
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut,

WHO HAVE

For twenty years, by their *counsel, votes and purse*, encouraged and promoted the enterprize

OF COMPILING AND PUBLISHING

The Historical Records of the Craft in their own Jurisdiction,

THIS SECOND VOLUME

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED BY THE

GRAND SECRETARY.

INTRODUCTORY.

BEFORE proceeding with the continuation of the transactions of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut, we wish to apprise our readers that a few scraps of its early history have been "brought to light," which were unknown at the commencement of the first volume, but which "lay buried in darkness" until the "rubbish" had been cleared away for the purpose of "laying a foundation for the second."

In one of the valuable masonic periodicals with which we have been favored, we noticed that a correspondent in the State of Vermont made mention of the fact that the original charters of some of the earliest Lodges in that jurisdiction were obtained from Connecticut. As we had never discovered, in our researches among the hidden things belonging to the primeval workings of the craft, any record of such transaction, or any allusion to applications from brethren in Vermont for charters, except one, in the year 1785, to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts,* we were disposed to be somewhat skeptical on the subject, and addressed a note of inquiry to our most valued friend and brother, P. C. TUCKER, Grand Master of Vermont, to which we received the following satisfactory reply :

Vergennes, Vt., Nov. 30, 1860.

R. W. E. G. STORER :

Dear Sir and Brother—Your note of the 27th has been received, and I am happy that I have got a chance, at last, to do you even the humblest favor. For many years you have extended to me the greatest liberality of masonic kindness and

favor, and it has never been in my power, before, to *say* any thing or *do* any thing in return, beyond that old oxydized acknowledgment of "thank you, brother."

I have in my possession the documents you desire to know about, drawn out *on good old substantial parchment*, in a most plain and elegant hand-writing, and I give you an abstract of them, thus :—

The first charter is dated "Hartford, May 18th, 1793," and the officers by which it was issued are "William Judd, Grand Master, John Mix, Grand Secretary." The brethren to whom this charter was granted, were "Joseph Fay, David Russell, David Fay, Joseph Hinsdill, John Norton, and Daniel Porter, residing in and near the town of Bennington, State of Vermont." The following are the officers named in the charter, for "TEMPLE LODGE," in Bennington aforesaid, viz :—"Noah Smith, Esq., first Master ; Daniel Porter, first Senior Warden ; David Fay, first Junior Warden."

The second charter, which was for "UNION LODGE," Middlebury, Addison County, State of Vermont, is dated, "Hartford, May 15th, 1794," issued by "William Judd, Grand Master, and John Mix, Grand Secretary, to the following brethren :—John Chipman, Joel Linsley, James Bradley, Abraham Burthong, Lewis McDonald, John —, Abiel Linsley, and Joseph McDonald, residing in and near the town of Middlebury aforesaid." The following officers are named in the charter, viz :—John Chipman, first Master ; Joel Linsley, first Senior Warden ; Lewis McDonald, first Junior Warden."

This abstract, Bro. Storer, gives all the facts ; although, with more time at command, I could have drawn it out in better shape. I will say, however, that if you would like a *literal* copy of both original charters, I will have it done for you ; or, I will loan you the *originals themselves*, that you may examine and copy them, if you desire it, and I can find a safe hand to transmit them from my possession to yours.

With kindest remembrances,

Fraternally and truly yours,

PHILIP C. TUCKER.

This timely letter from the venerable and respected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, affords material for showing—what we could not show by our own record—that our Grand Lodge held its regular communications in May, 1793 and 1794;* and that the craft in Connecticut had the honor of being instrumental in establishing the first Lodges in Vermont, as well as in Ohio.†

Besides the wish of putting on permanent record the historical facts expressed above, we have another reason for giving Bro. TUCKER'S letter entire; it is the last communication we can ever receive from him! Our correspondence on the subject of Freemasonry commenced many years ago, and, being facilitated by many personal interviews, it had ripened into a familiarity and fraternal friendship which nothing could arrest but that stern decree of Providence which "clips the brittle thread of life," and sends us on a pilgrimage to "that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns!" While waiting in patient expectation of an answer to a recent letter, and before we had finished the perusal of Bro. TUCKER'S last communication to the Grand Lodge over which he has many years presided, we were startled at the announcement by the masonic press of his sudden demise, in the midst of a bright career of useful labors in the masonic vineyard.

* In searching for the early records of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, all we succeeded in finding, for the year 1793, was a scrap containing a single resolution, passed at the semi-annual session in October; and for 1794, we only found the record of an installation, which was held in December. See vol. I, p. 70.

† Vol. I, p. 161.

We choose to rescue from oblivion the following record of a County Masonic Convention, held in 1798, to show the system which was observed by the Masons of that day, in celebrating the festivals of the ancient patrons of our Institution. The document was discovered among the old papers on file in the archives of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, at New Haven.

At a meeting of a Committee appointed by the Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, belonging to the County of New Haven, to wit: Wallingford, Hamden, Cheshire, Woodbridge, Guilford, Derby and New Haven,—holden at New Haven, on the 17th day of October, 1798,—for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject of celebrating the Festivals of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, in rotation, and in such a manner as shall be found advisable for the future accommodation of the several Lodges, the following brethren were present:—

William Munson, New Haven Lodge ;
 Jesse Atwater, Samuel Woodruff, Wallingford ;
 Samuel Bellamy, Hamden ;
 Noah Hotchkiss, Cheshire ;
 Elihu Sanford, Hezekiah Sperry, Woodbridge ;
 Jesse Buck, Sheldon Curtiss, Francis French, Derby ,
 Thomas Powers, Guilford ;
 Jared Byington, Waterbury.

Bro. Samuel Bellamy was chosen chairman, and Bro. Samuel Woodruff chosen Secretary.

The following was the order of business transacted by the Convention.

Voted, That in our opinion it would be expedient and advisable that the Lodges of New Haven, Wallingford, Hamden and Cheshire celebrate the festivals of St. John in rotation annually, beginning at Wallingford for the celebration of St. John the

Evangelist in December next, and proceed in the following order viz: Cheshire, New Haven, and Hamden, and to proceed in future in the same order.

Voted, That in our opinion the Lodges of Derby, Woodbridge and Waterbury, celebrate the festival of St. John in rotation annually, beginning at Derby, for the celebration of St. John the Evangelist in December next, and to proceed in the following order, viz: Woodbridge and Waterbury, and in future to proceed in the same order.

All which is submitted by the Committee aforesaid, per order of the Chairman.

S. WOODRUFF, Secretary of Convention
New Haven, October 17th, 1798.

The above regulations were adopted by the Lodges, and kept up for many years; and the motive for their final abandonment does not appear on record.

 The present number will close the second volume, and bring the records of the Grand Lodge down to the year 1854, the time when the publication of the proceedings was commenced in uniform octavo size, and which has been continued in the same style to the present day. The declining health of the compiler will not allow him to continue the work further, and in taking leave of his readers, he indulges the hope that it may be continued by his successors to the latest masonic posterity.

E. G. STORER,

Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

New Haven, May 1, 1861.

GRAND LODGE OF CONNECTICUT.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1846.

At the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at the Temple, in the city of New Haven, on Wednesday, May 13, A. L. 5846 :

PRESENT :

- M. W. HENRY PECK, Grand Master.
R. W. HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Deputy Grand Master.
AVERY C. BABCOCK, Senior Grand Warden.
BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Junior Grand Warden.
BENJAMIN BEECHER, Grand Treasurer.
ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Senior Grand Deacon.
ELISHA DOUGLASS, Junior Grand Deacon.
GEORGE SHUMWAY, Grand Marshal.
FREDERICK CROSWELL, Grand Sentinel.
WILLIAM STORER, } Grand Stewards.
LEE DUNNING, }
ISAAC TUTTLE, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, P. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.
R. W. WILLIAM H. JONES, P. G. S., Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.
M. W. LEONARD HENDEE, Past Grand Master.
M. W. ANER BRADLEY, Past Grand Master.
R. W. JUSTIN REDFIELD, Past Grand Secretary.
R. W. DAVID KIMBERLY, Past Grand Secretary.

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—Fred. Crosswell, Wm. E. Sanford,
Caleb Fenner.
- No. 2, St. John's Middletown—Noah A. Phelps.
- No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—George Giddings, David Clark,
Solomon Porter.
- No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—James Stevens.
- No. 8, St. John's, Stratford—Samuel Benjamin.
- No. 11, St. Paul's, Litchfield—David Marsh.
- No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—Ebenezer Fisher.
- No. 18, Hiram, Newtown—Alexander Hall, Charles Sherman.
- No. 23, St. James, Preston—Avery Downer.
- No. 25, Columbia, Glastenbury—Oliver Brainard, Wm. Norton.
- No. 27, Rising Sun, Washington—Wm. Moody, Ithiel Hickox.
- No. 31, Union, New London—Elisha Douglass.
- No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—Chauncey Burgess.
- No. 40, Union, Danbury—Nathaniel H. Wildman.
- No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—John Cooke, Charles Dean,
Patrick Riley.
- No. 44, Eastern Star, Windham—Benjamin Webb.
- No. 46, Putnam, Pomfret—Luther Rawson.
- No. 49, Jerusalem, Ridgefield—Chauncey Olmsted.
- No. 50 Warren, Andover—Timothy Dimock, Leonard Hendee.
- No. 55, Seneca, Torrington—Edward Pierpont.
- No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—William Hyde.
- No. 58, Northern Star, Barkhamstead—Anson Wheeler, Ahira
Case.
- No. 60, Wolcott, Stafford—Moses B. Harvey.
- No. 66, Widow's Son, Branford—J. W. Frisbie, Willoughby
L. Lay.
- No. 73, Manchester, Manchester—William Blythe.
- No. 75, Mount Vernon, Jewett City—Lucius Tyler.

At 2 o'clock, P. M., the Grand Officers took their stations, and the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain; when the M. W. Grand Master delivered the following

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE:

If there is anything which should be calculated to inspire our hearts with emotions of gratitude to that Being to whom we are indebted for life, for health, and for all the blessings of social intercourse, and in whom we all profess to put our trust, I think it should be the consideration of the fact, that we are permitted, at each returning season, to assemble ourselves peaceably, with none to molest or make us afraid, to devise means for the advancement of that good cause, which has done so much to alleviate the sorrows and distresses of our fellow-men, and whose most excellent tenets are so well fitted for the capacities with which we have been endowed by the Great Creator. And, especially, have we cause for gratitude, brethren, when we learn that throughout the length and breadth of the land this good cause is progressing, and that the spirit of discord and disunion, with which for a series of years we were threatened, has given place to that better feeling which we humbly trust is based upon the sacred platform of "Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love."

By a resolution of the Grand Lodge, a committee is annually appointed, whose duty it is to examine the communications from those Grand Lodges with whom we are in correspondence, and report such topics for our consideration as they shall judge proper. Of course, the correspondence referred to is placed by the Grand Secretary, as is proper it should be, in the hands of this committee, consequently it does not come under the immediate inspection of the Grand Master. From this committee, therefore, the brethren may expect such a report as will enable them to form an opinion of the progress which is making in our ancient institution. There is, however, one topic connected with this correspondence, to which I conceive it my duty briefly to allude. It is that of the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. There is a Convention now in session in the State of Virginia, composed of delegates from such Grand Lodges as are favorably disposed towards the object, for the purpose of organizing such General Grand Lodge. Since I have had the honor to be enrolled as a member of this Grand Lodge, it has been our policy to adopt with extreme caution, if adopted at all, any measures (however important they may seem at first view) which shall appear like innovations, or be calculated in the slightest degree to disturb our ancient landmarks; consequently we have not felt it expedient to send delegates to the several Conventions which have been held at sundry times for the proposed purpose of adding a brighter lustre to the light we already enjoy. Whether this policy is dictated by wisdom, time and experience alone can determine. But I think I am not alone in the opinion, that thus far we have seen no occasion to regret the course we have pursued. If the proceedings of the Convention now being held should result in the formation of a General Grand Lodge, I apprehend we shall find little difficulty, at any time hereafter, (if upon mature deliberation we shall arrive at the conclusion that such a measure will have a tendency to promote the interests of Freemasonry,) should we make the application in a proper spirit, in uniting ourselves with it.

The requirements of some of the Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, that all visiting brethren be furnished with a certificate of membership, appears

to have met with favor in some Grand Lodges, while in others the same views have been taken in relation to it as in our own. So far as I can learn, however, but little inconvenience has been experienced by our members, in gaining admission into those Lodges whose rules professedly require such certificates. When they state that our Grand Lodge neither issues them (unless on the particular request of a brother) nor recognizes the right to demand them, they are permitted to enter upon the application of the ancient tests.

By reference to our records, it will be perceived that at our last annual communication the Grand Lodge proceeded to annul the charters of several subordinate Lodges, for non-compliance with the by-laws, requiring returns to be made, and a representation at our annual communications. Among the charters thus revoked, was that of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 7, Woodbury. During the recess of the Grand Lodge, a communication has been received by our Grand Secretary, from some of the late officers of that Lodge, complaining of the severity with which they have been treated by the summary process pursued by the Grand Lodge. I think, had these complaining brethren been present at our sessions, for several years past, they would have arrived at a different conclusion from that which they appear to have adopted. For I believe I am warranted in the assertion, that since I have had the honor to sit as a member of this body, no subject has come before us that has been the occasion of so much vexation and perplexity, as the delinquencies of some of the subordinate Lodges; and that until forbearance had ceased, in a measure, to be a virtue, these delinquencies were tolerated—not that the obligations to reverence the acts of the Grand Lodge were supposed to be of less binding effect than formerly—but owing to the peculiar circumstances in which some of the Lodges were placed by the intolerant spirit of the enemies of the order, it was thought expedient to overlook these delinquencies for a time. The experiment proved that we had adopted erroneous views, and that the institution could be preserved in no other way but by a strict adherence to our rules. But I think in no one instance has the Grand Lodge proceeded to the extremity of revoking a charter, without having previously directed the Grand Secretary to give such delinquent Lodge notice, that unless at the next succeeding annual communication they should show the Grand Lodge satisfactory reason for their delinquency, their charter would be revoked. I think, therefore, that the complaints of our brethren of King Solomon's Lodge are groundless, inasmuch as they could, by the very simple process of answering to the requisitions of the Grand Lodge, have averted it. And, besides, by a regulation of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master is authorized to grant dispensations to Lodges whose charters have been surrendered, upon the application of the brethren, allowing them to resume their labors, until the succeeding session of the Grand Lodge, when their charters can be restored, in all cases where it shall appear that no palpable wrong has been committed. While on this subject, I beg leave to suggest, whether it would not be expedient and proper that some measures should be adopted that will operate with more efficiency to place in the archives of the Grand Lodge the charters and other effects of all such subordinate Lodges as have voluntarily relinquished them, or have been revoked by the Grand Lodge.

I am happy to state, that the vote of the Grand Lodge, passed at our last communication, restoring the charter and rights of Somerset Lodge, No. 34, Norwich

has been carried into effect; and that by request of the Lodge, I deputed our brethren, the R. W. Senior Grand Warden, and the R. W. Grand Secretary, who visited them on the last anniversary of the festival of St. John the Baptist, and installed their officers; and I am pleased to learn that that ancient Lodge is at this time in a remarkable healthy and flourishing condition, and are once more, as they formerly were, efficient co-workers with us in the good cause.

A resolution was passed at our last annual communication, directing the Grand Secretary to summon the last officers of Federal Lodge, No. 17, and Aurora Lodge, No. 35, to appear before the Grand Lodge, at the session upon which we have now entered, "and show cause why they should not be expelled from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry." I am informed by the Grand Secretary, that he has acted upon those instructions, and that the brethren have been notified as directed by the resolution. Those of our brethren who have assembled with us the two last years, need not be informed that this resolution was passed for the reason that the persons contemplated by it had been, or were supposed to have been, guilty of a gross infraction of the by-laws of the Grand Lodge, by passing a vote to dissolve their respective Lodges, and instead of depositing their funds in the treasury of the Grand Lodge, have divided these funds among themselves, and applied them to their own purposes. Whether these brethren have thought proper to pay any deference to the summons of the Grand Lodge, and will be present with us, I am unable to say. If they are, I indulge the hope, that for the honor of Masonry, and for their own reputation among their brethren, they are prepared to exonerate themselves from these charges. If they are not, I can see no good reason why the Grand Lodge should not proceed at once to expel them, as unworthy to retain the name of Freemason.

I have thus endeavored, brethren, very briefly to present for your consideration such subjects as appeared to me to be of paramount importance. Doubtless the report of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence will suggest other topics, more particularly deserving your attention. Whatever they may be, I trust that in all our discussions and deliberations, we shall not be unmindful that "Charity" is the uppermost step in our emblematic ladder, and that it is not only necessary for our peace and happiness here, but that it "extends beyond the grave, through the boundless realms of eternity." And may we find, at the close of this session, that our meeting on this occasion has had the effect to strengthen those sacred bonds by which we have been so long united.

In conclusion, brethren, suffer me once more to tender to you my most grateful acknowledgements for the uniform kindness you have extended towards me, during the three years your indulgence has permitted me to occupy this chair, and the assurance that in my future life, the hours I have spent with you will be numbered among my most pleasing recollections. And as I now propose to retire from the position I have occupied with so much satisfaction to myself, allow me to say, that although I cannot but feel a consciousness that my duties have been but very imperfectly performed, yet that I ought not to reproach myself with having "knowingly or wittingly" deviated from that course which appeared to me best calculated to advance the interests of Freemasonry. In selecting a brother to preside over your future deliberations, I doubt not that you will be guided by that wisdom which will result in the best good of this ancient institu-

tion. And may that Being who controls our destinies, so direct our steps, that we may all at last be assembled "in the Grand Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides."

HENRY PECK, G. Master.

On motion of Bro. Ellis, it was resolved, that the address of the Grand Master be referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair.

On motion of Bro. Storer, it was resolved, that all Master Masons in regular standing be invited to sit in the Grand Lodge as visitors, during the present communication.

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

On Delinquent Lodges—Brs. Giddings, Hyde and Douglass.

On Unfinished Business—Brs. Jones, Wheeler and Case.

On By-Laws and Regulations—Brs. Sanford, Shumway and Clark.

On the Affairs of Federal Lodge, No. 17—Brs. Moody, Hall and Burgess.

On the Grand Master's Address—Brs. Ellis, Wildman and Phelps.

The Auditing Committee presented the following report, and it was accepted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn.

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication, to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge for the year ending May 12, A. L. 5846, respectfully report, that they have attended to that duty, and find that all the moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, in whose hands there is now a balance in cash of nine hundred and eleven dollars and ninety-seven cents; which, with fifty-seven shares of Union School Stock, valued at fifteen dollars a share, amounting to eight hundred and fifty-five dollars, make the whole amount of the funds of the Grand Lodge, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six dollars and ninety-seven cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRED. CROSWELL, }
E. GILBERT, JUN., } *Committee.*

New Haven, May 12, 1846.

Bro. Ellis, from the committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge for the past year, presented the following report, which was accepted, and the resolutions adopted :

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn.

The committee appointed at the last annual communication, to examine the foreign correspondence of the Grand Lodge, respectfully report, that they have inspected, with as much care and attention as time and circumstances would permit, the documents received by the Grand Secretary, from time to time, during the past year. The correspondence is voluminous and highly important, consisting of minute proceedings and interesting communications from all or nearly all the Grand Lodges in the Union, viz :—Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Florida, Texas, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

Your committee report with great satisfaction, that they find, from the documents referred to, that in all parts of our country the condition of our time honored order is healthy, prosperous, and onward, and is spreading, in some sections, with a rapidity beyond what has probably ever been known heretofore. The correspondence contains many hundred pages, and is generally in good taste, breathing the spirit of concord and brotherly love ; though the dictatorial manner in which the Grand Lodge of New York has seen fit to speak of the doings of some of her sister institutions, has met with severe rebuke in more than one instance. It is to be regretted that in the correspondence of one Grand Lodge with another, offensive language should be used, or remarks made in such a manner as to engender strife among those whose only contention should be, “who can best work and best agree ;” and the fear that something may be said which might give occasion for recrimination, or unkind remarks, will be a sufficient excuse for brevity on this subject in this report.

One of the most important topics which has come under the notice of your committee, as agitated and discussed by our sister Grand Lodges, is the subject of forming a General Grand Lodge of the United States, consolidating the several sovereign Grand Lodges into one. This subject has been several times

discussed, and general conventions held, within the last half-century, composed of sound and judicious members of the fraternity, from different States, and has always been repudiated as impolitic and unwise for the fraternity to adopt. Your committee have been informed, by old and venerable members of our order, that in the days of our revered brother GEORGE WASHINGTON, the question was strongly agitated, and at once met the disapprobation of all the burning and shining lights of Freemasonry in those days, including him just named; and, in the opinion of your committee, those of the present day, who are moving in this matter, are not wiser men or better Masons, than those who, in the days of Washington, and often since, have found obstacles, which could not be surmounted, in the way of forming a General Grand Lodge. The same obstacles, we believe still exist, to a vastly increased extent; and many other reasons might be given, to show the inexpediency of giving the assent of this Grand Lodge to the proposed measure.

Another subject to which the attention of the Grand Lodge is called by this correspondence, is that of sending delegates to different countries in Europe, for the purpose of obtaining Masonic information, and establishing a uniformity of work. This proposition was first made by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and although the object may be a desirable one, yet it appears to your committee, that the frequent visits which are made to our Lodges by intelligent brethren from Europe, who are constantly traveling in this country, might afford us opportunities sufficient for obtaining all the necessary information. With the most profound respect for the opinions and intentions of the distinguished brethren with whom this proposition originated, as well as those who have approved of it, we must be allowed to express our belief that the contemplated mission to Europe is unnecessary, and would be attended with an expense, which this Grand Lodge, with its very limited resources, could not assist in defraying.

Your committee observe that the subject of requiring Grand Lodge certificates of brethren visiting Lodges out of their own jurisdiction, is still agitated by our sister Grand Lodges. On

this subject there is a diversity of opinion, but a majority of the Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, concur with this Grand Lodge, in the action heretofore had on this subject. The committee will therefore only advise an adherence to what we have already adopted.

Your committee are of opinion that of the vast number of subjects which are agitated in the different Grand Lodges, but few require our attention, and among them are some that they wish had never been published, as they are hardly proper to be written. Other matters have been brought up, which this Grand Lodge has already acted upon. Upon the whole, the committee are pleased that they can truly report, from information contained in the communications submitted to them, that our ancient, venerable, and beloved institution, is flourishing and prosperous, beyond all former example, and is exerting a useful and healthy influence in almost every part of our widely extended and happy country.

The examination and perusal and these interesting documents has afforded your committee much gratification. Our correspondence the past year has been more full and complete than at any former time. Several new Grand Lodges have communicated with us for the first time, and of the old ones we only miss from our files those of Massachusetts, and Rhode Island; these, from some cause, probably accidental, have failed to reach us.

The following is a brief summary of Masonic intelligence, not altogether uninteresting to the fraternity, which your committee have hastily gleaned from the documents placed before them.

MAINE.—The Grand Lodge of this State reports 58 subordinate Lodges, under the superintendence of eight District Deputy Grand Masters, and all in prosperous condition.

NEW HAMPSHIRE has 20 subordinates, also under the supervision of District Deputies, who visit the Lodges at least once every year. The right spirit prevails here, and the order is steadily advancing.

NEW YORK.—The Grand Lodge of this State numbers 102 subordinates under its jurisdiction. Many new Lodges have been created, and many long dormant revived. This being the State in which the most violent excitement and opposition to our order prevailed, we feel no ordinary gratification on account of

its present prosperity. The facilities which this Grand Lodge possesses of intercourse with the Grand Lodges of Europe, through their representatives, enable them to present, in their report, matters of rare interest, not only to their own members, but to the whole Masonic family. The report of their committee on foreign correspondence is got up with much labor and ability, and did our limits permit, we would gladly give some extracts.

MARYLAND.—This Grand Lodge has 86 subordinates, and a fund of \$36,934; this alone shows her enterprise and success.

VIRGINIA.—This Grand Lodge has 154 subordinate Lodges, all in a thriving condition.

NORTH CAROLINA.—There are 108 subordinates under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. It is the duty of their Grand Master, or his deputy, to visit each Lodge in the State once every year. In their proceedings they report not only the names of the *officers* of all their subordinate Lodges, but also the names of all their *members*. Whether this is beneficial, we are not able to say.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—From this Grand Lodge we only receive an account of their annual election, and the signatures of their Grand Officers; and although this is gratifying, still, as we have exchanged representatives with them, it would be pleasing to learn something of their proceedings.

GEORGIA.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge show an active and healthy state of Masonry within her borders; but they do not inform us whether they have acted upon the nomination made by us last year, at their request, of a brother to represent them in our Grand Lodge. The committee recommend that our Grand Secretary be instructed to open a correspondence with the view of ascertaining whether that nomination has ever been confirmed by the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

MISSISSIPPI.—This Grand Lodge is in a very flourishing condition, and fast increasing in numbers. She has 47 subordinates under her jurisdiction, all doing much work.

LOUISIANA.—This Grand Lodge has sent us their "Annual Masonic Statement," a very interesting paper, containing complete lists of the officers of the several bodies under their jurisdiction, and an abstract of recent amendments to their constitution. They have 23 subordinate Lodges, in active operation. From this "statement" we infer that the affairs of our brethren in Louisiana, and particularly in the city of New Orleans, are conducted in the most able and respectable manner.

MISSOURI.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge comprise 132 pages of printed matter, most of which is of great interest and importance to the craft. The affairs of their Masonic College occupy a considerable portion of these pages, and is an object of which our brethren in Missouri may justly feel proud. This college was established for the education of the children of indigent and deceased Masons, with such others as the Grand Lodge may see fit to admit. The Legislature of the State has granted them a charter, with power to hold real estate to

an unlimited amount, and to govern the institution in their own way. This we believe is the second year that this college has been in operation, and the catalogue of students contains 99 names. Every Mason cannot but wish this institution abundant success. There are 30 subordinate Lodges in the State, all in a flourishing condition.

ILLINOIS.—This Grand Lodge has 28 subordinates under its jurisdiction, and notwithstanding the various difficulties they have had to contend with, they appear to be generally doing well. Their report is very extensive, and embraces many interesting topics. Did it come within our scope, we might make some extracts.

MICHIGAN, IOWA, and WISCONSIN.—These three young and healthy Grand Lodges, which have recently arisen among the forests of the west, give promise of much usefulness in the respective regions in which they are located. Their reports present an aggregate of 26 subordinates, all in vigorous action. We would cordially extend to each the right hand of fellowship, and bid them godspeed in the great and glorious work in which they have engaged.

FLORIDA and ARKANSAS have each small Grand Lodges, but are both steadily increasing. The Grand Lodge of Florida is erecting a new hall.

KENTUCKY TENNESSEE, OHIO, INDIANA and ALABAMA.—These Grand Lodges, have each made large and voluminous reports of their doings, showing a vast amount of work among their subordinates, the details of which the limits of this report will not allow us to give. These, as well as all the southern and western Lodges, are making rapid advances in the cause of Masonry. New Lodges are springing up in regions where our rites have been heretofore unpracticed and unknown; their funds are large, their means of doing good extensive, and their increase in numbers truly astonishing—greatly surpassing the New England States.

In conclusion, your committee cannot but congratulate the fraternity on the bright and cheering aspect which our time-honored and beloved order every where presents. In the East, the West, and the South, “the sound of the gavel” is heard, and even in the wilderness, moral edifices are being erected by the skill and labor of our craftsmen, whose walls we trust will outlast the crumbling marble, and whose pillars the ruthless hand of time will not be able to demolish.

Your committee respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the subjoined resolutions :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is not in favor of the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and cannot consent to relinquish its rights and sovereignty over its present jurisdiction, to any person or persons whatsoever.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is not in favor of the appointment of a dele-

gate to "travel in foreign countries" to obtain Masonic information, and respectfully decline the invitation to bear a portion of the expenses of such delegate.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge reciprocate the courtesy of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, and that our Grand Secretary be directed to forward to each of them a copy of the proceedings of this Grand Communication, and solicit a continuance of fraternal intercourse.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WM. H. ELLIS.	} <i>Committee.</i>
A. C. BABCOCK,	
WM. STORER.	

On motion of M. W. Bro. Ellis, it was resolved that the Grand Lodge will now proceed to the election of officers. The ballots being taken, the following brethren were declared to be duly elected :

M. W. HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Master.
 R. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Deputy Grand Master.
 BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Senior Grand Warden.
 WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Junior Grand Warden.
 BENJAMIN BEECHER, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.

The newly elected Grand Officers having been duly installed, the M. W. Grand Master made the following appointments :

Rev. Bro. JOHN MOORE, of Hartford, Grand Chaplain.
 W. Bro. ELISHA DOULASS, New London, Senior G. Deacon.
 WILLIAM MOODY, Washington, Junior G. Deacon.
 GEORGE SHUMWAY, New Haven, G. Marshal.
 JAMES STEVENS, Norwalk, G. Sentinel.
 GEORGE GIDDINGS, West Hartford, } G. Stewards.
 CYRUS GOODELL, Hartford, }
 ELIZUR SKINNER, Hartford, G. Tyler.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 7 o'clock this evening.

Wednesday Evening, May 13, 1846.

At 7 o'clock, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, and resumed business.

Bro. Sanford, from the Committee on By-Laws and Regulations, reported the following resolutions, which report was accepted, and the resolutions adopted :

Resolved, That the regulation adopted last year, for promulgating the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge among the subordinates, be amended to read as follows :—" It shall be the duty of the Master of every Lodge under this jurisdiction, upon raising a candidate to the third degree, to present such candidate with a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, or cause the same to be read in his hearing. Said Constitution and By-Laws shall also be read in every Lodge at the annual meeting for the choice of officers. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to furnish the several Lodges with a sufficient number of copies of said Constitution and By-Laws to enable them to comply with this regulation."

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Master of every Lodge to cause the proceedings of the Grand Lodge each year to be read, in open Lodge, for the information of the members, at the next regular communication after the same shall have been received from the Grand Secretary.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested, (if he shall find the same to be practicable,) to lay before the Grand Lodge, at the next annual communication, an abstract of such general regulations as have been adopted, from time to time, by resolution or otherwise, since the formation of the Grand Lodge, and have not been rescinded, that it may be determined which should be enforced, and which repealed or modified.

Bro. Moody, from the Committee on the Affairs of Federal Lodge, No. 17, submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn.

Your committee would respectfully report, that they have made inquiry respecting the late Federal Lodge at Watertown, and that Brs. Bradley and Hoadley, the last Master and Senior Warden of said Lodge, appeared before us and stated that a vote was passed by a majority of said Lodge, to distribute their funds to the several members thereof, as a prudential committee ; that the said funds were so distributed, against the advice and objection of said Master and Senior Warden, who claim that they ought not to be deprived of the privileges of Masonry on account of the unlawful proceedings of a majority of said Lodge. Your committee further state, that the late Master and Warden of said Federal Lodge are now here, in obedience to the summons of the Grand Secretary, ready to answer for themselves before the Grand Lodge ; and as their statement would necessarily be more full and satisfactory than any report, the committee would ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

WILLIAM MOODY, *Chairman.*

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted and the committee discharged agreeably to their request, and that the Brs. named in such report have now an opportunity of being heard relative to the distribution of the funds of the late Federal Lodge, No. 17.

Brs. Aner Bradley and Silas Hoadly were then called upon, and each addressed the Grand Lodge, in respectful terms, in explanation of the part they took in the distribution of the funds, and the winding up of the affairs, of the late Federal Lodge, No. 17. The statement of these brethren elicited a protracted discussion, which resulted in the adoption of the following vote offered by Br. Porter :

Resolved, That Brs. Aner Bradley and Silas Hoadley be required to pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge the sum received by them in the distribution of the funds of the late Federal Lodge, No. 17, and that by complying with this requisition they be exonerated from further censure.

Whereupon, the above named brothers complied with the resolution, by paying the amount they had thus received into the hands of the Grand Secretary.

On motion of R. W. Br. Babcock, it was

Resolved, That all the members of the late Federal Lodge No. 17, who participated in the distribution of the funds of said Lodge, be expelled from the privileges of Freemasonry, if they do not refund their proportion of the dividend to the Grand Lodge, before the next meeting; and that the Grand Secretary notify each member, by sending them a copy of this resolution.

On motion of W. Br. Hall, it was

Resolved, That three dollars be paid to Br. Aner Bradley, for that sum paid by him to relieve the widow of a deceased brother.

The Grand Secretary reported that W. Br. Wilson B. Spring, of Litchfield county, had been duly authorized to carry into effect the resolution of the Grand Lodge, passed at the last communication, relative to the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35, at Harwinton, but that no report of his doings had yet been received. Whereupon, on motion of R. W. Br. Jones, it was

Resolved, That further proceedings against the late officers and members of Aurora Lodge, No. 35, be suspended until the next annual communication.

Br. Giddings, from the Committee on Delinquencies submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the resolution adopted :

The committee on delinquent Lodges respectfully report, that at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge the charters of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 7, Harmony Lodge No. 20, and Friendship Lodge No. 33, were annulled and revoked, and their officers notified to return their charters, jewels, records, funds and furniture, to the Grand Secretary, on pain of expulsion; but none of the effects of said Lodges have been returned, and no answers received from them. It was also resolved, at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge, that St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Columbia, No. 25, and Warren, No. 51, be required to show cause, at this communication, why their charters should not be annulled; and they have been duly notified of the same by our Grand Secretary. Your committee would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution.

Resolved, That the charters of St. John's Lodge No. 2, Columbia, No. 25, and Warren, No. 51, be annulled and revoked, if not represented at this communication.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the committee.

GEORGE GIDDINGS, *Chairman*.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, reported that all the topics embraced in that address have now received the attention of the Grand Lodge, except the suggestion that more efficient measures be taken for securing the effects of the subordinate Lodges whose charters are annulled. To accomplish this object the committee conceive that it is only necessary to instruct the Grand Secretary to carry into effect the regulations heretofore established, particularly the resolution of last year. The committee therefore, ask to be discharged; which was granted.

On motion of Br. David Clark, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be requested hereafter to make an annual tabular report of the receipts and expenditures of the Grand Lodge, and present the same at the annual communication.

R. W. Br. Shepherd submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to our M. W. Past Grand Master Henry Peck, for his able addresses, his zeal for the institution, and the dignified manner in which he has presided over our deliberations for the last three years.

R. W. Br. Ellis introduced the following preamble and resolutions, (after the letter therein alluded to had been read,) which were adopted :

Whereas, Br. Asa Child, late Master of Somerset Lodge, No. 34, Norwich, has, by his letter of May 1, 1844, to Br. William P. Eaton, this day laid before the Grand Lodge, acknowledged that he had in his possession the jewels, furniture, &c., of said Somerset Lodge ; therefore,

Resolved, That Br. Asa Child be informed, that unless he restore said furniture, jewels, &c., to said Somerset Lodge, or make satisfactory amends or payment for the same, previous to the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge, he will be expelled from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to furnish Br. Child with a copy of these resolutions, and also to transmit the same to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Frederick Crosswell and Elijah Gilbert, Jr., Auditing Committee, and Brs. Wm H. Ellis, A. C. Babcock and Wm. Storer, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the ensuing year.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge was closed
in AMPLE FORM.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, HIRAM, New Haven—Frederick Crowell, W. M.; William E. Sanford, S. W.; Caleb Fenner, J. W.; Eliphalet G. Storer, Secretary. *Initiated*—Alexander H. H. Wilson, Michael Dailey, James S. Kirkwood, Lewis Rothschild, Jonas Ullman, Wm. Perry, Henry Bush, Alonzo F. Wood, James H. Woodhouse, Nicholas Sweetman, Philip Schenour, Elias B. Hullfish. *Admitted*—William W. Holley, Richard Fitzgerald. *Expelled*—Charles O'Neil.

No. 2, ST. JOHN'S, Middletown—Jonathan Kilbourn, Jr., W. M.; Wm. Woodward, S. W.; Clark Elliot, J. W.; Pascal E. Hubbard, Secretary.

No. 4, ST. JOHN'S, Hartford—Theodore Spencer, Jr., W. M.; Allyn Goodwin, S. W.; David Clark, J. W.; Chauncey S. Martin, Secretary. *Initiated*—Bezaleel Sexton, William H. Chapin, James H. Ashmead, Chester Hebbard, James B. Crosby, Nathan M. Waterman, Horace Ensworth, Horace Billings, John S. Williams.

No. 6, ST. JOHN'S, Norwalk—James Stevens, W. M.; Asa E. Smith, S. W.; Henry W. Smith, J. W.; Wm. Vanhouton, Secretary. *Initiated*—Eli K. Street, Isaac Camp, George F. Daskam, Abram St. John Camp, Wm. Vanhouton, Daniel W. Tucker, Charles Olmsted, James Griffith, Henry Walton.

No. 8, ST. JOHN'S, Stratford—John Goulding, W. M.; Samuel Benjamin, S. W.; Benjamin Fairchild, J. W.; Wm. T. Shelton, Secretary.

No. 11, ST. PAUL'S, Litchfield—Stephen Deming, W. M.; Charles L. Webb, S. W.; Samuel G. Braman, J. W.; Samuel P. Bolles, Secretary.

No. 12, KING HIRAM, Derby—John L. Daniels, W. M.; Oliver H. Stoddard, S. W.; Crounage Lounsbury, J. W.; Ebenezer Fisher, Secretary.

No. 14, FREDERICK, Farmington—Henry Cowles, W. M.; George Cowles, S. W.; Ezekiel Cowles, J. W.; Giles Stillman, Secretary.

No. 18, HIRAM, Newtown—Alexander Hall, W. M.; Charles Sherman, S. W.; Thomas A. Dutton, J. W.; Marcus Botsford, Secretary.

No. 23, ST. JAMES, Preston—Avery Downer, W. M.; David Baldwin, S. W.; James Cook, J. W.; Isaac H. Cook, Secretary.

No. 25, COLUMBIA, Glastenbury—Henry Dayton, W. M.; Wm. Norton, S. W.; Wm. Rodman, J. W.; Oliver Brainerd, Secretary.

No. 27, RISING SUN, Washington—William Moody, W. M.; vacant by death, S. W.; Daniel Burnham, J. W.; Remus M. Fowler, Secretary.

No. 28, MORNING STAR, East Windsor—H. G. Ellsworth, W. M.; Charles A. Lord, S. W.; B. Sexton, J. W.; J. Button, Secretary.

No. 31, UNION, New London—Elisha Douglass, W. M.; Richard H. Miller, S. W.; Ebenezer Watrous, J. W.; George W. Brown, Secretary. *Initiated*—Samuel Jeffrey, John Ewen, Michael Gill, Asa Fish, Edward Clark, Frederick Lewis, Wm. W. Kingsley, Charles C. Culver, George W. Brown, Maston Merrill, A. S. Wightman, Wm. H. Robbins, Henry A. Mitchell, Timothy S. Daboll, John

Jackson, Edward Merrill, F. B. Palmer, Jeremiah Sleight. *Admitted*—Charles H. Whitmore. *Expelled*—John Danforth, Ephraim H. Babcock.

No. 34, SOMERSET, Norwich—Chauncey Burgess, W. M.; Edward W. Eells, S. W.; Wm. H. Copp, J. W.; Calvin G. Rawson, Secretary. *Initiated*—Rowland Babcock, John J. Cook, James W. Danielson, Wm. A. Fanning, Calvin G. Rawson, Charles H. Brewer, Asa L. White, Wm. S. Cooley, James Fowler, Archibald Kennedy, Isaac H. Roath, Reuben F. Woodworth, Eli G. Fowler, Isaac H. Vancott, Henry W. Hazen. *Admitted*—Charles Ball, John Laird, Charles Arnold, Isaac Williams.

No. 40, UNION, Danbury—Nathaniel H. Wildman, W. M.; John Ferguson, S. W.; Stephen A. Hurlbut, J. W.; Warren Wood, Secretary.

No. 42, HARMONY, Waterbury—Joshua Guilford, W. M.; John Cook, S. W.; James M. Grannis, J. W.; James Boyce, Secretary. *Initiated*—Edward B. Gilbert, Preserve G. Porter, Lucius P. Roberts, Foster P. Abbott, John A. Peck, Charles Lawrence, David S. Lawrence, Patrick Riley.

No. 44, EASTERN STAR, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, W. M.; David L. Fuller, S. W.; Joseph W. Lyon, J. W.; Fanning Tracy, Secretary. *Initiated*—John Corking.

No. 46, PUTNAM, Pomfret—Samuel Underwood, W. M.; Jabez Amsbury, S. W.; Luther Rawson, J. W.; Mowry Amsbury, Secretary. *Initiated*—Isaac Wade.

No. 49, JERUSALEM, Ridgefield—Hezekiah Scott, W. M.; Erastus S. Boughton, S. W.; Sherwood Mead, J. W.; Russel Jones, Secretary.

No. 50, WARREN, Andover—George Perkins, W. M.; Ransford Button, S. W.; Bezaleel Hutchinson, J. W.; Leonard Hendee, Secretary.

No. 53, WIDOW'S SON, North Stonington—Joseph Frink, W. M.; Jabez Gallup, S. W.; John Brown, J. W.; Thomas P. Wattles, Secretary.

No. 55, SENECA, Torrington—Edward Pierpont, W. M.; James Green, S. W.; Prescott Pond, J. W.; Wm. Phippeny, Secretary.

No. 57, ASYLUM, Stonington—William Hyde, W. M.; Francis Amy, S. W.; Thomas M. Brown, J. W.; J. K. Pendleton, Secretary.

No. 58, NORTHERN STAR, Barkhamsted—Anson Wheeler, W. M.; Ahira Case, S. W.; Merlin Merrill, J. W.; Orville Howd, Secretary.

No. 60, WOLCOTT, Stafford—Moses B. Harvey, W. M.; Wm. Adams, S. W.; Alva Francis, J. W.; Samuel Carpenter, Secretary.

No. 66, WIDOW'S SON, Branford—James W. Frisbie, W. M.; Willoughby L. Lay, S. W.; Orrin D. Squire, J. W.; John Staples, Secretary.

No. 73, MANCHESTER, Manchester—Peleg C. Remington, W. M.; Henry Marble, S. W.; Seth W. Brown, J. W.; George Carriel, Secretary. *Initiated*—Charles H. Remington, A. E. Harrington, Wm. Blythe.

No. 75, MOUNT VERNON, Jewett City—Lucius Tyler, W. M.; Nathan Johnson, S. W.; Samuel Cole, J. W.; Elisha Branch, Secretary.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1847.

At the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at Masonic Hall in the city of Hartford, on Wednesday, May 12th, A. L. 5847 :

PRESENT :

- R. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Deputy Grand Master.
 BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Senior Grand Warden.
 WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Junior Grand Warden.
 LUCIUS G. PECK, Grand Treasurer, pro tem.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 Rev. TOWNSEND P. ABELL, Grand Chaplain, p. t.
 W. ELISHA DOUGLASS, Senior Grand Deacon.
 WILLIAM MOODY, Junior Grand Deacon.
 GEORGE SHUMWAY, Grand Marshal.
 JAMES STEVENS, Grand Sentinel.
 GEORGE GIDDINGS, } Grand Stewards.
 CYRUS GOODELL, }
 ELIZUR SKINNER, Grand Tyler.
- M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.
- R. W. WILLIAM H. JONES, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

The following Past Grand Officers were also present :—Henry Peck, James Ward, Anson T. Colt, and Wm. Storer. A quorum of Lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in due form ; when Brs. Storer and Colt were appointed a Committee on Credentials.

The M. W. Grand Master not being present, a committee was appointed to inform him that the Grand Lodge was ready to receive any communication he wished to make.

The Committee on Credentials reported that they had examined the returns, and ascertained that the following brethren were entitled to seats as

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—Frederick Crosswell, Francis Turner, Richard Fitzgerald.
- No. 2, St. John's, Middletown—Samuel Babcock, T. P. Abell, Noah A. Phelps.
- No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport—John C. Blackman.
- No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—Allyn Goodwin, David Clark, Cyrus Goodell.
- No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—James Stevens.
- No. 11, Darius, Litchfield—David Marsh, Samuel G. Braman, Henry A. Hull.
- No. 14, Frederick, Farmington—Henry Cowles, Giles Stillman.
- No. 27, Rising Sun, Washington—William Moody.
- No. 28, Morning Star, East Windsor—Levi Lord, Asaph King, Bezaleel Sexton.
- No. 31, Union, New London—Elisha Douglass.
- No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—Wm. H. Copp, Giles M. Eaton.
- No. 40, Union, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut.
- No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—Joshua Guilford, James M. Grannis.
- No. 44, Eastern Star, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, Elisha Tracy.
- No. 46, Putnam, Pomfret—Jabez, Amsbury, Aaron Corbin.
- No. 49, Jerusalem, Ridgefield—Abijah Ressique.
- No. 50, Warren, Andover—George Perkins, Ransford Button.
- No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—William Hyde.
- No. 58, Northern Star, Barkhamsted—Anson Wheeler, Ahira Case, Wilson B. Spring.
- No. 60, Wolcott, Stafford—William Adams.
- No. 66, Widow's Son, Branford—Orin D. Squire.
- No. 73, Manchester, Manchester—Henry Marble.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Sanford, the report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Shepherd, a general invitation was extended to Master Masons in good standing, to visit the Grand Lodge during the present communication.

Br. W. Storer, from the committee appointed to wait on the M. W. Horace Goodwin, Grand Master, and inform him that the Grand Lodge awaited his pleasure, reported, verbally, that the committee had attended to the duty assigned them, and found Bro. Goodwin confined to his house by sickness, and regretted his inability to attend the present communication of the Grand Lodge; and that nothing had come to his notice during the past year necessary to be communicated. The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Delinquent Lodges—Brs. Guilford, Spring and Hyde.

On By-Laws and Regulations—Brs. Abell, Eaton and Waterman.

On Grievances—Brs. Moody, Stevens and Hull.

On Unfinished Business—Brs. Hurlbut, Cowles and S. Babcock.

The R. W. Grand Treasurer submitted the following account current, which was referred to the Auditing Committee:

GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, 1847.

B. BEECHER, <i>G. Treasurer, in account with Grand Lodge, Dr.</i>	
Balance on hand last communication,	\$911.97
Cash received of Grand Secretary,	80.50
Dividend on Union School stock,	57.00
Interest to May 10, 1847,	39.06
	<hr/>
	\$1088.53
<i>Contra Cr.</i>	
Paid Grand Secretary's salary to May, 1846,	\$50.00
“ Grand Steward's bill,	24.67
“ Grand Tyler's bill,	3.00
“ Sundry bills to order of G. Master,	47.78
Balance to new account,	978.08
	<hr/>
	\$1088.53

Petitions were received for the restoration of the charters of Union Lodge, No. 5, King Solomon's, No. 7, and Orient, No. 62. Referred to Standing Committee on Delinquent Lodges.

Petitions were received from Charles O'Neil, of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, and Eli Green, of Union Lodge, No. 40, praying for restoration to Masonic privileges. Referred to Standing Committee on Grievances.

Revised By-Laws of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, were presented by Bro. Crowell, and referred to the Standing Committee on By-Laws and Regulations.

The Auditing Committee presented the following report, and it was accepted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn.

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication, to audit the accounts for the year ending May 12th, 1857, respectfully report that we have attended to that duty and find that all the moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid to the Grand Treasurer, in whose hands there is now a balance in cash of nine hundred and seventy-eight dollars and eight cents, which with fifty-seven shares of Union School stock, valued at eight hundred and fifty-five dollars, makes the total amount of the funds of the Grand Lodge, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three dollars and eight cents. (\$1,833.08.)

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. GILBERT, JUN., } Committee.
F. CROSWELL, }

New Haven, May 13, 1847.

In compliance with a resolution of the last annual communication, the Grand Secretary reported an "Abstract of the General Regulations" which have been adopted from time to time by the Grand Lodge, and remain unrevoked.

On motion of R. W. Br. Sanford, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary's report be referred to the Committee on By-Laws and Regulations, with instructions to revise the constitution and by-laws of the Grand Lodge, and incorporate therewith such of the resolutions embraced in said report, as in their judgment should be retained and enforced, and report such as in their opinion should be repealed or rescinded; and that the committee be requested to report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

A communication was received from St. John's Lodge, No. 6, inviting the Grand Lodge to attend the approaching Festival of St. John the Baptist, at Norwalk. Whereupon it was resolved, that the Grand Lodge accept the invitation.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bro. William Storer from the Committee on Correspondence, submitted the following report :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut.

The Committee appointed at the last annual communication, to examine the foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge, respectfully report, that the documents received by the Grand Secretary from time to time during the year have been submitted to their inspection, and that they have bestowed on them such share of attention as their engagements would allow. A mass of valuable papers have been received during the year, from which it appears that our time-honored institution still maintains its prominent and commanding position among the numerous organizations existing in various quarters of the world, whose object it is to soften and smooth the asperities of our fallen nature, and assimilate the human family more and more to that great brotherhood of kindred and friends, which it was the evident design of our common Lord and Father should bind all his children together by those pure and benevolent principles which generate "peace on earth and good will to men."

Among the documents received and examined, are full and interesting minutes of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Missouri, Indiana, Michigan, Florida, Iowa, Wisconsin and Texas. These minutes constitute quite an extensive library of pamphlets, varying in size from 24 to 130 pages ; of course it can not be expected that your committee will give even an abstract of their contents. A brief notice of some of the most important matters that are interesting the attention of our brethren in other sections of our widely-extended country, is all that we have been able to make ;—and in doing this, we can only express our regret that the expected limits of our report will not allow a more extended reference to the many interesting topics that have fallen under our notice in the documents in our possession.

MAINE.—In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of this State, we find nothing of special interest demanding the notice of your committee, except the encouraging fact that our brethren there seem to be determined not to be behind their fellows in the promulgation of sound Masonic principles and the practice of pure Masonic clarity. "As the sun rises in the East, to open and adorn the day," so may we safely look to this Eastern branch of our ancient organization for "pure Masonic light." Fifty-six subordinate Lodges are reported as in good standing in Maine.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—That our beloved Order is in a flourishing condition, and its interests are confided to faithful hands in the "Old Granite State," we find it an easy matter to believe, from the published fact which appears in the minutes of their Grand Lodge, that of the *nineteen* subordinate Lodges in that jurisdiction, *sixteen* were represented in the last annual Grand communication. But the pamphlet before us contains other and abundant evidence of the activity and thrift of our brethren whose fortune it is to disseminate the principles of Masonry among the "everlasting hills" of New Hampshire. The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters represent the Order as increasing in various sections of the State, by frequent initiations of worthy candidates into the mysteries of the craft. A proposed rule requiring from strangers the exhibition of "Grand Lodge Certificates" as a pre-requisite to admission into Lodges—and also the consideration of the proposed establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, have been indefinitely postponed by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The interesting pamphlet from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts contains much that we should be glad to refer to at length; but time will not allow an extended notice. The "Representative system" is repudiated,—though a "new measure" has been adopted, viz. the appointment as "honorary members" of the Grand Lodge, of distinguished Masons residing without her jurisdiction. The utility of the proposed "Triennial Masonic Convention," or "General Grand Lodge," is acknowledged, and a delegate has been appointed to represent the interests of the fraternity in Massachusetts in that Convention—"if it is held." There are 58 subordinate Lodges working under this jurisdiction.

RHODE ISLAND.—The Grand Lodge of our little sister Rhode Island seems to be laboring dilligently for the purification and prosperity of the Order in that State, by lopping off the dead branches and watering those that remain. We trust the day is not far distant, when her "light" will shine as of yore, and when the sound of the gavel shall be heard in all her flourishing manufacturing villages, "calling the craft to order," and "setting them to work in due time."

VERMONT.—It has afforded your Committee no little satisfaction to perceive that the Grand Lodge of the Green Mountain State has been reorganized, under the most flattering auspices, after having lain dormant for a period of ten years. The records of the proceedings at the annual communications in January 1846 and January 1847, show a healthful action, and give token of future growth and prosperity. Ten subordinate Lodges are represented as being at work, and the Committee of Correspondence at the last annual communication say in their re-

port, that they "strongly hope and believe that this is to be the last communication of this Grand Lodge at which our brethren of other Grand Lodges shall have cause to think that Green Mountain Masonry is either dead or sleeping." Already are the green hill-tops of Vermont gilded by the rising beams of a more glorious morning,—and if we may be allowed to interpret the signs of the times, the day has dawned when it shall no longer be said in reference to the Masonic position of Vermont, "the North is the place of darkness."

NEW YORK.—The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Empire State contain many things of deep interest to the fraternity at large, and we would gladly refer to them in detail: but this we can not do. Fifty-five subordinate Lodges were represented at the annual communication in June last, when the Grand Lodge was in session four days, and was busily occupied during that time in the consideration of various matters of interest and importance to the craft. As the plan of requiring "Grand Lodge Certificates" from strangers presenting themselves for admittance as visitors in subordinate Lodges, is understood to have originated with the Grand Lodge of New York, it has been deemed proper by your committee to copy from the pamphlet before them, a "preamble and resolutions, explanatory of the article in the Constitution, relative to Grand Lodge Certificates, which was ordered to be entered on the minutes, and printed with the proceedings," and which are in the words following, to wit:

Whereas, it has been represented to this Grand Lodge, that the true intent and meaning of the use of Grand Lodge Certificates has been misunderstood, to the prejudice of the institution;

"And *whereas*, it is a fundamental principle of the institution, as immutable as any of its landmarks, that a worthy brother Mason shall be entitled to all the fraternal and social privileges, without let or hindrance; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That in all future applications for admission at the door of a Lodge, no unusual requirement or test shall be made, but it shall be for the Lodge to judge of the worthiness of the applicant, so far as to give him a seat.

"And be it further *Resolved*, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed, as to prevent a rigid examination by Grand Lodge Certificate, or in any other way, those applications for charity made to often by the unworthy, whom experience has taught us, have no legitimate claim on our consideration or sympathy."

A list of seventy-three subordinate Lodges is given as working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Your Committee have been highly gratified in perusing the Report of the Committee of Correspondence which was presented to and adopted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. This document gives currency to sentiments and opinions, which in our view, ought to be seriously pondered, and deliberately and intelligently adopted, by every member of the Order. The desire for *innovations* and *improvements*, which actuates too many of the modern professors of our ancient and venerated principles, receives at the hands of our Pennsylvania brethren a merited rebuke. They seriously (and it seems to us very properly) deprecate the *printing* and making *public* of the "lectures and proceedings of the Lodges," to which they think they perceive an alarming tendency

in certain quarters. They repudiate the idea of a "Convention of Grand Lecturers," the publication of a "Plan of Work," the carrying out of "great joint stock schemes for the establishment of colleges, manual labor schools, emigrant societies, &c. &c.," and they "unqualifiedly deprecate any printed or public exposition or discussion" in regard to "the essential principles, the landmarks, or even the discipline of our Order." "An account of our annual elections, and a plain statement of such transactions of our civil polity as it is obviously proper that the craft in general should be advised of," they think should be annually communicated to our brethren of all the other Grand Lodges. These we believe to be the sentiments of the great body of Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; and your Committee hope never to see the day when these judicious principles of action shall be exchanged for others of a more doubtful character.

MARYLAND.—The last annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Maryland occupied *five* days time, and the brethren were industriously at work for the promotion of the interests of the craft. The Committee of Correspondence, in noticing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, quote a resolution of this body in May, 1845, approving the "benefit system" as adopted by Hiram Lodge, No. 1, and then speak of the plan as of doubtful expediency,—some of its worst effects having been experienced in their own jurisdiction. Eighteen Lodges are embraced in the list of subordinates in Maryland, all but *two* of which were represented at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

VIRGINIA.—The Grand Lodge of the "Ancient Dominion," at its annual communication in December last, was attended by representatives from forty-four of the eighty-two subordinate Lodges working under its jurisdiction. The proposition for the formation of a General Grand Lodge was disapproved and declined. A number of new Lodges have been chartered—several dormant ones resuscitated—and, on the whole, the interests of Masonry seem to be in as healthy a condition as at any previous time. It is gratifying to witness this evidence of prosperity in the Lodges that enjoyed the high honor of enrolling among their distinguished craftsmen, him who was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—Here too, our beloved Order is "lengthening her cords and strengthening her stakes," several new Lodges having been chartered the last year. There are eight Lodges in the District.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Grand Master of this State, in his annual address to the Grand Lodge, expresses much regret that the attempt to form a General Grand Lodge of the United States has thus far proved a failure. He proposes that the delegates to a future Convention shall "be so instructed, as that any *three*, assembling at the appointed time, shall be authorized to proceed at once to organize, agree upon all necessary preliminaries, draft a Constitution, and continue in session until they have accomplished, as fully as possible, the object of their appointment." Thirty-seven subordinate Lodges are reported in this jurisdiction. Two or three charters for new Lodges were granted at the last annual communication.

SOUTH CAROLINA and GEORGIA.—In looking over the proceedings of these Grand Lodges, your Committee find nothing requiring their particular notice, excepting the pleasing fact that our ancient brotherhood is in the enjoyment of good health in those States, and is apparently spreading its hallowed principles according to ancient and approved usage.

KENTUCKY.—A considerable portion of the pamphlet received from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, is occupied with the Second Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic College, to which is appended a catalogue of the officers and students, the latter numbering 202. At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, in August last, forty-two subordinate Lodges were represented—the whole number in the State being ninety-two. The amount of dues received into the treasury during the year, was \$1,778.50. Nine charters were granted to subordinate Lodges that had been working under dispensation.

TENNESSEE.—The last annual communication of the Grand Lodge of this State was held at Nashville, on the 5th of October, forty-eight subordinate Lodges being represented. The address of the Grand Master is an eloquent document, occupying 24 octavo pages. The institution is represented as in a flourishing condition. Five charters were granted for new Lodges.

OHIO.—At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, in October last, eighty-five subordinates Lodges were represented. The Grand Master announced that he had granted dispensations to ten new Lodges during the recess, besides reviving the charter of one Lodge that had been lying dormant for some time. The receipt into the treasury of the Grand Lodge during the year, for dispensations, Grand Lodge Certificates, &c., amounted to \$3,280.53. "Grand Lodge Certificates" are repudiated, and the Grand Secretary was directed to destroy all in his possession.

LOUISIANA.—The minutes of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in its "List of Lodges in activity," presents a catalogue of twenty-three subordinates. We see nothing in the printed proceedings which requires particular notice.

MISSISSIPPI.—The minutes of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, including the returns from subordinates, &c., constitute a volume of 130 pages; in which, after all, we find nothing of special interest, except the gratifying evidence of a rapid growth of the Order. The receipts into the treasury, during the year 1846, amounted to \$2,773.08. Returns were received from sixty-two Lodges, showing that *five hundred and ninety* initiations had taken place during the year.

ALABAMA. Forty-nine subordinates were represented in the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, in December last. The sum of \$4,500 was appropriated from the funds, for the purpose of *education*. The Committee of Correspondence, in noticing the action of sundry corresponding bodies in reference to a proposed "General Grand Lodge," offer some strong arguments against such an organization.

MISSOURI.—It would appear, from a hasty examination of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, that the location of the "Masonic College" is about to be

established in the city of Lexington, Lafayette county. Two or three charters were granted for new Lodges. The general interests of the Order in this State appear to be in a healthy condition.

INDIANA.—The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of this State, at its last annual communication, are spread over a volume of 223 pages, and contain much of interest, though nothing that we have discovered which requires a special notice. Representatives were present from thirty-six subordinate Lodges, and the proceedings appear to have been characterized by that harmony which should ever exist among all good Masons. The Grand Master, in his annual address, points out several irregularities that had crept into practice in some of the Lodges, and the brethren set about correcting them with becoming zeal. Eight charters were granted for new Lodges.

MICHIGAN.—The proceedings of the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, held in January last, show that the Order is experiencing a healthy growth in that jurisdiction. Charters were granted for four new Lodges, which had been working under dispensation. The "modern doctrine" of Grand Lodge Certificates was "repudiated and rejected," and a resolution in favor of the formation of a General Grand Lodge was postponed till the next annual communication. There are fourteen subordinate Lodges in Michigan, thirteen of which were represented in the last annual meeting.

FLORIDA.—The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida was held at Tallahassee, on the 7th of December last, ten subordinate Lodges being represented. The Committee of Correspondence made a long and interesting report, in which they allude to the sentiments of the several Grand Lodges in the United States, touching Grand Lodge Certificates and the formation of a General Grand Lodge; but we do not understand them as expressing any opinion of their own, on either of these topics. Two or three new Lodges have been chartered during the past year.

IOWA.—There are eleven subordinate Lodges working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, embracing a membership of 248 brethren. Eighty-one initiations took place during the past year.

WISCONSIN.—Eight subordinate Lodges were fully represented in the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin. The Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master made their annual reports, from which we gather that the plan of a General Grand Lodge meets with favor in that jurisdiction,—or, if that is not practicable, a confederation of Grand Lodges in the Western States is recommended. Several charters were granted to new Lodges, and the Order seems to be in a thriving condition.

TEXAS.—The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas was held at Austin, on the 12th of January, 1846, and continued by adjournment on the 17th of February. There are twenty-three Lodges under this jurisdiction, sixteen of which were represented at the annual meeting. A series of resolutions were adopted, proposing a "Universal Masonic Convention," to be held in London, on the first Monday in July, 1850.—approving of the "Triennial Convention of Lecturers,"—and instructing their delegate to the Triennial Convention "to

oppose unequivocally anything tending toward the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

Thus it appears, from the above hasty glance at the documents received from the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this body, that the interests of our beloved Order are not only safe, but in a highly prosperous and thriving condition. The wild storm of fanaticism and prejudice, which for a time swept over our entire country, has spent its force, and a pleasing and healthful calm has succeeded that outburst of bigotry and passion. In no age of the world, probably, has a better opportunity been afforded to our ancient brotherhood to display the peculiar beauties of its fundamental principles. We have withstood and outlived the envenomed shafts of malice that have been aimed at our beloved institution ; and as an admiring world has had abundant evidence of the impregnability of our principles and our organization, so it becomes every member of the Order to prove by his life and conduct, that those principles exist not merely in name, but that they are cherished in the affections and practiced in the daily walk of every good Mason.

Your committee have learned, with regret, that some of the Grand Lodges of Europe have instituted a *religious test*, by decreeing that no person shall be admitted to the privileges of Freemasonry, *who has not been baptized into the Christian faith!* This movement we cannot condemn in too strong terms. It has been the peculiar boast of our ancient Order, that within the walls of a Masonic Lodge may be gathered the Christian, the Jew, the Mohammedan and the Pagan, whose adoption of the principles of the Order enables them all to "dwell together in unity," with no sectarian or national jealousy to disturb the harmony of their social intercourse. But by this decree the *universality* of Masonic sympathy and charity is destroyed, and the institution placed on a footing with the more groveling and sordid organizations of the world.

In concluding this report, your committee would respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge reciprocate the courtesy of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, and that our Grand Secretary be directed to forward to each of them a copy of the proceedings of this Grand Communication, and solicit a continuance of fraternal intercourse.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WM. STORER.	} <i>Committee.</i>
WM. H. ELLIS,	
A. C. BABCOCK,	

On motion of R. W. Bro. Sanford, the report was accepted, and the resolution adopted.

The Grand Secretary presented the credentials of the R. W. James Ward, Past Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, as the Grand Representative of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia near the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, with a copy of the resolution of that Grand Lodge apologizing for the oversight which had caused a year's delay in forwarding the certificate of Bro. Ward's appointment.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Jones, the Grand Marshal was instructed to present the R. W. Bro. Ward to the Grand Lodge. The Grand Representative of Georgia soon after entering the hall, escorted by the Grand Marshal, was duly received and congratulated by the Grand Master and brethren, and seated in the East.

On motion of M. W. Bro. Ellis, it was resolved that the Grand Lodge will now proceed to the election of officers. The ballots being taken, the following brethren were declared to be duly elected :

M. W. HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Master.
 R. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Deputy Grand Master.
 BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Senior Grand Warden.
 WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Junior Grand Warden.
 BENJAMIN BEECHER, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.

Brs. Clark and Douglass were appointed a committee to wait upon the M. W. Br. Goodwin and inform him of his re-election to the office of Grand Master.

R. W. Br. Storer offered the following resolution, and it was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Officers be requested to exhibit the Work and Lectures of the three degrees before the Grand Lodge during the present communication.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 7 o'clock this evening.

Wednesday Evening, May 13, 1847.

The Grand Lodge met at 7 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor.

The committee appointed to wait upon the M. W. Grand Master and inform him of his election, reported that they had performed that duty, and that Bro. Goodwin accepted the office, but was unable to attend Grand Lodge for installation. The report was accepted, and the remainder of the Grand Officers installed by the M. W. Past Grand Master Henry Peck ; after which the R. W. Deputy Grand Master made the following appointments :

Rev. Bro. T. P. ABELL, of Middletown, Grand Chaplain.

W. Bro. ELISHA DOULASS, New London, Senior G. Deacon.

WILLIAM MOODY, Washington, Junior G. Deacon.

GEORGE SHUMWAY, New Haven, G. Marshal.

JAMES STEVENS, Norwalk, G. Sentinel.

BENJ. BEECHER, Jr., New Haven, } G. Stewards.

R. FITZGERALD, " }

ISAAC TUTTLE, New Haven, G. Tyler.

Bro. Moody, from the Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the petitions of Charles O'Neil and Eli Green, for restoration to the privileges of Masonry, from which they had been expelled by their respective Lodges, presented a report in favor of granting their petitions ; which report was accepted, and the following resolution adopted :

Resolved, That Bro. Charles O'Neil, of New Haven, and Eli Green, of Danbury, be and they are hereby restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry, of which they were deprived by expulsion, and that they be reinstated to membership in the Lodges to which they formerly belonged.

Bro. Guilford, from the Committee on Delinquent Lodges, to whom was referred petitions for the restoration of the charters of Union Lodge, No. 5, at Stamford, King Solomon's, No. 7, at Woodbury, and Orient, No. 62, at East Hartford, submitted a report in favor of granting the prayer of the several petitions; which report was accepted, and the following resolution adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby directed to renew the charters of Union Lodge, No. 5, King Solomon's Lodge, No. 7, and Orient Lodge, No. 62, and restore the same to the brethren of said Lodges, agreeable to their several petitions; and that the M. W. Grand Master be requested to take measures to have their respective officers duly elected and installed.

Bro. Eaton, from the Committee on By-Laws and Regulations, to whom was referred the amended By-Laws of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, presented a report adverse to the "beneficiary system," adopted by said Lodge, as set forth in their By-Laws, and recommending to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That so much of the By-Laws of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, as refers to the disposition of the funds received for initiating, passing and raising candidates, directly contravenes the tenth article of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, and is therefore illegal in its letter and unmasonic in its spirit.

The report was accepted, and on motion of Bro. Ellis the consideration of the resolution was postponed till the next annual communication.

Bro. Spring, from the Committee on Delinquent Lodges reported that the committee had ascertained from the minutes of the Grand Secretary, that Hart's Lodge, No. 22, Morning Star, No. 47, Franklin, No. 56, and Apollo, No. 59, had not made returns for several years, and had paid no attention to the requirement of the By-Laws made and provided for such cases; and that St. John's, No. 3, Moriah, No. 15, and Charity, No. 68, which were delinquent last year, had made returns and giv-

en satisfactory reasons at the present communication. The report was accepted, and the following resolutions adopted :

Resolved, That those Lodges which are represented at the present communication, and give satisfactory reasons for their former delinquency, are hereby excused from penalty.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby directed to demand the charters and effects of all Lodges who have made no returns for two or more years, unless they give satisfactory reasons for their delinquency.

Bro. Hurlbut, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

In looking over the proceedings of the last session of the Grand Lodge, your committee find that the following business was then laid over to the present session :—Motion of R. W. Bro. Babcock, relative to the late Federal Lodge, No. 17 ; proceedings against the officers of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35 ; and the resolution of Bro. Ellis, relative to Bro. Asa Child, formerly W. Master of Somerset Lodge, No. 34.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN A. HURLBUT, *Chairman*.

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted, and that the unfinished business be taken up at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Bro. L. G. Peck offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the several subordinate Lodges be and they are hereby directed to furnish the Grand Secretary with a list of their members in good standing, that the same may be added to their respective returns, and published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Stevens offered the following resolution, and the same was adopted :

Resolved, That the jewels of the late Harmony Lodge, No. 67, of New Canaan, which have been surrendered to the Grand Secretary, be returned to St. John's Lodge, No. 6, of Norwalk, they having been originally presented by that Lodge to said Harmony Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday Morning, May 14.

At 8 o'clock the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

On motion of Br. Guilford, it was

Resolved, That Harmony Lodge, No. 42, be allowed to use certain furniture of the late Federal Lodge, No. 17, and to hold the same subject to the order of this Grand Lodge.

The report of the Committee on Unfinished Business having been taken up, the Grand Secretary reported that he had transmitted by mail, to all the members of the late Federal Lodge, No. 17, copies of the resolution referred to in said report, and had received from one brother the proportion of funds paid to him; that he had received communications from two other brothers whose names were on the distribution list, stating that they had received no part of said funds, and had no knowledge of, or participation in such distribution; and that from the other members nothing had been heard. The Grand Secretary further reported that the charter and a mutilated record-book of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35, had been handed in to-day, by Br. Marks, of Burlington, but that nothing further had been received from said Lodge; Br. Marks referring to Brs. Joel G. Candee, Jacob O. Catlin, and William S. Goodsell, for information concerning the funds of said Lodge. The Grand Secretary also reported that he had obeyed the instructions of the Grand Lodge contained in Br. Ellis's resolution in the matter of Br. Asa Child.

On motion of Br. Eaton, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the preamble and resolutions passed at the last annual communication, which refer to Br. Asa Child, late Master of Somerset Lodge, No. 34, as having had in his possession the jewels and furniture of said Lodge, be rescinded, and that the whole subject be referred to said Somerset Lodge for their action.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to furnish Br. Child with a copy of these proceedings, and also to transmit the same to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and the Secretary of Somerset Lodge.

On motion of Br. Sanford, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That Brs. Joel G. Candee, Jacob O. Catlin, and Wm. S. Goodsell, together with all the surviving members of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35, who participated in the distribution of the funds of said Lodge, be cited by the Grand Secretary to appear at the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge, and show cause why they should not be expelled.

Resolved, That all the members of the late Federal Lodge, No. 17, known to have participated in the distribution of its funds, and who have not refunded the same, be cited by the Grand Secretary to show cause at the next annual communication why they should not be expelled.

The resolution calling upon the Grand Officers to exhibit the the work and lectures of the three degrees, during the present communication, was, on motion, rescinded : whereupon Br. Wm. Storer offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will hold a special communication at Middletown, on the second Tuesday in October next, for the purpose of mutual instruction in the lectures and work, and for such other business as the interest of the craft may require.

A circular from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York having been read by the Grand Secretary, it was, on motion of Br. Colt,

Resolved, That the several Lodges within this jurisdiction be and hereby are directed to admit no visitor, hailing from the State of New York, who does not produce a Grand Lodge certificate, signed by the Grand Secretary and under the seal of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Frederick Croswell and David Clark, Auditing Committee, and Brs. Wm. Storer, Wm. E. Sanford and E. G. Storer, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the ensuing year.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge was closed
IN AMPLE FORM.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, HIRAM, New Haven—Frederick Crosswell, W. M.; Caleb Fenner, S. W.; Charles H. Skiff, J. W.; Eliphalet G. Storer, Secretary. *Initiated*—Charles B. Buckholdst, Frederick Myers, James M. Townsend, John White, Francois Turner, Roswell Angur, John Stevens, Henry S. Sanford, John Douglass, James Gallagher, Alfred P. Munson, Lorenzo Johnson, Calvin Carrington, Israel Bretzfelder. *Admitted*—Oscar B. Leavenworth, Joseph C. Burke. *Restored*—Charles O'Neil.

No. 2, ST. JOHN'S, Middletown—Samuel Babcock, W. M.; Horace Clark, S. W.; Caleb Miller, J. W.; Pascal E. Hubbard, Secretary. *Initiated*—Stephen M. Chadwick, Charles S. Macdonough, Elliot Bradley, Edward Revele.

No. 3, ST. JOHN'S, Bridgeport—John C. Blackman, W. M.; Thomas Hutchins, S. W.; Wm. Lum, J. W.; John H. Whiting, Secretary. *Initiated*—Silas D. Baldwin, Israel Kelsey.

No. 4, ST. JOHN'S, Hartford—Allyn Goodwin, W. M.; David Clark, S. W.; Cyrus Goodell, J. W.; Nathan M. Waterman, Secretary. *Initiated*—Josiah S. Rice, Ashbel S. Cowles, Wm. H. Danforth, Samuel Woodruff, Abijah Woodruff, Henry T. Brownell, Charles Spencer, Samuel G. Chaffee, Richard R. Phelps.

No. 6, ST. JOHN'S, Norwalk—James Stevens, W. M.; Asa E. Smith, S. W.; Joseph E. Corker, J. W.; Henry Walton Secretary. *Initiated*—Marcus Bruen, James S. Brown, Noah Disbrow, Wm. D. Camp, Gehrard Black, Cholwel J. Gruman, Peter L. Cunningham.

No. 7, KING SOLOMON'S, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle, W. M.; Wyllys Judd, S. W.; Albert Thompson, J. W. Charles H. Webb, Secretary. *Initiated*—George Staples, Hiram T. Chapel.

No. 8, ST. JOHN'S, Stratford—John Goulding, W. M.; Samuel Benjamin, S. W.; Benjamin Fairchild, J. W.; Wm. T. Shelton, Secretary.

No. 11, ST. PAUL'S, Litchfield—Charles L. Webb, W. M.; Samuel G. Brauman, S. W.; Henry A. Hull, J. W.; Edward C. Buel, Secretary. *Initiated*—Oliver Wolcott, Frederick D. Beeman, Edward C. Buel, Leveret W. Wessels, George Seymour, George B. Bissell, Gideon H. Hollister.

No. 12, KING HIRAM, Derby—John L. Daniels, W. M.; Oliver H. Stoddard, S. W.; Crounage Lounsbury, J. W.; Ebenezer Fisher, Secretary.

No. 14, FREDERICK, Farmington—Henry Cowles, W. M.; George Cowles, S. W.; Ezekiel Cowles, J. W.; Giles Stillman, Secretary.

No. 15, MORIAH, Canterbury—Armin Bolles, W. M.; Luther Ensworth, S. W.; Martin Felch, J. W.; Hubbard Adams, Secretary.

No. 18, HIRAM, Newtown—Alexander Hall, W. M.; Charles Sherman, S. W.; Thomas A. Dutton, J. W.; Marcus Botsford, Secretary.

No. 27, RISING SUN, Washington—William Moody, W. M.; Ithiel Hickox, S. W.; Daniel Burnham, J. W.; Remus M. Fowler, Secretary.

No. 28, MORNING STAR, East Windsor—Levi Lord, W. M.; Asaph King, S. W.; B. Sexton, J. W.; J. Butler, Secretary. *Initiated*—Charles A. Chase, John Ruwell, Philip Tucker, Robert M. Abbe.

No. 31, UNION, New London—Elisha Douglass, W. M.; Nathan S. Chipman, S. W.; Charles H. Whittemore, J. W.; Henry Champlin, Secretary. *Initiated*—Orlando P. Gorton, Elisha Forsyth, Cyrus Hewitt, Platt Cady, Austin Steele.

No. 34, SOMERSET, Norwich—Edward W. Eells, W. M.; Wm. H. Copp, S. W.; Charles Ball, J. W.; Calvin G. Rawson, Secretary. *Initiated*—Horatio N. Hard, Simeon H. Gates, J. H. Peck, Wm. L. Brewer, D. R. Matthewson, Ichabod Hard, J. W. Henry, James H. Hyde, Jacob John, Joseph K. Brewer, Giles M. Eaton. *Admitted*—Benjamin Gaskill, George S. Hopkins, Jonathan Knapp.

No. 40, UNION, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut, W. M.; Ira Hodge, S. W.; J. B. Foot, J. W.; Warren Wood, Secretary. *Initiated*—Ira N. Hurd. *Restored*—Eli Green.

No. 42, HARMONY, Waterbury—Joshua Guilford, W. M.; James M. Grannis, S. W.; Gabrel Post, J. W.; David J. Lawrence, Secretary. *Initiated*—Gideon O. Hotchkiss, Thomas Hollister, John M. Forrest, Hiram W. Bates, Charles H. Guilford, Elias Beebe, Wm. Padley. *Admitted*—Horace Foot.

No. 44, EASTERN STAR, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, W. M.; David L. Fuller, S. W.; Joseph W. Lyon, J. W.; Fanning Tracy, Secretary.

No. 46, PUTNAM, Pomfret—Jabez Amsbury, W. M.; Luther Rawson, S. W.; Samuel Underwood, J. W.; Mowry Amsbury, Secretary. *Initiated*—Luther Warren, George W. Green, Ezekiel Webster, Ichabod S. Philips, Lyman Sheldon, Charles H. Allen, Edward Rogers.

No. 49, JERUSALEM, Ridgefield—Hezekiah Scott, W. M.; Erastus S. Bough-ton, S. W.; Sherwood Mead, J. W.; Russel Jones, Secretary. *Initiated*—James Scott, 2d.

No. 50, WARREN, Andover—George Perkins, W. M.; Ransford Button, S. W.; Bezaleel Hutchinson, J. W.; Leonard Hendee, Secretary.

No. 57, ASYLUM, Stonington—William Hyde, W. M.; Francis Amy, S. W.; Thomas M. Brown, J. W.; J. K. Pendleton, Secretary.

No. 58, NORTHERN STAR, Barkhamsted—Anson Wheeler, W. M.; Ahira Case, S. W.; Merlin Merrill, J. W.; Orville Howd, Secretary.

No. 60, WOLCOTT, Stafford—Moses B. Harvey, W. M.; Wm. Adams, S. W.; Alva Francis, J. W.; Samuel Carpenter, Secretary.

No. 66, WIDOW'S SON, Branford—James W. Frisbie, W. M.; Merit Foot, S. W.; Orrin D. Squire, J. W.; Willoughby L. Lay, Secretary.

No. 68, CHARITY, Groton—George Eldridge, W. M.; Thomas Williams, S. W.; Albert G. Wolf, J. W.; Richard Burnet, Secretary.

No. 73, MANCHESTER, Manchester—Henry Marble, W. M.; William Hyde, S. W.; Ira F. Ladd, J. W.; John Mather, Secretary. *Initiated*—A. M. Brown, J. Pilkington, Ira F. Ladd.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

At a special communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, held at Middletown, Oct. 12th, A. L. 5847 :

PRESENT.

R. W. BENONI A. SHEPHERD, G. M. pro tem.
ELISHA DOUGLASS, S. G. W. “
ALLYN GOODWIN, J. G. W. “
WILLIAM HYDE, G. Treasurer, “
E. G. STORER, G. Secretary,
Rev. T. P. ABELL, G. Chaplain,
CYRUS GOODELL, G. Marshal, pro tem.
R. FITZGERALD, S. G. D. “
F. TURNER, J. G. D. “
EDWARD RAVELL, G. Tyler, “

And the following Representatives of subordinate Lodges :—

No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—Moses Dickinson.

No. 2, St. John's, Middletown—Samuel Babcock, Horace Clark, Caleb Miller.

No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—David Clark, James H. Ashmeed, Theodore Spencer.

No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—Ebenezer Fisher.

No. 25, Columbia, Glastenbury—S. Stocking, George M. Dean, Wm. Rodman.

No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—James M. Grannis, Gabriel Post, P. G. Porter.

No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—William Hyde, K. H. Van Rensselaer, George E. Palmer.

No. 58, Northern Star, Barkhamsted—Wilson B. Spring.

A quorum of qualified members being present, the Grand Lodge was opened in due form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

On motion of Br. Clark, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons, in regular standing, be invited to sit in this Grand Lodge, as visitors, during the present communication.

The chair stated that the object of the present meeting, as set forth in the resolution of the Grand Lodge under which it had been called, was "for the purpose of mutual instruction in the lectures and work of the three degrees, and for such other business as the interest of the craft might require."

On motion of Br. S. Babcock, it was

Resolved, That the brethren present from St. John's Lodge, No. 4, be a committee to exemplify before this Grand Lodge the work in the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, to commence at half past two o'clock this afternoon.

A communication from the R. W. Junior Grand Warden, apologizing for not being able to attend the present communication, was read and ordered to be placed on file.

On motion, it was voted, that the Grand Lodge will now adjourn till half past 2 o'clock.

Tuesday Afternoon, Oct. 12, A. L. 5847.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment, at half past two o'clock, and proceeded to the order of the day; when the exemplification of the first and second degrees were given by the brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, viz:—T. Spencer, as W. M.; A. Goodwin as S. W.; David Clark, as J. W.; C. Goodell, as S. D.; J. H. Ashmead, as J. D.

Tuesday Evening, Oct. 12, A. L. 5847.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment, at seven o'clock.

On motion of Br. Spring, it was

Resolved, That Northren Star Lodge, No. 58, be authorized to hold their communications in Barkhamsted, or New Hartford, as that Lodge shall determine by a vote at their regular communications.

The order of the day was then resumed, when the Third, or Master's degree was exemplified by the brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, acting as in the preceding degrees.

The third degree having been gone through with, the whole work was reviewed by sections ; when after some slight modifications and emendations, the following resolutions was proposed, discussed, deliberated upon, and made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

Resolved, That the work of the three degrees of Masonry, as exhibited at this session by the brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, and amended by subsequent modifications, be approved by this Grand Lodge ; and that it be and hereby is recommended to the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction to conform to the same.

On motion, it was voted, that the Grand Lodge adjourn till 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday Morning, Oct. 13, A. L. 5847.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment, at eight o'clock, and proceeded with the order of the day, being the consideration of the resolution adopting the work of the three degrees, as exhibited yesterday. Pending the resolution, the work was again reviewed and examined, and compared with other systems, when it was, on motion, voted that the final question on the adoption be postponed till three o'clock this afternoon.

The Grand Secretary presented a communication from the R. W. Albert Case, tendering his resignation of the office of Representative of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut near the Grand Lodge of South Carolina—he having removed from that State.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the resignation of Br. Case be accepted, and that the Grand Lodge of South Carolina be requested to nominate a suitable brother, residing in their jurisdiction, to fill the vacancy.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, concerning the infringement on their jurisdiction by the Grand

Lodge of Mississippi, was read and referred to the standing committee on foreign correspondence, to report at the annual communication.

A communication from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, in the city of New York, was read and ordered to be laid on the table.

On motion, it was voted, that the Grand Lodge do now adjourn till 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Wednesday Afternoon, Oct. 13, A. L. 5847.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment, at two o'clock.

Br. Ashmead submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That every officer of any subordinate Lodge present, be called upon to show the Grand Lodge the manner of his work in the office he holds.

The Grand Secretary presented, and on motion read, a communication from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, relative to the spurious Lodges and clandestine Masons infesting that city and vicinity, hailing under the authority of a body styling itself "*St. John's Grand Lodge,*" which body is not recognized by any Grand Lodge or regular body of Masons in the United States. Whereupon, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the communication from New York be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, for the information of the subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction, and to guard the members against imposition.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the order of the day, being the final question on the resolution approving and adopting the work in the three degrees, as exhibited by the brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 4.

After a short discussion, the question was taken on adopting the resolution, and decided unanimously in the affirmative.

No further business offering, the Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1848.

At the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at the Temple, in the city of New Haven, on Wednesday, May 10, A. L. 5848 :

PRESENT :

- M. W. HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Master.
 R. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Deputy Grand Master.
 BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Senior Grand Warden.
 WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Junior Grand Warden.
 BENJAMIN BEECHER, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 W. ELISHA DOUGLASS, Senior Grand Deacon.
 DAVID CLARK, Junior Grand Deacon, pro tem.
 Rev. T. P. ABELL, Grand Chaplain.
 GEORGE SHUMWAY, Grand Marshal.
 JAMES STEVENS, Grand Sentinel.
 B. BEECHER, JUN., } Grand Stewards.
 R. FITZGERALD, }
 ISAAC TUTTLE, Grand Tyler.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

- M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, P. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.
 R. W. JAMES WARD, P. D. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.
 R. W. WILLIAM H. JONES, P. G. S., Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. W. Henry Peck, Past Grand Master ; R. W. Justin Redfield, Past Grand Secretary ; W. Fred. Crosswell, Past Grand Sentinel ; Brs. Asa Budington, Henry Moore, Wm. Storer and Samuel Bishop, Past Grand Stewards.

At 2 o'clock, P. M., the Grand Officers took their stations, and the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Hyde, Clark and Blackman a Committee on Credentials, who examined the returns, and reported that the following brethren were entitled to seats as

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—François Turner, Charles H. Skiff, Moses Dickinson.
- No. 2, St. John's Middletown—Horace Clark.
- No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport—John C. Blackman, Eli Thompson.
- No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—David Clark, Cyrus Goodell, Henry Perkins.
- No. 5, Union, Stamford—Wm. H. Holly.
- No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—James Stevens, Geo. F. Daskam, Charles Olmsted.
- No. 7, King Solomon's, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle.
- No. 8, St. John's, Stratford—Samuel Benjamin.
- No. 11, St. Paul's, Litchfield—Samuel P. Bolles.
- No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—Ebenezer Fisher.
- No. 14, Frederick, Farmington—Henry Cowles, Giles Stillman.
- No. 18, Hiram, Newtown—Alexander Hall, Charles Sherman.
- No. 25, Columbia, Glastenbury—Wm. Rodman.
- No. 27, Rising Sun, Washington—Daniel B. Brinsmade.
- No. 28, Morning Star, East Windsor—Joseph Olmsted, Jr.
- No. 31, Union, New London—Elisha Douglass.
- No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—Chauncey Burgess, Wm. H. Copp, Joseph S. Priest.
- No. 40, Union, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut.
- No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—Isaac Castle, James M. Grannis.
- No. 44, Eastern Star, Windham—Horatio Webb.
- No. 46, Putnam, Pomfret—Jabez Amsbury, Aaron Corbin.
- No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—William Hyde, K. H. Van Rensselaer, Ephraim Williams.

No. 58, Northern Star, Barkhamsted—Daniel S. Bird, Wilson B. Spring.

No. 59, Apollo, Suffield—Wm. Tuttle.

No. 62, Orient, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, George H. Olmsted.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Sanford, the report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

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

On Delinquent Lodges—Brs. Spring, Goodell, and Shumway.

On Grievances—Brs. Croswell, Burgess, and Amsbury.

On Unfinished Business—Brs. Perkins, Turner, and Hurlbut.

On motion of R. W. Br. Sanford, it was resolved that all Master Masons in regular standing, who may request it, be allowed to sit in the Grand Lodge, during the present communication, as visitors.

A petition was received from Br. Ira E. Smith, signed by himself and eleven other brethren residing in the town of Berlin, praying for the restoration of the charter of the late Harmony Lodge, No. 20. Referred to the Committee on Delinquent Lodges.

Br. Doolittle presented a petition signed by several of the officers and members of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 7, Woodbury, praying the Grand Lodge for pecuniary relief in behalf of the worthy widow and orphan children of the late Br. Washington H. Atwood, deceased, formerly a member of this Grand Lodge. Referred to the Committee on Grievances.

The Auditing Committee presented the following report, which was approved, accepted, and ordered to be recorded :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn.

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication, to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge for the year ending May 10, A. L. 5848, respectfully report, that they have attended to that duty, and find that all the moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, in whose hands there is now a balance in cash of nine hundred and two

dollars and eighty-two cents; which, with fifty-seven shares of Union School Stock, valued at fifteen dollars a share, amounting to eight hundred and fifty-five dollars, make the whole amount of the funds of the Grand Lodge, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven dollars and eighty-two cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRED. CROSWELL, } *Committee.*
DAVID CLARK, }

New Haven, May 10, 1848.

GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, 1848.

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with B. Beecher, Dr.

Paid Grand Secretary's bill, to May, 1847, - - -	\$73.43
“ Grand Steward's bill, - - - - -	24.23
“ Grand Tyler's bill, - - - - -	4.38
“ St. John's Lodge, No. 4, for hall rent, - - -	10.00
“ Bro. Wilson B. Spring's bill, - - - - -	27.14
“ Expense of Grand Lodge at Middletown, - - -	8.50
“ Sundry orders of Grand Master, - - - - -	55.30
Balance to new account, - - - - -	902.82
	<hr/>
	\$1105.80

Cr.

By balance on hand last communication, - - -	\$978.08
Cash received of Grand Secretary, - - - - -	93.00
Interest to May 1, 1848, - - - - -	34.72
	<hr/>
	\$1105.80

BENJ. BEECHER, *G. Treasurer.*

New Haven, May 10, 1848.

The Grand Secretary submitted a list of Lodges not represented and making no returns; which was referred to the Committee on Delinquent Lodges.

Bro. Amsbury presented a petition from Putnam Lodge, No. 46, praying, for reasons therein set forth, that said Lodge may be authorized to hold their communications in Killingly, such part of the time as they may judge proper. Referred to the Committee on Grievances.

Bro. William Storer from the Committee on Correspondence, submitted the following report:

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut

The committee appointed at the last annual communication to examine the foreign correspondence of the Grand Lodge, respectfully report—

That the last published records of the proceedings of the different Grand Lodges, as received from time to time by the Grand Secretary, during the last year, have been submitted to their inspection, and that they have bestowed on them as much and as careful attention as their other engagements would allow. The committee believe these documents to be more numerous than we have ever received in any previous year. Indeed, several new Lodges have communicated with us for the first time; still the committee are pained in missing from our files the old familiar reports of the Grand Lodges of Rhode Island, New Jersey, Mississippi, and the District of Columbia, of which, in all probability, some unavoidable accident has alone deprived us. Amidst the vast amount of business transacted, we regret to find many conflicting opinions on rights, regulations, jurisdiction, modes of work, &c. &c., tending to interrupt that universal harmony which formerly prevailed in our order. Each Grand Lodge (of which we have now more than thirty) claims supreme authority with regard to Masonry in its own defined limits. These bodies have little intercourse with each other, and when differences arise between them they have no means of meeting together to discuss, explain, and reconcile them. They therefore talk them over at home, in their own meetings, causing misunderstandings, which result in bitter recrimination, and no doubt very unmasonic feelings.

While the committee cannot avoid expressing their great sorrow on account of many things that have come to their knowledge, they are still happy to find among many of our sister Grand Lodges, much of the true spirit of charity and brotherly love, displayed in the discussion of the various conflicting

questions that arise between them, and in the expressions of their opinions, both on different subjects and concerning each other. Your committee are of the opinion, that with the present constitution and government of Masonry in this country, the Grand Lodges are always liable, and, indeed, are absolutely in danger, of getting into difficulties that may never be satisfactorily disposed of.

Your committee suppose the aggregate income of the Grand Lodges in the United States to amount to more than fifty-thousand dollars a year. With this vast amount of means, how much real good ought to be effected, in dispensing to the destitute relief both for body and mind—"knitting together in closer bonds the members of our whole family, and affording to youth the advantages so necessary to success in life!"

Notwithstanding the remarks of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of a sister Grand Lodge, "disapproving of that course which reviews the acts of the several Grand Lodges, and criticises them according to the opinion of the reviewing committee," we believe it to be our duty, by virtue of our appointment, to place before you a concise statement of such of the acts of each Grand Lodge as are most likely to be interesting to the fraternity in this State.

MAINE.—This Grand Lodge decides, that a deformed candidate may be admitted, unless he is incapable of being instructed in our mysteries, or of gaining for himself an honest living—Does not grant Grand Lodge certificates to members of subordinate Lodges—Votes that hereafter "each subordinate Lodge shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge one eighth of a dollar for each of its members, and that the sum so arising be appropriated in whole or in part to the payment of the expense of one delegate from each Lodge who shall attend the annual communication of the Grand Lodge." Twenty-two Lodges were represented at the last annual communication.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The records of this most active and flourishing Grand Lodge contains reports from their Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and six District Deputies. A resolution was passed approving the proposition to establish a General Grand Lodge; also to send a delegate to the Convention to form a General Grand Constitution, which was subsequently rescinded on account of the low state of their funds. Eleven Lodges were represented at the last annual communication.

VERMONT.—In the published proceedings of this Grand Lodge we find an eloquent address from the M. W. Grand Master, in which he speaks of an "un-

pleasant disagreement with the Grand Lodge of New York, apparently participated in by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky." He also recommends to the Grand Lodge the appointment of a Grand Lecturer, to visit the subordinate Lodges and establish a uniformity of work. With regard to the disagreement alluded to, your committee know of no better way of doing justice to the subject, than by making the following rather lengthy extract from the report of their Committee on Foreign Correspondence :

"The second point submitted by the report of the New York Committee is whether the organization of the Grand Lodge of Vermont was according to its own constitution.

"Your committee, as to this, unhesitatingly question the jurisdiction of the tribunal thus assuming to make itself the judge between an independent State Grand Lodge and its own constitution. The power thus to call this Grand Lodge to an account is denied to exist in the Grand Lodge of New York, and if there be any Masonic warrant for it we demand its production. Does any enlightened man seriously believe that thirty independent State Grand Lodges can peaceably exist in these United States, each possessing the power to arraign and try every other upon questions of construction which any one may give to their constitution? Is Maine, for instance, to think, judge, and act for Florida; Iowa for Texas; or New York for Vermont? Is it not obvious that such a state of things would soon produce a confusion worse than the confounding of languages at Babel—that it would lead to something more than anarchy—that it would end in a perfect Masonic chaos? In the opinion of your committee the day which witnesses the establishment of such a principle will have seen a withering blight fasten upon our institution, under the influence of which it will droop, and fall, and die.

"The action taken by the Grand Lodge of New York leaves no doubt as to what she claims. She seems not at all to doubt her right to determine whether this Grand Lodge, in Jan. 1846, organized according to its own constitution. This is the language of her own committee, and the burthen of the language used in the letter of her Grand Secretary. From whence did she derive the Masonic authority to hear, try, and determine questions of Masonic action and polity arising in other State Grand Lodges? What Masonic power imparted to her the right to decide whether a sister Grand Lodge does or does not know as well as she does what its own constitution means? And who gave her the right to circulate throughout the Masonic world her constitutional doubts about another Masonic body, which had existed, without reproach, nearly as many years as herself? The Grand Lodge of New York, it is true, is strong, while that of Vermont is weak; she is wealthy, and we are poor; she is almost reveling in prosperity, while we are but just shaking off the dregs of adversity; but with all this, she is not superior in regard for the welfare and purity of the institution; and in all questions of mere right, it is well not to forget that the dwarf and the giant, in Masonry, as in all things else, stand upon one common level. We know the value of good advice, and have always kept open for it a *listening ear*: but our *twenty-four inch gauge* has no figures upon it to measure the length, the breadth, the height, or depth of brotherly dictation.

"We have yet no National Grand Lodge in the U. States, to settle constitutional

questions in Masonry. All the State Grand Lodges claim to be the equals of each other, and this is upon all hands admitted. Questions of constitutional construction are of no unfrequent occurrence. How have they been heretofore settled in the different State Grand Lodges? It seems impossible to settle them but in one of two ways; either as each Grand Lodge in its own case understands them itself, or as somebody else understands them. Should the last mentioned course be taken by any Grand Lodge, there would be some thirty other Grand Bodies to consult, and if they should happen to disagree, (to say nothing of the length of time it would take to obtain their respective decisions,) how would a satisfactory result be arrived at? Such a cause is impracticable upon its very face, and we can see no other, susceptible of any practical operation, than that each Grand Lodge should construe its own constitution according to its own understanding of it, and act upon that construction. The Grand Lodge of Vermont thus acted, and it is for that action that New York has assumed to become her judge.

"Your committee have examined the correspondence placed in their hands between the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge and the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York. This correspondence, on the part of this Grand Lodge, has been conducted under the direction of our Grand Master, with the approval of the Grand Officers. It will be observed that the letters of our Grand Secretary place the question with New York upon the same ground taken by your committee: *that one independent State Grand Lodge, upon a question of constitutional construction, has no Masonic right to assume the power of judging over another Grand Lodge, in every respect its Masonic equal.*

"The course of the Grand Lodge of New York toward other Grand Lodges is of an unusual character, and one rarely discoverable in the doings of other Grand Lodges, possessing beyond doubt, as much love for the institution, and as much intelligence, as herself. The present is not the first time it has attracted attention and remark. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, at the annual communication of that Grand Lodge in 1846, observe that "the dictatorial manner in which the Grand Lodge of New York has seen fit to speak of the doings of some of her sister institutions, has met with severe rebuke in more than one instance." Other Grand Lodges, besides Connecticut, have also been compelled to speak of the offensive tone emanating from the Grand Lodge of New York. Such a watering of our Masonic vineyard is not to water it with *"the dew of Hermon, nor with the dew that descended upon the mountain of Zion."*

"Every State Grand Lodge is the architect of its own constitution, and is its own independent judge of the rules created by itself. We believe there is not a State Grand Lodge constitution which does not assert, in terms, that the body it is designed to regulate is *independent* in its powers and prerogatives, which shall not be so used as to disturb the ancient landmarks of the order, and that they shall be exercised *agreeable to ancient Masonic usage.*

"If there be any existing universal Masonic Law, controlling and paramount to all others, if it exist not in ancient usage, it is impossible that it should exist at all. That those ancient usages do not, in every case, provide a perfectly settled rule of action, is perfectly clear. Else why do we see Grand Lodges con-

stantly differing from each other in their opinions about ancient usage? and whence arose the difference of opinion between the Grand Lodge of New York and other Grand Lodges, as to whether it was according to ancient usage to admit a mutilated, deformed, or imperfect man, to the privileges of the Order? Had ancient usage been wholly clear upon that question, some rough passages between brethren would have been spared. And were all Masonic usage beyond a doubt, we should probably not so often be visited with these periodical outbursts where victory in argument is more strongly sought for than "*that noble emulation who can best work or best agree.*"

Notwithstanding this seeming obstacle to harmonious intercourse without, your committee are gratified in believing that the Grand Lodge of Vermont enjoys peace within her borders, and perfect fellowship with a great majority of the Grand Lodges in the Union. Eleven Lodges were represented at the last annual communication.

MASSACHUSETTS.—This Grand Lodge does not allow candidates to be advanced in less than a month without a dispensation, and demands an increase of dues from the subordinates to the Grand Lodge. The M. W. Grand Master, in his address, favors the formation of a General Grand Lodge.

NEW YORK—The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was commenced with an able address from their Grand Master. Their journal of proceedings shows a vast amount of business, and their extensive foreign correspondence enables them to furnish the Masonic community in our country with much interesting and valuable information from Europe, of which we would gladly make extracts, did our limits permit. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in closing their report, say—

"We have witnessed with delight the results produced in many instances by our own efforts to arouse the fraternity every where to an active use of the talents committed to their care; to rigorously preserve the old constitutions and landmarks of the Order; to banish innovations and errors from their statute-books and practice; and to make that true which has not been so at any time within the last century—that the whole Masonic family is united in fraternal intercourse, with the same bonds of brotherhood and the same fundamental principles acknowledged in their constitutions. On the other hand, we have been pained to notice that the very efforts we have made for the benefit of others, as for ourselves, have been in some places totally misunderstood or misrepresented. But that which has been most painful to us, was the evidence continually accumulating, as we read that in many parts of both hemispheres there exists a strong tendency to change the order of Masonry; to jeopard its unity, and to persist in errors and innovations, which have already been introduced.

The "Ancient Charges of a Freemason," the touchstone for the pure gold of Masonic doctrine, have been mutilated, innovated, abridged, or extended, to suit the particular ideas of "opinionative persons," or they have been totally discarded, because "the world has changed," and therefore Masonry must be changed! Some Grand Lodges insist that candidates for Masonry must be baptized Christians; others, that they must believe in the divine authenticity of the Bible; others, that they must believe in a future state of rewards and punish-

ments; thus narrowing down the first *old charge*, to some few particular sects of Christians. The old charge, that "the men made Masons must be free-born, of *mature age*, of good report, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered at the time of their making," which we hold to be the unchangable, fundamental, written law for all Freemasons, is by some Grand Lodges so changed as to authorize the making of a Mason of *part of a man*, a blind man, &c; and yet, by a singular misconception of the nature of Masonic laws, one of the same Grand Lodges holds that the regulations (which every Grand Lodge has a right to alter, amend, or explain, for their own benefit) are as "unalterable as the laws of the Medes and Persians."

The Grand Lodge of Maryland having exposed the members of their Lodges to expulsions by Chapters and Encampments, the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, to prevent the operation of the evil precedent in her jurisdiction, adopted a resolution expressly declaring that suspension or expulsion in a Chapter or Encampment shall not exclude members from the Lodges. But this law, by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, is pronounced not only "unjust and absurd," but "wicked and abominable." This the Grand Lodge of Florida pronounces "unmasonic language."

"With such specimens before us, (and we give them only as *specimens*,) can we, as watchmen upon the walls, say, "*all is well?*" Can we delude ourselves, or allow ourselves to be deluded, with the declarations which are repeated from Grand Lodge to Grand Lodge, through all this land, that all is peace, harmony, and prosperity, and that "Brotherly Love and Charity" abound? We think not; and we are forcibly reminded of the admonition of the Grand Lodge of Switzerland to her children, that "Masonry relies more on the *quality* than the *quantity* of her members."

This Grand Lodge takes a decided stand in favor of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in her difficulties with the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and among others the following resolutions were adopted:

"*Resolved*, That as we have heretofore recognized the Grand Lodge of Louisiana as the sole, supreme, and legitimate government of the symbolic degrees of Masonry in the State of Louisiana, so we shall continue to sustain her in all her rights and prerogatives as such."

"*Resolved*, That all Lodges planted in the State of Louisiana by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, or any other Grand Lodge than the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, established in the year 1812, are irregular Lodges, and can not be recognized by us."

"*Resolved*, That all intercourse between the Lodges and Masons in this State and the Lodges and Masons in the State of Louisiana not deriving their authority from the Grand Lodge of that State, is hereby strictly prohibited."

NEW JERSEY.—We only find from this Grand Lodge a list of their Grand Officers, elected in January, 1848, and a letter from their Grand Secretary, acknowledging the receipt of the proceedings of our Grand Lodge.

PENNSYLVANIA.—This Grand Lodge has seven District Deputy Grand Masters; also a committee to examine the minutes and select extracts for publication, who have thought proper to select little besides the address of the M. W.

Grand Master. This address though lengthy, is very interesting and instructive. He states their receipts during the year 1847 to have been more than \$9,500; and that within the same time, relief to the amount of \$1,529.50 was extended to seventy-six "poor and respectable Masons." Twenty-eight Lodges were represented at their last annual communication.

MARYLAND.—An eloquent address, delivered by the M. W. Grand Master, commenced the late annual communication. This Grand Lodge pays the traveling expenses of the representatives from country Lodges. She is strongly in favor of a General Grand Lodge. Ten Grand Inspectors are annually elected. The remarks of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in reviewing some of the acts, declarations, and opinions of the Grand Lodge of New York, are exceedingly severe. Thirteen subordinate Lodges represented.

VIRGINIA.—This Grand Lodge elects twenty-two District Deputy Grand Masters, a Grand Lecturer, and a Grand Working Committee. She has educated forty-four destitute orphans of deceased Masons; in addition to which many others have been educated and supported by subordinate Lodges under her jurisdiction. Masonry in the Old Dominion appears to be active, healthy, flourishing, and useful. Forty-two Lodges were represented in December last.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Grand Master, in his address, recommends the appointment of a Grand Lecturer. This office was dispensed with at the previous communication, and the Grand Master authorized to appoint District Grand Lecturers. This system was found to work badly, and the Grand Master wishes to return to the old plan, and elect a permanent Grand Lecturer, with an adequate salary. In urging the ratification of the Constitution for a Supreme Grand Lodge, he says—

"The necessity for such a power has been proven beyond cavil, and it would be only an encroachment upon your time and patience to offer any further inducements to impel this Grand Lodge to give it their most cordial approbation." A resolution was adopted by the Grand Lodge ratifying the Constitution. The trustees on education reported that they had received contributions to the amount of five hundred dollars from some of the subordinate Lodges. At the annual communication twenty-five subordinate Lodges were represented.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—This Grand Lodge holds a General Grand Communication on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, for the purpose of installing their Grand Officers; they also hold four regular quarterly communications; in addition to which they had, during the last year, five special communications, at one of which it was resolved to purchase a lot of land adjoining their hall, for the sum of \$3,500. The Grand Secretary and Lecturer, R. W. Br. Mackey, in his annual report, recommends to the Grand Lodge "to offer to the destitute orphans of the craft, those advantages of extended instructions which the imperfect state of the common school system does not at present permit them to receive." He urges the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, and thinks it would be "the means of doing much good, and removing a large amount of evil." This Grand Lodge has received for the rent of her hall alone, during the year 1847, the sum of \$2,281.50.

A special communication of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was held on the 23d of December, for the purpose of receiving with appropriate honors our distinguished brothers, Generals Quitman and Shields, on their return from Mexico. The proceedings on this occasion were highly interesting, and the printed report says that the brethren enjoyed a scene not witnessed by the Masonic fraternity in the city of Charleston since the visit of their illustrious brother, Gen. Lafayette.

GEORGIA.—Sixty-four chartered Lodges are reported as working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, only one of which failed to make returns last year. In the Lodges 776 candidates have been initiated, and 105 brethren admitted, during the year. The whole number of members reported is 2,566. This Grand Lodge is in favor of a General Grand Lodge. She pays her representatives three dollars for every twenty miles travel. They elect three District Deputy Grand Masters and a Grand Lecturer. Twelve charters for new Lodges were issued during the past year.

FLORIDA.—The Grand Secretary makes an annual report. The record also contains an able report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, covering sixty good sized pages of a closely printed pamphlet. This Grand Lodge voted to ratify the Constitution for a Supreme Grand Lodge. They also voted to discontinue and abolish the representative system. Seven subordinate Lodges were represented at the last annual communication.

ALABAMA.—By a regulation of this Grand Lodge it is made the *duty* of the Grand Master to communicate, at the annual session, all subjects within his knowledge requiring action. Their printed minutes contain interesting reports from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, the Grand Lecturer, and the Grand Secretary; also a resolution in favor of a General Grand Lodge. Masonry is in a very flourishing condition in this State. Seventy-two Lodges were represented at the last annual communication.

LOUISIANA.—An unhappy difference having arisen between the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and that of the adjoining State of Mississippi, in consequence of the latter body having doubted the Masonic *orthodoxy* of the former, and assumed to herself the right of issuing warrants and establishing Lodges within the jurisdiction of Louisiana, the Grand Lodge of that State passed the following resolution in April, 1847:

“*Resolved*, That Masonic communication be, and is hereby interdicted and forbidden, between the Masons of the three first degrees of this State, and the members of the said Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.”

We have not seen the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, but the Louisiana committee say, in their report, that a declaration was made by that body, at its annual communication, that “there is no Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons in the State of Louisiana”—and hence their assumption of jurisdiction within the limits of that State.

It may perhaps appear to some, at first sight, that the scene of this unhappy difficulty is *so far off*, that Connecticut Masons need feel but little if any interest in the matter. But it has not so appeared to your Committee. Whatever affects

the prosperity and the interests of any portion of the great Masonic family, affects the whole; and were not this the fact, the great number of our own members who reside a considerable portion of the year in the State of Louisiana, and especially in the city of New Orleans, is a sufficient reason why we should feel a deep and lively interest in the grave question at issue between our brethren of the "mystic tie" in that portion of our land. Our Connecticut brethren, who sojourn in that "far country," are necessarily brought in contact with Masons and Lodges there, and are accustomed to avail themselves of the privilege of visiting and participating in the social benefits of the brotherhood; and since the charge of *non-existence* is preferred against the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, the "legal" existence of all subordinate Lodges under that jurisdiction is of course denied. It therefore becomes a matter of intense solicitude to us; for if the *taint of treason* is to attach to our brethren who go out from us, in consequence of their association with "clandestine" or "irregular" Masons, we surely ought to know it, that we may lift the voice of warning, and caution them to BEWARE!

With this view of the importance of the question, your Committee have made what research they could, and are convinced of the truth of the statement made by our Louisiana brethren, viz: that "their Grand Lodge was constituted in the year of Masonry 5812, as the Grand Lodge of Louisiana Ancient York Masons, according to the Old Constitution as revived Prince Edwin, at the city of York, A. L. 4926," and that it has ever since exercised supreme and exclusive jurisdiction, as such, throughout the whole extent of the limits of said State, and that it has been constantly recognized as the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, by all the Grand Lodges of the world, with the exception of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi."

TEXAS.—In his opening address, the Grand Master of Texas states that the Grand Lodge has suffered a severe loss in the destruction of a portion of their archives by fire. He congratulates the Grand Lodge on the benefits they have reaped from the active labors of their Lecturer during the past year. The Grand Lodge voted not to require Grand Lodge certificates from strange visiting brethren. They also appropriated ten per cent. of all their revenues for educational purposes. The last mentioned measure is one of much importance, and speaks volumes in praise of the sagacity of our brethren of the "lone star" State. Fourteen Lodges were present by their representatives at the annual communication in January last.

TENNESSEE.—The Grand Master, in his opening address, says—"Never, perhaps, since the establishment of the Order in Tennessee, has its prosperity been so great as at present. The accessions during the past year have been as numerous, if not more so, than any previous year. Some discussion has arisen in regard to the powers of the Master of a Lodge. I have given it as my opinion, that the decisions of the Master, on questions of order, are final, and that no appeal lies from the decision of the Master to the Lodge: that if he governs in a haughty and imperious manner, he is responsible to the Grand Lodge by whose authority he presides, and not to his Lodge."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence allude in their report to various innovations upon the landmarks of the order, and say—"These innovations, if per-

sisted in, will be productive of evil consequences to the Order, and disturb the harmony which now so happily exists in its various branches. Among these innovations are the several *religious* tests which are attempted to be imposed, such as requiring 'a belief in a future state of rewards and punishments,' and 'a distinct avowal of a belief in the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures.' The first is justly chargeable on the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, and the second on the Grand Lodges of Illinois and North Carolina. Your Committee, entertaining the opinion that no religious test should be required beyond that of a belief in the existence of a God, the Creator and Governor of the universe, they recommend the repeal of the by-law of this Grand Lodge which requires a candidate to declare his belief in a future state of rewards and punishments." * * *

"One innovation leads to another, and unless this spirit be arrested, we shall in a short time be unable to tell what are and what are not the true principles and landmarks of the Order."

The Committee are in favor of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. The Chairman of the Committee, brother Tannehill, was allowed seventy-five dollars as a compensation for his services. The sum of \$1200 was appropriated and set apart as an educational fund. Sixty-four Lodges represented at the last annual communication.

KENTUCKY.—The Grand Master, in his address, congratulates the brethren on the great prosperity of the "Masonic College," located at Lagrange. During the present, or third collegiate year, there are in attendance at the institution, one hundred and seventy students, from various States of the Union. This Grand Lodge has heretofore had, instead of a Grand Lecturer, a "Committee of Work," consisting of ten members, of which the Grand Master was one; but he states that it does not answer, and recommends the appointment of a Grand Lecturer, with a salary which will "enable him to visit every Lodge in the State, and remain with each as long as would be necessary to acquaint them with the ancient landmarks of the Order." Sixty-eight Lodges represented in August last.

MISSOURI.—At the annual communication of this Grand Lodge, in October last, the following among other resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary is required to notify every Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, that from and after the next communication, no Mason not having a certificate of his good standing, of recent date, will be allowed to participate in the charity fund of this Grand Lodge or any of its subordinates.

"Resolved, That all Masonic intercourse is hereby withheld from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and her dependent Lodges, until said Grand Lodge shall return to the plain and simple principles upon which it was originally established.

"Resolved, That all Grand Lodges in the United States are hereby fraternally requested to take such action in the premises as to them may seem proper.

"Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of New York has acted hastily and unadvisedly, and we doubt not will retrace its steps, when, by proper *Masonic* means, it learns *all* the facts which have driven this Grand Lodge to withhold the right hand of fellowship from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana."

The Masonic College of Missouri seems to be in a prosperous condition. The

special agent appointed to take possession of the means donated by the city of Lexington, as an inducement for locating the College in that city, reports that there came into his hands the sum of \$31,348.50.

This Grand Lodge has a Grand Lecturer and ten District Deputy Grand Masters. Seventeen Lodges were represented at the last annual communication.

WISCONSIN.—The Grand Master, in his address, states that the Grand Lecturer, having faithfully and worthily performed his duty, “represents the Lodges as in a healthful state of prosperity; and their advancement in Masonic knowledge and skill, and their close approximation to the entire uniformity of work and lectures, to which he bears testimony, gives assurance of a fidelity to ancient usage, and an exactness of ritual, which even older jurisdictions might envy.”

“When we reflect,” continues the address, “that upon the organization of our Grand Lodge in 1844, (but three years since,) we were a community of strangers, hailing from different States and countries, and that within so short a period these elements have all been brought into delightful harmony, all discrepancies brought down to an entire uniformity, and that uniformity moulded upon the ancient platform, we can not fail to admire the power of Masonic precedent, the benignity of its influence, and the harmony of its great principles with those of universal nature and truth.”

The Grand Master strongly recommends a General Grand Lodge; the Committee on Foreign Correspondence also reported in favor of it; and the Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge approves and will contribute to the support of a General Grand Lodge of the United States.”

IOWA.—It must be highly gratifying to every good Mason to know that the dissemination of pure Masonic light bids fair to be “from the rising of the sun even to the going down of the same.” No sooner are the vast forests and prairies of the Great West made vocal with the cheerful hum of civilized life, than we hear the inspiring clatter of the “working-tools of our profession,” wielded by tried and trusty craftsmen. Lodges of our ancient and honorable brotherhood spring into existence as if by magic, and are so many radiating points from which shine forth the effulgent light and glowing warmth of Masonic charity and brotherly love.

The Grand Master of Iowa, in his address at the opening of the annual communication in June last, says—“Less than six years ago the first Lodge in Iowa received her charter; now we have ten chartered Lodges, besides several under dispensation.”

Already has the infant Grand Lodge of this younger sister of our Republic began to take measures with reference to a literary institution for the purpose of affording the means of education to the orphans of deceased Masons. We fully sympathize with the Grand Master of Iowa when he says, “If there is one duty of Masonry which has my regard more than another, it is that which educates the orphans of our deceased brethren; and is it my humble prayer to Him who has promised to be a father to the fatherless, that He will prosper our efforts in this cause.”

This Grand Lodge is in favor of a General Grand Lodge. Four Lodges were represented at the annual communication.

ILLINOIS.—The Grand Master, in his annual report, says, “the subordinate Lodges are prosperous and flourishing.” At the annual communication, in October last, thirty-nine subordinate Lodges were represented. A resolution was adopted for the appointment of a committee “to inquire into the Masonic standing of the Grand Lodge of Vermont.”

INDIANA.—The Lodges in this jurisdiction are apparently in a flourishing condition. Forty-eight subordinates were represented at the annual communication in May last. The Grand Master did not take his seat in the Grand Lodge, but sent a message, stating that charges had been made prejudicial to his moral character. A committee was appointed to investigate the charges, who reported that “the charges had no sort of foundation in fact.” Notwithstanding this report, the following preamble and resolution were adopted :

“Whereas satisfactory proof has been exhibited that Bro. Johnson Watts, our Grand Master, has been suspended from all the privileges of Masonry, by King David’s Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, of which he was a member: therefore,

Resolved, That, without expressing an opinion as to his guilt or innocence, all Masonic intercourse with Bro. Johnson Watts by Masons under this jurisdiction is highly improper, and should be totally interdicted during such suspension.”

Your committee do not understand by what system of reasoning a majority of the members of the Grand Lodge of Indiana convinced themselves of the propriety of adopting the foregoing resolution, after having accepted and approved the report of an investigating committee, appointed by themselves, declaring in substance that the charges against their Grand Master were without foundation; unless they have imbibed the notion that an expulsion or suspension from a Royal Arch Chapter necessarily deprives the subject of such discipline of all his privileges as a member of a Blue Lodge. We have no hesitation in expressing our belief that those who adopt this sentiment act under a mistaken notion of the powers and relations of the several Masonic Orders. The degrees conferred in a Blue Lodge, viz. Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, we believe to be the extent of “Ancient Craft Masonry,” and however much we may value what are called “the higher degrees,” or those conferred in Chapters, Councils, Encampments, &c., we cannot acknowledge the right of any of these organizations to interfere with the rights and privileges of membership in the Lodge.

If a Mason violates any of his obligations as a member of the *original* Masonic fraternity, it is doubtless the duty of his Lodge to administer such measure of discipline as the nature of the case may demand; but a man may, in our opinion, be a true and faithful Mason, and perform the duties required of him as a member of a Master’s Lodge, and fall short of some reasonable requirement of a Chapter of which he may be a member. For instance, in many Chapters suspension or expulsion is inflicted in case of a failure to pay monthly or quarterly dues. Now is it reasonable that a member of a *Chapter*, thus dealt with, should thereby forfeit his privileges as a Master Mason? For good and sufficient reasons, a Mason may come to the determination not to continue his connection with the Chapter; or he may be so unfortunate as not to be able promptly to pay his dues; and must therefore be cut off from *all* his Masonic privileges,

because the hard hand of poverty is laid upon him, and he is reluctantly compelled to forego a part of them? Surely, in our view, this is not carrying out the principle of charity and brotherly love.

A variety of arguments suggest themselves to the minds of your committee, proving conclusively that a Royal Arch Chapter has no jurisdiction over a member of a Master's Lodge, *as such*; but as we have no fear of an emergency of this nature in Connecticut, we forbear to trespass further on the patience of the Grand Lodge by recapitulating them.

OHIO.—The Grand Master of this State presented his annual address to the Grand Lodge, at the opening of the last communication, written in most eloquent and appropriate language. He justly deprecates the too rapid increase of subordinate Lodges. A committee reported that "a Grand Lecturer is indispensable to the promotion of the cause of Masonry in that jurisdiction." The committee say, "the experience of the past few years has shown plainly, that without some efficient and cautious effort, *Uniformity of Work*, an end so desirable, can never be attained."

The flourishing condition of Masonry in the State of Ohio may be deduced from the fact that the annual communication of the Grand Lodge in October last was attended by representatives from *one hundred and ten* subordinates.

MICHIGAN.—Seventeen Lodges were represented in the Grand Lodge, at the annual communication in January last. In the address of the Grand Master, he recommended the appointment of a Grand Lecturer, and in accordance with his recommendation, the Grand Lodge appointed to that office, Bro. A. C. Smith, a Past Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge of Michigan pledges itself, by resolution, to conform to the lawful requirements of a General Grand Lodge, and support a representation in the same, "at all reasonable times and places," provided such General Grand Lodge shall be formed, with such "expressly defined and limited powers" as the said Grand Lodge of Michigan has proposed.

ARKANSAS.—At the annual communication of this Grand Lodge, in November last, there were eight Lodges represented,—fourteen being the whole number in the jurisdiction. A resolution taxing non-affiliated Masons was repealed, and the following adopted as a substitute:

"*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of all Masons residing under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to attach themselves to some regular Lodge, provided there is one within twenty miles of their residence; and if they fail to do so, they shall not be entitled to any of the rights and benefits of Masonry."

We observe in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas a provision, (which we do not remember to have noticed in any other Constitution,) that "no Mason shall be eligible to an office in the Grand Lodge, unless he has *passed the chair* in a regular Lodge."

CANADA.—Your committee have carefully examined the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada West and the District of Montreal and William Henry; and although we discover nothing requiring particular notice, yet we would express our gratification at the opportunity offered us by our provin-

cial brethren to make their acquaintance. We trust that the correspondence now for the first time opened, will long be continued with uninterrupted harmony.

Having thus given a cursory glance at the various documents transmitted to us by the several Grand Lodges with whom we are in correspondence, it will be seen that our brethren in various sections of this great country find divers matters of importance to occupy their attention, some of which are topics of exciting interest, and occasionally lead to a warmth and vehemence of discussion not exactly comporting with our ideas of that charity which "suffereth long and is kind, envieth not, vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth, believeth all things, beareth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things." Your committee would take this occasion to congratulate the Grand Lodge that none of these exciting topics have hitherto been permitted to disturb the harmony of *our* councils; and we offer our fervent aspirations for the perpetuation of that peace and concord and brotherly love which have hitherto reigned in our Lodges.

In conclusion, your committee beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge reciprocate the courtesy of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, and that our Grand Secretary be directed to forward to each of them a copy of the proceedings of this Grand Communication, and solicit a continuance of fraternal intercourse.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. STORER,
WM. E. SANFORD, } *Committee.*
E. G. STORER,

On motion, it was voted, that the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, with the accompanying resolution, be approved and adopted.

Bro. Perkins, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported, that the business deferred at the last communication, to be acted upon at the present time, was the following:

Resolution relative to the By-Laws of Hiram Lodge, No. 1; resolutions concerning certain members of Federal Lodge, No. 17, and Aurora Lodge, No. 35; resolution directing a revision of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and an inquiry into the subject of paying the expenses of the representatives.

On motion, the report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The affairs of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35, being called up, Bro. Joel G. Candee appeared before the Grand Lodge, and was heard in explanation of his alleged participation in the distribution of the funds of said Lodge. After which,

Bro. Crosswell offered a preamble and resolution exonerating Bro. Candee from all the charges preferred against him.

Bro. D. Clark moved to lay the preamble and resolution on the table, and refer the whole subject to a special committee; which was adopted, and Bro. D. Clark, Holly and W. Storer were appointed on said committee.

The By-Laws of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, as amended in July, 1847, were submitted to the Grand Lodge, showing that the objectionable portion, alluded to in the resolution laid over last year, had been removed. Whereupon,

On motion of R. W. Bro. Storer, the resolution was indefinitely postponed.

On motion of M. W. Bro. Ellis, it was resolved that the Grand Lodge will now proceed to the election of officers. The M. W. Horace Goodwin declined being a candidate for Grand Master, and appointed Bro. Crosswell and Copp tellers; when ballots being taken, the following brethren were declared to be duly elected:

M. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Grand Master.

R. W. BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Deputy Grand Master.

WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Senior Grand Warden.

DAVID CLARK, Junior Grand Warden.

BENJAMIN BEECHER, Grand Treasurer.

ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 7 o'clock this evening.

Wednesday Evening, May 10.

At 7 o'clock, the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, and resumed business.

The installation of Grand Officers then took place, after which the Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments :

Rev. Bro. T. P. ABELL, of Middletown, Grand Chaplain.
 W. Bro. ELISHA DOULASS, New London, Senior G. Deacon.
 WILLIAM H. COPP, Norwich, Junior G. Deacon.
 GEORGE SHUMWAY, New Haven, G. Marshal.
 JAMES STEVENS, Norwalk, G. Sentinel.
 THEODORE SPENCER, Hartford, } G. Stewards.
 JAMES H. ASHMEAD, " }
 ELIZUR SKINNER, Hartford, G. Tyler.

The Grand Secretary submitted the proceedings of the Convention assembled at Baltimore in September last, to form a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, which was referred to a committee, consisting of Brs. Goodwin, W. Storer, and Burgess.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Bro. Joel G. Candee's participation in the affairs of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35, submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee to whom was referred the matters touching the citation of Bro. Joel G. Candee to appear before this Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled, beg leave to report, that from the full and frank statement made by Bro. Candee before the Grand Lodge at its present session, from an examination of the records of Aurora Lodge, No. 35, of which he was formerly the W. Master, and from other facts elicited in the discussion of the issues before the Grand Lodge, your Committee are of the opinion that Bro. Candee is not subject to any censure by this Grand Lodge ; we therefore recommend the passage of the following resolution :

Resolved, That Bro. Joel G. Candee be, and he hereby is, absolved from all censure in his participation in the matters of complaint regarding the said Aurora Lodge.

DAVID CLARK, }
 WM. H. HOLLY. } *Committee.*
 WM. STORER, }

After a lengthy discussion, the question was taken on adopting the report, and decided in the negative.

Bro. Crosswell's preamble and resolution, which had been laid on the table, was then taken up and adopted, in the words following :

Whereas, Bro. Joel G. Candee, having appeared, in obedience to a resolution of this M. W. Grand Lodge, and make a satisfactory explanation of his part in the transactions of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35 ; therefore,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge does hereby exonerate Bro. Joel G. Candee of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35, from all the charges and imputations preferred against him.

The other individuals implicated in the investigation of the affairs of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35, and Federal Lodge, No. 17, having seen fit not to answer, and to pay no attention to the resolutions of the Grand Lodge calling on them for explanation, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That Bros. Jacob O. Catlin and William S. Goodsell, of the late Aurora Lodge, No. 35, and Bros. Cyrus B. Manville, Alanson Warren, Anthony G. Davis, Lewis Andrus, Micah Blakeslee, Leavit Smith, Randall Warren, Levi Markham, Jonah Smith, and Hiram French, of the late Federal Lodge, No. 17, be, and they hereby are, suspended from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, during the pleasure of this Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. Ellis submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to the M. W. Past Grand Master Horace Goodwin, 2d, for the satisfactory manner in which he has discharged the duties of Grand Master for the two past years.

Bro. T. P. Abell offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the able and faithful manner in which they have discharged the duties assigned them for the present communication.

Bro. Amsbury, from the Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of Putnam Lodge, No. 46, for permission to remove their location, reported the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That Putnam Lodge, No. 46, are hereby authorized and empowered to hold communications in the town of Killingly, such part of the time as may be determined upon by a vote of said Lodge.

Bro. Crosswell, from the Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the application for relief in behalf of the widow of a late member of the Grand Lodge, reported the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be and is hereby directed to pay into the hands of Bro. Benjamin Doolittle, W. Master of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 7, the sum of thirty dollars, for the benefit and use of Mrs. Atwood, widow of our late Brother Washington H. Atwood.

Bro. Abell, chairman of the Committee on By-Laws and Regulations, reported a revision of the Constitution, By-Laws and Permanent Resolutions of the Grand Lodge ; which report was accepted, and the consideration of the proposed amendments made the order for to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

Bro. Goodell, chairman of the Committee on delinquent Lodges, presented the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee have had under consideration the petition of Bro. Ira E. Smith, of Berlin, and other members of Harmony Lodge, No. 20, praying for the revival of said Lodge, and in our opinion it would conduce to the best good of Masonry to restore the charter of said Lodge, and give them an opportunity of resuming their work. Your committee would also recommend that the penalties incurred by former delinquencies be remitted.

Morning Star Lodge, No. 47, Oxford, having made no returns for the last three years, nor rendered any excuse for such neglect, your committee would recommend that their charter be revoked.

Charity Lodge, No. 68, Groton, not having been represented for three or more years, and having made no returns at the present communication, have incurred the penalties provided for such cases, and your committee are of opinion that they should be notified to pay the same, or show cause why their charter should not be revoked.

Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 75, Jewett City, has made no return for two years, and your committee learn that their jewels and effects are in the possession of another Lodge. We would therefore recommend that their charter and effects be called for.

Widow's Son Lodge, No. 66, Branford, your committee learn has " dissolved," and as they have not surrendered their charter and effects, as the by-laws require, we would recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed to secure them, with as little delay as possible.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CYRUS GOODELL, }
W. B. SPRING, } *Committee.*
GEO. SHUMWAY, }

On motion of R. W. Bro. Clark, it was voted, that the report be accepted, the recommendations adopted, and the Grand Secretary directed to carry the same into effect as soon as practicable.

Bro. Clark also submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be and is hereby authorized to call a meeting of the members of the late Harmony Lodge, No. 20, at New Britain, at such time as may be convenient to them, for the purposes of an election and installation of officers.

The following communication from St. James' Lodge, No. 23, was presented to the Grand Lodge :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

We, the undersigned, late officers of St. James' Lodge, No. 23, beg leave to represent to the Grand Lodge, that for various reasons our Lodge was not organized last year, and that we find it necessary to surrender our charter and effects into the hands of the Grand Lodge.

EVERY DOWNER, *Worshipful Master*,
HENRY BROWN, *Senior Warden*,
ISAAC H. COOK, *Junior Warden*.

Preston, May 6, 1848.

The above communication was referred to the Committee on Delinquent Lodges, who reported that no action was necessary by the Grand Lodge, the by-laws making it the duty of the Grand Secretary to receive all charters and effects surrendered. Report accepted.

Bro. Copp submitted the following report of the doings of Somerset Lodge, No. 34, in the matter relating to Bro. Asa Child, referred to said Lodge at the last communication of the Grand Lodge ; which was accepted :

At a regular communication of Somerset Lodge, No. 34, holden at Norwich, on Wednesday, Oct. 20th, A. L. 5847, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That this Lodge do exonerate Bro. Asa Child from all claims whatsoever, for furniture or other things belonging to the Lodge at the time of its cessation from work, and that he is not chargeable with any misconduct towards this Lodge on account of the same.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday Morning, May 11.

The Grand Lodge met at 8 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

The report of the Committee on By-Laws and Regulations, which was made the order for this morning, was taken up, and the proposed amendments considered in regular order. The 1st and 2d propositions, being amendments to the constitution, were agreed to unanimously. The 3d and 4th propositions, being amendments to the first and second article of the by-laws, were also adopted. The 5th, 6th and 7th propositions, to add new articles, were rejected. The proposition to insert "twenty-five" in the 19th article was rejected, and the motion to retain the word "fifty" carried with but one dissenting voice.

Bro. Holly moved to amend the report by adding the following as an article of the by-laws, which was adopted :

No Lodge under this jurisdiction shall at any time dispose of its funds, or any part thereof, by a general distribution among its members; and any brother who shall make a motion to that effect, or vote in favor of such motion, or receive a portion of the funds so disposed of, shall be deemed guilty of unmasonic conduct, and subject to expulsion by the Grand Lodge; and any Lodge which shall pass a vote making such distribution of its funds or effects, shall thereby forfeit its charter.

After various other additions and alterations to the amendments reported by the committee, the report was accepted, and the following resolution adopted :

Resolved, That the amended report be adopted as the *Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut*, and that all others be and are hereby repealed.

Bro. Ellis offered the following resolution and it was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby directed to have printed five hundred copies of the amended Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations, and distribute the same among the subordinate Lodges and members of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Abell submitted the following report, and it was approved and adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee on By-Laws and Regulations, to whom was referred the subject of providing for the payment of the expenses of the representatives of the subordinate Lodges, in attending the communications of the Grand Lodge, have had the subject under consideration, and would respectfully report, that in the opinion of the committee it is a matter which it is more properly the province of the subordinate Lodges to provide for, and therefore that it is inexpedient for the Grand Lodge to take any action on the subject.

Respectfully submitted, in behalf of the committee,

T. P. ABELL, *Chairman.*

R. W. Bro. Goodwin, from the Committee on the Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, submitted the following report :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Connecticut, now in session :

The Committee to whom was referred the "Proceedings of a Convention to form a Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States, held in the city of Baltimore, on the 23d day of September, 1847," have considered the subject as far as time would allow, and have found enough to satisfy themselves that the interests of Masonry in the United States would be promoted by a national organization, with well-defined and limited powers. Your Committee have not time, at this late hour of the session, to go into a full explanation of the reasons which have induced them to favor a General Grand Lodge, but they beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States is desirable ; but that the Constitution framed by the Convention of Grand Lodges, held in Baltimore in September last, needs some amendment or modification, before it shall be ratified by this Grand Lodge.

HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, }
WILLIAM STORER, } *Committee.*
CHAUNCEY BURGESS, }

R. W. Bro. Sanford moved that the report be accepted and the resolution adopted.

R. W. Bro. Ellis opposed the resolution, and called for the yeas and nays, which were ordered.

After much discussion, the question was taken, and the report and resolution adopted ; yeas 28—nays 8.

On motion, it was voted that the Grand Secretary be directed to forward a copy of these proceedings to each of the officers of the late Convention at Baltimore which framed the Constitution for the Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States.

R. W. Bro. Jones, Representative of the Grand Lodge of the

State of New York, presented a circular from his constituents, containing a list of their Grand Officers, and of the regular Lodges under their jurisdiction, the object of which, as therein stated, was to guard the Masonic fraternity against the clandestine Masons infesting New York, hailing under "*St. John's Grand Lodge*," a body formed by expelled Masons, and who receive with open arms all delinquents, who are from time to time expelled or suspended by the regular Lodges.

The circular having been read, it was, on motion, voted, that the same be printed and sent to all our subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. A. T. Colt, the following resolutions, modified from those passed at former communications, were adopted as a part of the permanent regulations of this Grand Lodge, and ordered to be published as such :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York should be sustained by this Grand Lodge, and that no communication be held with the expelled Masons, or their miscalled *St. John's Grand Lodge*.

Resolved, That the several Lodges within this jurisdiction be and they hereby are directed to examine or admit no visitor hailing from the State of New York, who does not produce a Grand Lodge Certificate, signed by the Grand Secretary, and under seal of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York; unless such visitor can be avouched for as a member of some regular Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Frederick Crosswell, Charles H. Olmsted, and Elijah Gilbert, Jr., Auditing Committee, and Bros. William Storer, Henry Perkins, and E. G. Storer, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the ensuing year.

No further business appearing, the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, HIRAM, New Haven—Caleb Fenner, W. M.; Charles H. Skiff, S. W.; Moses Dickinson, J. W.; Eliphalet G. Storer, Secretary. *Initiated*—Augustus E. Reed, Edwin W. Colt, Nathan Frankau, Sigemond Waterman, Lewis A. Johnson, Levi Rowe, George Bunnell, George H. Lanfair, Wales Terrel, Rodney Russell, Richard Wilson, Elizur Harrison, Jacob S. W. Watkins, Joseph H. Dunning. *Admitted*—David T. Johnson, Samuel Wire, Ebenezer Robinson, Philander B. Hine, Cyrenus Candee. *Withdrawn*—James P. Gray. *Expelled*—Henry Warriner.

No. 2, ST. JOHN'S, Middletown—Samuel Babcock, W. M.; Horace Clark, S. W.; Caleb Miller, J. W.; Elliot Bradley, Secretary. *Initiated*—Robert A. Pease, H. F. Fitch, S. B. Hodgett. *Died*—Epaphroditus Clark, Elihu Atkins.

No. 3, ST. JOHN'S, Bridgeport—John C. Blackman, W. M.; Thomas Hutchins, S. W.; Wm. Lum, J. W.; John H. Whiting, Secretary. *Initiated*—Abraham G. Waldron, John M. Thompson, Wm. Brooks, Joseph Crosby, Charles B. Nichols. *Admitted*—John M. Wilson.

No. 4, ST. JOHN'S, Hartford—David Clark, W. M.; Cyrus Goodell, S. W.; Henry Perkins, J. W.; Elihu Geer, Secretary. *Initiated*—Joseph Pratt, Jr., Wm. H. Gilbert, Hiram B. Case, Leander C. Burnham, James Lyon, Leopold Lithaner, Marcellus Clark, Henry A. Chapin, Oliver C. Stanley, Wm. Boardman, Rev. Nathaniel Kellogg, Rev. Charles G. Seymour, Matthew M. Merriman, Henry H. Bartlett.

No. 5, UNION, Stamford—John W. Leeds, W. M.; William H. Holly, S. W.; Isaac Quintard, Jr., J. W.; Roswel Hoyt, Secretary. *Initiated*—Henry W. Hudson, Joseph P. Tobias, Samuel S. Abbot, John T. Prall, James H. Minor.

No. 6, ST. JOHN'S, Norwalk—James Stevens, W. M.; Asa E. Smith, S. W.; George F. Daskam, J. W.; Henry Walton Secretary. *Initiated*—Joseph Batley, Henry Batley, John Batley, Matthias Rotherforth, Charles Fox, Joseph Bauer. *Died*—Wm. J. Street.

No. 7, KING SOLOMON'S, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle, W. M.; Wyllys Judd, S. W.; Albert Thompson, J. W.; Charles H. Webb, Secretary. *Initiated*—James R. Thomas. *Expelled*—Selleck Galpin. *Died*—John Manville, Washington H. Atwood, Roswel Chappel.

No. 8, ST. JOHN'S, Stratford—John Goulding, W. M.; Samuel Benjamin, S. W.; Benjamin Fairchild, J. W.; Wm. T. Shelton, Secretary.

No. 11, ST. PAUL'S, Litchfield—Charles L. Webb, W. M.; Gideon H. Hollister, S. W.; Frederick D. Beeman, J. W.; Edward C. Buel, Secretary. *Initiated*—Charles W. Wadsworth, Amos H. Farnsworth.

No. 12, KING HIRAM, Derby—Ebenezer Fisher, W. M.; George Blackman, S. W.; Oliver H. Stoddard, J. W.; John L. Daniels Secretary. *Died*—James Smith, Isaac Bottsford.

No. 14, FREDERICK, Farmington—Henry Cowles, W. M.; George Cowles, S. W.; Ezekiel Cowles, J. W.; Giles Stillman, Secretary.

No. 18, HIRAM, Newtown—Alexander Hall, W. M.; Charles Sherman, S. W.; Thomas A. Dutton, J. W.; David H. Belden, Secretary. *Died*—Thomas Blackman.

No. 25, COLUMBIA, Glastenbury—Henry Dayton, W. M.; Wm. Norton, S. W.; Wm. Rodman, J. W.; Oliver Brainerd, Secretary. *Initiated*—George M. Dean, George W. Leonard, Sabine Stocking, M. M. Manly, Henry B. Chapman, Joel Patten.

No. 27, RISING SUN, Washington—William Moody, W. M.; Ithiel Hickox, S. W.; Daniel Burnham, J. W.; Remus M. Fowler, Secretary.

No. 28, MORNING STAR, East Windsor—Solomon Terry, W. M.; Harmon Terry, S. W.; Bezaleel Sexton, J. W.; Robert M. Abbe, Secretary. *Initiated*—Elisha Kingsbury, Hosmer P. Stedman, N. R. Benton, J. D. Eggleston, Joseph Olmsted, Jr., Bethuel Phelps, Joseph Sullivan, Ruel Thrall, A. Dennison, H. N. Barrows, Thomas McMahan, E. B. Dimock, A. Mitchell, Wm. B. Zimmerman.

No. 31, UNION, New London—Elisha Douglass, W. M.; Nathan S. Chipman, S. W.; George W. Brown, J. W.; Wm. P. Smith, Secretary. *Initiated*—Henry Mason, Isaac Allen, Thomas Long, Charles Redfield, Wm. P. Smith, James M. Baker, Frederick M. Walker.

No. 34, SOMERSET, Norwich—Charles Ball, W. M.; Wm. L. Brewer, S. W.; Joseph K. Brewer, J. W.; Chauncey Burgess, Secretary. *Initiated*—Theodore Raymond, Charles H. Fitch, Aaron C. Southwick, Roswel W. Roath, Joseph S. Priest, Luther Pellet. *Admitted*—Charles Kingsley, Isaac McRobie.

No. 40, UNION, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut, W. M.; Ira Hodge, S. W.; Wm. H. Banks, J. W.; Warren Wood, Secretary.

No. 42, HARMONY, Waterbury—Isaac B. Castle, W. M.; James M. Grannis, S. W.; Gabrel Post, J. W.; Joseph P. Jeffery, Secretary. *Initiated*—George S. Welton, Gaylord Alcott, Patrick Fowley, George N. Pritchard, Edward Hughes. *Admitted*—Marshal Upton.

No. 44, EASTERN STAR, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, W. M.; David L. Fuller, S. W.; Joseph W. Lyon, J. W.; Fanning Tracy, Secretary.

No. 46, PUTNAM, Pomfret—Jabez Amsbury, W. M.; Samuel Underwood, S. W.; Benjamin Allard, J. W.; John Williams, Secretary. *Initiated*—James Brannan, Wm. Hetherington, Moses Chandler. *Died*—Luther Rawson, Amos Payne.

No. 49, JERUSALEM, Ridgefield—Hezekiah Scott, W. M.; Erastus S. Boughton, S. W.; Sherwood Mead, J. W.; Russel Jones, Secretary. *Initiated*—James E. Jones, Francis Meeker, Hiram K. Scott, Smith Mead, Walter Bates, Julius Cable, Rev. Charles Mead.

No. 50, WARREN, Andover—Leonard Hendee, W. M. ; Elisha Perkins, S. W. ; David W. Huntington, J. W. ; Adonijah White, Secretary. *Initiated*—David W. Huntington, Solomon Brown. *Died*—Wm. Hunt.

No. 57, ASYLUM, Stonington—Francis Amy, W. M. ; Charles S. Stanton, S. W. ; George E. Palmer, J. W. ; Junius M. Willey, Secretary. *Initiated*—Calvin S. Williams, Rev. Junius M. Willey, John McConkey, Russel A. Denison, Thomas E. Swan, Jeremiah H. Morell, Wm. B. Lawton, Joel L. Prouty, Lorenzo Wood, Thomas F. Slack. *Admitted*—K. H. Van Rensselaer.

No. 58, NORTHERN STAR, Barkhamsted—Wilson B. Spring, W. M. ; Merlin Merrill, S. W. ; Lyman Hart, J. W. ; Orville Howd, Secretary. *Suspended*—Wm. H. Reynolds, Cornwall Doolittle.

No. 59, APOLLO, Suffield—Vacant, W. M. ; Wm. Tuttle, S. W. ; Curtis Rose, J. W. ; Luther Loomis, Secretary.

No. 60, WOLCOTT, Stafford—Moses B. Harvey, W. M. ; Wm. Adams, S. W. ; Alva Francis, J. W. ; Samuel Carpenter, Secretary.

No. 62, ORIENT, East Hartford—Charles H. Olmsted, W. M. ; Ralph Pitkin, S. W. ; George Reynolds, J. W. ; James Pitkin, Secretary. *Initiated*—George H. Olmsted, Albert Keeney, Henry Kellogg, Harris Potter, Edward Phelps, Wm. Reynolds, James G. Fitch. *Admitted*—Rivington Martin.

No. 73, MANCHESTER, Manchester—Henry Marble, W. M. ; William Hyde, S. W. ; George Carriel, J. W. ; John Mather, Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

At a special communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at the Temple in New Haven, Jan. 30, A. L. 5849 :

PRESENT.

M. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Senior Grand Warden.
GEORGE SHUMWAY, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
WILLIAM H. ELLIS, Grand Treasurer, p. t.
ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
ANSON T. COLT, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
CHAS. H. SKIFF, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
ISAAC TUTTLE, Grand Tyler.

Bros. Francois Turner, Wm. W. Boardman, Marcus Bassett, Caleb Fenner, Frederick Crosswell, Wm. Storer, Benj. Beecher, Lee Dunning.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, when the M. W. Grand Master stated that this Special Communication had been called by his order, for the purpose of taking into consideration the petition of several Brethren who were about to emigrate to California, praying for a Charter, to enable them to establish a Masonic Lodge in that territory.

The petition was then read, as follows :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The subscribers, Master Masons, of the State of Connecticut, being about to remove to California, hereby petition the Grand Lodge to grant them a Charter for a Masonic Lodge to be established in that territory, to enable them to enjoy in that distant region of our common country the privileges which they have long held dear at home, to wit, that of meeting on the level, and enjoying that social intercourse and that harmony and brotherly love, which no other society affords ; and also of extending to others who may be disposed to unite with them, and who may be found worthy, the same inestimable benefits. We would further ask, that if the prayer of our petition be granted, the name of our new Lodge may be " Connecticut Lodge, No. 76 ;" and we hereby nominate Bro. Caleb Fenner to be the first Master, James W. Goodrich to be the first Senior Warden, and Bro Elizur Hubbell to be the first Junior Warden of said Lodge. Your petitioners also promise a strict conformity to the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of your Most Worshipful Grand Lodge for the time being, and also a careful preservation of the ancient landmarks of the Order. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray. Dated at New Haven, Jan. 25, 1849.

CALEB FENNER,	ELISHA L. SILLIMAN,
JAMES W. GOODRICH,	EDWIN W. COLT,
CALVIN CARRINGTON,	GEORGE SANFORD.
ELIZUR HUBBELL,	

The petition was accompanied by the following recommendation from the Lodge of which the petitioners were members :

"At a special communication of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, held at the Lodge Room in New Haven, Jan. 30, A. L. 5849, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas our worthy brothers, Caleb Fenner, James W. Goodrich, Calvin Carrington, Elizur Hubbell, Elisha L. Silliman, Edwin W. Colt, and George Sanford, who are about to remove to the territory of California, are wishing to establish a Masonic Lodge in those parts, and have made their petition to be presented to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut, for a Charter empowering them to do so, and whereas this Lodge has full confidence in the recitude of their motives in making such petition, and in their competency and skill to manage and conduct the affairs of a Lodge according to the ancient usages of the fraternity - therefore,

"Resolved, That this Lodge does hereby cheerfully recommend to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, the above named Brethren as suitable persons to receive a Charter for the purposes mentioned in their petition, and would unite with them in the prayer that the petition may be granted.

"A true copy from the Records of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, New Haven.

"Attest,

E. G. STORER, Secretary."

The petition and accompanying recommendation was referred to a committee consisting of Brs. Ellis, Colt and Bassett, who submitted the following report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge:

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Bros. Caleb Fenner, James W. Goodrich, George Sanford, Calvin Carrington, Elizur Hubbell, and others, for a Charter or Warrant to open and establish a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the territory of California, have had the same under consideration, and unanimously report and recommend that the prayer of the petition ought to be granted.

Your Committee find from ancient Masonic publications, including the "Book of Constitutions," that from time immemorial it has been the usage and law of the Fraternity, for the Grand Lodges of different States, Kingdoms and Territories, to grant dispensations or Charters to their brethren and members emigrating to new settlements, not within the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge, to establish Lodges, confer degrees, and diffuse the true light of Masonry.

Should this Grand Lodge grant the prayer of the petitioners, and give to these worthy brethren "a Charter or Warrant empowering them to work," your Committee have no doubt that it will not only be beneficial to them, but for the best good of the Craft in general.

Your Committee therefore recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the petition of Caleb Fenner and other brethren for a new Lodge to be located in the Territory of California, to be called "Connecticut Lodge, No. 76," be granted, and that the nominations of Master and Wardens be, and are hereby confirmed.

Resolved, That in consideration of the fact that the petitioners are about to remove to distant shores of the Pacific Ocean, and to establish and open their Lodge in the said Territory of California, the fees required by the 6th Article of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be dispensed with.

WM. H. ELLIS,	} Committee.
A. T. COLT,	
M. BASSETT	

On motion voted, that the report be accepted, and the resolutions adopted.

No further business being offered, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1849.

At the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at Masonic Hall in the city of Hartford, on Wednesday, May 9th, A. L. 5849 :

PRESENT :

M. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Grand Master.
 R. W. BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Deputy Grand Master.
 WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Senior Grand Warden.
 DAVID CLARK, Junior Grand Warden.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 WILLIAM H. COPP, Junior Grand Deacon.
 Rev. T. P. ABELL, Grand Chaplain.
 GEORGE SHUMWAY, Grand Marshal.
 THEODORE SPENCER, } Grand Stewards.
 JAMES H. ASHMEAD, }
 ELIZUR SKINNER, Grand Tyler.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, P. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

R. W. JAMES WARD, P. D. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

R. W. WILLIAM H. JONES, P. G. S., Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Henry Peck and Horace Goodwin, Past Grand Masters ; Brs. Wm. Storer, Henry Moore, George Giddings, and Benjamin Beecher, Past Grand Stewards.

VISITORS.

R. W. Robert R. Boyd, Grand Secretary of New York ; R. W. Amand P. Pfister, Grand Secretary of Alabama ; Rev. Bro. W. T. Leacock, Pres. of Kentucky Masonic College.

At 10 o'clock, A. M., the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. J. H. Ashmead, S. Babcock, and W. P. Smith, a Committee on Credentials.

The revised Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, as engrossed by the Grand Secretary, were presented and read. Several propositions for amendment were submitted, when it was, on motion, voted, that the consideration of the subject be postponed until after the report of the Committee on Credentials had been received and disposed of.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 9.

At 2 o'clock, P. M., the Grand Officers took their stations, and the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

The Committee on Credentials reported that they had examined the returns, and ascertained that the following brethren were entitled to seats as

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—Charles H. Skiff, François Turner, Charles Brown.
- No. 2, St. John's, Middletown—Samuel Babcock, T. P. Abell, Merrils Ward.
- No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport—Thomas Hutchins, Alexander Hamilton, Wm. Lum.
- No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—Cyrus Goodell, Henry Perkins, James H. Ashmead.
- No. 5, Union, Stamford—Wm. H. Holly, John T. Prall.
- No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—George F. Daskam.
- No. 11, Darius, Litchfield—Phineas Taylor.
- No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—Foster P. Abbott.
- No. 14, Frederick, Farmington—Henry Cowles, Giles Stillman, Edward Hooker.

- No. 20, Harmony, New Britain—Henry A. Hull, Ira E. Smith,
Loyal Dudley.
- No. 25, Columbia, Glastenbury—George W. Leonard.
- No. 28, Morning Star, Warehouse Point—Solomon Terry, Ruel
Thrall.
- No. 31, Union, New London—Wm. P. Smith.
- No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—Wm. H. Copp.
- No. 40, Union, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut.
- No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—James M. Grannis, Gabrel Post.
- No. 44, Eastern Star, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, Wallace
Huntington, Elisha Tracy.
- No. 46, Putnam, Pomfret—Caleb Fenner.
- No. 49, Jerusalem, Ridgefield—Hiram K. Scott.
- No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—William Hyde.
- No. 58, Northern Star, Barkhamsted—Wilson B. Spring, Her-
mon Chapin.
- No. 60, Wolcott, Stafford—William Field.
- No. 62, Orient, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, George Reynolds,
Ralph Pitkin.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Sanford, the report was accepted,
and the Committee discharged.

A resolution was adopted, inviting all Master Masons, who
are in good standing, to visit the Grand Lodge during the pres-
ent communication.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following commit-
tees, viz :

On Unfinished Business—Bros. H. Goodwin, Hamilton and
Copp.

On Grievances—Bros. Hyde, Smith and Perkins.

On Delinquent Lodges—Bros. Spring, Goodell and Shum-
way.

On Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations—Bros. Skiff,
Ward and Lum.

The M. W. Grand Master then presented and read the follow-
ing address :

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTER.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :

By the blessing of Divine Providence we are permitted to assemble, on this the sixtieth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, to deliberate upon the interests of our beloved Order, and to grasp fraternal hands, animated by the principles of friendship and brotherly love, which are the peculiar characteristics of our cherished institution. How full and overflowing should be our grateful hearts, as we compare our present prosperous and happy condition, as a fraternity, with what it has heretofore been! I have been permitted to attend every annual communication of this Grand Lodge for the last quarter of a century,—a period of many vicissitudes and trials to the true Mason; a part of which time a dark cloud has been over our Masonic horizon, made so by political schemers and cowardly deserters, uniting to bring derision and scorn, and (at one time) almost ruin, upon an institution honored by long ages for “deeds of charity and pure beneficence.” We have heard them make charges upon us, as base as they were groundless; yet I see many present who had then the moral courage to stand up and face the storm, and manfully to do their duty through sunshine and shade, and who have shown by their lives some of the heaven-born fruits of the Order, stamping with falsehood these base charges, and bidding defiance to all the machinations of our unscrupulous and unprincipled enemies. We now rejoice in prosperity, and in the enjoyment of our social and fraternal rites, whose effects are to “make most men better and no man worse;” we rejoice to see our brethren everywhere engaged in the front rank of every good work, calculated to ameliorate the condition of man, as well as assisting to disseminate true Masonic light to the worthy and well qualified.

Assembled as we are at this our annual communication, let each brother keep in mind the important interrogatory, “What came you here to do?” And if the principles involved in the answer to this question, be those on which our actions shall be based, we shall have the proud satisfaction of giving an impetus to the onward progress of the great cause of Masonry in our beloved country.

Although we may be thankful for the great improvement in the condition of the Order in our own jurisdiction, yet the report of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence will show that in most other jurisdictions throughout our extensive country, the Grand Lodges are “lengthening their cords and strengthening their stakes,” and the increase of subordinate Lodges and the addition of members is going ahead of us, and keeping pace with a rapidly increasing population.

In addition to the usual amount of local and general business from our sister Grand Lodges, many matters of interest to the craft at large will demand your particular attention. A communication, I am sorry to say, has been received from each of two bodies, claiming to be the legal Grand Lodge of Louisiana, asking our opinion in the matter, and demanding our acknowledgment in their legality. The new organization justify themselves in their course, because, as they claim, among other things, the old Grand Lodge has deviated from the ancient *landmarks*, by introducing new rites, and by initiating the *sons of Masons* at only eighteen years of age, and that the Order would hardly be known by Ancient

York Masons; and further, that they can not fellowship with them without violating their obligations; hence they applied to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi for charters, (by whom they have been sustained,) and received warrants for subordinate Lodges, in numbers sufficient to form a Grand Lodge of themselves, in their own State. This is the greatest argument I have yet known in favor of a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States. This subject I hope will receive your careful consideration. I deem it time that the principle should be settled, how far the deviation from ancient usages of a Grand Lodge will justify insubordination of this kind.

I am requested from several sources to get an expression of the opinion of this Grand Lodge, and to answer the question, Does the expulsion or suspension of a Mason from a Chapter of R. A. Masons, necessarily deprive him of the privileges of Masonry, in the symbolic degrees? This question arises from the fact that the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana having been expelled from a Chapter in that State, the Grand Lodge thereof interdicted all Masonic intercourse with him. This question has been agitated in several Grand Lodges, and as it involves an important principle, it may be thought worthy of your consideration.

At our annual communication 1847, a committee was appointed to condense the By-Laws, Edicts, and Resolutions of this Grand Lodge, some of which had become obsolete, and others from change of circumstances were inoperative; and also extending through more than thirty years of our records. That committee reported at the last session; after several amendments were made, the report was adopted, and the Secretary directed to engross and get them printed. Further action on them may be required, as, through inadvertency I presume, no provision was made for their repeal or alteration, and in my opinion they might be altered at any meeting of the Grand Lodge, by a major vote. There is no provision made in our By-Laws for calling special meetings of the Grand Lodge, the want of which caused much perplexity to our Grand Secretary and myself in providing for sundry worthy brethren, who asked for a dispensation or charter to institute a new Lodge in the Territory of California. Having no other guide than precedent, I directed the Grand Secretary to warn a special meeting at the farthest day possible before the sailing of the petitioners, to be held in the city of New Haven; and to give the same notice as for our annual communications. As there was nothing to be done but what we and several Grand and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge, residing in New Haven, thought would have been unanimously agreed to, had every member of the same been present, upon their advice, I took the responsibility, and the meeting was held on the evening of the 30th of January, 1849. Upon the recommendation of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, (it being the nearest to the petitioners,) a Charter was granted them, denominated Connecticut Lodge, No. 76. Bro. Caleb Fenner, a worthy Past Master of Hiram Lodge, was installed first W. M., and Bros. James W. Goodrich and Elizur Hubbell were appointed first Wardens.

The only other official act of mine during the past year, was to institute Harmony Lodge, No. 20, in the village of New Britain, and publicly install their officers in the Congregational Church in that place, on the 24th of June. An eloquent oration was delivered by Brother Henry C. Flagg. The exercises were attended by most of the officers of the Grand Lodge, together with a great con-

course of brethren from neighboring Lodges, who formed a large procession on the occasion. And I am happy to say that that Lodge is now one of the most prosperous under our jurisdiction, as their returns will demonstrate.

The subject of a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, has for some time past occupied the attention of our sister Grand Lodges, as well as our own; but that subject is now probably put at rest for the present, so far as the action of the late Baltimore Masonic Convention is concerned, as by their proposed Constitution it required its adoption by sixteen State Grand Lodges, previous to the first of January, 1849; in the event of which, the organization was to be consummated on the July following. But as only nine Grand Lodges, as far as I can ascertain, have adopted that Constitution, and part of them conditionally, I presume the subject is for the present abandoned. I should be opposed to the formation of a General Grand Lodge with any other power than that to regulate a uniformity of work, and to decide questions in dispute between State Grand Lodges. Other powers would reduce State Grand Lodges to the condition of subordinates.

Brethren, I think this a proper time and occasion to call your attention to one reminiscence in the history of Freemasonry in Connecticut, which may be interesting to all of us, but more especially to the antiquarian. Hiram Lodge, No. 1, of New Haven, will the next year complete the *one hundredth* year of her existence. She received her charter from the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Colony of Massachusetts, A. D. 1750, and is now almost the oldest Lodge in the United States. All her records since that time have been preserved in the archives of the Lodge, and during all of which she has kept up her regular meetings and organization, and in times of adversity has been almost the only nucleus of Free Masonry in Connecticut. The brethren of that Lodge have it in contemplation to give a Centennial Celebration the next year, becoming the occasion.

Another and important subject I wish to call to your attention; and that is, a more rigid enforcement of the requirements of our By-Laws, relative to delinquent Lodges. While I would extend to them all reasonable lenity and indulgence, I think we exceed the bounds of charity and duty, when we permit some subordinate Lodges, year after year, to neglect making returns, or sending representatives, to this Grand Lodge, without enforcing the penalties prescribed by our By-Laws. It seems to me a manifest injustice to the craft, that so many branches should be permitted to remain, "who have only a name to live, but are dead." By dealing with them according to the By-Laws, we should impart to the living Lodges a more healthy and vigorous action; for by neglecting discipline, we may induce others to disregard their obligations to stand to and abide by the *Laws, Rules, and Regulations* of the Order. Some of the last officers of Lodges whose charters have been annulled, refuse or neglect to give up their charters and other effects, as required to do by our By-Laws, after a demand has been made for them by our Grand Secretary. Such delinquents will be reported to you by him, for your action in the premises.

Other matters of importance to the craft, will be brought before you by our able Committee upon Foreign Correspondence, which I think will require more time than is usually given to the sessions of the Grand Lodge; and I would recommend to the brethren, at this crisis of Masonry in our country, a continuance in

session until all and every subject requiring your attention, has had your careful and deliberate consideration.

Finally, my brethren, I thank you for the attention and the many kindnesses I have received at your hand. From my earliest childhood, I earnestly and with impatience longed for the time to arrive when I might be permitted to see the THREE GREAT LIGHTS of Masonry, by the aid of the representatives of the Three Less. That desire (which I presume was hereditary) has been more than realized; many of my most happy hours have been spent in a Masonic Lodge. I feel more than grateful to my brethren for their favors. By their partiality I have been honored by being elected to every office, both in a subordinate and in the Grand Lodge, from J. D. to M. W. Grand Master.

By the guidance of Him whose blessing we are taught to invoke on all great and important undertakings, may your deliberations be so conducted that the honor, glory and reputation of the institution may be firmly established, and the world at large convinced of its good effects; and may the blessing of Heaven rest upon us, and upon all regular Masons,—may brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us,—and may we all arrive at last at that Grand Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides.

A. C. BABCOCK, *Grand Master.*

On motion of R. W. Bro. Shepherd, the address of the M. W. Grand Master was referred to a committee of three, for apportionment of its several subjects to distinct committees.

Bros. Abell, Hurlbut and Hebbard were appointed on said committee.

The M. W. Grand Master introduced to the Grand Lodge Rev. Bro. W. T. Leacock, President of the Masonic Orphan College at LaGrange, Kentucky, who made an interesting address on the subject of his mission among the Fraternity in New England, in behalf of the Institution over which he presides.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Sanford, it was voted, that the subject of Bro. Leacock's appeal in behalf of the College in Kentucky, be referred to a special committee.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed on said committee, Bros. Sanford, Hamilton and Turner.

The account current of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary was presented, and referred to the Auditing Committee for examination.

Bro. Wm. Storer, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the annual report of that committee, and was progressing with the reading of the same, when,

On motion of Bro. Ira E. Smith, the further reading of the report was postponed, for the purpose of going into the election of Grand Officers.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Ellis and Smith tellers, when ballots were collected, and the following brethren declared duly elected, viz :

M. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Grand Master.
 R. W. BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Deputy Grand Master.
 WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Senior Grand Warden.
 DAVID CLARK, Junior Grand Warden.
 BENJAMIN BEECHER, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.

The installation of Grand Officers then took place, after which the Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments :

Rev. Bro. T. P. ABELL, of Middletown, Grand Chaplain.
 W. Bro. THEODORE SPENCER, Hartford, Senior G. Deacon.
 WILLIAM H. COPP, Norwich, Junior G. Deacon.
 GEORGE SHUMWAY, New Haven, G. Marshal.
 CHARLES H. SKIFF, New Haven, G. Sentinel.
 CHARLES BROWN, } " " G. Stewards.
 JAMES GALLAGHER, } " "
 ISAAC TUTTLE, New Haven, G. Tyler.

Bro. Ira E. Smith offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, be instructed to inquire into the legality of the special session of the Grand Lodge held in the city of New Haven, January 30th, A. L. 5849; also to inquire into the legality of the charter granted to certain brothers going to California.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 7 o'clock this evening.

Wednesday Evening, May 9.

At 7 o'clock, the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, and resumed business.

The Auditing Committee presented the following report, which was approved, accepted, and ordered to be recorded :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication, to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge for the year ending May 10, A. L. 5849, respectfully report, that they have attended to that duty, and find that all the moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, in whose hands there is now a balance in cash of nine hundred and fifty-seven dollars and thirty cents; which, with fifty-seven shares of Union School Stock, valued at fifteen dollars a share, amounting to eight hundred and fifty-five dollars, make the whole amount of the funds of the Grand Lodge, one thousand eight hundred and twelve dollars and thirty cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRED. CROSWELL, }
DAVID CLARK, } *Committee.*

GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, 1849.

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with B. Beecher, Dr.

Paid donation of G. Lodge to Mrs. Atwood,	- -	30.00
Grand Steward's bill,	- - - - -	24.00
Grand Tyler's bill,	- - - - -	3.00
Grand Secretary's bill,	- - - - -	70.67
Hiram Lodge, No. 1, for room rent,	- - -	10.00
Woodward & Carrington, advertising,	- -	6.00
F. P. Gorham, printing,	- - - - -	18.25

\$161.92

Balance to new account, - - 957.30

\$1119.22

Cr.

By balance on hand last communication,	- - -	\$902.82
Cash received of Grand Secretary,	- - -	129.50
Interest to May 1, 1848,	- - - - -	36.90

\$1119.22

BENJ. BEECHER, *G. Treasurer.*

New Haven, May 9, 1849.

The Grand Secretary presented a report of Lodges delinquent in making returns and settling arrearages, and also of such as had refused or neglected to surrender their effects when demanded. Referred to the Standing Committee on Delinquent Lodges.

Bro. Abell, from the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, presented the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, beg leave to report, that they have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully recommend—

That so much of said address as relates to the difficulties in the Grand Jurisdiction of Louisiana, be referred to a special committee :

That so much as relates to expulsion from a Chapter being regarded as cause for expulsion from a Lodge, be referred to a special committee :

That so much as relates to the alteration of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, to a special committee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. P. ABELL,	} Committee.
S. A. HURLBUT,	
GURDON HEBBARD,	

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday Morning, May 11.

The Grand Lodge met at 8 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the appointment of the following Committees :

On so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to the difficulties in Louisiana—Brs. Wm. Storer, H. Goodwin, and M. Ward.

On so much as relates to expulsion from Chapters, &c.—Brs. S. Babcock, W. Hyde, and C. Brown.

On so much as relates to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge—Brs. T. P. Abell, B. Beecher, Jr., and G. Shumway.

The by-laws of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, St. John's, No. 6, and Asylum, No. 57, were presented, and referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

A petition was presented from Putnam Lodge, No. 46, asking for the privilege of holding their communications part of the time in the town of Thompson. The petition was laid on the table.

Bro. Abell presented a complaint in behalf of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, against Harmony Lodge, No. 20, for initiating individuals who resided in the jurisdiction of said St. John's Lodge, as established by the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge. The complaint was referred to the Standing Committee on Grievances.

Bro. Copp offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That a committee of one member from each county be appointed, to consider that part of the Grand Master's address relating to the Centennial Anniversary of the establishment of Masonry in this State; and that said committee be requested to report during the present session of the Grand Lodge.

The resolution was adopted, and the M. W. Grand Master appointed the following brethren to compose the committee :— R. W. Benoni A. Shepherd, Hartford county; Charles Brown, New Haven county; Samuel Babcock, Middlesex county; Elisha Tracy, Windham county; William H. Copp, New London county; Thomas Hutchins, Fairfield county; Phineas Taylor, Litchfield county; Ingoldsby W. Crawford, Tolland county.

The reading of the Report on Correspondence was resumed and concluded, the report accepted and ordered to be appended to the printed proceedings, and the resolutions embraced therein unanimously adopted.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge the following communication from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Newark, N. J., which had been received since the Committee on Foreign Correspondence had presented their report :

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 1, NEWARK, N. J., May 8, A. L. 5859.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

Whereas we find that some of the members of our Lodge have applied as visitors to one or more of the subordinate Lodges in the State of New York, and

have been denied both examination and admission into said Lodges, on account of not having Grand Lodge Certificates,—the Grand Lodge of New Jersey having never recognized the “certificate system” :—

Therefore, be it resolved, That this Lodge instruct the Secretary to communicate with all the Grand Lodges of the United States, and the subordinate Lodges of New York, asking them for an expression on the case in question, and request a copy of such expression sent to this Lodge.

Resolved, That if the subordinate Lodges shall continue to support the certificate system, and the Grand Lodge continue to deny our admission into their Lodges,—which we consider an invasion of our rights as members of the Masonic Fraternity,—that we, as a Lodge, shall feel compelled, with our view of the ancient landmarks of the Order, to deny the admission into our Lodge, of all hailing from the jurisdiction of such Grand Lodges.

The foregoing preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted, and herewith I transmit a copy of the same.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN CLARK, JR., *Secretary.*

On motion, it was voted, that the communication be placed on file, for future consideration.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Thursday Afternoon, May 11.

The Grand Lodge met at 2 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Storer, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the consideration of the Constitution and By-Laws; when the following amendments were proposed :

1. To amend the third Article of the Constitution so that it shall read thus—

ART. 3. The Grand Lodge shall be holden once in every year, viz : on the second Wednesday in May, alternately at New Haven and Hartford, at ten o'clock forenoon on said day; and the Grand Master may at any time call a special communication, to be held at such time and place as he may think proper :—Provided, that the Grand Secretary shall deposit in the post office nearest his residence, at least six days previous to such proposed special meeting, a written or printed notice of such meeting, addressed to the Worshipful Master of each Lodge in the jurisdiction, except on funeral occasions. Provided further, that no business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Grand Lodge, unless there be present the legal representatives of at least five subordinate Lodges.

2. To further amend the Constitution, by adding the following article :

ART. 9. No amendment or alteration shall be made to this Constitution, except at a regular annual communication of the Grand Lodge, nor then, unless it shall have been proposed at a previous annual communication, and entered on the record; and the affirmative votes of two-thirds of the members present when the question is taken on any such proposed amendment, shall be necessary to adopt the same.

3. To amend the By-Laws, by erasing the word "rejections," in section 11, and inserting in its place the word "admissions." Also, by inserting the words "and effects" after "charter," in the 21st section.

4. To amend the By-Laws further, by adding the following section :

No part of these By-Laws shall be repealed, altered, or amended, unless at a regular communication of the Grand Lodge, two thirds of the members present and voting shall concur in such amendment.

The above amendments were under discussion for a short time, when, on motion, the report was again laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Copp, the petition from Putnam Lodge was called up, when after satisfactory explanation by several brethren, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That Putnam Lodge, No. 46, be and they hereby are authorized and empowered to hold their communications in the town of Thompson, such part of the time as said Lodge may deem expedient, to be determined by a majority of the votes of the members present at a regular communication.

Bro. Skiff, from the Committee on By-Laws, submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

We your committee, to whom was referred the By-Laws of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, of Hartford, St. John's Lodge, No. 6, of Norwalk, and Asylum Lodge, No. 57, of Stonington, beg leave to report, that we have attended to the duties of our appointment. In the examination of the aforesaid By-Laws we have found nothing which conflicts in any way with the Constitution, By-Laws, or Rules and Regulations of this M. W. Grand Lodge. We believe them to be in conformity to the established customs and usages of Masonic Lodges in this jurisdiction; and we would therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the By-Laws of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, St. John's Lodge, No. 6. and Asylum Lodge, No. 57, be and they are hereby sanctioned and approved by this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. H. SKIFF, }
M. WARD, } *Committee.*
WILLIAM LUM, }

On motion it was voted, that the report be accepted and the resolution adopted.

The Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, submitted the following report, which was accepted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session.

The committee to whom was referred so much of M. W. Grand Master's Address as relates to the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, beg leave to report, that the final adoption of the amendments now lying on the table is hereby respectfully recommended.

T. P. ABELL, }
B. BEECHER, } *Committee.*
GEO. SHUMWAY, }

On motion of Bro. Storer, the proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge were again taken up for final action.

The amendments having been read, Bro. W. H. Holly moved to substitute "three" for "five" in the proposed amendment to the third article of the Constitution, so as to require the presence of the legal representatives of at least *three* subordinate Lodges, to transact any business in the Grand Lodge, This motion was discussed by R. W. Bro. Clark, Bro. Holly, and others, and was finally carried by the casting vote of the M. W. Grand Master. The proposed amendments were then unanimously adopted.

On motion of Bro T. P Abell, it was

Resolved,—That the thanks of this Lodge be tendered to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the able, interesting and elaborate report submitted to this Body by him.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolutions adopted.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge, now in session.

The subject of the special call of the Grand Lodge, to grant a charter to certain brethren emigrating to California, to which our attention was particularly called by resolution, has been considered as thoroughly as our opportunities would allow, and the committee are wholly unable to discover any illegality in the action the M. W. Grand Master, in calling a special meeting of the Grand Lodge, or in the granting of a charter at said special meeting. Neither the constitution nor the by-laws specify the number of members necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, nor the number of Lodges required to be represented to constitute the Grand Lodge. Nor is even the notification of the members of the Grand Lodge, in order to a special call thereof, made necessary. The only provision we find on this subject, is the following clause of the third article of the constitution:—"The Grand Master may at any time call a special meeting of the Grand Lodge, to be held at such time and place as he may think proper." We therefore recommend the adoption of the subjoined resolutions. All of which we respectfully submit.

T. P. ABELL,
S. A. HURLBUT,
GURDON HEBBARD, } *Committee.*

Resolved, That the call issued by the M. W. Grand Master, for an extra session of the Grand Lodge, to meet the exigencies of certain brethren who were about to leave this jurisdiction for a distant land, and to confer upon them a charter empowering them to open a new Lodge, was fully in accordance with the constitution and by-laws of this body.

Resolved, That the proceedings of said special session be and are hereby fully authenticated and sanctioned.

R. W. Bro. Sanford, from the Committee on the Kentucky College, presented the following report, which was accepted, and the resolutions adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The committee to whom was referred the application of Bro. Leacock, in behalf of the Masonic College in Kentucky, beg leave to report, that they have attended to the duties of their appointment, and find, upon examination and inquiry, that the object alluded to is one in which the whole body of Masons are highly interested, since the benefits arising from such an institution as the one in question, are offered to the orphan children of deceased Masons in every State in the Union. We therefore offer the following resolutions :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge appropriates, out of the funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, the sum of fifty dollars, to assist in the laudable object proposed.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge recommends to her subordinates to contribute for the same object as liberally as they can afford to do.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. E. SANFORD, }
A. HAMILTON, } *Committee.*
F. TURNER, }

Bro. S. Babcock, from the Committee on that part of the Grand Master's Address relating to the effect of expulsion or suspension from a R. A. Chapter, presented the following report, and it was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's annual address as relates to expulsion from a Chapter being considered as an interdiction from all intercourse with Masons, or a Master Mason's Lodge, have had the subject under consideration, and beg leave to report :

It appears that recent action on the part of the Grand Lodge of Indiana in reference to its late Grand Master, who was, during his occupancy of the Executive Office, expelled from the R. A. Chapter, has given rise among several of the sister Grand Bodies to a considerable discussion in regard to the aforesaid subject. It seems difficult to your Committee, however to understand how any misapprehension should have arisen in relation to it. The Master's Lodge and the R. A. Chapter, although branches of the same general institution, are separate and distinct organizations ; and are, so far as discipline and membership are concerned, quite independent, the one of the other. Each of them is governed by its own Constitution and By-Laws, to which its members are amenable ; nor can the enforcement of the rules and regulations of the one Branch supersede, or in any way anticipate the operation of the rules and regulations of the other Branch.

In accordance with this view of the subject, the Committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the subjoined resolution :

SAMUEL BABCOCK,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
CHAS. BROWN.		
WILLIAM HYDE,		

Resolved, That the distinct and independent sovereignty of the Master's Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter, so far as all matters of discipline are concerned, is hereby fully recognized by this Grand Lodge.

The Committee on the Centennial Celebration submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The Committee to whom was referred the matter of the proposed celebration by Hiram Lodge, No. 1, of the Centennial Anniversary of her institution, beg leave to report,—

That the members of this Lodge must feel a commendable pride in view of the fact, that for the space of one hundred years the uninterrupted sound of the Gavel has been heard within the limits of our present State jurisdiction, indicating the inculcation of the great principles which distinguish us as a fraternity. Through the changes to which our beloved Order, as well as all things else earthly, has been incident, Hiram Lodge, No. 1, has perpetuated the sentiments and practices of our Institution with a zeal as commendable as it has been dutiful ; and now on the approach of the one hundredth anniversary of her existence, we can but hear with pleasure, her desire to commemorate that event in a manner com-

porting with the honor and dignity of the Order. Viewing such celebrations, when properly conducted, as being a healthful source of pleasure and profit to the Craft, we respectfully recommend the passage of the following resolution :

BENONI A. SHEPHEP SAMUEL BABCOCK, CHAS. BROWN, WM. H. COPP, ELISHA TRACY, THOS. HUTCHINS, INGOLDSBY W. CRAWFORD,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
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Resolved,—That it is with pride and satisfaction that we learn of the intention of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, to celebrate the centennial return of her date as a Lodge, and of the establishment of Masonry in the State of Connecticut, and that said contemplated celebration fully meets with the approbation and sanction of this Grand Lodge.

On motion it was voted that the report be accepted and the resolution adopted.

The Committee on the state of Masonry in Louisiana submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The undersigned, to whom was referred the consideration of that part of the address of the M. W. Grand Master which relates to the condition of Masonry in Louisiana, and the establishment of the "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," beg leave respectfully to report—

That the labor expected of them by the Grand Lodge has been anticipated by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, whose report, already before the Grand Lodge, embodies a thorough and complete review and history of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, which preceded and resulted in the formation of the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. To that report your Committee would refer, for all the information necessary to a full and satisfactory understanding of the matter submitted to them by the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee would respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the accompanying resolution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. STORER, JAMES WARD, H. GOODWIN,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
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Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut can not recognize, as one of the legitimate Grand Lodges of the United States of America, a body calling itself "The Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," and that they continue to recognize, as the only Grand Lodge in the State of Louisiana, "The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana," constituted in the year 1812, having no evidence that said Grand Lodge has performed any act for which they should forfeit our confidence.

Resolved, That while a conscientious regard for our duties and our obligations as Masons impels us to this decision, we still entertain sentiments of kindness

and personal respect for those brethren of our Order who have been induced, as we believe, hastily and unadvisedly, to set at nought the legitimate Masonic authority of the State of Louisiana; and we do hereby earnestly and affectionately entreat them to return to their allegiance to the original Grand Lodge of that State,—not doubting that, when they shall have placed themselves within the lawful and proper pale of Masonic sympathy, the several Grand Lodges of the United States may be safely appealed to for a redress of any grievances of which they may properly complain.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in granting charters for Lodges to be located in the State of Louisiana, was an unlawful and improper infringement on the rights and privileges of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. We doubt not that our Mississippi brethren were actuated by a zeal for the honor of Masonry; but we believe they acted erroneously; and we do most earnestly, and with an honest feeling of fraternal regard for the peace and prosperity of our brethren, exhort and entreat the said Grand Lodge of Mississippi to recede from the ground she has assumed in relation to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and revoke the charters which she has granted to Lodges in that State. Such a step, we firmly believe, would prepare the way for an amicable and honorable adjustment of existing difficulties, and for the restoration of that "peace and harmony, which are the support of all societies, but more especially this of ours."

The above report was accepted and the accompanying resolutions adopted.

Bro. Crawford, from the Committee on Grievances, presented the following report, which was adopted:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session:

The committee to whom was referred the complaint of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, against Harmony, No. 20, respectfully report, that said Harmony Lodge has not appeared or been summoned to appear before the committee, nor been notified that such complaint was pending. The committee therefore recommend that said complaint be continued to the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and that said Harmony Lodge be summoned to appear at that time and answer to the complaint. Respectfully submitted,

I. W. CRAWFORD, *Chairman of Committee.*

Bro. H. Moore offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be and is hereby directed to pay to the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence the sum of fifteen dollars, as a compensation for his labor in preparing the report presented to this Grand Lodge.

A circular was presented and read from R. W. Bro. Albert G. Mackey, Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer of South

Carolina, proposing to publish a work entitled, "A Collection of Facts and Opinions, illustrative of the Social Character and Benevolent Tendency of Freemasonry," price \$1.

Bro. Ellis introduced a motion, which was adopted, that the proposed work of Bro. Mackey be commended to the patronage of the Fraternity in this State.

Several letters and communications, of important interest to Masonry, and not embraced in the report on correspondence, were read by the Grand Secretary, and ordered to be placed on file for future reference.

Bro. Spring, from the Committee on Delinquent Lodges, presented the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolutions adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

Your committee, to whom was referred the several cases of delinquencies presented in the statement of the Grand Secretary, respectfully report, that in the discharge of their duty they have ascertained that Moriah Lodge, No. 15, Hiram, No. 18, and Wolcott, No. 60, have each incurred the penalty of the by-laws, for neglecting to be represented in Grand Lodge; that Widow's Son, No. 53, and Seneca, No. 55, have been delinquent both in returns and representatives for several years; that Morning Star, No. 47, Widow's Son, No. 66, Charity, No. 68, and Mount Vernon, No. 75, have severally forfeited their charters, by paying no attention to the duties of Masonry, or the requisitions of the Grand Lodge. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the charters of Morning Star Lodge, No. 47, Widow's Son, No. 66, Charity, No. 68, and Mount Vernon, No. 75, be and are hereby revoked, and declared null and void.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to demand of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, and Hiram, No. 18, payment of the penalty they have incurred by neglecting to be represented in the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Widow's Son Lodge, No. 53, Seneca, No. 55, and Wolcott, No. 60, be required by the Grand Secretary to show cause at the next annual communication why their charters should not be revoked.

WILSON B. SPRING, }
GEO. SHUMWAY, } *Committee.*
CYRUS GOODELL, }

On motion of Bro. Wm. Storer, the following resolutions adopted were :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to forward to our Representative near the Grand Lodge of New York, a copy of the resolutions passed at the present communication of this Grand Lodge, recommending an attempt to adjust the difficulties which caused the formation of the body styling itself "St. John's

Grand Lodge," by reference to one or more disinterested Grand Lodges; and that our said Grand Representative be requested to lay the same before the R. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York, at their annual communication in June, 1849.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to transmit to each Grand Lodge with whom we correspond, a copy of the resolution adopted at this communication, on the subject of forming a Constitution for a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and request their action on the same.

Bro. Wm. Hyde submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That it shall hereafter be the duty of the Grand Secretary to supply the subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction with suitable blanks for returns, and also for certificates of proxies for such brethren as may be appointed to attend the Grand Lodge.

Bro. W. B. Spring, chairman of the Committee on Delinquent Lodges, submitted the following preamble and resolution, and they were adopted :

Whereas, sundry members of St. James' Lodge, No. 23, did, at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, voluntarily ask leave to surrender the charter and effects of said Lodge, and the Grand Secretary did, by virtue of his office, offer to receive the same, and demanded them, by proxy, of Bro. Joshua Bartow, inn-keeper at Preston, in whose possession they were found, and the said Bartow refused to surrender the same, alleging that said Lodge was indebted to him for rent, &c. Therefore—

Resolved, That a special agent be sent by the Grand Lodge, to demand and receive the charter and effects of St. James' Lodge, No. 23, and that such agent be authorized to settle any reasonable claim of said Bartow against said Lodge, so far as the effects will satisfy the same.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Storer, the Grand Lodge appointed Bro. George Giddings special agent to carry the above resolution into effect.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. F. Crosswell and J. H. Ashmead, Auditing Committee, and Brs. Wm. Storer and Henry Perkins, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the ensuing year.

No further business appearing, the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed
in AMPLE FORM.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, HIRAM, New Haven—Charles H. Skiff, W. M.; Francois Turner, S. W.; Charles Brown, J. W.; Eliphalet G. Storer, Secretary. *Initiated*—James C. Blakeman, Abraham C. Thompson, Cyprian George Webster, Lewis Viner, Abraham Kauffman, Simon Rothschild, William Hartley, William McCrackan, John McCrackan, Henry Schaffer, Horace W. Woodin. *Withdrawn*—Cyprian George Webster, Caleb Fenner, Elizur Hubbell, Calvin Carrington, Charles B. Buckholts, Edwin W. Colt, Michael Daley. *Died*—A. H. Woodruff, John Stevens.

No. 2, ST. JOHN'S, Middletown—Townsend P. Abell, W. M.; Horace Clark, S. W.; Elliot Bradley, J. W.; Charles Whittlesey, Secretary. *Initiated*—John C. Clark, Dyer Ames, Jr., Junius S. Norton, Dennis Sage, Azro D. Merrifield, Loudon B. Ward, Charles Whittlesey, Charles B. Ramsey, Thos. S. Fellows.

No. 3, ST. JOHN'S, Bridgeport—Thomas Hutchins, W. M.; William Hepburn, S. W.; Wm. Lum, J. W.; John M. Wilson, Secretary. *Initiated*—Wm. B. Oakley, John D. Budau, Charles P. May, George S. Sanford, Franklin Collins, Wm. A. Dowd, Wm. M. Ayres, Wm. S. Atkinson, Alexander Hamilton, Edward Hamilton, Daniel Wright, Edward C. Lewis, Edwin B. Hall, George Kippen, Benjamin Lobdell, John R. Bostwick. *Died*—John M. Thompson.

No. 4, ST. JOHN'S, Hartford—Cyrus Goodell, W. M.; Henry Perkins, S. W.; James H. Ashmead, J. W.; Henry A. Chapin, Secretary. *Initiated*—Gabrel Neil, John W. Johnson, Mason Gross, George B. Hawley, John H. Mills, Joseph Brown, Wm. Olmsted, Nathaniel Thurber, Isaac A. Bragaw, John Logan, Frederick P. Green, Henry Kellogg, Wm. H. Aiken, Thomas C. Alden, Wm. H. Crowell, John D. Skinner, Thomas S. Parker, Edwin R. Hanks, John Hatfield, Wm. P. Donaldson, Dewitt C. Freeman, Sylvester Peck, Wm. Hale. *Admitted*—Thomas Miner, Thomas Pitts.

No. 5, UNION, Stamford—John W. Leeds, W. M.; James H. Miner, S. W.; Joseph P. Tobias, J. W.; Roswel Hoyt, Secretary. *Initiated*—Richard Stanton, Edward Hewes.

No. 6, ST. JOHN'S, Norwalk—George F. Daskam, W. M.; Dimon Fanton, S. W.; Charles Olmsted, J. W.; Henry Walton Secretary. *Initiated*—Charles Van Varick, John Van Varick, Wm. G. Fairchild, Wm. D. Haight, James Lamar, John McDonald, John Black, Alonzo W. Street. *Died*—David Boalt, Stephen Mott, Robert Cameron.

No. 7, KING SOLOMON'S, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle, W. M.; Albert Thompson, S. W.; Eri Riggs, J. W.; Charles H. Webb, Secretary. *Initiated*—Eleazar Welton. *Withdrawn*—Wyllys Judd. *Died*—Charles S. Peck.

No. 8, ST. JOHN'S, Stratford—John Goulding, W. M.; Samuel Benjamin, S. W.; Benjamin Fairchild, J. W.; Wm. T. Shelton, Secretary.

No. 11, ST. PAUL'S, Litchfield—Phineas Taylor, W. M.; Gideon H. Hollister, S. W.; Frederick D. Beeman, J. W.; Geo. Seymour, Secretary. *Initiated*—George Lockwood, David R. Gould, George W. Watson, Alfred H. Beers, Oliver S. Weller.

No. 12, KING HIRAM, Derby—Samuel French, W. M.; George Blackman, S. W.; Foster P. Abbott, J. W.; Lyman Smith, Jr., Secretary. *Initiated*—Sylvester Blakeman, Marvin Warner, Newton Tibbals. *Admitted*—John O. Hotchkiss, Foster P. Abbott, E. B. Gilbert, Michael Daley.

No. 14, FREDERICK, Farmington—Henry Cowles, W. M.; Giles Stillman, S. W.; Edward Hooker, J. W.; Charles Thompson, Secretary.

No. 20, HARMONY, Berlin—Henry A. Hull, W. M.; Ira E. Smith, S. W.; Loyal Dudley, J. W.; Oliver C. Stanley, Secretary. *Initiated*—James Rogers, Artemas E. Hart, Henry W. Flagg, Charles H. Lee, John A. Butler, Dexter R. Wright, Wm. B. Olds, Bertrand L. Yale, Almeron Miles, R. S. Southworth, Ezekiel Andrews, Jr., Charles Parker, Chauncey Beckwith, Thomas Tracy, Truman Cole, Augustus S. Jerome, Zelotus W. Hunn, Hezekiah Griswold, Jr., John Hamilton, Joshua R. King, Charles H. Booth, Wm. Allen, Jr., Philo G. Rockwell, David Bronson, Henry Tolles, Jacob H. Strickland, Edward J. Steele, Benjamin Wilcox, James Trowbridge, John E. Woodruff, James F. Lewis, Nathaniel Dickinson, John Parker. *Admitted*—Charles N. Stanley, Chauncey Hale, Emanuel Russell, Ashbel Dickinson, Loyal Dudley, Oliver C. Stanley, Marcellus Clark, Jeremiah Page. *Died*—Birdsey Jndson.

No. 25, COLUMBIA, Glastenbury—Sabine Stocking, W. M.; Henry B. Chapman, S. W.; Robert L. Brainard, J. W.; Oliver Brainard, Secretary. *Initiated*—Wm. Miner, Robert L. Brainard, Edward Miner. *Died*—Wm. Norton.

No. 28, MORNING STAR, East Windsor—Solomon Terry, W. M.; Harmon Terry, S. W.; Jonathan Button, J. W.; Joseph Olmsted, Jr., Secretary. *Initiated*—John B. Riley, Henry C. Bagg, Fordyce Bates, James McAllister, Humphrey Davis, Reuben P. Gage. *Admitted*—Noah E. Hillman, Solomon Brown, Charles Dean.

No. 31, UNION, New London—Joshua Hamilton, W. M.; Isaac Treby, S. W.; Samuel D. Barnes, J. W.; Charles Redfield, Secretary. *Initiated*—John Manwaring, John Burton, Constant H. Clark, Francis Barry, Christopher G. Newbury, John S. Lester, George Huntley, Franklin Smith, David A. Fox.

No. 34, SOMERSET, Norwich—Wm. L. Brewer, W. M.; Wm. H. Copp, S. W.; Roswel W. Roath, J. W.; H. Hobart Roath, Secretary. *Initiated*—Oliver W. Freeman, John B. Shaw, Wm. Benjamin, Charles D. Benjamin, H. A. Bacon, Wm. H. Glover, Benjamin T. Roath, H. Hobart Roath, Wm. Bushnel, A. Richmond, John H. Gale, Joseph W. Caswell, Wm. S. Newell, Daniel M. Prentice, Samuel Gates. *Admitted*—Walter Lewis, Josiah Rogers, Russel Wildman, Samuel H. Cutler. *Died*—Aaron C. Southwick, Samuel H. Cutler, Henry L. Jewett, Rowland Babcock.

No. 40, UNION, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut, W. M.; Ira Hodge, S. W.; John Ferguson, J. W.; Nathan C. Goodsell, Secretary.

No. 42, HARMONY, Waterbury—James M. Grannis, W. M.; Gabrel Post, S.W.; Wm. Padley, J. W.; David S. Lawrence, Secretary. *Died*—James Brown, Jesse Wooster, Charles A. Peck. *Expelled*—Reuben L. Judd.

No. 44, EASTERN STAR, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, W. M.; David L. Fuller, S. W.; Vine Hovey, J. W.; Fanning Tracy, Secretary. *Initiated*—Samuel B. Stanton, Wallace Huntington, Austin Avery.

No. 46, PUTNAM, Pomfret—Samuel Underwood W. M.; Benjamin Allard, S. W.; Harris Arnold, J. W.; Rufus Robinson, Secretary. *Initiated*—Darius Day, Lewis Williams, Augustus Green. *Died*—Larned Haskell, Eleazer Keith.

No. 49, JERUSALEM, Ridgefield—Hezekiah Scott, W. M.; Hiram K. Scott, S. W.; James E. Jones, J. W.; Walter Bates, Secretary. *Initiated*—Geo. Sears, Albert M. Mead, Wm. B. Jones. *Died*—Henry Olmsted, John Barlow.

No. 50, WARREN, Andover—Timothy Dimock, W. M.; Ransford Button, S.W.; David W. Huntington, J. W.; Adonijah White, Secretary. *Initiated*—Henry M. Booth, Charles D. Perkins, Norman P. Warner.

No. 57, ASYLUM, Stonington—Francis Amy, W. M.; Elisha Faxon, Jr., S. W.; George E. Palmer, J. W.; Junius M. Willey, Secretary. *Initiated*—Franklin Hancox, Charles O. Brewster, George H. Smith, Benjamin F. Hancox, Benjamin S. Cutler, Isaac Pendleton, Wm. Church, Joseph H. Pendleton, Jonathan R. Pendleton, Ephraim Williams, Jr., Benjamin F. Pendleton, David W. Thompson.

No. 58, NORTHERN STAR, Barkhamsted—Wilson B. Spring, W. M.; Anson Wheeler, S. W.; Horace Case, J. W.; Hiram Chamberlain, Secretary. *Initiated*—Nelson N. Barrett, Timothy Bennett, Israel P. Purington, Wm. Riley, Josiah C. Allen. *Admitted*—Samuel Hotchkiss, David Leadbetter, Hermon Chapin, Riverius Douglass, Dwight Humphrey. *Died*—Josiah C. Banning, Amos Beecher, Orville Howd. *Suspended*—Wm. H. Reynolds, Cornwall Doolittle.

No. 60, WOLCOTT, Stafford—Moses B. Harvey, W. M.; Alva Francis, S. W.; Elijah Fairman, J. W.; Samuel Carpenter, Secretary.

No. 62, ORIENT, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, W. M.; Ralph Pitkin, S. W.; George Reynolds, J. W.; George H. Olmsted, Secretary. *Initiated*—James A. Moore, Moses Chandler, Wm. B. Smith, Jonathan F. Franklin.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut :

Another year having elapsed, and this Most Worshipful body being again assembled to consider and act upon the various interests pertaining to our venerable and venerated Order in this State ; the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in commencing the duties devolved upon them by their appointment, would improve the opportunity thus afforded them, by congratulating the Grand Lodge on the highly prosperous condition of our beloved Institution in all parts of our widely extended national domain. From the East, from the West, from the North, and from the South, we are greeted with tidings of good, which cannot fail to make glad the heart of every true Mason ; and from which we are permitted to deduce the cheering hope, and belief, that the Heaven-born principles of our ancient fraternity are destined to spread and triumph “from the rivers unto the ends of the earth,” and that especially in our beloved country, which has already extended its dominion, as it were, “from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same,” those cherished principles, which breath “peace on earth, and good will to men,” are daily being more beautifully exemplified, and more generally practiced. True, as is well known to our brethren, exciting questions have agitated the councils of our fraternity in several quarters, and disturbed that harmony which ought ever to reign among those who have been taught by the most impressive lessons, that no contention should ever exist among them, but “that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree :” but we are happy to observe indications of the approaching dawn of that blessed day, when all these jarring discords shall be healed, and when “confusion among the craftsmen” shall be succeeded by that perfect order and harmony which should knit together in the closest bonds of brotherhood, every member of the great Masonic fam-

ily. Your committee will venture the prediction, that the day is not far distant, when the several Grand and subordinate Lodges in all parts of our country will "see eye to eye," and, acting on the square, will only emulate each other in building up that great moral edifice, the foundations of which were laid deep and strong by the good and wise and great men of long past ages. We are encouraged to indulge this belief, from the fact that some of our sister Grand Lodges, between whom jealousies and differences have hitherto existed, and each of whom has been confident that *she alone* was right, while her disagreeing sisters were *wholly wrong*, are beginning to call upon corresponding Grand Lodges for advice, and appeal with earnestness for an expression of opinion from their brethren in other States, as to the right and wrong of the matters in dispute;—thus virtually pledging themselves to abide the decision of their peers, whether in favor of or adverse to their own claims. Indeed, in one or two instances, rules adopted by one Grand Lodge have been promptly reconsidered and rescinded when it became known to them that several other Grand Lodges deemed them wrong.

The duties of your committee have been much more arduous on this occasion than in any former year. Our correspondence is increased from year to year, by the organization of new Grand Lodges, and the revival of others, until we have this year the printed minutes of proceedings of 26 Grand Lodges, together constituting a library of more than 2300 pages

Although it could not be expected that your Committee should make themselves familiar with all the interesting details of business spread over so great a number of pages; still, we could not in the conscientious discharge of the duty assigned us, neglect to bestow on each of these several documents, as well as on a large mass of printed circulars and written epistles submitted to us by the Grand Secretary, such attention as our "other avocations" and duties would permit. We must be allowed to add, that a perusal of the pamphlets alluded to has afforded us much pleasure; and we have occasionally detected in ourselves an unconscious feeling of pride, that we are permitted to enjoy

the privileges of membership in a fraternity which has existed for so many ages, and which embodies within its constituency so many minds capable of furnishing the rich intellectual banquet of which we have thus been allowed to partake. Incorporated in the proceedings of nearly every Grand Lodge in correspondence with us, we find able addresses from Grand Masters, and reports of Committees on Foreign Correspondence; and many of both these classes of papers are written with a manliness of sentiment, and in terms of eloquence and beauty, which would do honor to the pens of the most accomplished masters of English composition, and which reflect the highest credit, not only on our time honored Institution, but on our race. But it is high time for your Committee to restrain their expression of admiration, and attempt to lay before your Most Worshipful body a brief summary of what has appeared to them some of the most important matters contained in the extensive correspondence submitted to them. Perhaps this duty can in no way be so appropriately performed, as by adopting the method pursued on former occasions, of noticing the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges in rotation; and to this task we now proceed.

MAINE.—From this extreme East of our horizon, we perceive not only the indications of approaching day, but the full blaze of a meridian sun. The annual communication of the Grand Lodge was held at Portland on the 3d day of May, 1848, when representatives from 25 subordinate Lodges were in attendance. The M. W. Grand Master, Alexander H. Putney, delivered an eloquent address at the opening, in which he calls on his brethren to rejoice with him in the highly prosperous condition of the order in the State. The contrast between the prospects of Masonry in Maine five years ago, and its present standing, is indeed cheering. *Then*, in the language of the Grand Master “all was dark, save the faint glimmer from the altars of *three* only of her fifty-eight Lodges.” *Now*, “*more than forty* of the old Lodges have revived, and new ones have been instituted, from whose altars the illuminating ray shoots forth.”

This most excellent address contains many timely hints, to which we may not be permitted to allude without trespassing upon the patience of the Grand Lodge. We must be allowed, however, to quote a part of one paragraph. Bro. Putney says “I perceive that many of our Grand Lodges adopt the practice of publishing the names of candidates who have been rejected. With much respect for their opinions, and without assuming any right to dictate, I must take this occasion to say that I think such a practice decidedly wrong. I believe it to be a well settled rule among Masons, not to do any man harm, if we cannot do him

any good. And it would indeed be a work of supererogation to arrogate to ourselves so much as to say that we always judge rightly, and never reject a worthy candidate."

Your Committee have quoted these remarks, because they fully coincide with them. We agree with the Grand Master of Maine, that Masons "should not do any man harm, if we cannot do him any good." We go even further, and say in our own behalf, that while the publication of rejections may do a material injury to a worthy citizen, such publication cannot, in our opinion, do Masonry any good. As the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge require the publication of the names of rejected candidates, we take the liberty to commend this subject to the attention of our brethren, and hope to see our laws so modified as not to outrage the benevolent principles of Free Masonry.

The Grand Lodge of Maine passed a resolution, ratifying the Constitution for a General Grand Lodge of the United States, reported by the Baltimore Convention. From the returns of subordinate Lodges, we learn that the number of initiations during the year was 288; deaths, 8.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, in June last, fifteen subordinate Lodges were represented. A resolution was adopted, ratifying and adopting the Constitution reported by the Baltimore Convention, for the organization of a General Grand Lodge. In the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we find an allusion to resident Masons, who are not members of any Lodge. The report says—"Such brethren generally render no service to us, but their example is a positive disadvantage to the institution. They do not give to us counsel or union; they withhold their countenance to us in adversity, and sometimes excuse their coldness by disrespectful remarks. Yet we are not unfrequently called upon to administer to the relief of such brethren, their widows and orphans." There are *twenty-three* subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction. The number of initiations is not reported.

VERMONT.—Fifteen subordinate Lodges are at present working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the Green Mountain State, *twelve* of which were represented at the annual communication in January last. The Grand Master delivered an excellent address at the opening, in which he says—"So far as human judgment can produce conviction of truth, I believe myself justified in saying that the night of our Masonic darkness has passed away; the shadows have disappeared, and our day-star now shines forth refulgent, without a single cloud to mar its splendor or obscure its brightness." * * * * "Peace dwells within our walls. All troubles from without are hushed. No discordant note now jars upon the quiet of our Masonic home. The last harsh vibration has ceased, and this Grand Lodge,—ever faithful and true, long assailed, but never for a moment broken or despairing—has vindicated itself in all things, and stands recognized at this time, (so far as is known to me,) without blemish before the Masonic world." The difficulties which have existed between the Grand Lodge of Vermont and that of New York, we are happy to state, have been amicably adjusted, and the latter body, in the true spirit of Masonic magnanimity, has cordially extended to her sister of the Green Mountains a "hand of greeting."

The Grand Master calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to a class of breth-

ren, whom he denominates "drones in the Masonic hive." Speaking of these brethren, he says—"A soldier who should refuse to travel, carry his arms, or fight, if necessary, would make no valuable addition to an army; and if he claimed his pay, rations and emulations, at the same time, would probably find his absence held in higher esteem than his services. Precisely such men are those of whom I have spoken;—men to whom it appears burthensome to attend a Lodge, and who, if in some listless hour they accidentally straggle there, will perform no duty, nor qualify themselves to perform any, and who shrink and run at the first appearance of an enemy. This is *one* side of these fair-weather brethren. For the *other*, they may be heard, *in favorable circumstances*, eulogizing the merits of the order, and laying claim to all its privileges and benefits. No member of this description can be worth preserving in any society. With us the brother who would not defend the last plank in a general wreck, is not worthy to wear the insignia he disgraces."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, of whom Past Grand Master Nathan B. Haswell, was chairman, presented an exceedingly able and extensive report, in which they have reviewed in a masterly manner the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges in correspondence with them, and brought to the notice of their brethren every matter of interest which is occupying the attention of the craft throughout the length and breadth of the land. We feel that we can not too highly commend the zeal of our Vermont brethren, in maintaining the honor and dignity of the Order; and we again most cordially congratulate them on the prosperous condition of Masonry within their jurisdiction, and the encouraging prospects which seem to be opening before them.

RHODE ISLAND.—This Grand Lodge holds quarterly communications, and we have now before us the proceedings from Sept. 1846, to June 1848, which latter communication was attended by 225 members and visitors, exclusive of the Grand Officers. Much local business was transacted at these several meetings, none, however, of general interest, except the following item.

At the annual communication in 1847, a colored brother, Rev. Eli W. Stokes, being duly vouched for, applied for admission, but some objections being made his request was withdrawn. Subsequently a committee was appointed who took his case into consideration, and at the next communication reported that they had arrived at the following conclusions:

"1. That Bro. Stokes is a man of unblemished character, and is duly vouched for as a Master Mason.

"2. That the institution of Masonry is universal, and that among her salutary lessons is inculcated the divine principle of brotherly love, which teaches to regard the whole human species as one family, and unites men of every country, sect and opinion, conciliating true friendship among those who otherwise might remain at perpetual distance.

"3. That she obligates us to answer all due signs from every worthy brother, without inquiring into his religious or political sentiments, his country or his color.

"4. That she further obligates us to cultivate harmony and good fellowship among *all* the fraternity, not letting our prejudices sway us from the path of rectitude, but in all cases doing to others as we would that they should do to us.

"5. Being persuaded that the view they have taken of the case is truly Masonic, and to preserve harmony among the brethren, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge deems it inexpedient, under the present state of society, for subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction to initiate into the mysteries of Masonry persons of color ; but at the same time they fully recognize the right of all such persons, when they can prove themselves Masons, made in a regular Lodge, and to be men of good moral character, to a seat in any Lodge under this jurisdiction ; leaving it, however, optional with the Lodges to admit them or not."

With all due deference to the superior wisdom of the Rhode Island committee, two of whom were Past Grand Masters, your committee beg leave to dissent from their resolution. While we fully coincide in their "conclusions," we would respectfully add, that we have been unable to discover by what system of logic they reconcile the solemn declaration that it may be "optional" with any Lodge to deny to *any* brother the exercise of what they as solemnly assert to be his right, namely, "a seat in any Lodge under their jurisdiction." We find, however, that the good sense of the Grand Lodge directed an indefinite postponement of the consideration of the report.

NEW YORK.—The last annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the Empire State, was held on the 6th of June, 1848, and the three following days ; at which 81 of her 97 subordinates were represented. The Grand Master's opening address shows the Order to be in a healthy and active condition. He says— "Since I had the honor to be elected Grand Master, two years ago, eighteen new Lodges have been constituted in the State, being one-fifth of the whole number now existing. In addition, two Lodges that had long been extinct have been reorganized and commenced work, A large portion of the new Lodges are in the western section of the State, "the infected district," where at one time the fires of anti-masonry burned fiercely. The brethren in that section deserve great credit for the prudence and zeal with which they are entering upon the work of building up the waste places of our Masonic Zion."

In reference to the matter of uniformity of work, the Grand Master remarks— "In the Lodges which I have visited, I have been gratified with the beauty of the work and the skill of the workmen ; but I regret to say there is not that uniformity in the mode of work, in the different Lodges, which ought to exist. In the lapse of time, occasional departures from the established standards will be inadvertently introduced ; and I am persuaded that the Grand Lodge will, at the present or some future communication, find it expedient and necessary to apply a remedy, either by appointing lecturers to visit the Lodges, or by opening occasionally, and at convenient points, Lodges of Instruction, to which members of the different Lodges may resort for Masonic information and improvement. This last mode has been adopted by some of our sister Grand Lodges with satisfactory results."

* The subject of *Taxing Unaffiliated Masons* having been agitated in several of the Grand Lodges in the United States, and the Grand Lodge of Arkansas having imposed a tax of one dollar, to be collected from all Masons not members of Lodges, under penalty of suspension or expulsion for failure to pay ; and several

other Grand Lodges have imposed a similar tax,—this matter was referred to a special Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, who presented an able report, reviewing the question in a candid and impartial manner, and concluding with the following resolution, which was adopted, viz :

“*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient for this Grand Lodge to adopt any regulation to compel Masons who are not members of any Lodge, to pay a tax for the support of the institution, or to require such Masons to unite with Lodges contrary to their inclination, or against the dictates of their own judgment.”

Although your Committee would rejoice to see every worthy member of our fraternity, whether old or young, an active member of some particular Lodge, yet we fully concur in the statement of the New York resolution. Various good and sufficient reasons cannot fail to suggest themselves to the minds of the members of this Grand Lodge, why such a regulation should not be adopted, not only as not doing any good, but as tending to work incalculable mischief. We deem it unnecessary to enter into an elaborate argument on this subject, and will only quote a passage from the address of the M. W. Grand Master of the State of North Carolina, who takes a common sense view of the question, and says—“It is true every *genuine* Mason *will* or *should* attach himself to a Lodge, or at least contribute to sustain the usefulness of the institution; *but he should not be coerced thereto*. *Compel* a Mason to become a member of a Lodge, and of necessity, the Lodge must be *compelled* to receive him, however obnoxious, thereby destroying the safeguard of a ballot, and jeopardizing the harmony of a Lodge. * * * “The principle is as clear as noon-day; if you have a right to *compel* a Lodge to admit to membership an applicant, the same right exists for *compelling* a Mason to join, and so *vice versa*. It is well known that there are in the vicinity of every Lodge, Masons, like other men, unfortunately so constituted, and of such indiscreet habits, without actually being guilty of any criminality, as that their most intimate friends would debar them from participating in any important deliberation or enterprise, which might possibly be prejudiced by their proverbial imprudence. Such individuals most assuredly have claims upon the fraternity, and enjoy certain privileges; but this admission by no means implies an indiscriminate yielding to their demands, regardless of their merit, or beyond the dictates of reason.”

It has been made known to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, by official communications from the Grand Lodge of New York, and through our published proceedings the information has been communicated to the fraternity generally under this jurisdiction, that for several years past, an organization has existed in the State of New York, under the name of “St. John’s Grand Lodge,” which was originally composed of persons who had been expelled from the privileges of Masonry by our sister Grand Lodge of New York. As the existence of this body of “clandestine Masons” has been, and still continues to be a source of much trouble to our worthy and faithful brethren, both at home and abroad, it is an object of much importance that a correct history of the original proceedings which occasioned this trouble should be in the possession of every Mason. In examining the documents submitted to them, your Committee have found in the minutes of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, at her annual communication in November last, the report of a special Committee, (of which the Grand Master was chairman,) to whom had been referred the subject of St. John’s Grand

Lodge in the State of New York. As this report, which is drawn up with great ability, gives a more full and complete history of this unfortunate difficulty than is probably in the possession of our brethren generally in this State, we beg leave to incorporate into our report, and adopt as part thereof, the following copious extracts, to wit:—

“The Select Committee to which was referred, on the 2d day of May last, a communication from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, relative to the St. John's Grand Lodge, also the proceedings of St. John's Grand Lodge, with a letter from Charles F. Lineback, Grand Secretary thereof; also a letter from a Committee of Invitation of St. John's Grand Lodge; also a written letter from the Grand Master of St. John's Grand Lodge, to the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, all relating to the unfortunate difficulties now existing between the Grand Lodge of New York and St. John's Grand Lodge.

“The subject which the committee will in the first place attempt to bring properly to the attention of this Grand Lodge, is that of the unfortunate and deeply to be deplored difficulties existing among the Masonic Fraternity in the State of New York.

“From a careful perusal and examination of the papers referred to this committee on this subject, they are enabled to state the origin of the difficulty as follows:

“It appears that in the month of June, 1837, at regular meetings, York Lodge, No. 367, and Silentia Lodge, both under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, passed resolutions declaring that they would celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, on the 24th day of that month. That Committee of Arrangements were appointed by each of those bodies, to make the necessary arrangements for a public procession. It appears, also, that Benevolent Lodge united with the other two Lodges in the celebration, and that other brethren from other Lodges, also united therein.

“From a portion of the “appeal and defense” of the Brethren who afterwards formed St. John's Grand Lodge, it seems that some doubts were either entertained or expressed, of the right of these subordinate Lodges, to form a public Masonic procession, without a dispensation from the M. W. Grand Master or the Grand Lodge; for it is said therein, that a sub-committee was appointed “to call on the R. W. Grand Secretary, to ascertain from him if there were any Constitutional objections thereto, of which they had not been apprised; that the Grand Secretary informed them that he knew of none, that they had the Constitution, could read for themselves, and might govern themselves accordingly.”

“The Lodges proceeded with their arrangements up to the 24th of June, on which day a prohibition of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, was served on York Lodge and Benevolent Lodge; that served on the former, was dated on the 23d, that upon the latter, the 24th; and that the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary were personally present to prevent the procession.

“The procession, however, proceeded under the direction of the Worshipful Master of York Lodge, Bro. Henry C. Atwood, assisted by the W. Brother Wm. F. Piatt, and the W. Masters of Silentia and Benevolent Lodges, (Brother Orlando Warren and John Bennett.)

“In consequence of this defiance of the authority of the Deputy Grand Mas-

ter, by the formation and moving of the procession, a charge was preferred against York Lodge, at an emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge, on the 12th of July 1837, in the following words: 'For creating a disturbance and confusion among the Fraternity, subversive of the principles of the Order, and injurious to its prosperity and character, by a violation of duty to the Grand Lodge.'

"This charge was sustained by five separate specifications, the substance of which may be stated thus:—Resolving to hold a public procession without authority; publishing this intention in the newspapers, and inviting other Lodges; holding the procession in defiance of repeated decisions of the Grand Lodge, in violation of the rules of the Grand Lodge, and of the prohibition of the Deputy Grand Master.

"The subject was referred to the Grand Steward's Lodge, which proceeded to act upon it, and their deliberations resulted in the expulsion of Henry C. Atwood, Wm. F. Piatt, and all the officers and members of York Lodge. The brethren thus expelled denied the power of the Grand Steward's Lodge to expel them, and appealed to the Grand Lodge. A special communication of the Grand Lodge was called, when the doings of the Grand Steward's Lodge were sustained, and the expulsions confirmed.

"The brethren who had been thus expelled, proceeded on the 11th day of September, 1837, to form themselves into a Grand Lodge, by the name of *St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York*. And the question now before this Grand Lodge is, whether we can recognize that body as a legally constituted Grand Lodge, and enter into correspondence with it.

"The conclusion at which this Grand Lodge arrives must be determined by a simple proposition. If one or more subordinate Lodges have the constitutional right to form a public procession, without any authority from the Grand Lodge or Grand Master whose jurisdiction they are under, then York Lodge, and those uniting with it, were justified, and the Grand Lodge of New York has done wrong. On the other hand, if they had not the constitutional right to form a procession, as above stated, then we must view the transaction as a defiance of the supreme authority under which they held their warrant; and we must justify the Grand Lodge of the State of New York in all their doings, and pronounce 'St. John's Grand Lodge' a clandestine body, which we cannot recognize as within the pale of Masonry.

"Preston, in his *Illustrations of Masonry*, says—'By an express law of the Grand Lodge it is enacted that no regular Masons do attend any funeral, or public procession, clothed with the badges and ensigns of the Order, unless a dispensation for that purpose has been obtained from the Grand Master or his Deputy, under the penalty of forfeiting all the rights and privileges of the Society.' He then goes on to give his construction of this clause, by saying it was intended to 'put a stop to mixed and irregular conventions of Masons,' &c.

"Bro. Albert G. Mackey, of South Carolina, an eminent Masonic writer, says—'Processions in Masonry are entirely under the charge of the Grand Lodge. No subordinate Lodge has a right to appear in public on any occasion, without the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. The object of this salutary regulation is, that the reputation of the Order shall not suffer by the ill-timed or injudicious appearance of the brethren. To avoid, therefore, any

occasion of giving scandal, the Grand Lodge has wisely reserved to itself the right of appointing the time when, the place where, and the manner in which, public displays of the Order may take place.'

"Under the head of *Funeral Rites*, Bro. Mackey again says—'Nor can two or more Lodges assemble for the purpose of attending the funeral of a brother, until a dispensation has been granted by the Grand Master.'

"The 'Ahiman Rezon' says, in relation to funerals,—'If more Lodges are expected to attend than the one to which the deceased brother belongs, the Master must make application, through the Grand Secretary, to the Grand Master, for permission to preside over such brethren from other Lodges, as may assist him in forming the procession, who are to be under his direction for the time, unless the Grand Master, his Deputy, or the Grand Wardens, are present.'

"There is not a doubt on the minds of your committee, not only in consideration of the foregoing extracts from the most experienced writers on Masonry, but from our own experience on the subject, that when a Masonic procession is to be formed, upon any occasion whatever, consisting of more than a single Lodge, it must be formed either under the personal supervision of the Grand Master or his Deputy, or under a dispensation from one of them. And your committee take this opportunity to express a doubt whether a single Lodge has power to form any other procession than to attend a deceased brother to the grave, without a dispensation.

"It is clear to the minds of your committee, therefore, that the procession of several Lodges, formed under the supervision of Henry C. Atwood, the installed Master of York Lodge, in the city of New York, on the 24th day of June, 1837, was illegal, unmasonic, and unconstitutional.

"The committee will even go farther, and say, that, even had that assemblage been constitutional, the moment the prohibition of the Deputy Grand Master came to the notice of Henry C. Atwood, *the installed Master* of York Lodge, and the other installed Masters then and there present, it was their solemn duty to have desisted from proceeding, at whatever sacrifice—for they had each of them promised, in the most solemn manner, at their installation, 'to submit to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers, when duly installed, and strictly to conform to every regulation of the Grand Lodge or General Assembly of Masons, that is not subversive of the principles of Masonry.'

"Your committee must, therefore, state to this Grand Lodge their conviction, that the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in the expulsion of these brethren, was the only proper one for it to pursue toward brethren who thus set at defiance the constituted authority of that Grand Lodge. It was the only method to our Order by which the dignity of the Grand Lodge could be sustained, and it was its duty thus to sustain it.

"Having, after a laborious and impartial examination, come to this conclusion, the committee are compelled to report that this Grand Lodge cannot recognize St. John's Grand Lodge as a legally constituted Grand Lodge, nor any of the Lodges or Masons under its jurisdiction, as brethren worthy to receive from us the rights and benefits of Free Masonry. 'They therefore recommend to the Grand Lodge, the adoption of the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, cannot recog-

nize St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York, as a legally and Masonically constituted Body of Masons.

Resolved, That no person applying to visit any subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction, from the City or State of New York, shall be examined, who has not a Grand Lodge Certificate, signed by the Grand Secretary, and sealed with the seal of the Grand Lodge of that State.

The conclusion arrived at by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, in adopting the foregoing report, appears to the committee of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut to be perfectly just and unavoidable; and we beg leave to go a step further, and to suggest that even if Henry C. Atwood and his associates had a constitutional right to proceed with their procession, contrary to the prohibition of the Deputy Grand Master, and even if the Grand Lodge of the State of New York had done wrong in expelling them, still those brethren had no right whatever to form a new Grand Lodge in New York. The territory was already occupied; and no principle is more firmly established or better understood by the Masonic Fraternity of the United States, than that no more than one Grand Lodge can hold legal jurisdiction over the same territory.

NEW JERSEY.—We have before us two pamphlets, containing the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the years 1848 and '49. The last annual communication was held in January, 1849. It is gratifying to notice that our New Jersey brethren, as well as members of the fraternity in other quarters, are arraying themselves against the prominent vices of the age, and taking their stand among the wise and good of the land, in favor of those great principles of philanthropy which adorn and ennoble humanity. In the address of the Grand Master we find the following paragraph:

“It has often been charged upon us by the enemies of our Order, that we assemble for bachanalian revels, and that from entrance to the Lodge can be traced the degraded path trod by the drunkard. From such a charge let us shield ourselves, by adopting such regulations as will prohibit the use of all intoxicating drinks in any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.”

To this recommendation of their Grand Master the Grand Lodge responded by adopting the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are hereby expressly forbidden to introduce within the walls of their Lodges any spirituous liquor, wine or beer, under any pretence whatever.”

In the address of the Grand Master, at the annual communication in January, 1848, we find the following:

“On the 14th of September last I received a communication from a committee of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, setting forth, as matter of grievance, that on the 23d of June, John S. Darcy, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, granted his proxy, under his hand and seal, authorizing Henry C. Atwood, of the city of New York, an expelled Mason, and a pretended Deputy Grand Master of a clandestine Grand Lodge, to install into the office of Grand Master of said clandestine Grand Lodge, a man by the name of Anderson, who was by authority of said proxy so installed. This is an act, my brethren, not only in violation of the rights and privileges of the Grand Lodge and its officers, in granting a proxy; but in granting it to an expelled Mason, to install of-

ficers in a clandestine Lodge, it is in direct violation of the principles and obligations of our institution, and if passed by with impunity will not only sap the foundation of Masonry in New Jersey, but will cast upon us a reproach which time itself cannot erase."

MARYLAND.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge show that a great amount of local business was transacted at the several communications held during the year 1848; we find nothing, however, demanding notice from us, except a recommendation from the Grand Master that the following standing resolution of the Grand Lodge should be repealed:

"Resolved, That an expulsion or suspension from a Chapter or Encampment, is an expulsion or suspension from all the privileges of Masonry."

A committee to whom the subject was referred reported in favor of striking out the obnoxious resolution, but the report was recommitted, with instructions for a further report at the next communication.

VIRGINIA.—At the annual communication, in December last, 48 subordinate Lodges were represented,—80 being the whole number in the jurisdiction; 63 of which reported the names of 1932 members. We find nothing in these proceedings requiring notice at our hands, except the following questions, propounded to the Grand Lodge, which were referred to a committee, to be reported upon at the next communication:

"1. If a Mason falls in a duel or private combat, voluntarily held by him, is it the duty of the Master of the Lodge having jurisdiction over the member, to call out the brethren to perform Masonic services at the funeral of the deceased?"

"2. If a Mason be guilty of an open violation of any municipal law of the community in which he resides, is it the duty of the Master of the Lodge having jurisdiction over the member, to call out the Lodge to perform the rites of Masonic burial at his decease?"

"3. If a Mason withdraws his membership from a Lodge, and continues to reside in a community where there is a Lodge, without affiliating himself with the Institution, has he the right to prefer charges against an affiliated brother?"

"4. If a Mason should die and leave a widow, the widow should again marry a gentleman who is not a Mason, at the death of the second husband, has the widow a claim upon the Institution for charity or other relief?"

We hope to see these questions answered at their next Communication. The Order seems to be flourishing in the Ancient Dominion.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—We have before us the proceedings of several communications of the Grand Lodge of the Federal City, held at various times from April 1847, to December 1848. Several interesting incidents are noticed, among which are the imposing ceremonies of laying the corner stone of the Smithsonian Institute, in the City of Washington, on the 1st day of May, 1847, when the Grand Lodge was favored with the presence of Bros. James K. Polk and George M. Dallas, President and Vice President of the United States, besides a large number of distinguished Masons from various sections of the country. On this occasion, the *apron* which was presented by the Grand Lodge of France, to our illustrious Bro. GEO WASHINGTON, through the hands of our distinguished brother, Gen. Lafayette, was worn by the Grand Master. This apron is said to

have been worn by Gen. Washington at the laying of the corner stone of the Capitol of the United States.

A special meeting of this Grand Lodge was held on the 3d of January last, for the purpose of receiving and welcoming Generals Quitman and Shields, the former, M. W. Grand Master of the State of Mississippi, and the latter, R. W. Past Master of Lodge No. 12. On this occasion the M. W. Grand Master, Bro. B. B. French, greeted the returned soldiers with an eloquent and feeling address, to which both the distinguished brethren responded in an appropriate manner. The ceremonies of the occasion are represented as having been highly interesting.

On the 4th of July last, the Grand Lodge held an adjourned communication, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the National Washington Monument. In the procession on this interesting occasion, were officers and members of Fredericksburgh Lodge, No. 4, of Virginia, bearing the records of their Lodge showing their initiation, passing and raising of Bro. George Washington; and the officers and members of Alexandria Washington Lodge, No. 22, of Virginia, of which our illustrious brother was R. W. Master. The Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, and Texas, were also in the procession. The ceremonies were interesting in the highest degree, and will not soon be forgotten by those brethren who were permitted to participate in them. The address of the Grand Master was characterized by his accustomed eloquence and refined feeling.

NORTH CAROLINA.—Forty-six subordinate Lodges are at present working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of this State—*forty-two* of which were represented at the annual communication in December last. The opening address of the M. W. Grand Master is an able document, referring with earnestness and faithfulness to the duties and responsibilities devolving upon the members of the fraternity; reminding his brethren that the eyes of the world are upon them, and that the honor and dignity of Masonry is concerned in the manner in which they exemplify its great moral and benevolent principles. A resolution was adopted, requiring the Masters of Lodges in the State to cause the address to be read in open Lodge. 207 initiations were reported during the year, and 30 deaths; among the latter was R. W. David W. Stone, Past Grand Master.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—This Grand Lodge holds quarterly communications. Your Committee have been gratified to find the following resolution, in the proceedings of September last, which was adopted unanimously :

“*Resolved*, That the practice of *dueling* is repugnant to the principles of Freemasonry, and in all cases where two brethren resort to this mode of settling their disputes, it becomes the duty of the Lodge, or Lodges, of which they are members, forthwith to expel them from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, subject as usual to the confirmation of the Grand Lodge.”

As the barbarious practice condemned in this resolution has heretofore prevailed to a considerable extent in some of our States, your committee rejoice to see this action of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina,—though they would have been better pleased, if the resolution had extended to *all* brethren engaged in duels, whether with their Masonic brethren, or with any other of their fellow-men. We trust the day is not far distant, when the fact of a Mason having been engaged in

a duel will be sufficient to deprive him of the privileges and sympathies of the fraternity, not only in South Carolina, but throughout the world.

On the subject of Grand Lodge Certificates, a committee of the Grand Officers submitted the following report, which was adopted, viz :

“ That they consider that the presentation of a Certificate is required by this Grand Lodge, simply as a testimonial of good Masonic standing, preparatory to an examination ; and that therefore, where the party can furnish other sufficient evidence of his Masonic standing, and assign a satisfactory reason for being without a Certificate, the Lodge which he proposes to visit may proceed to his examination.”

In visitors from the State of New York, they recommend however, that this rule shall not apply ; but that in accordance with the request of that Grand Lodge, all Masons hailing from that State, be imperatively required to present a certificate of membership, signed by the Grand Secretary of that jurisdiction.

The question whether persons who can neither read nor write, are competent candidates for initiation, having been submitted to a Committee of the Grand Officers, they presented the following report, which was adopted :

“ The Grand Lodge of South Carolina finds no injunction in the ancient Constitution, prohibiting the initiation of persons who are unable to read or write ; yet, as Speculative Freemasonry is a scientific institution, the Grand Lodge would discourage the initiation of such candidates, as highly inexpedient.”

GEORGIA.—At the annual communication of this Grand Lodge, in October last, *seventy-one* of her *seventy-nine* subordinate Lodges were represented. Fourteen charters for new Lodges were issued, and two charters restored to dormant Lodges. 791 initiations are reported. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented an extended report, in which they notice the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges in correspondence with them. In their notice of the proceedings of our Grand Lodge, the Georgia Committee refer particularly to that part of our last year's report on correspondence, relating to the unfortunate difficulties in Louisiana, and say of us, “ The Committee profess to have examined the matter thoroughly, and the result is, a conviction that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana is regular, and the only regular Grand Lodge in that State, having ever been so recognized. We should have been gratified to have had an expression of opinion from our Connecticut brethren, relative to the cumulation of rites by the Louisiana Grand Lodge. They certainly must justify the “ cumulation,” in reaching the conclusion they have, and we would have preferred their reasons accompanying their conclusion.”

If our Georgia brethren will look again at our report, they will find that we did not “ profess to have examined the matter thoroughly,” neither did we express any opinion on the subject of the “ cumulation of rites by the Louisiana Grand Lodge.” We refrained from any expression of opinion on the subject, for the best of all reasons, viz :—because we did not fully comprehend, and of course could not satisfactorily understand the matter, with the limited information we then possessed. We stated that we had “ made what research we could,” and this, we confess, was not then very extensive ; but we thought we had discovered enough to convince any reasonable man, that the State of Louisiana was occupied by a

legally constituted Grand Lodge, and was not, therefore, vacant territory; that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi had no more right to establish Lodges in Louisiana, than Georgia had to perform the same acts in Connecticut, or Connecticut in Georgia. And with all the light that has been shed on this matter since our last report was written, we are of the same opinion still.

The Georgia report also alludes to another subject acted on by this Grand Lodge, and says—"Connecticut has resolved that it is improper to take any action upon the subject of providing for the expenses of representatives from the subordinate Lodges, in attendance on the Grand Lodge. This is a matter concerning Connecticut Masons only; but we would merely inquire, if she, in refusing to pay the expenses of her representatives, is not in some extent, at least, destroying the common level among Masons, by giving to such as are enabled to bear their own expenses, an undue advantage, in their attendance upon the Grand Lodge, over such as have no means of support but their time and labor?" This, in the opinion of your Committee, is a view of the subject of representation, which is worthy of the attention of the Grand Lodge.

TENNESSEE.—The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge was opened at Nashville, on Monday, Oct. 3d, 1848, and was closed on Saturday of the same week. There were in this jurisdiction 73 chartered Lodges, and 21 working under dispensation. Of this number, 83 were present by their representatives as proxies. 836 initiations and 33 death were reported in the returns from subordinate Lodges. Much business of a local character was transacted, and the Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented an elaborate report, in which they review the proceedings of sister Grand Lodges in a candid and fraternal spirit.

KENTUCKY.—The proceedings of the annual communication, which was held on the 28th of August last, came to us in a pamphlet of 150 closely printed octavo pages; 79 subordinate Lodges were represented in this meeting. The opening address of the M. W. Grand Master, and the report of the Committee on Correspondence, are able papers, and contain much that is calculated to enlighten the mind that is honestly inquiring for "true Masonic light." A proposition was introduced, to divide the Grand Lodge into separate and distinct bodies, to be known as the "Grand Lodge of Northern Kentucky," and the "Grand Lodge of Southern Kentucky;" which was laid over to the next communication.

At the door of one of the subordinate Lodges in Kentucky, a person who had been *born blind*, but who had been initiated into a Lodge in Mississippi, applied for admission as a visiting brother, and was refused. The case was submitted to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky for their opinion, when the decision of the subordinate Lodge was sustained, and as we think, correctly. The returns of subordinate Lodges show that 916 persons were initiated into the mysteries of Masonry during the last Masonic year.

OHIO.—The Grand Lodge of this State held its annual session at Columbus, on the 25th of September last, and continued in session five days. A great amount of local business was transacted. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is a full and able review of the proceedings of sister Grand Lodges touching the various topics which are engaging the attention of the craft in various quarters. In this State, it is the custom for the Grand Officers to meet

together previous to the assembling of the Grand Lodge, for the purpose of conferring together and preparing business for the action of the Grand Lodge. In this way the business of the session is very happily facilitated.

Bro. Caspar Theill has compiled a volume on the Masonic labors of the illustrious Washington, which the Grand Lodge of Ohio commends to the patronage of the Fraternity.

The valedictory address of the Grand Lecturer, Bro. Samuel Reed, contains some remarkable passages, which we beg leave to transcribe. He says :

“ I have traversed much of the State, and visited most of the Lodges ; having traveled, during the past two years, six thousand seven hundred and thirty miles, and assisted in conferring 850 degrees.

“ I have seen the tears of the widow and orphan dried, and themselves clothed and fed.

“ I have seen the prejudices of the female portion of our friends vanish like dew before the brilliant rays of the morning sun.

“ I have seen the drunkard, the gambler, and the profane swearer, excluded from a participation in our glorious privileges.

“ I have seen the venerable patriarch, whose locks were whitened by the frosts of seventy or eighty winters, re-enlist under our broad banner, with the ardor of youth.

“ I have seen an aged father surrounded by his seven sons, all of whom were Masons.

“ I have seen a father preside and confer the Master's degree upon his own son, and charge him never to disgrace the jewel entrusted to his care.

“ And I have seen hundreds of our best citizens conducted to the Christian altar through the medium of Masonic teaching.

“ These things have so affected my nerves, that I declare to you, if I know myself, that they have caused me to love the whole human race ; and I would willingly have washed the feet of the humblest member of our venerable Order.

“ Our institution is now in the hands of the best class of citizens in the State. It is found in the pulpit, on the bench and bar, with the medical faculty, and in all the ramifications of active business life, both public and private ; and all are engaged in endeavoring to correct the vices and purify the morals of those around them.”

MICHIGAN.—This Grand Lodge held its annual communication in Detroit, in January last, when 30 subordinate Lodges were represented. A committee was appointed to petition the Legislature of the State for an act of incorporation.

INDIANA.—At the annual communication at Indianapolis, May 22d, 1848, the number of subordinate Lodges represented was 65. In alluding to the action of the Grand Lodge the year before, by which their former Grand Master was deprived of his rights in the Lodge, in consequence of his expulsion from a Royal Arch Chapter, the Grand Master remarks, in his opening address, that they have “ a law of more than twenty years standing, by which expulsion from a Chapter debars the individual from all Masonic privileges in this State.”

Disclaiming any idea of dictation to, or disrespect towards, our brethren of Indiana, your committee, for reasons set forth in their last annual report, beg

leave to express the opinion that the Grand Lodge of Indiana has for more than twenty years been governed by a law founded on an erroneous principle ; and we are happy to know that the dissent from their position, kindly expressed by many of her sister Grand Lodges, has induced her Grand Master to recommend action in the premises.

The subject was referred to a committee, who reported a resolution *repealing* the law of 1826, providing " that expulsion from a Royal Arch Chapter should be considered an expulsion from all Masonic privileges." The resolution was adopted, and Past Grand Master Johnson Watts was restored to all his rights and privileges as a Master Mason.

ILLINOIS.—The Grand Lodge held its annual communication at Alton, on the 2d of October last, when 45 subordinate Lodges were represented. As your committee have been informed that persons claiming to be Masons, and to have been made such by the Lodge at Nauvoo, occasionally apply to Lodges in Connecticut for admission as visitors, we consider it of importance to lay before our Grand Lodge the following extract from the opening address of the Grand Master of Illinois :

" The Grand Lodge having, in 1843, revoked the dispensation of the Lodge at Nauvoo, and again, in 1844, declared that Lodge *clandestine*, on account of their refusing to surrender said dispensation, but continuing to work, there can be no question but that all who claim to have been made in that Lodge since the action of the Grand Lodge as aforesaid, must be considered as *clandestine*. However innocent they may have been in their intentions, and notwithstanding that they may be of good report and unblemished character, yet, masonically, we cannot, we dare not, associate with or countenance them, until they shall be thoroughly *healed* ; as nothing short of strict adherence not only to the spirit but to the letter, will keep alive and transmit to future ages our excellent regulations, which, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, should be unsusceptible of the slightest variation."

In the report of the Illinois Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we find the following notice of an act of personal philanthropy and heroism, which occurred at New Orleans :

" A fellow-man had fallen into the Mississippi river, and was about to sink to a watery grave, when Bro. Felix Garcia, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, instantly plunged into the torrent and saved his life, at the imminent hazard of his own. It affords us pleasure to add, that this act of devotedness to a stranger was duly appreciated by the fraternity in New Orleans, who met in great numbers shortly after the event, to express their admiration of the heroic deed. The resolutions adopted on the occasion proceeded from the heart, and will reach the heart of every brother who may peruse them ; and the memory of Bro. Felix Garcia will live in the annals of New Orleans, and in the remembrance of his brethren through all coming time."

The Grand Lodge of Illinois has adopted a rule, which we should like to see imitated every where, " that the subordinate Lodges furnish the widow of each of their deceased members with a certificate of such brother's standing at the time of his death, that she may derive the advantage belonging to the widow of a Master Mason."

MISSOURI.—This Grand Lodge held its annual communication in May last at St. Louis, and an adjourned communication in July at Lexington; 20 Lodges being represented. The Grand Master, in an able and eloquent address, takes decided ground against publishing the names of rejected candidates. The interests of the craft appear to be well cared for in this jurisdiction, though we find nothing in the proceedings demanding our particular attention.

MISSISSIPPI.—The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Natchez, on the 15th and three following days of January last,—14 subordinate Lodges being represented, and 800 initiations being reported as having taken place during the year. We find nothing of special interest in the proceedings, except the statements of the Grand Master and various committees in relation to their assumed jurisdiction in Louisiana, and the formation of a new Grand Lodge in that State.

LOUISIANA.—The annual communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the city of New Orleans, on the 22d of January, 1848, the proceedings of which are before us. We have also received the proceedings and Constitution of the "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," and a printed circular from its Grand Secretary, asking all regular Grand Lodges of Ancient York Masons carefully to investigate the position of said Grand Lodge, and decide whether or not they will recognize the body as a legitimate Grand Lodge.

The attention of this Grand Lodge was called to the fact of the existence of this new "Louisiana Grand Lodge," by the report of your committee at the last annual communication. At that time we were in a measure in the dark in relation to this matter; but since that time the subject has been thoroughly investigated by several of our sister Grand Lodges; and as it is a matter of importance to the interests of Masonry that our brethren should be in possession of the facts regarding this vexed question, your committee beg leave again to avail themselves of the labors of the committee of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, who have prepared an able report of the facts in the case; and we take the liberty to make the following extracts from the same:

"The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana was established in 1812, and, as far as your committee can discover, proceeded regularly with her work, up to the year 1833, strictly in accordance with the rules and regulations of Ancient York Masonry. Previous to her existence, and between 1812 and 1833, Lodges were established in Louisiana by the Grand Orient of France, working according to the 'Scotch' and 'Modern' rites. In 1833, she proceeded formally to recognize the Lodges in her jurisdiction working according to the rites above mentioned, by agreement with the Grand Consistory of Sovereign Princes of the R. S. 32d deg.; by which agreement the Grand Lodge of Louisiana recognized the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, 33d and last deg. as the sole Legislature of Philosophical Scotch Masonry in the United States of America; and she further agreed to 'cumulate' Scotch and Modern Lodges with Ancient York Masonry, and give them authority and votes in said Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and to constitute Lodges of Scotch and Modern rites.

"Sometime between the years 1843 and 1847, some of the brethren in Louisiana became dissatisfied with the manner in which the Grand Lodge had cumu-

lated the Scotch and French rites with the Ancient York rite, and the subject in some way was brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. That Grand Lodge sent a committee to attend a communication of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and upon the report of that committee the Grand Lodge of Mississippi passed a resolution declaring that 'there was no Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons in Louisiana.'

"The Grand Lodge of Mississippi then proceeded to grant charters for subordinate Lodges in Louisiana, which Lodges, on the 8th day of March last, organized a Grand Lodge, by the name of 'The Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.' The question which this Grand Lodge is to decide is, whether or not it will recognize the Grand Lodge thus constituted, as a legitimate Grand Lodge.'

"Your committee have not contented themselves with an examination, alone, of the papers referred to them by the Grand Lodge. They view this as a matter of sufficient magnitude to be thoroughly and faithfully examined. They have, therefore, read the very able and conclusive review of the committee of the Gr. Lodge of the State of New York, on this subject, also the reports of Kentucky, Florida, Illinois, Arkansas, Maryland, Missouri, New Hampshire, Connecticut, North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, South Carolina, and Alabama; and although some of these Grand Lodges disapprove the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, we believe none of them justify the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in her extension of jurisdiction into the State of Louisiana.

"There is one point in the argument of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which is of great force, as defending the ground assumed by that Gr. Lodge in admitting the cumulation of rites into its jurisdiction. It is this:— 'Laws must be suited to the community for which they are made; and some Masonic regulations might be adapted to Louisiana, especially to the city of New Orleans, where we have daily intercourse with brethren from all nations, which would be inappropriate or not understood in a community composed entirely of one kind of people.'

"And the circular of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana says:—'If the Gr. Lodge of Mississippi, under pretence that our Grand Lodge cumulates the three rites, has the right to establish another Grand Lodge, and to constitute in our State Lodges of its own, it must be evident that our Grand Lodge enjoys an equal right, and may, under pretence that it is better to cumulate different rites, open and establish a Grand Lodge in any State of our Union, where there is no cumulation of rites, and constitute there as many Lodges of the different rites as may be judged for its own interest. But from the day on which such a principle prevails, Freemasonry may date its downfall in America.'

"This extract places the erroneous proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in as strong a light as it can well be placed, and the reasoning of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana is certainly undeniable.

"The Grand Lodge of New Hampshire has taken a decided stand in defence of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and expresses its opinion that the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi is premature and unauthorized. We mention particularly, the views of that Grand Lodge, that we may introduce the following familiar illustration, which is given by her committee on Foreign Correspondence of what they deem the position of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

“The present regulation is, that in issuing charters, they shall be issued for the forming of Ancient York Lodges, but may contain the power of cumulating the other two; but the Ancient York rite shall always be considered the principal or national rite. This we understand to be in many respects, the same thing as if the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire should obtain jurisdiction over the R. A. Chapters and Encampments of Knights Templar within our limits, and should charter Lodges as now constituted, with the additional power of cumulating the Chapter and Encampment rites. Such a course might not be expedient, but we see no reason why its adoption should authorize the Grand Lodge of a neighboring State to deny our legal existence, or to establish Lodges within our jurisdiction; yet this is precisely what the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has done.’

“Your committee will here state that this very cumulation of the orders of Knighthood and Chapter degrees with Ancient York Masonry, has existed, and we believe, now exists in some of the symbolic Lodges of Europe, and for many years in this country, Royal Arch Chapters were entirely under the jurisdiction of the Symbolic Lodges.

“This committee has not the least doubt that, in receiving into her jurisdiction the Lodges working under the Grand Orient of France, and in granting charters authorizing Lodges to work according to the Scotch and French rites, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana acted with the best and purest motives, and supposed she was extending her arms in Masonic benevolence to those who had a right to knock at the door of her sanctuary and not be refused admission.

“We will not, however, undertake to settle so grave a question as is presented by this extension of jurisdiction by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. We will only say that if she did wrong, it is to us somewhat surprising that the Masonic Fraternity, with her Annual Proceedings before them for some thirteen or fourteen years, should not have sought to place her right, and it is still more surprising, that this wrong-doing should, all at once, become manifest to certain Lodges in the city of New Orleans, who received their charters from this *wrong-doer*, long since she commenced her *wrong-doing*.

“It may be asked if the aggrieved brethren, who could not conscientiously sit in the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and could not proceed with their ancient rites as they viewed their duties, constitutionally, were to resign quietly all the benefits of the institution and seek no redress for their grievances?

“We answer, ‘No.’ In our view it is their duty to withdraw themselves from the Institution as it existed in Louisiana—to have individually, or collectively as a convention, made known their dissatisfaction to every Grand Lodge in the Union, and have claimed from their hands such redress as the constitutions of Masonry might permit them to give. Had they have done this, we cannot doubt ample justice might have been awarded to them.

“Instead of this they appealed in a hasty and unwarrantable manner to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and that Grand Lodge, in an equally hasty and unwarrantable manner, assuming the powers of a Supreme Court of Masonry, proceeded to give judgment of excommunication against the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and to extend her jurisdiction over the territory thus declared vacant!

“This in our judgment was wrong, for if it were acquiesced in, what Grand Lodge in this Union would be safe a single moment? Such a proceeding cannot,

as we believe, obtain the sanction of a single Grand Lodge in the United States; and with the kindest feeling toward our sister Grand Lodge in Mississippi, we entreat her to reconsider her decision in this case.

“This Grand Lodge can recognize but one Grand Lodge in Louisiana. Established only one year prior to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of that State, that they have gone onward together for nearly forty years, in harmony and good will toward each other, and until this Grand Lodge shall have been thoroughly convinced, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has materially departed from the ancient landmarks of our Order, and after having been properly admonished, refuses to return, this Grand Lodge will not cease to entertain towards her that same good will—that same affection that she has so long entertained.

“While we do this, we are bound as brethren, to say to those who have brought this matter to our notice, that they have acted too hastily—have suffered themselves to be led away by their impulses, rather than their judgment, and we implore them to suspend their organization as a Grand Lodge, and if need be, to lay all their grievances as Masons, before the Grand Lodges of the Union, where, in our belief, ample justice will be awarded to them. And should it be found that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has done wrong, we cannot doubt that she will readily conform to any judgment that may be awarded by her equals.

“The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia does not recognize, as one of the legitimate Grand Lodges of the United States of America, a body calling itself ‘The Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons’; and that they continue to recognize, as the only Grand Lodge in the State of Louisiana, ‘The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana,’ organized and constituted in the year 1812.”

ALABAMA.—At the annual communication of this Grand Lodge, which was held in the city of Montgomery on the 4th of December, 1848, the representatives of 75 subordinate Lodges were present. The returns show the number of initiations during the year to have been 685,—deaths 38. The address of the Grand Master and the report on correspondence are ably drawn up, and discuss the principles of our institution in a dignified and manly style, although we do not discover in them, or in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, any thing demanding our particular attention.

IOWA.—This young Grand Lodge held an annual communication of four days continuance, in June last, when 13 subordinate Lodges were represented. The opening address of the Grand Master gives a clear and satisfactory view of the condition of our beloved Order in that jurisdiction, which appears to be healthy and prosperous.

WISCONSIN.—Here is another juvenile member of the great American Masonic family; young in years, but strong as a giant in attachment to the sacred ‘tenets of our profession.’ We have from this Grand Lodge the proceedings of two communications,—one held in January, the other in December, 1848,—at the last of which, 17 subordinate Lodges were represented. The proceedings were generally of a local character, but are interesting, as showing the progress of our Order in that important outpost of the vast field which is to be cultivated

for the general benefit. We cordially greet our young sister, and extend to her the right hand of fellowship.

TEXAS.—The twelfth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas was held at Houston, January 15, 1849. Only six years ago there were but *ten* Lodges in this jurisdiction; now, according to the report of the Grand Secretary, there are 45 chartered Lodges, and 9 under dispensation,—in all, *fifty-four*; and “to the credit of all and every one be it said, that not one unsettled account remains on the Grand Secretary’s books.”

This Grand Lodge has adopted a singular, and we think an erroneous rule, on the subject of balloting. It is as follows:—“In balloting for the degrees, in the Lodges under this jurisdiction, one black ball shall reject the candidate for one year, two black balls shall reject him for two years, and three or more for four years.” Masonry, notwithstanding, is flourishing in Texas, and the prospect is encouraging.

CANADA.—We have the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the District of Montreal and William Henry, at various meetings during the year 1848; which afford gratifying evidence of a zeal for the interests of Masonry, and consequently for the interests of humanity. In the language of our brethren of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, “it does seem, indeed, that *the North is not satisfied with being ‘the place of darkness,’* and will not rest without the ‘Great Lights’ of Masonry.”

CANADA WEST.—Since the commencement of our present session, we have received the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, at the half-yearly communications in June and November, 1848; and also of a special communication called on the 30th of October, for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of a Town Hall at St. Catherine’s. The imposing ceremonies of the occasion were witnessed by a large concourse of spectators, and R. W. Sir Allan N. MacNab, the Provincial Grand Master, delivered to the people the following address:

“Men, women and children, here assembled to-day to behold this ceremony—know, all of you, that we be lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and established of old with peace and honor in most countries, to do good unto our brethren, to build great buildings, and to fear God, who is the Great Architect of all things. We have among us, concealed from the eyes of the worldly, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered; but they are lawful and honorable to be known by Masons, who only have the keeping of them until the end of time. Unless our craft were good and our calling honorable, we should not have lasted so many centuries, nor should we have had so many illustrious brothers in our Order, ready to promote our laws and further our interests. To-day we are assembled here, in the presence of you all, to build a hall for the public use of this town, which we pray God may prosper, if it seem good to Him, that it may become a building for good men and good deeds, and promote harmony and brotherly love, till the world itself shall end. So mote it be!”

The interests of Masonry under the jurisdiction of this Provincial Gr. Lodge appear to be in good and faithful hands.

Your committee having thus laid before the Grand Lodge a brief synopsis of the condition of our Order in the jurisdictions of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, they deem it only necessary, in conclusion, to advert to a few topics of general interest which appear to occupy the attention of our fellow-craftsmen in different sections of the country.

Perhaps the most important proposition of modern times, has been that of organizing a *General Grand Lodge of the United States*. This question we suppose to have been put to rest for the present,—the Constitution reported at Baltimore not having been ratified by sixteen Grand Lodges, which was necessary, by its own provisions, to render it operative. The Grand Lodges which voted to adopt and ratify that Constitution, so far as we can learn from their published proceedings, are Maine, New Hampshire, Maryland, North Carolina, and Indiana,—in all, *five*. Those which voted against the ratification, were Connecticut, New York, Virginia, District of Columbia, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Ohio, Alabama, Missouri, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Texas,—in all, *thirteen*. The *five* Grand Lodges of Vermont, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Iowa, and Wisconsin, have taken no definite action on the subject.

Your Committee are more thoroughly convinced, from the examination of the documents submitted to them, of the necessity of the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, at the earliest practicable day—such General Grand Lodge to be simple as possible in its organization, and to possess limited powers. Authority to establish a uniform system of work, and to settle disputes that may arise between the Grand Lodges of the several States and Territories, would perhaps be all the powers that need be entrusted to a National Organization. Your Committee would respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States is highly important and desirable; and for the purpose of effecting such an organization, it is respectfully recommended to the Grand Lodges of the several States and Territories within the jurisdiction of the United States, each to frame such a Constitution for a Genera]

Grand Lodge as would meet their approbation; copies of such Constitution, when completed, to be submitted to a Convention of Delegates from the several Grand Lodges; and such Convention to frame, from the materials presented to them, a Constitution for the government of a Grand Lodge of the United States. And it is hereby further recommended to the several Grand Lodges of the United States in framing a Constitution, as proposed in this resolution, to grant to the General Grand Lodge so to be formed, only authority to establish and regulate a uniform system of work in the first three degrees of Masonry, and to settle disputes between State and Territorial Grand Lodges; and perhaps to charter Lodges in States or Territories where no Grand Lodge exists.

• Among other topics of general interest, are the following :

Taxing Non-Affiliated Brethren.

This subject is engaging the earnest attention of several of the Grand Lodges, some of whom contend earnestly for the right and expediency so to do, while others deny both the expediency and the right. Some Grand Lodges exercise the right, whether expedient or not.

Qualifications for Initiation.

The question has been started in several quarters, whether a man who has lost an important limb is a proper subject for initiation. Some Grand Lodges declare that if a candidate is not incapable, through physical deformity, or bodily maiming of being instructed in the mysteries of the Order, and is not so much mutilated as to be incapable of gaining a livelihood, he may become a Mason; while others contend that according to the original "land-marks," a candidate must be perfect in his physical organization, as well as in his mental endowments. In one instance, as we have seen, a man has been initiated, who was *born blind*.

Publishing Rejected Candidates.

This is an important subject, on which two or three of our sister Grand Lodges have spoken in feeling terms, and so far as we know, in unanimous condemnation of the practice. Although such publication is made by authority of several Grand Lodges, we are not aware that any one has attempted an argument in defence of the practice.

Educating the Children of Poor Masons.

In several Grand Lodges active measures are being instituted for devising means and making provision for the children (of both sexes) of indigent Masons. This is in addition to the provision that has been made in several of the Western and Southern States, for the founding of Masonic Colleges.

Growth of the Order.

It is to be regretted that all the Grand Lodges have not made provision for the publication, of the number of initiations from year to year, under their respective jurisdictions. This is done by several, and if all were to adopt the practice, we should be in possession of the means of gathering interesting statistics, and might be enabled to comprehend at a glance the advance of our Order. Your Committee have gathered what information they could under this head, which shows the following result:—Maine, 228; North Carolina, 207; Georgia, 791; Tennessee, 836; Kentucky, 916; Ohio, 997; Indiana, 479; Illinois, 477; Mississippi, 800; Alabama, 685; Connecticut, 171.—Total, in eleven Grand Lodges, 6587.

Your committee beg leave to speak of one other subject, of vital importance, in their estimation, to the well-being of Masonry in the United States. We allude to what has been familiarly termed, "*The New York Difficulties.*" Although we cannot acknowledge any other than the old "Grand Lodge of the State of New York," as a regularly organized and legitimate Grand Body within that jurisdiction, still we entertain for many of the officers and members of "St. John's Grand Lodge," as men, the kindest and most friendly feelings,—many of them being personally known to us as worthy and estimable citizens; and we cannot forbear to express our strong and ardent desire that the difficulties between the Grand Lodge of New York and St. John's Grand Lodge may be speedily and amicably adjusted. Your committee, therefore, recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has witnessed with sorrow the unhappy difficulties which have for many years separated the Masonic fraternity in the State of New York, and which led to the formation of the body called "St. John's Grand Lodge." We believe that the honor, dignity and usefulness of the Masonic Institution, not only in the State of New York, but throughout the United States, are concerned in a speedy adjustment of these difficulties. This Grand Lodge does therefore respectfully suggest to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, the propriety of proposing to St. John's Grand Lodge the settlement of their difficulties by mutual reference to the umpirage of some disinterested Grand Lodges.

Your Committee have now completed the task assigned them. They have brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge, as they believe, every thing of general interest contained in the extensive correspondence submitted to them. In doing this, we are aware that we have trespassed upon the patience of the Grand Lodge; but we have done the best we could. We should have been glad to extend our remarks on some topics alluded to, but the limits of our report would not allow us to say more. Less we dared not say, and attempt to do justice to ourselves, to the Grand Lodge, or to the worshipful bodies in correspondence with us.

WM. STORER,
HENRY PERKINS, } *Committee.*
E. G. STORER,

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

At a special communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at the Hall of St. John's Lodge, No. 6, Norwalk, December 26, A. L. 5849 :

PRESENT.

- M. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Grand Master.
 " WILLIAM H. ELLIS, Deputy G. Master, pro tem.
 R. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Senior Grand Warden.
 DAVID CLARK, Junior Grand Warden.
 HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 THEODORE SPENCER, Senior Grand Deacon.
 CHARLES H. SKIFF, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
 JAMES STEVENS, Grand Marshal, p. t.
 MARCUS BASSETT, Grand Sentinel, p. t.
 WILLIAM B. BETTS, Grand Tyler, p. t.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and Brs. E. G. Storer, J. H. Ashmead, and G. F. Daskam, were appointed a Committee on Credentials. The committee reported that the following subordinate Lodges were represented, viz :

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—François Turner, Samuel Wire,
 Wm. W. Clark.
 No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport—John C. Blackman, Wm. Lum.
 No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—Cyrus Goodell, Chester Hebbard,
 James H. Ashmead.
 No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—John A. McLean, Dimon Fanton,
 George F. Daskam.
 No. 20, Harmony, New Britain—Henry A. Hull, H. W. Flagg,
 Loyal Dudley.
 No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—William Hyde.
 No. 63, Adelphi, U. D., Fair Haven—Ebenezer Allen.)

On motion, the report was accepted and the committee discharged.

A resolution was adopted, inviting all Master Masons, who are in good standing, to visit the Grand Lodge during the present communication.

The M. W. Grand Master addressed the Grand Lodge in a written communication, briefly setting forth his reasons for calling a special communication at this time and place, and stating that the object was to take into consideration several subjects of great and important interest to the craft, some of which, in his opinion, required immediate action,—particularly the difficulties in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and the proposition from several Grand Lodges for a Convention to endeavor to form a General Grand Lodge of the U. States.

The address was referred to a committee of three, consisting of Brs. Goodwin, Clark and McLean.

The following petition was presented and read by the Grand Secretary :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The undersigned, members in good standing of Adelphi Lodge, No. 63, whose charter was surrendered to the Grand Lodge, in May, 1834, believing that the time has arrived when the interests of Masonry would be promoted by the resuscitation of said Lodge, respectfully ask that the charter of said Lodge may be restored, and the brethren permitted to resume labor, agreeable to the forms and usages of Ancient Craft Masonry. Dated at New Haven, Dec. 13, 1859.

JUSTIN REDFIELD,	HENRY PECK,
WM. H. JONES,	WM. W. BOARDMAN,
DENNIS KIMBERLY,	CHARLES NICOLL,
JAMES F. BABCOCK,	S. W. KNEVALS,
DAVID H. CARR,	EDGAR RIKER.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Storer, it was resolved, that the prayer of the petition be granted.

The committee to whom the Grand Master's address was referred, presented the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The undersigned, to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, having had the same under consideration, would respectfully recommend, that so much as relates to the New York difficulties, and so much as relates to a General Grand Lodge, be each referred to a committee of three.

H. GOODWIN, 2d,	} Committee.
DAVID CLARK,	
JOHN A. McLEAN,	

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed said committees, as follows :—On the difficulties in the Grand Lodge of N. York, Brs. Turner, Ashmead and Daskam ; on the subject of a General Grand Lodge, Brs. Clark, McLean and Dudley.

The Grand Secretary presented the following communication from the Washington Monument Association :

CITY OF WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 17, 1849.

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The Board of Managers of the Washington National Monument Society have adopted the following resolution, which they have instructed me to communicate

to you, and respectfully to request a compliance with it, on the part of your ancient and fraternal Order :

“ *Resolved*, That a Circular be addressed, in the name of this Board, to the respective Grand Lodges of Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities, and Grand Divisions of the Sons of Temperance, in the United States, requesting that arrangements be made to obtain such periodical contributions as they may deem proper, to be applied to the erection of the Washington National Monument, until the same shall be completed.”

Feeling, as I am sure you and your patriotic brethren do, a deep interest in whatever will contribute to perpetuate and honor the name and memory of the illustrious Washington, I am satisfied that the request made by the Board of Managers will be cheerfully granted.

Of the monument which you are thus called upon to aid in erecting, the cornerstone was laid on the 4th of July, 1848, in the presence of a numerous assemblage of citizens from distant parts of the United States. Some States sent on banners, with appropriate inscriptions, which are encased, and will be placed in the monument. The foundation of the obelisk is 81 feet square, and 8 feet below the surface of the ground, and is contracted to be 58 feet 10 inches square at the top, an elevation of 25 feet solid Masonry. The obelisk is commenced 17 feet above the ground, 55 feet square, cased with marble, walls 15 feet thick, with a cavity of 25 feet. It will be ascended by stairs in the inside, and by machinery, to an elevation of 500 feet.

The purchase of materials, and the general construction of the obelisk, are committed by the Board of Managers to three of their number, denominated a Building Committee, who spend much time in advancing the work. The Board meets weekly, and no member of it, or of the Committee, receives any compensation. The most rigid economy is had in all expenditures.

With a view of having each State in the Union represented in the monument, the Board invited each State to furnish a block of marble, or other stone, a production of its soil, 4 feet long, 2 feet high, with a depth of 12 to 18 inches; the name of the State it represents, with the coat of arms of such State, to be cut upon it in large letters. A number of States, Associations, &c., have expressed their intention to furnish such block, and no doubt every State will be appropriately represented.

The cost of the obelisk is estimated at \$552,000; that of the entire monument at \$1,122,000. Considerable progress has been made in this great work, and the funds so far collected fall short of the expenditures; the Board, therefore, well knowing the patriotism and public spirit of your Order, have thought it their duty to make this appeal, and trust it will not be made in vain.

Be pleased to address Hon. Elisha Whittelsey, General Agent.

GEORGE WATTERSON, *Secretary*.

The communication was, on motion, referred to a committee of three, consisting of Brs. Ellis, Hull and Wire.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 7 o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday Evening, Dec. 26.

At 7 o'clock, the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, and resumed business.

R. W. Bro. Ellis, from the committee on the communication concerning the Washington Monument, submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the resolution accompanying the same adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The committee to whom was referred the Circular from the Board of Managers of the Washington National Monument Association, have considered the subject, and being aware of the importance of the object, and at the same time aware of the scanty resources of the Grand Lodge, would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge appropriate from its funds the sum of one hundred dollars, payable in annual installments of twenty-five dollars each, for four years, to aid in erecting the Washington National Monument; and that said installments be paid to the order of the General Agent of said Association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. H. ELLIS, }
H. A. HULL, } *Committee.*
SAMUEL WIRE, }

Br. Turner, from the committee on the difficulties in the State of New York, presented the following report :

The committee to whom was referred so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as relates to the difficulty which arose in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York at its annual communication in June last, beg leave to report, that we have attended to the duties of our appointment, and on a careful perusal of the various pamphlets and reports published by the seceders, and even before looking into those of the other party, we had become fully satisfied that the body of which Isaac Phillips is called Grand Master and James Herring Grand Secretary, were entirely in the wrong, and pursued a course which can be neither tolerated nor justified. The scenes which were enacted by them and their associates, on the evening of the 5th of June, at the time of their secession, were disgraceful to men calling themselves Masons, and showed such a want of dignity and such a disregard of the principles and honor of the fraternity to which they belonged, as would have justified the severe course of the regular Grand Lodge in expelling them.

In the next place, upon perusing the report of the body of which the M. W. John D. Willard is Grand Master and the R. W. Robert R. Boyd Grand Secretary we find further reason for this opinion. We have also examined the "Opinion of Chancellor Walworth," a distinguished brother and jurist, whose own standing in the Grand Lodge was affected by the late amendments of the Constitution with regard to Past Masters; and we find him firm in the conviction that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York had a perfect right so to alter and amend their Constitution, and that the manner in which the same was effected was in accordance with the provisions of said Constitution.

In addition to the above, the proceedings of such Grand Lodges as have had action on the subject, so far as they have come to hand, show but one sentiment among Masons, and that those Grand Lodges have expressed the same views as those adopted by your committee. We are therefore constrained to offer the following resolutions for the action of this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. TURNER, }
J. H. ASHMEAD, } *Committee.*
G. F. DASKAM, }

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge has learned with painful regret of the riotous, disgraceful, and grossly unmasonic conduct of those misguided brethren who, on the evening of the 5th of June last, at the annual session of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, opposed the regularly constituted authorities of said Grand Lodge, thereby disturbing the harmony and brotherly love which have ever been the peculiar characteristics of our ancient and venerable institution.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recognizes and fully sustains the Grand Lodge of the State of New York of which the M. W. John D. Willard is the present

Grand Master, and R. W. Robert R. Boyd the present Grand Secretary, and that we will hold correspondence with no other body claiming to be a Grand Lodge in that State.

Resolved, That while we recommend to said Grand Lodge to maintain the ground they have assumed, we would also most earnestly and affectionately urge the erring brethren to retrace their steps and return to their allegiance.

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges under our jurisdiction be and hereby are directed to admit no visitors from the State of New York who do not produce certificates issued by authority of the Grand Lodge recognized by these resolutions.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of the above report and resolutions to each of the Grand Lodges with whom we are in correspondence, and to the several subordinate Lodges in this State.

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted, and the resolutions adopted.

R. W. Br. Clark, from the committee on the subject of a General Grand Lodge, submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolutions adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge :

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, have attended to the duties assigned them, and would respectfully report, that we are of the opinion that a General Grand Lodge, with a constitution which should define and limit its powers "within due bounds," would be conducive to the interests of our ancient and honorable fraternity, if for no other purpose than that of adjusting and settling such differences as exist in New York, and between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, and any other differences or irregularities that may exist or hereafter arise in any Grand Lodge, or between sister Grand Lodges.

Your committee having examined the plans which have been proposed by several Grand Lodges, for forming a General Grand Lodge, as far as the limited time allowed them would permit, and have found much that they most cordially approve, but they are not prepared to recommend the adoption of either of them as a whole; we would however, hope and recommend that the delegates who may be appointed by the several Grand Lodges, to attend a convention for forming a General Grand Lodge, will adopt such constitution and by-laws as a majority present shall deem most expedient and proper. Your committee would further recommend the City of Washington as the most suitable place for holding such convention, and the time that which has been named by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, viz: the first Wednesday of May next, at 4 o'clock P. M.

In order to carry out the above object, your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is in favor of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and will proceed at this time to elect by ballot three delegates to attend a convention, at the time and place above mentioned, for the purpose of forming such General Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That in case either of the delegates elected as above shall be unable to attend such convention, by reason of sickness or otherwise, such delegate shall have power to appoint some member of this Grand Lodge as a substitute.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to communicate these resolutions to the several Grand Lodges with whom we correspond, and invite them to a similar course of action.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DAVID CLARK,
JOHN A. M'LEAN, } *Committee.*
LOYAL DUDLEY, }

The Grand Master appointed Bros. Blackman and Bassett tellers, and the Grand Lodge proceeded to ballot for three delegates to the Convention for forming a General Grand Lodge for the United States, when the following brethren were elected :

W. Bro. LOREN P. WALDO, of Tolland,
R. W. DAVID CLARK, of Hartford,
R. W. ELIPHALET G. STORER, of New Haven.

W. Bro. Hull announced to the Grand Lodge the death of Bro. Ira E. Smith, of New Britain ; whereupon the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge has learned, with pain, of the demise of our worthy and esteemed brother, the Hon. Ira E. Smith, late a member of this body, and Senior Warden of Harmony Lodge, No. 20.

Resolved, That we cherish, with much respect, the memory and virtues of our deceased brother, as a man and as a Mason, and sincerely sympathise with the Lodge of which he was a member, and with his family and friends, in the great loss which they have sustained by his death.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to Harmony Lodge, No. 20, and also to the family of Judge Smith, at New Britain.

No further business appearing, the work of the third degree, as adopted and established by the Grand Lodge, was exemplified by Brs. Clark, Spencer, Goodell, Ashmead, and Hull ; after which the Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1850.

At the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Mafons of the State of Connecticut, held at the Temple, in the city of New Haven, on Wednesday, May 8, A. L. 5850 :

PRESENT :

M. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Grand Master.
 R. W. BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Deputy Grand Master.
 WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Senior Grand Warden.
 DAVID CLARK, Junior Grand Warden.
 HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 THEODORE SPENCER, Senior Grand Deacon.
 HIRAM K. SCOTT, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
 Rev. T. P. ABELL, Grand Chaplain.
 GEORGE SHUMWAY, Grand Marshal.
 CHARLES H. SKIFF, Grand Sentinel.
 CHARLES BROWN, } Grand Stewards.
 ANSON T. COLT, }
 ISAAC TUTTLE, Grand Tyler.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, P. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

R. W. WILLIAM H. JONES, P. G. S., Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

Henry Peck, David Kimberly, George Giddings, Frederick Crosswell, William Storer, Philip Saunders, Benjamin Beecher, Alexander Storer, Elizur Skinner.

At 10 o'clock, A. M., the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Storer, Tripp and Blackman a Committee on Credentials, who examined the returns, and reported that the following brethren were entitled to seats as

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—François Turner, Charles Brown, James C. Blakeman.
- No. 2, St. John's, Middletown—T. P. Abell, Elliot Bradley, J. Kilbourn, Jr.
- No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport—John C. Blackman, Alexander Hamilton, C. B. Nichols.
- No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—Henry Perkins, Alonzo W. Birge, Chester Hebbard.
- No. 5, Union, Stamford—Joseph P. Tobias.
- No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—John A. McLean, George F. Daskam, Dimon Fanton.
- No. 7, King Solomon's, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle.
- No. 8, St. John's, Stratford—Samuel Benjamin.
- No. 11, St. Paul's, Litchfield—Charles G. Belden, Alfred H. Beers, Frederick D. Beeman.
- No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—Foster P. Abbott.
- No. 14, Frederick, Farmington—Giles Stillman.
- No. 20, Harmony, New Britain—Loyal Dudley, Henry A. Hull, Ezekiel Andrews, Jr.
- No. 25, Columbia, Glastenbury—George W. Leonard, Robert Brainard.
- No. 27, Rising Sun, Washington—John Goodyear.
- No. 28, Morning Star, Warehouse Point—Harmon Terry, Philip C. Tucker.
- No. 31, Union, New London—Perry Douglass, W. W. Kingsley.
- No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—Roswell W. Roath.
- No. 40, Union, Danbury—Nathaniel H. Wildman, Joseph Taylor.
- No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—James M. Grannis, William Padley.
- No. 46, Putnam, Pomfret—William Field.
- No. 49, Jerusalem, Ridgefield—Hiram K. Scott.

- No. 50, Warren, Andover—Timothy Dimock, Adonijah White
No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—William Hyde.
No. 58, Northern Star, Barkhamsted—Wilson B. Spring, Hermon Chapin, Anson Wheeler.
No. 60, Wolcott, Stafford—Moses B. Harvey, Rufus G. Pinney.
No. 62, Orient, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, Charles H. Olmsted, George H. Olmsted.
No. 63, Adelphi, Fair Haven—Ebenezer Allen, Elizur Harrison, Hosea N. Newton.
No. 73, Manchester, Manchester—Charles Cheeney.

On motion, it was voted that the report be accepted, and the committee discharged.

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

On Unfinished Business—Brs. Wm. Hyde, F. Turner and A. H. Beers.

On Delinquent Lodges—Brs. W. B. Spring, G. Shumway, and C. Goodell.

On By-Laws—Brs. T. P. Abell, M. B. Harvey, and C. H. Olmsted.

On motion of Bro. Wm. Storer, a general invitation was extended to Master Masons in good standing, to visit the Grand Lodge during the present communication.

The M. W. Grand Master then addressed the Grand Lodge as follows :

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :

We have been permitted, by our Divine Grand Master, to assemble again, in annual communication, to reciprocate and interchange fraternal salutations, and to consult together, in Grand Lodge, for the good of our Order, and legislate for that portion of it which is under our immediate jurisdiction. My absence from the State for the last three months, until yesterday, must be an apology for my being so poorly prepared to present to you the various subjects of interest to the craft which should require your deliberations.

The Foreign Correspondence having been sent by the Grand Secretary to the committee appointed to examine the same, I have had to resort, in the short time allowed me for that purpose, to such documents as have come into my own hands, and to such facts as have come under my own observation. Yet I have no doubt that our able committee on Foreign Correspondence, in their report,

will do that which I, under the above circumstances, have been obliged to leave undone.

In the first place, I would tender to you my sincere and grateful acknowledgments, for the confidence and respect which you have uniformly manifested towards me, in electing me to almost every office within your gift, and twice to the highest office in the Grand Lodge, and for the constant aid you have rendered me in performing the duties of the chair, (which I now occupy for the last time as Grand Master,) and which will long be remembered with gratitude.

During the time which I have had the honor to preside over this body, your deliberations have been characterized by harmony and uncommon unanimity; and if any advantage has resulted to the institution during my administration, I feel that much more should be placed to your credit than to mine; the most that I claim is to share it with you. No contention, bitterness, or controversy, has been permitted to disturb the harmony of our communications, or to impair their usefulness; and it is my prayer that the same harmony and good feeling, which has hitherto characterized the transactions of this Grand Lodge, may always be continued to our successors.

At the present time, the prosperity of our institution is without a parallel, not only within our own jurisdiction, but throughout our whole country. Men of intelligence, worth and influence, are constantly at our portals, knocking for admittance to our privileges and mysteries, and to learn the principles of our time-honored institution; and our brethren every where are devoting themselves with commendable zeal to its interests.

Since our last annual communication, we have been solemnly reminded, by the death of two distinguished members of the Grand Lodge, that our hold on life is uncertain. I allude to our lamented brothers, R. W. Justin Redfield, Past Grand Secretary, and Hon. Ira E. Smith, S. W. of Harmony Lodge, No. 20. The many virtues of these departed brethren, their long and zealous attachment to the cause of Masonry, and their uprightness and integrity of character, had endeared them to their Masonic brethren, and to a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

In September last, I granted a dispensation to the members of Adelpi Lodge, No. 63, to resume labor in the village of Fair Haven, at the eastern extremity of New Haven; and at a special communication of the Grand Lodge, held at Norwalk, Dec. 26, (the proceedings of which will be laid before you by our Grand Secretary,) a resolution was unanimously passed, confirming the act and restoring said charter.

By the "Ancient Constitutions," the Grand Master was authorized to grant dispensations for new Lodges; but as the Constitution and By-Laws of our Grand Lodge contain no provision granting power to the Grand Master to issue dispensation, except for the revival of old Lodges, I felt obliged to refuse a dispensation for a Lodge in Meriden, which I have no doubt (could it have been granted) would have promoted the interest of the Craft. I would recommend to the Grand Lodge that provision be made, by resolution or otherwise, authorizing the Grand Master to grant dispensations for new Lodges, under proper regulations, in cases where, in his opinion, the general good of the institution would be thereby advanced.

I would further recommend to this Grand Lodge to take more definite action in regard to the difficulty in the Masonic family in the State of New York, to prohibit the members of Lodges under our jurisdiction from visiting any of the Lodges in New York, who do not acknowledge the Grand Lodge of which J. D. Willard is Grand Master. As the decisions of the Grand Lodges are the embodiment of the wishes and directions of the whole fraternity, and as nineteen Grand Lodges have spoken their opinions upon this subject, and have passed similar edicts to what I have above recommended, permit me here to add, that our New York brethren have a right to expect it from us. They wish the co-operation of this Grand Lodge in sustaining them, in resisting anarchy and insubordination, such as was exhibited in their Grand Lodge on the 5th of June, 1849, when the rioters declared the Grand Lodge dissolved, and then proceeded to form a new Grand Lodge, without a convention to form one, and not being elected for such purpose. Many of the subordinate Lodges, whose representatives joined in the riot, have disapproved of their acts, and have made their returns to the regular Grand Lodge, after expelling their disorganizing members. On the other hand, the spurious and illegitimate body, calling itself a Grand Lodge, of which Isaac Philips is called Grand Master, and James Herring Grand Secretary, have restored several persons who had been expelled from Masonry some ten years since, and are now in full fellowship with them, notwithstanding they have long known them to be officers and active members of clandestine Lodges. Under such a state of things, can any one be insensible to the responsibility that rests upon us, or unmindful of our obligation to be true and faithful to the trust reposed in us? Are we not bound by every consideration which honor and duty to the Craft can suggest, to use our best endeavors to promote the harmony and welfare of our beloved institution, by discountenancing disloyalty and rebellion, wheresoever it may exist in the Order.

In conclusion, brethren, permit me again to tender you my hearty thanks for your partiality and kindness towards me, and I beg you to accept the only requital in my power to make, the homage of a grateful heart. Although I never expect to preside over this body again as Grand Master, yet I hope to meet with you always at Grand Lodge, as long as I am able to reciprocate these fraternal salutations, and to hold that sweet communion with my brethren, which I have enjoyed so well for the last twenty-five years. And may Heaven's choicest blessings attend you all through life; may brotherly love prevail, and govern all your meetings; and when the Grand Tyler, Death, shall summon us to another world, may we all meet in everlasting communication, in that Grand Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the universe presides.

A. C. BABCOCK, *Grand Master.*

On motion, it was voted, that the Grand Master's address be referred to a committee of three; and Bros. Turner, Perkins, and Blackman were appointed on said committee.

The Grand Secretary reported that the following subordinate Lodges made no returns to the Grand Lodge at the last annual communication, viz:—Moriah, No. 15, Canterbury; Hiram,

No. 18, Newtown ; Widow's Son, No. 53, North Stonington ; Seneca, No. 55, Torrington ; Apollo, No. 59, Suffield ; Manchester, No. 73, Manchester ;—and that said Lodges have been duly notified of the penalties incurred, agreeable to the by-laws. Manchester Lodge is represented at the present communication ; the other delinquents have not responded to the notice.

On motion, the report was referred to the Committee on Delinquent Lodges.

The Auditing Committee presented the following report, which was approved, accepted, and ordered to be recorded :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication, to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge for the year ending May 8, A. L. 5850, respectfully report, that they have attended to that duty, and find that all the moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, in whose hands there is now a balance in cash of nine hundred and twenty-nine dollars and sixty-seven cents ; which, with fifty-seven shares of Union School Stock, valued at fifteen dollars a share, amounting to eight hundred and fifty-five dollars, make the whole amount of the funds of the Grand Lodge, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four dollars and sixty-seven cents.

FRED. CROSWELL, }
J. H. ASHMEAD, } *Committee.*

New Haven, May 8, 1850.

GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, 1850.

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with. H. Goodwin, 2d.

Dr.

Paid F. P. Gorham's bill, per order G. Master,	-	\$26.25
Wm. Storer, per order Grand Lodge,	- -	15.00
A. E. Burr's bill for advertising,	- - - -	1.75
J. L. Boswell's bill, do.	- - - -	2.00
Grand Steward's bill,	- - - - -	41.15
Grand Tyler's bill,	- - - - -	6.00
Grand Secretary's bill,	- - - - -	94.07
St. John's Lodge, No. 4, for room rent,	- -	10.00
Storer & Stone, printing,	- - - - -	67.37

\$263.59

Balance to new account, - - 930.67

\$1194.26

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with H. Goodwin, 2d.
Cr.

By cash of B. Beecher, late G. Treasurer,	\$934.51
Cash received of Grand Secretary, - - - - .	235.00
Interest to May 1, 1850, - - - - -	24.75
	<hr/>
	\$1194.26

H. GOODWIN, 2d, *G. Treasurer.*

The R. W. Grand Secretary submitted his account for the last year, as follows :

G. SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT OF CASH RECEIVED,
 1849.

Of Hiram Lodge, No. 1,	\$11.00
St. John's, No. 2,	9.00
St. John's, No. 3,	16.00
St. John's, No. 4,	22.00
Union, No. 5,	2.00
St. John's, No. 6,	8.00
King Solomon's, No. 7,	1.00
St. Paul's, No. 11,	6.00
King Hiram, No. 12,	3.00
Harmony, No. 20,	33.00
Columbia, No. 25,	3.00
Morning Star, No. 28,	6.00
Union, No. 31,	9.00
Somerset, No. 34,	15.00
Eastern Star, No. 44,	3.00
Putnam, No. 46,	3.00
Jerusalem, No. 49,	3.00
Warren, No. 50,	3.00
Asylum, No. 57,	12.00
Northern Star, No. 58,	5.00
Orient, No. 62,	4.00
Union School Co., (dividend on stock),	57.00
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Paid Grand Treasurer, \$235.00

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

New Haven, May 8, 1850.

On motion, it was voted, that the reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be accepted.

Bro. Turner, from the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn.:

The committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, beg leave to report, that they have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully recommend—

That so much of said address as relates to the intercourse of Masons belonging in this State with the clandestine body in New York, called the "Philips Grand Lodge," be referred to a special committee of three.

That so much of said address as relates to giving authority to the Grand Master to grant dispensations for new Lodges, be referred to a special committee of three. All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. TURNER,
HENRY PERKINS, } *Committee.*
J. C. BLACKMAN, }

A petition was received from members of Charity Lodge, No. 68, Groton, accompanied by a vote of approval from Asylum Lodge, No. 57, Stonington, asking for the restoration of their charter, and for permission to locate said Charity Lodge on the east side of Mystic river. The petition was referred to the Committee on Delinquent Lodges.

The petition of Bro. John E. Jones, in behalf of the late Friendship Lodge, No. 33, Southington, was received, and referred to the Committee on Delinquent Lodges.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the appointment of the following Committees :

On the subject of authorizing the Grand Master to grant dispensations for new Lodges—Brs. Hyde, Field and Skiff.

On prohibiting intercourse with clandestine Lodges in New York—Brs. Turner, Perkins and Blackman.

On motion of Bro. Wm. Storer, it was voted, that the election of Grand Officers shall take place at half past 7 o'clock this evening.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their report, which was read by the chairman, and ordered to be appended to the printed proceedings.

On motion of R. W. Br. Clark, the report was accepted, and the accompanying resolutions referred to the committee on the Grand Master's address

Br. Hyde, from the committee on a portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address, presented the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolution adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The undersigned committee, to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to granting dispensations, beg leave to report, that they have had the subject under consideration, and would respectfully recommend the adoption of the subjoined resolution.

Resolved, That upon a petition of a competent number of Masons, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, it shall be lawful for the Grand Master, and in his absence for the Deputy Grand Master, during the recess of the Grand Lodge, to grant a letter of dispensation for a new Lodge, provided that the same shall not interfere with the jurisdiction of any Lodge already established; and provided further, that such dispensation shall be continued in force only until the next succeeding communication of the Grand Lodge, when it shall be returned, and a charter may be issued in due form, if the Grand Lodge shall so direct.

WILLIAM HYDE, }
WILLIAM FIELD, } *Committee.*
C. H. SKIFF, }

Br. Crawford, from the Committee on Grievances, made the following report, which was accepted :

To the R. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the complaint of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, against Harmony Lodge, No. 20, as continued from the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, respectfully report, That both of the parties have been fully heard on the subject of the complaint. It appears that Harmony Lodge was constituted in the year 1785, and its usual place of meeting was Worthington, or Kensington, in the town of Berlin. In 1845, its charter was revoked by the Grand Lodge. In 1848, the charter was restored; and since that time the Lodge has usually held its meetings at New Britain. According to an article in the by-laws of the Grand Lodge, the jurisdiction of Harmony Lodge extends to half the distance from its usual place of meeting, to the usual place of meeting of St. John's Lodge; and that distance can easily be ascertained by the Lodges interested.

Having received satisfactory assurances that the members of Harmony Lodge, in their chartered capacity, have not *intentionally* exceeded their jurisdiction, and that hereafter they will strictly conform to all the by-laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge, the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

I. W. CRAWFORD, }
ASA BUDINGTON, } *Committee.*
J. A. M'LEAN, }

Resolved, That all the fines and forfeitures, heretofore incurred by Harmony Lodge, for having conferred the privileges of Masonry on candidates residing in the town of Meriden, be remitted.

The Committee on Delinquent Lodges, submitted the following report :

To the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut :

The undersigned committee, to whom was referred the Grand Secretary's statement of delinquencies, beg leave to report, that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and ascertained the following facts. Moriah Lodge, No 59, Hiram No. 18, and Apollo, No. 59, have made no returns or representations for two years, and should be notified to show cause, at the next annual communication, why their charters should not be revoked. Widow's Son, No. 53, and Seneca, No. 55, having been notified to show cause at this communication, and having paid no attention to the same, we would recommend that their charters be revoked. Manchester Lodge, No. 73, having made a reasonable excuse for the delinquency of last year, and being represented at the present time, will of course be excused. To carry the above recommendations into effect, the committee propose the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the charters of Widow's Son Lodge, No. 53, at North Stonington, and Seneca Lodge, No 55, at Wolcottville, be and they are hereby revoked, and the Grand Secretary directed to take possession of their effects.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to notify Moriah Lodge, No. 15, Hiram, No. 18, and Apollo, No. 59, that unless they show cause for their delinquency, at the next annual communication, the question will then be taken on revoking their charters.

W. B. SPRING
CYRUS GOODELL, } *Committee.*
G. SHUMWAY,

The Grand Secretary reported, that since the last annual communication, the charters of the following Lodges had been surrendered, viz :—St. James, No. 23, Preston ; Morning Star, No. 27, Oxford ; Charity, No. 68, Groton.

The Committee on Delinquent Lodges submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The committee to whom was referred the petition of the members of Charity Lodge, No. 68, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report the following facts and circumstances: That the Worshipful Master was dead, and the Senior and Junior Wardens both gone to California ; the returns were made out, but by the negligence of the messenger, they were not left with the Grand Secretary. Their officers, on returning, again attempted to organize the Lodge, and did so ; but before they had commenced work, an order arrived from the Grand Secretary, demanding their charter, which was duly complied with, and their effects surrendered, agreeable to the provisions of our by-laws. In view of these circumstances, the committee recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted ; we therefore submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That the charter and effects of Charity Lodge, No. 68, be restored to the brethren petitioning for the same, and that the Grand Master cause their officers to be elected and installed in due form, as soon as practicable; and furthermore, that said charter be so amended as to allow them the privilege of holding their meetings on the Stonington side of Mystic river, provided, that in receiving candidates, said Lodge shall be confined to its original jurisdiction.

On the petition of Bro. Jones, in behalf of Friendship Lodge, No. 33, your committee recommend that said Lodge be required, in the first place, to surrender their charter and effects, agreeable to the by-laws, and that the Grand Master then exercise his discretionary power, and give them the necessary dispensation to work until the next communication of the Grand Lodge, if in his judgment the good of the Order will be promoted thereby.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILSON B. SPRING, }
CYRUS GOODELL, } *Committee.*
GEORGE SHUMWAY, }

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted, and the resolution and recommendation adopted.

Bro. Turner, from the Committee on the Grand Master's address, presented the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee to whom was referred that part of the M. W. Grand Master's address that relates to the difficulties existing in the State of New York, beg leave to report, that they fully concur in the sentiments expressed in the report of the committee on correspondence, and recommend the adoption of the resolutions offered by said committee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. TURNER, }
H. PERKINS, } *Committee.*
J. C. BLACKMAN, }

On motion, it was voted, that the report be approved and accepted.

The resolutions reported by the Committee on Correspondence, were then taken up and adopted.

Bro. Leonard, presented a petition from Columbia Lodge, No. 25, at South Glastenbury, praying for an extension of their jurisdictional limits, as follows :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut :

Columbia Lodge, No. 25, in South Glastenbury, wishing to receive propositions for initiation into the mysteries of the craft, from that part of Portland that is within the jurisdiction of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and having failed to make ar-

rangements with St. John's Lodge to that effect, would most respectfully bring the matter before the Grand Lodge, asking them to take notice thereof, and if for the best good of the fraternity, we pray our petition may be granted.

Our petition is this, that the part of Portland within the jurisdiction of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, be set off to the jurisdiction of Columbia, No. 25. The facts in the case are these: there are from five to twelve persons residing in Portland, who wish to be initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry in our Lodge. Their reasons for wishing to be made Masons with us, are the great inconvenience of crossing and re-crossing the river, especially after the ferry has stopped running for the night, together with the danger of crossing in winter, when the ice is not safe, and during the spring and fall, when it is high water, and the ice running in the river.

In addition to the above reasons, four of the number were born and reared to manhood in South Glastenbury, and their father has been a worthy member of our Lodge for upwards of twenty years, and their most pleasing associations are with us, and in our vicinity.

If, after due consideration, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge shall see fit to grant the prayer of the petitioners, our members will be increased, and our sacred brotherhood more extended in our vicinity.

Signed, in behalf of Columbia Lodge, No. 25,

S. STOCKING, *W. Master.*

G. W. LEONARD, *S. Warden.*

R. L. BRAINERD, *J. Warden.*

After a short discussion, it was ordered that the above petition be continued to the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

On motion, it was voted, that the resolution accepting the report of the Committee on Grievances, in relation to the complaint of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, against Harmony, No. 20, be reconsidered. The report was then laid on the table.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 7 o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday Evening, May 8.

The Grand Lodge met at 7 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor.

The report of the Committee on Grievances, which was reconsidered in the afternoon and laid on the table, was taken up for action. After some discussion, it was on motion of Bro. Abell, voted, that the report be recommitted to the committee, with

instructions to define the jurisdictional limits of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and Harmony Lodge, No. 20.

Bro. Brown submitted the following resolution, for the purpose of amending the Constitution, which was continued to the next communication of the Grand Lodge :

Resolved, That the second article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended, by giving the Master and Wardens of subordinate Lodges the privilege of constituting proxies, whenever either of these officers hold any office in the Grand Lodge ; so that such Lodges may always have a full representation.

At half past 7 o'clock, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the order of the day, being the election of Grand Officers.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Peck, Hamilton and Beers tellers, when ballots were taken, and the following brethren declared duly elected, viz :

M. W. BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Grand Master.
 R. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Deputy Grand Master.
 DAVID CLARK, Senior Grand Warden.
 THEODORE SPENCER, Junior Grand Warden.
 HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 JOHN C. BLACKMAN, Senior Grand Deacon.
 FREDERICK D. BEMAN, Junior Grand Deacon.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed and invested with their jewels, by Past Grand Master Babcock.

The Grand Secretary presented a communication from Adelphi Lodge, No. 63, inviting the Grand Lodge to attend the celebration of the Festival of St. John the Baptist, and the Dedication of their new Hall, in the village of Fair Haven, on the 24th of June next.

Whereupon, on motion of R. W. Bro. Ellis, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the invitation of Adelphi Lodge, No. 63, be accepted, and that the officers and members of the Grand Lodge will attend the celebration, and perform the ceremonies of dedication, agreeable to the forms and usages of the fraternity.

Bro. Abell, from the Committee on By-Laws, presented the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The Committee on By-Laws beg leave to report, that they have had under consideration the By-Laws of Northern Star Lodge, No. 58, and find them correct, with the exception of the use of the word "adjourn," in the first article; and as the term is unimasonic, we would recommend that different phraseology be substituted, and a different practice from that of adjourning be adopted.

The Committee have also examined the By-Laws of Adelphi Lodge, No. 63, and finding them correct, we would recommend that they be sanctioned by this Grand Lodge.

The Committee take the liberty to propose the following amendment to the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge :

Resolved, That the 15th article be amended, by striking out all after the word "ballot," in the fourth line, and substituting, "but a candidate for the first degree may be balloted for in the Entered Apprentice's Lodge, and for the second degree in the Fellow-Craft's Lodge; but for the third degree, or for membership, the ballot shall be taken only in the Master's Lodge."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. P. ABELL,
M. B. HARVEY, } *Committee.*
C. H. OLMSTED, }

The report of the committee was accepted, and the recommendations relating to the by-laws of the subordinate Lodges were adopted; but, after some discussion, the proposition to amend the by-laws of the Grand Lodge was rejected.

R. W. Bro. Peck offered the following resolution, and it was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be and are hereby tendered to our late Grand Master, Brother Avery C. Babcock, for the able and satisfactory manner in which he discharged the duties of his office, while he occupied the chair of Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. Clark called the attention of the Grand Lodge to a circular on the Grand Secretary's table, under the caption of "ORDO AB CHAO," issued by "J. J. J. Gourgas," and sundry other persons styling themselves "Most Puissant Sovereigns, Grand Inspectors General," &c. &c. &c., and addressed to the "Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Connecticut."

The communication having been read, on motion of R. W. Bro. Ellis, it was voted, that it be referred to a special committee of three members. The M. W. Grand Master then appointed Brs. W. H. Ellis, D. Clark and T. P. Abell, on said committee.

On motion of Bro. Wm. Storer, it was voted, that the subject of Masonry in the Jurisdiction of Louisiana be referred to a special committee of three members. The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. W. Storer, C. H. Olmsted, and A. H. Beers, on said committee.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday Morning, May 9.

The Grand Lodge met at 8 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor.

Bro. T. P. Abell offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of twenty-five dollars, and pay the same to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for his services on that Committee the past year.

R. W. Bro. Ellis, from the Committee on the "ORDO AB CHAO" Correspondence, submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolution unanimously adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The Committee to whom was referred the correspondence with this Grand Lodge, from J. J. J. Gourgas and others, of the "Supreme Grand Council" have had the same under consideration, and report, that in their opinion, the claims of said Gourgas and others, of Masonic jurisdiction over any part of the State of Connecticut, ought not to be, directly or indirectly, acknowledged by this Grand Lodge. The committee have not time to give the subject the attention it demands, but would respectfully submit the following resolution for the action of the Grand Lodge :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will not, as freemen and Freemasons, submit to be governed or controlled by any self-constituted body, without their consent first had and obtained.

Respectfully submitted, by

WM. H. ELLIS, }
D. CLARK, } *Committee.*
T. P. ABELL, }

The Most Worshipful Grand Master announced the following appointments :

Rev. Bro. T. P. ABELL, of Middletown, Grand Chaplain.

W. Bro. HENRY A. HULL, New Britain, Grand Marshal.

CHARLES H. OLMSTED, East Hartford, G. Sentinel.

MASON GROSS, }
SAMUEL TRIPP, } Hartford, G. Stewards.

ELIZUR SKINNER, Hartford, G. Tyler.

The proceedings of the Grand Lodge, at the special communication held at Norwalk, on the 26th of Dec. last, having been called for and read, the following resolution was proposed and adopted :

Resolved, That the doings of the special communication of the Grand Lodge, at Norwalk, December 26th, A. L. 5849, be, and the same are hereby approved and confirmed, and that the appointment of Bros. Loren P. Waldo, David Clark, and E. G. Storer, as delegates to the Convention for forming a General Grand Lodge, is hereby continued, and those brethren authorized to attend such Convention, as delegates from this Grand Lodge, whenever and wherever the same may be holden.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge a copy of the "Masonic Text Book," presented by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia, accompanied with the following communication :

"IN GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA, Dec. 13, A. L. 5848.

"*Resolved*, That a copy of the Masonic Text Book be presented respectfully to each of the Grand Lodges of the United States.

"*Resolved*, That any Grand Lodge in the United States, if she shall think fit, may on application, be invested with the Copy Right of the same for her jurisdiction."

Richmond, May, 1849.

RT. WOR. SIR AND BROTHER :

In obedience to the above resolutions of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia, I have the pleasure to forward by this mail a copy of the Masonic Text Book to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and to ask their acceptance.

That they may understand the object intended to be accomplished, permit me to ask an attentive perusal of it, and thorough investigation and criticism of its several parts as enumerated in the preface, and communicate to me the result of their deliberations, (typographical errors and style of execution excepted.)

1st. The compendium of Masonic history is intended to excite in the fraternity a desire for extended knowledge of its most interesting progress through the various ages of antiquity, up to the realization of its incalculable benefit to mankind at the present day.

2d. The Ahiman Rezon, or Book of Constitutions, show to the Craft those laws which operate alike in the four quarters of the Globe, and which no man or set of men, being Masons, may disobey or countenance a deviation from.

3d. A history of the organization of Grand Lodges, ending with the Grand Lodge of Virginia. This you will of course adapt to your own Grand Lodge.

4th. The manual of the three first degrees as taught by Webb and others for the last 100 years, including the order of Past Master, containing the several Masonic ceremonies of installations, &c. &c.

5th. A methodical digest of the laws regulating the action of Grand Lodges, as drawn from the Ahiman Rezon, and carried out in their adaptation to all the behests of Masonry as practiced in this country: and,

6th. A full copy of the code of by-laws necessary for the government of subordinate Lodges.

The adoption of such a work by each Grand Lodge in the several States, to operate as a manual in their jurisdictions, each depositing a copy with the other, would go farther to establish uniformity of work and legislation than any plan which could be possibly devised, and at a cost which would in fact be a source of income to the Grand Charity Fund of each Grand Lodge, and in a very short time have the still more desirable effect of substituting such a work for all others upon the subject, none being deemed genuine thereafter but those issued by the authority of each Grand Lodge.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN DOVE,

G. Sec'y of the M. W. G. L. of Va.

To Rt. Wor. E. G. STORER,

G. Sec'y of the M. W. G. L. of Conn.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Peck, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Masonic Text Book, presented by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia, be received by this Grand Lodge, and that our most respectful acknowledgments are hereby tendered for the same.

Resolved, That the Text Book be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, with instructions to examine the same, and report at the next communication of the Grand Lodge.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of Masonry in Louisiana, reported that they had learned, (though not officially,) during the present communication, that the difficulties in the Masonic family in that State had been amicably adjusted, so that they have but one body claiming to be a Grand Lodge, which body had assumed the title of the "Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons."

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted and the committee discharged.

R. W. Bro. Ellis, in behalf of the Committee of Arrangements for the Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, presented an invitation to the Grand Lodge to attend said Celebration, at New Haven, on the 5th day of September next.

R. W. Bro. Clark offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the invitation given to the Grand Lodge to attend the Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, at New Haven, be accepted, and that the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, and of the several subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction, be and are hereby requested and expected to attend.

Communications from the Grand Lodges of Rhode Island, Maryland, District of Columbia, and South Carolina, were read, and referred to the Delegates appointed to attend the Convention for the formation of a General Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. Clark submitted a motion, which was adopted, requiring the subordinate Lodges to append to their annual returns to the Grand Lodge, the time and place of holding their regular communications, that the same may be referred to by brethren wishing to visit Lodges.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. F. Croswell and C. H. Olmsted Auditing Committee, and Brs. W. Storer, H. Perkins, and E. G. Storer, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the ensuing year.

No further business appearing, the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, HIRAM, New Haven—Francois Turner, W. M.; Charles Brown, S. W.; James C. Blakeman, J. W.; Eliphalet G. Storer, Secretary. *Initiated*—George H. Miller, Samuel Rothschild, Wm. H. Wedmore, Watson G. Haynes, David J. Peck, Wm, W. Clark, Wm. S. Rowe, Donald Mann, Wm. M. Tuttle, Robert Edmondson, Henry C. Wakeley, Isaac Wiener, Lucius P. Sperry, Charles Straus, Edwin B. Munson, Nehemiah D. Sperry, A. G. Dowd, Joseph Rothschild, Leopold Waterman, Wm. Skinner, John Nelson, David M. King, James Quinn, Isaac B. Foote, S. R. Wickes, Nelson L. Beach, Louis Ascher, Allen Ostrander, Ellery A. Arnold, Linus Cornwell, Michael F. Noel, Joseph Kirkman, Howard B. Ensign, Charles A. Tuttle, John S. Beecher, George Lindley, Stiles D. Sperry, Isaac Strouse. *Admitted*—Archibald Leishman, Elial T. Foote, Stephen Robinson, Isaac Martin. *Withdrawn*—Ebenezer Allen, Elizur Harrison, Hosea N. Newton, Elbert J. Munsell, N. D. Sperry, Ralph Warren, Leonard Chamberlin, David M. King, George Bunnell, Willard Smith, Richard Wilson, Levi Rowe, Jr., Wm. H. Wedmore, Daniel H. Brown. *Died*—Thomas G. Woodward, Leonard Smith, Willard Lyon, Henry Bush, Justin Redfield.

No. 3, ST. JOHN'S, Bridgeport—Thomas Hutchins, W. M.; Alexander Hamilton, S. W.; Charles B. Nichols, J. W.; John M. Wilson, Secretary. *Initiated*—Henry Hall, Wm. F. Kippen, Daniel F. Hoadley, Isaac H. Carlton, John Preston, George D. Treat, George G. Wheeler, Wm. Johnson, Cyrus H. Bottsford, Ethan F. Bishop, Samuel Coop, Richard McGregor, George G. Lacey, George W. Raymond, George W. Ives, Aquilla A. Murray, Wm. H. Lacey, Peter Norman. *Admitted*—John Wallace, Charles Fox. *Died*—Wm. French, Edward C. Lewis, Wm. Peet. *Expelled*—Franklin Collins.

No. 4, ST. JOHN'S, Hartford—Henry Perkins, W. M.; Allyn Goodwin, S. W.; Chester Hebbard, J. W.; Wm. P. Donaldson, Secretary. *Initiated*—Wm. Woodward, Abraham Skazts, Lucien B. Hanks, Thomas H. Seymour, Galen C. Walker, Henry Hastings, Horace C. Brainard, Calvin Northrop, Wm. C. Colyer, Wm. J. Babcock, J. Dean Alden, James E. Chadwick, J. Seymour Brown, Edwin Merit, N. S. Webb, John C. Comstock, Nathan S. Morse, E. B. Kellogg, Charles A. Taft, E. C. Kellogg, Aaron C. Goodman, J. Watson Beach, Henry B. Beach. *Admitted*—Isaac Parker, George S. Carey, H. H. Barbour. *Died*—Wm. H. Hoadley, Samuel Belcher.

No. 5, UNION, Stamford—John W. Leeds, W. M.; James H. Miner, S. W.; Joseph P. Tobias, J. W.; Roswel Hoyt, Secretary.

No. 6, ST. JOHN'S, Norwalk—John A. McLean, W. M.; Dimon Fanton, S. W.; Noah A. Disbrow, J. W.; Henry Walton Secretary. *Initiated*—Thomas Warner, Jun., Frederick Jarvis, Harvey Clark, Charles Fields, Andrew Kehne, William

Miller. *Died*—Buckingham Lockwood, Rev. Wm. Barlow, Wm. Van Houghton, John Gray, Henry Chichester, Marcus Bruen.

No. 7, KING SOLOMON'S, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle, W. M.; Eleazar Welton, S. W.; Eri Riggs, J. W.; Charles H. Webb, Secretary.

No. 8, ST. JOHN'S, Stratford—John Goulding, W. M.; Samuel Benjamin, S. W.; Benjamin Fairchild, J. W.; Wm. T. Shelton, Secretary.

No. 11, ST. PAUL'S, Litchfield—Phineas Taylor, W. M.; Gideon H. Hollister, S. W.; Frederick D. Beeman, J. W.; Geo. Seymour, Secretary. *Initiated*—John S. Seymour, Charles O. Belden, David E. Bostwick.

No. 12, KING HIRAM, Derby—Foster P. Abbott, W. M.; George Blackman, S. W.; H. Skinner, J. W.; Lorenzo D. Kinney Secretary. *Initiated*—George Peck, Philo Curtis, Isaiah R. Sperry, John W. Flowers, Wm. Hawkins, William Whitney. *Admitted*—Hezekiah Hubbell, David S. Lawrence, Wales Terrell. *Died*—Russell Hitchcock.

No. 14, FREDERICK, Farmington—Henry Cowles, W. M.; Giles Stillman, S. W.; Edward Hooker, J. W.; Charles Thompson, Secretary.

No. 20, HARMONY, Berlin—Loyal Dudley, W. M.; Henry W. Flagg, S. W.; Ezekiel Andrews, J. W.; James F. Lewis, Secretary. *Initiated*—Chauncey L. Crowell, John Burton, Nelson Judd, Emilius L. Beckley, Luman F. Parker, Andrew Rapye, Henry P. Selden, Samuel Alexander, Oswald K. Norton, Lorenzo Lamb, Charles Bassett, Richard J. Dickinson, Chester M. Kellogg, Lysis Lamb, Alfred Burt, Elam Slater, Henry C. Bowers, C. M. Scofield, James N. Phelps, Jared B. Walker, Loren Campbell, Samuel Stanley, Charles Faas, James Mac Donald, Austin W. Bradley, Noah H. Byington. *Died*—Ira E. Smith.

No. 25, COLUMBIA, Glastenbury—Sabine Stocking, W. M.; Robert L. Brainard, S. W.; George W. Leonard, J. W.; Oliver Brainard, Secretary. *Died*—Ezra Dayton, George Hunt.

No. 28, MORNING STAR, East Windsor—Solomon Terry, W. M.; Jonathan Button, S. W.; Philip Tucker, J. W.; Josiah Sullivan, Secretary. *Initiated*—Henry Whipple, Stephen M. Dart, Moses Church.

No. 31, UNION, New London—Edward Clark, W. M.; Cyrus Hewitt, S. W.; Samuel D. Barnes, J. W.; Wm. W. Kingsley, Secretary. *Initiated*—Thomas W. Holstrom, Thomas H. Hoborn, Gilbert Keeney, Charles Watrous, Henry C. Harris, John A. Perkins, Wm. O. Irish, Henry Hart, James B. Lyman, Charles A. Bentley, C. M. Dabol, Rev. L. B. Griffing, Aaron E. Stone, Wm. M. Smith, Joel Haff, George W. Goddard, David Reed, F. R. Chapman. *Admitted*—John Gordon. *Died*—David Coit, Nathan Beebe, Charles Hoborn, Nathan Starks, Joshua Hamilton, Elijah Ames.

No. 34, SOMERSET, Norwich—Wm. L. Brewer, W. M.; Wm. H. Copp, S. W.; Roswel W. Roath, J. W.; H. Hobart Roath, Secretary. *Initiated*—Christopher S. Palmer, Benjamin F. Noyes, Calvin I. Cook, Ulysses S. Gardner, Jacob L. Myers, Daniel B. Foster, John Backus, William Delanoy, Adolph Chemansky, Geo. A. Pratt, M. Sholney, Charles M. Eaton, Charles L. Danielson, Wm. W. Avery, Wm. B. Pettit. *Died*—Samuel H. Cutler.

No. 40, UNION, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut, W. M.; Ira Hodge, S. W.; John Ferguson, J. W.; Nathan C. Goodsell, Secretary. *Initiated*—Edwin B. Whiting, Wm. Hitchcock.

No. 42, HARMONY, Waterbury—James M. Grannis, W. M.; Gabrel Post, S. W.; Wm. Padley, J. W.; Philip A. Cowles, Secretary. *Initiated*—Rev. Seneca Howland, David R. Chapman, Wm. H. Pritchard, Wm. Porter, Wm. Ellis, David Benham, Daniel D. Clark, Thomas Muligan, Abraham Sherck, Edward Jeffery, Henry B. Day, James B. Johnson. *Admitted*—Marcus Scarritt, Asahel Bronson. *Withdrawn*—Edward B. Gilbert, David S. Lawrence. *Died*—Asahel Bronson.

No. 44, EASTERN STAR, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, W. M.; David L. Fuller, S. W.; Elisha Tracy, J. W.; Wallace Huntington, Secretary. *Initiated*—William Hebbard. *Died*—Caleb Hayward, Bingham Fisk, Gurdon Tracy, John Baldwin.

No. 46, PUTNAM, Pomfret—Samuel Underwood W. M.; Benjamin Allard, S. W.; Lewis Williams, J. W.; Oliver P. Jacobs, Secretary. *Initiated*—George L. Smith, Henry M. Hopkins, Peleg Anthony, James S. Withey, P. H. Boyce, Joseph Southard, Jonathan C. Clough, Thomas Aldrich, Wm. E. Ballou, Joseph Perrin, Frederick Hovey, James Johnson, Daniel Warner, D. C. Hewson, Isaac H. Coe, Geo. W. Greenslit, Lucius Holmes. *Admitted*—George Clapp, Thomas Warner, Levi Bartlett, Dyer Ames, John Powdrell. *Died*—Aaron Corbin, Harris Arnold, Calvin Whitney, Joseph Scarborough, George Learned.

No. 49, JERUSALEM, Ridgefield—Hezekiah Scott, W. M.; Hiram K. Scott, S. W.; James E. Jones, J. W.; Walter Dauchy, Secretary. *Initiated*—William L. Dean, Edwin C. Sears, Zalmon S. Main, Hurlbut H. Woodruff, Jacob L. Dauchy, Levi Bronson, Charles H. Merrick, Hiram Pulling, Reuben Johnson, David Dauchy, Horace Wheeler, Wm. Booth. *Died*—Niles Frost.

No. 50, WARREN, Andover—Timothy Dimock, W. M.; Ransford Button, S. W.; David W. Huntington, J. W.; Adonijah White, Secretary. *Initiated*—David M. Buel, N. L. Bidwell, Anson R. Grover, C. M. Buel, Brewster P. Swift.

No. 57, ASYLUM, Stonington—Francis Amy, W. M.; George E. Palmer, S. W.; Russel A. Denison, J. W.; Junius M. Willey, Secretary. *Initiated*—Wm. P. Amy, Samuel L. Clark, Benjamin S. Horn, Charles H. Allen, Amos A. Palmer, Andrew S. Matthews, Charles W. Brown, Charles C. Hyde, Edmund F. Pendleton.

No. 58, NORTHERN STAR, Barkhamsted—Wilson B. Spring, W. M.; Anson Wheeler, S. W.; Hermon Chapin, J. W.; Dwight Humphrey, Secretary. *Initiated*—John L. Purington, Samuel M. Tyler, Clinton Edgerton, Daniel W. Corwin, Sherman A. Wilcox, Lorenzo C. Stevens, Wm. C. Healy, Cyprian Elton, Nelson Gaines, Daniel G. Wright, Fletcher L. Gardner. *Admitted*—James Eggleston, James Smith.

No. 60, WOLCOTT, Stafford—Alva Francis, W. M.; Wm. Adams, S. W.; Laurens Crawford, J. W.; Zina Winter, Secretary. *Initiated*—Rev. William Bevins, Jasper H. Spellman. *Admitted*—Shepard Ellis.

No. 62, ORIENT, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, W. M.; Ralph Pitkin, S. W.;

George Reynolds, J. W.; Charles H. Olmsted, Secretary. *Initiated*—Augustus W. Burton, George W. Darling, Elisha S. Olmsted, Josiah Osborn, Peter J. Shoecraft, Ezra E. Smith, Edwin Stevens. *Died*—Edward Phelps, Harris Potter, Allen Stewart.

No. 63, ADELPHI, Fair Haven—Ebenezer Allen, W. M.; Elizur Harrison, S. W.; Hosea N. Newton, J. W.; Wm. N. Gesner, Secretary. *Initiated*—Horace S. Lanfair, John Adams, Geo. H. Scranton, George Lovis, Jonathan M. Andrews, Porter Cook, Lucius Blakeslee, Merit Farren, Franklin Norton, Joseph H. Rice, John J. Cullen, Daniel Connell, H. Lee Scranton, Oliver B. Augur, Obed M. Ellis Sherman Barnes, Abijah M. Munson, Nathan Johnson, Wm. C. Baldwin, Cortes Watson, Joshua Townsend, Geo. W. Grannis, Wm. N. Gesner, Norman B. Newton, Joseph L. Deming, David Adams, Edwin Terry, Theodore Brown. *Admitted*—N. D. Sperry, E. J. Munsell, Ebenezer Allen, Elizur Harrison, Hosea N. Newton, Roswell Augur, Wm. H. Wedmore, Charles S. Thomson, Timothy Stannard, Geo. Bunnell, Leonard Chamberlin, Ralph Warren, Wm. S. Rowe, L. A. Johnson.

No. 68, CHARITY, Mystic—Charles H. Mallary, W. M.; John E. Williams, S. W.; George Eldridge, J. W.; Waterman Clift, Secretary.

No. 73, MANCHESTER, Manchester—Charles Cheney, W. M.; Henry Marble, S. W.; Wm. Hyde, J. W.; Wm. M. Roberts, Secretary. *Initiated*—Jesse Ladd, Henry C. Woodbridge.

No. 75, CONNECTICUT, Sacramento, Cal.—Caleb Fenner, W. M.; James W. Goodrich, S. W.; Elizur Hubbell, J. W.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut :

The return of another anniversary meeting of this M. W. body, has again devolved on your committee the responsible duty of presenting for the consideration of their brethren, their annual report on the correspondence of the Grand Lodge, which has been placed in their hands by the Grand Secretary. This correspondence is becoming every year more and more extensive and voluminous, and its interest and importance are felt and acknowledged to be increased in a corresponding ratio. Indeed, it is believed that at no time since the establishment of the Order of Freemasonry on the Western Continent, have so many topics of interest been presented for the consideration of the Craft, as at the present juncture ; and certainly, at no former period in the long history of our venerated institution, has it been necessary to come up to the consideration and discussion of the vital principles of the Order, with clearer heads and more impartial and unbiassed judgment. And notwithstanding the diffidence felt by your committee, as to their own qualifications for an enlightened canvass and decision of many of all the important subjects which are at present occupying the attention of their brethren in all quarters,—they have much satisfaction and consolation in the belief, that they are now congregated within the portals of the Masonic Temple, men of as sound heads, as brilliant intellects, and as true hearts, as any that have gone before them. While we fully agree with the eloquent Grand Master of the District of Columbia, that the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons can recur, with proud satisfaction, to our revolutionary struggle, when they remember that every general officer of the American armies was a Freemason,—we have no occasion to restrain our admiration, when, on looking over the catalogue of honored names, we find enrolled on the list of *pres-*

ent members of American Lodges, a bright array of our most gifted heroes and statesmen, scholars, philanthropists, and divines.

In looking over the mass of documents received from the Grand Secretary, your committee find that they are in possession of the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Florida. An examination of these voluminous pamphlets has convinced us of the general prosperity of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons over the wide extent of our national domain. True, we find here and there melancholy evidence of "confusion among the workman," growing out of a conflict of interests, and a failure on the part of certain brethren to profit by one of the earliest lessons inculcated and enforced on every newly initiated Mason, viz, to "learn to subdue his passions;" still, the exercise of the true Masonic charity compels us to believe, that most of the differences of opinion which disturb the harmony of fraternal counsels, in various quarters, have arisen from a watchful jealousy for the original "landmarks" of the order, and a desire to preserve them in their primitive simplicity and purity. We shall not be deemed to have transgressed the rules of propriety, if we earnestly exhort our brethren to "leave off contention before it be meddled with;" and to remember that "he that is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he that ruleth his spirit, than he that taketh a city." Let them avoid all contention and strife, save "that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best *work* and best *agree*." Let them remember that

"To err is human,—to forgive, divine."

We admonish them to "act upon the *square*, remembering that they are traveling, on the *level* of time, to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns," and that the "All-seeing Eye" of the Supreme Grand Master of the Uni-

verse can alone unerringly discern and impartially judge the motives of those who differ from them in opinion. It becomes us all to be fervent in our aspirations that perfect harmony and fraternal confidence may be speedily restored to the counsels of our disagreeing brethren, and that hereafter every member of the great Masonic household may labor diligently and unitedly in rearing the proud edifice of "light and love," the building of which has occupied the attention and shared the labors of so mighty a host of the best and purest men that ever lived.

Your committee will now proceed, as on former occasions, to call the attention of this Grand Lodge to some of the many matters of interest which they find in the minutes of proceedings of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with us.

MAINE.—The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of this State, was held in Portland, May 3d, 1849. A special communication was also holden on the 25th day of June, and continued the next day, when the anniversary of St. John the Baptist was celebrated by a large number of brethren. On this occasion an eloquent address was delivered by M. W. Benjamin B. French, Esq., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. At the annual communication in May, the Grand Master, M. W. Alexander H. Putney, delivered an excellent address, in which he called the attention of the Grand Lodge to various topics of interest. Speaking of the former decision of that and some other Grand Lodges, "that a maimed man is not in all cases debarred the rights and benefits of Freemasonry," and the animadversions of some sister Grand Lodges on that decision, Bro. Putney remarks as follows:

"For one, I do most devoutly revere the ancient landmarks of the Order, yet do I as truly believe in the wisdom of the decision of our illustrious predecessors, who have virtually abrogated from the ancient regulations, the provisions that the candidate must be true to the Church, and be born of honest and lawful parents. Would one of these zealous brethren, who contend so stoutly for 'ancient regulations,' reject the application of an honest, accomplished fellow citizen, because his parents indiscreetly brought him into existence before they had plighted their faith at the hyemial altar? I trust the response must be, No! And if so, then away with the technical objection which would exclude the warmest heart and brightest intellect, merely because they belong to one in the human form, who, by some dispensation of Divine Providence, has lost a hand or foot. I would by no means be understood to advocate what some call progressive Masonry; on the contrary, I contend for that ancient Masonry which teaches us to shun the 'errors of bigotry and superstition,' and make a due use of reason, 'according to that liberty wherewith a Mason is made free', and by which we are also taught to 'regard the whole human species as one family—the high and low, the rich and poor—who, as created by one Almighty parent, are to aid, support, and protect each other.' If, 'to soothe the unhappy, to symyathise with their

misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries, and restore peace to their troubled minds, is the grand aim we have in view,' how, I ask, can we consistently reject from our communion, one whose only demerit is in the loss of a limb, not absolutely necessary to his instruction in Masonry, yet rendering him still more an object claiming our kindly sympathies?"

Thirty-seven Lodges made returns to the annual communication, from which we find that the whole number of members is 1319. Two hundred and seventy-nine initiations took place during the year, and thirty brethren have been removed by death. Several charters were granted for new Lodges. It was voted that the Grand Lodge of Maine should be represented in the Convention to form a General Grand Lodge, and the first four Grand Officers were authorized to appoint a delegate. It was also voted, that it is expedient to publish, in a single volume, the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maine, from its institution to the present time; and the subordinate Lodges were requested to state at the next annual meeting, their opinion of the proposition, and the probable number of copies that will be taken by them respectively.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The pamphlet from our brethren of the Granite Hills, contains the proceedings of special communications held on the 24th of June, the 6th of September, 1848, and the 3d of January, 1850, as also of the annual communication, June 12th, 1849. The first of these meetings was for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. At the communication in September, the Grand Lodge resolved "That the first cardinal virtue, TEMPERANCE, be particularly attended to by the members of this, and its subordinate Lodges; and that sec. 20, art. 4, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, be read in the several subordinate Lodges, once each quarter, and that said Lodges are required to make their by-laws conform to the above named article." Some variation of practice existing among the Lodges of this jurisdiction, in balloting for candidates for the honors of Masonry, the subject was referred to a committee, who reported a resolution declaring that every candidate should be received upon a unanimous ballot, and that one negative, persisted in, is sufficient to exclude him. This, your committee had supposed, until now, was the *universal* practice among Masons. Of the 24 Lodges in New Hampshire, fifteen were represented at the annual meeting in June last.

MASSACHUSETTS.—From the Bay State we have a pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at quarterly meetings in March, June, and September, and the annual communication in December. From the address of the Grand Master, at the annual communication, we extract the following timely paragraph:

"If I rightly interpret the signs of the times, there are already influences in operation, which, if not seasonably checked, will lead to consequences we may all have reason to deplore. Combinations and parties should have no place in Freemasonry. Party feeling is the bane of the Institution. Controversy and contention it cannot abide. Its empire is the heart; and whatever tends to alienate the affections, aims a blow at its very existence. There never was, and there never can be, rightfully, but one party in Freemasonry, and that a truly Masonic

party; a party devoted to the interest and welfare of the institution—self-sacrificing, disinterested, and regarding the prosperity of the Craft paramount to all personal considerations. All other parties are inconsistent with the spirit and genius of the Order, and should be discountenanced by every friend of the Institution. And I pray you, brethren, that you watch with the tenacity of life, and guard against the insidious approach of combinations, parties, and party animosities, whether they originate in hostility to the craft, excessive zeal, or any other cause; for nothing can be more fatal to the prosperity and well being of the Fraternity. It is a good thing to be zealous in a good cause; but experience proves that there is a false zeal, an unhallowed fire, kindled and fed with the fierceness of evil passions, and which burns but to destroy. This false zeal is but the manifestation of party spirit, and is attended with all its evil consequences, or it originates in the love of distinction and power. Its unhappy results may be seen in the pride, vanity, and arrogance it engenders; in the arcimony and bitterness it breathes into the temper; in the uncharitable judgments, unqualified censure, and bitter invective it bestows, without stint or measure, upon all who dissent from its views, or oppose its designs.”

VERMONT.—The Grand Lodge of Vermont commenced its annual session at Burlington, on the 9th of January, 1850, when the Grand Master, Bro. Philip C. Tucker, delivered an address, replete with valuable suggestions for the benefit of the Craft who work in the quarries among the Green Mountains. Speaking of the want of uniformity in the work of the Lodges, of which complaint is made in almost all quarters, the Grand Master of Vermont says:—“That want of uniformity exists, to a considerable extent, among our own Lodges, and so far as I have been able to trace it to its source, I entertain the opinion that it originated with the lecturing of Jeremy L. Cross in this jurisdiction, more than thirty years ago. Our records show, that at the communication of this Grand Body in October, 1819, a committee reported in favor of recommending Cross’ ‘Masonic Chart, or Hieroglyphic Monitor,’ to the patronage of the Fraternity, and that report was *rejected*. So far as my information extends, I have found very few elderly intelligent brethren, who ever appreciated very highly either Br. Cross’ lectures or his books. There are some exceptions, however, and the brethren who form them appear to adhere with great tenacity to everything that proceeded as instruction from Bro. Cross, for no better reason, that I could ever ascertain, than that he published a book of Masonic pictures. This Grand Lodge, however, long since placed upon record its opinion of the lectures which it *did* approve, and they were *not* those of Bro. Cross. In those Lodges where the teachings of Bro. Cross continue to predominate, I have always observed a strong disposition to overload the work with extrinsic ornament, and occasionally with something not so harmless as that. All surplusage, beyond the plain, but rich simplicity of our ceremonies, tends not only to confuse the institution, but to deform its beauty. A new made Mason finds some things in one Lodge which he misses in another, and although none of them, perhaps constitute the *removal* of an old landmark, yet their natural tendency is to *weaken* its foundation and *impair* its stability.”

On the subject of individual application to the Grand Lodge for *charity*, Bro. Tucker says: “The Grand Lodge has not, and never had, the means for charity

and never seems to have contemplated that it should possess any other than a purely legislative character, to act for the general supervision, regulation, and interest of the Lodges under its jurisdiction. Formerly it was well understood that individual charity was the appropriate, peculiar, and exclusive business and duty of the subordinate Lodges. That rule seems to have been partially forgotten, and I think it quite time it should be revived. The officers and members of the Grand Lodge should not be taxed constantly, in their private capacities, for the performances of duties, the responsibilities of which legitimately and properly belong elsewhere. I advise that no future petitions of this character be entertained by the Grand Lodge."

With regard to a General Grand Lodge, our Vermont brethren adopted the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That we view with favor the proposition of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island for a General Grand Lodge of the United States, but do not deem it expedient for this Grand Lodge to become a party to it at this time."

The session of the Grand Lodge was principally occupied in matters of local interest, relating to efforts for building up the waste places that were desolated by the hurricane of fanaticism and bigotry which swept with such relentless fury over the State a few years since. In this noble work we are encouraged to believe our brethren will succeed, as we notice the several applications for new Lodges, and the restoration of old charters, received the favorable action of the Grand Lodge. There are now seventeen active Lodges in Vermont, fourteen of which were represented at the annual communication. Fifteen Lodges returned an aggregate of 428 members.

NEW YORK.—It will be recollected, that at our last annual communication, at the suggestion of this committee, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut adopted a resolution, advising that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York and the body called "St. John's Grand Lodge," should submit their differences to the umpirage of some disinterested sister Grand Lodges, with a view to a final settlement, and a restoration of harmony between the scattered and distracted members of the Masonic fraternity in that State. Lively hopes were entertained that this proposition would lead to a final adjustment of all Masonic difficulties in the State of New York; for we learned with pleasure, that the parties had agreed to submit the matters in dispute to an arbitration of distinguished Masons, to be selected by the Grand Masters of Connecticut and New Jersey. But we are pained to learn, from the correspondence now before us, that before these old difficulties have been adjusted, a new and if possible more alarming schism, occurred in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

It appears that by the Constitution of that body, all Past Masters of Lodges in that jurisdiction, who had been elected and served one year as Masters of subordinate Lodges, were permanent members of the Grand Lodge. A proposition was made so to amend the constitution, as to reduce the number of members of the Grand Lodge, by taking from Past Masters the privilege of voting, though they should be entitled to seats, and to participate in the deliberations of the Grand Lodge,—the last Past Master of each Lodge, however, to be an *acting*, member, and entitled to vote. This amendment was approved by an almost unan-

ymous vote of the Grand Lodge, at the annual communication in June, 1848, and was thereupon submitted to the subordinate Lodges for their action, agreeably to a provision of the constitution, in cases of proposed amendments. At the annual meeting, in June, 1849, it was ascertained that a large majority of the Lodges in the State had voted in favor of the amendment; and on this fact being announced to the Grand Lodge, a disgraceful scene of riot and outrage was enacted, which resulted in the organization of another distinct body, calling themselves "the Grand Lodge of the State of New York;" so that there are at this moment in existence, in the State of New York, *three* independent and separate organizations, each claiming to be a Grand Masonic Lodge. Of course, we can acknowledge but one; and that our brethren may be enabled to act intelligently on the question of recognition, your committee consider it to be their duty to lay before the Grand Lodge the important facts in the case.

This affair happened within one month after our last annual communication, a year since; and as a large number of our sister Grand Lodges have been in session since that time, the circumstances have been fully investigated by competent committees, all of whom, as well as the Grand Lodges of which they are members, have united in condemning the action of those who set at defiance the authority of the Grand Lodge of New York. From the numerous reports which have been published, we have selected that which was prepared by a committee of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and unanimously adopted by that body. We have selected and adopted the Texan report as a part of our own, principally for two reasons, viz: First, because the document seems to your committee to embody a calm and dispassionate review of all the material facts in the case, in a smaller compass than any other which we have seen; and secondly, because our brethren in Texas are among the most distant from New York, and therefore would not be as likely to be swayed by personal friendships and preferences, as might some of our equally candid and honest brethren, whose almost daily business intercourse with various individuals of both the contending parties, might endanger their partiality.

The report of the Texas committee is as follows:

"Your Committee to whom was referred the correspondence concerning the unfortunate difficulties which occurred during the past year in the Grand Lodge of New York, resulting in a schism of that body, on the fifth day of June, 1849, have had under consideration the reports and statements of both parties in the controversy, together with other documents from several of our sister Grand Lodges, and ask leave to report—

"That there are now two distinct associations in the State of New York, each claiming to be the rightful Grand Lodge of that State, and assuming that title; whilst, by universal consent, there can properly be but one. A state of affairs so extraordinary, and productive of such evil consequences, not only to the fraternity in New York, but where ever Masonry is known, calls for a candid and decided expression of opinion.

"The origin of the controversy is made by the parties (whether rightfully or not) to extend back to the formation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of New York, under charter from the Duke of Athol and his Grand Officers, dated at London, September 5, 1781, prior to the close of the Revolutionary War; which was the

first of which any record is extant. It was subordinate to those who issued it: and like all other provincial charters in this Union, ceased and was annulled, when the political independence of the States was acknowledged by the mother country. This is clearly shown by the history of the Grand Lodges of almost all the original States, and among the rest, by that of New York itself. This provincial charter recognized Past Masters, as lawful members of the Grand Lodge; but also contained a provision that it should be void "if the Provincial Grand Officers and their successors should not continue to pay due respect to the Grand Lodge from which it issued." After the close of the revolutionary struggle, the old Lodges continued to work under this Provincial charter, but the Grand Lodge in 1785, formed a new Book of Constitutions, still acting, however, as a Provincial Grand Lodge, until September, 1787, at which time it was resolved, with but two dissenting votes, that all the Lodges in the State should surrender their old charters and take out new ones. This was done, and an entire disruption of allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England resulted; for they assumed, as they rightly might, the style of "The Grand Lodge of Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York;" and in that name issued the new charters. This Grand Lodge continued to work under their own Constitution of 1785, which also recognized Past Masters of Lodges on record, while members of a regular Lodge, *by courtesy as well as by custom*, as members of the Grand Lodge. But in this Constitution, the inherent right of the Grand Lodge to make new regulations, as well as to amend old ones, was plainly asserted. From causes unnecessary to be adverted to, differences arose, which led to a disruption of the Grand Lodge, in 1823, and which were not adjusted until June, 1827; at which time four articles of compact, as the fundamental law of the Grand Lodge, 'never to be disturbed,' were agreed to unanimously. An union resulted, and a new or amended Constitution was formed. Of these four articles, the last only has any relation to the present difficulty in New York. It reads thus:—"The number of Lodges which one Master or Past Master may represent, shall not exceed three; Past Masters shall in no case be represented by proxy; Representatives shall be paid as heretofore."

"The Constitution of 1827, like that of 1785, recognized Past Masters as members of the Grand Lodge, and in the same terms. It also asserts the same inherent power in the Grand Lodge to make new regulations, and exercises that power by creating *several new elective Grand Officers*, with the right of voting, and by requiring that some officers should be elected from the city and some from the country, thus depriving members of the privilege of voting for whom they please for certain Grand Officers. This power of making new regulations was limited by a provision, 'that no regulation affecting the general interests of the Craft should be changed or adopted, except at the annual June communication.' By that constitution it is also provided that no amendment should be made until it had been sanctioned by the Grand Lodge at two successive annual communications, or until after being approved at one annual communication, it should receive the affirmative votes of a majority of the Lodges in the State.

"Thus the laws of that Grand Lodge stood, until the annual communication in June, 1848, when two events occurred, which your committee fear had some influence on the subsequent proceedings, by being improperly connected with

each other in the minds of Masons, high in position, heretofore much esteemed by the fraternity. Be this as it may, at that time the M. W. John D. Willard, who had been Grand Master for two years, was again chosen by a large majority, in a contested election between him and R. W. Isaac Phillips, who was then Deputy Grand Master. An amendment to the Constitution was then proposed, depriving Past Masters of the right to *vote*, though still allowing them membership in the Grand Lodge. This amendment was approved by a large majority of the Grand Lodge, and sent to the subordinate Lodges for their action, to be reported at the next annual communication. A large majority of the subordinate Lodges sanctioned the proposed amendments, and transmitted proper certificates of their adoption to the Grand Secretary previous to the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, in June, 1849.

“ In the mean time, a quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge was held, in the city of New York, in March, 1849, at which but a small number of members were present, (and those mostly from the city Lodges,) when resolutions were offered, declaring that the proposition to deprive Past Masters of a right to vote in the Grand Lodge, was unconstitutional and revolutionary, and would be void and of no effect; also, that it was their determination not to regard such amendment, if adopted, but to preserve the rights of Past Masters, according to the compact of 1827. The R. W. Oscar Coles, D. G. M., presiding, declined to put the question on these resolutions, on the ground that at a quarterly communication it was unconstitutional to act on any measure affecting the general interests of the Craft. This decision was overruled, by appeal, and the resolutions adopted.

“ At the annual communication, on the evening of June 5, 1849, after the Grand Master had opened the Grand Lodge, and before calling the roll, the Grand Secretary announced officially that the amendments to the Constitution, proposed at the last annual communication, had been adopted by a majority of the subordinate Lodges, and had become a part of the Constitution. The roll was then called, and the Grand Master commenced the delivery of his address. He was vociferously interrupted, and a call made for the reading of the minutes of the last quarterly communication. The Grand Master declared the call to be out of order until he had made his address. An appeal was claimed, which he also refused to entertain, for the same reason. Much confusion ensued, and constant calls were made, regardless of the sound of the gavel and the voice of the Grand Master.

“ The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were then read by order of the Grand Master, and he proceeded with his address; in the course of which he repeated the announcement made by the Grand Secretary, that the proposed amendments to the Constitution had been adopted constitutionally, and were henceforth parts of it. He was then asked by the acting Junior Grand Warden, whether he meant to say that the amendments were constitutionally binding on the Fraternity? and on being answered in the affirmative, the Junior Grand Warden, in a loud voice, declared, in substance, that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, was dissolved, and although he was called to order by the Grand Master, amidst great uproar and confusion, called on all opposed to the amendments, to assist him in organizing a Grand Lodge. He nominated William Willis, as chairman;

and after a show of hands, he was declared elected, and also other Provisional Grand Officers. Willis stepped on the platform where the Grand Master was seated, vainly attempting to restore order, his voice being continually drowned, by noises whenever he attempted to speak. Willis and his associates went through the form of electing Isaac Phillips, and other Grand officers, as stated and not denied, by show of hands. They then adjourned, and the next day installed the persons so elected. During these disorderly proceedings, M. W. Grand Master, J. D. Willard sat in the Oriental chair, with the proper emblems of his office; but neither these, nor the gavel, enabled him to preserve order. After the tumult had subsided, so that he could be heard, the Grand Lodge adjourned; and on the next day proceeded to the annual election of officers, when Grand Master Willard was re-elected.

“Your committee have deemed it needless to dwell on the details of the evening’s proceedings, as set forth by the parties; (in some points they conflict, as might be expected;) but taking the most reasonable and charitable view, even of the Report of the seceding party, prepared by James Herring, formerly Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, they feel compelled to pronounce them scandalous and disgraceful in the extreme, and much more suitable for a race-course or election ground, than a Masonic Hall.

“This statement of the facts sufficiently shows the origin of the difficulty. One party assume that Past Masters of Lodges have a right, as such, by the charter of the Duke of Athol, of 1781, the compact of union of 1827, and by the ancient, unchangeable laws of Masonry, to permanent membership in the Grand Lodge. The other party deny this; and consider that the practice of admitting Past Masters to membership, arose from courtesy, and custom, and is only a constitutional regulation, subject to be changed like other rules, by a power inherent in every Grand Lodge.

“The question is one of importance, and must be determined by the principles and usages of the Order, as shown by the lights before us.

“The most ancient general assembly, or Grand Lodge, was founded in England, by Prince Edwin, in 926, on the re-establishment of Masonry there. He summoned ‘all the Free and Accepted Masons in the realm,’ who, in *congregation* at York, ‘formed the Grand Lodge,’ and from many old records of the *Craft* in different languages, ‘framed the *Constitutions* of the English Lodges, and made a law for themselves, to preserve and observe the same in all time coming.’ Here the whole Fraternity were members, and by agreement made the *Constitutions*. The different Lodges were then independent of each other, and so continued for centuries; though they paid great respect to the recommendations of the Grand Lodge.

“Another Grand Lodge, called ‘the Grand Lodge of England,’ was formed at London, in 1717, even while the Grand Lodge originally organized at York, continued to meet, and they were in harmony with each other. What were the *Constitutions* formed at York we may reasonably infer from the Book of *Constitutions*, prepared, sanctioned and published by the Grand Lodge of England, at London, in 1734, from which last, the Provincial charter for New York emanated. This Book of *Constitutions* was revised and republished by that Grand Lodge, in 1738. In both these books, the power of every Grand Lodge to make new regu-

lations, and to amend and explain old ones, is admitted to be inherent ; but at the same time they cannot remove any of the *ancient landmarks*; or fundamental principles of the Order. Is this claim of Past Masters then, one of those landmarks or principles ? We answer by reciting a passage from this Book. The 12th article expressly states that ' the Grand Lodge consists of, and is formed by the Masters and Wardens of all the particular Lodges upon record, with the Grand Master at their head, the Deputy on his left hand, and the Grand Wardens in their proper places ;' and further, that at their meetings '*none are to be present but its own proper members*, without leave being asked and given;' and further, that all matters in the Grand Lodge are to be determined by a majority of votes, each member having one vote, and the Grand Master two votes.

" At that time, then, Past Masters were clearly not members of the Grand Lodge, for the Past Grand Master and other Past Grand Officers were not themselves members. The revised edition, published in 1738, shows that new regulations in these matters were made, and when. Past Grand Masters were admitted by a new regulation in November, 1724 ; Past Deputy Grand Masters in February, 1725 ; and Past Grand Wardens in May, 1727. By the Book of English Constitutions of 1763, it is provided that the ' Grand Lodge shall consist of the Masters and Wardens of all the particular Lodges on record, together with all who are, or have been, Grand officers, viz: the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.' Up to 1763, then, Past Masters were not members ; and when they first become so, is no where stated in any authority we have seen.

" The American Book of Constitutions, of 1799, states that, ' by permission, Past Grand Masters and Past Grand Treasurers and Past Grand Secretaries, have in some countries, the privilege of sitting in Grand Lodge, and voting in such matters as by the rules of the Grand Lodge, they might have done while in office.

" These extracts, it is deemed, are ample, to demonstrate that by the old Constitutions, there was no right of membership vested in Past Masters, much less is it a fundamental principle, or land-mark. The disruption of allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, which was a condition of the provincial charter, as stated in the former part of this report, was clearly a voluntary surrender of any right which might otherwise be claimed under it ; and their right, if any, was then founded exclusively on the Constitution of 1785, which was agreed to by the several Lodges, and at the same time asserted and retained the power of amendment. Nor in the opinion of your Committee, was any right whatever asserted or given by the articles of compact, in 1827. On the contrary, whilst that compact impliedly recognizes the then existing right of Past Masters under the privilege, instead of asserting it, by forbidding them to be represented by proxy. Any right given Past Masters by the constitution, made subsequent to that compact of union, could certainly be recalled, according to the provisions of that instrument itself, by amendment in the constitutional mode provided. This, your committee believe, was fairly done by the action of the subordinate Lodges of New York, prior to the annual meeting of June 1849, in sanctioning the amendments. The propriety of this action, and the necessity of it for the good of Masonry in New York, no one can doubt. If any proof were wanted, the conduct of Past Masters and others of New York city, on that occasion, would furnish ample evidence.

“If we are wrong in our view of the rights of Past Masters, the position of the seceding party is not at all bettered. If they had rights, they had also a remedy, though it might be slow. Our institution does not inculcate a redress of grievances by violence. A legal Grand Lodge has a right to bear rule in its own jurisdiction, and cannot be dissolved by the revolutionary action of a part of its members; much less can one be founded in disorganization. Admitting that the Grand Lodge of New York was dissolved, as declared by an unauthorized member, where do those claiming to form a new one find their warrant? No convention of delegates, appointed for that purpose, is pretended. Force or effect cannot be given to such irregular action, whatever motive may produce it; and however we may regret the position in which some brethren, formerly honored by the fraternity, have placed themselves, we feel compelled to declare that those who resisted the authority of the Grand Master, while presiding, and proceeded to elect Grand Officers without his consent, and against his known will, were guilty of gross violation of Masonic usage and propriety, and that the pretended Grand Lodge organized by them, ought not to be acknowledged as legitimate.

“Your committee, in conclusion, would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

“1. *Resolved*, That there is no foundation for the claim that Past Masters, as such, have an unalienable right to membership in the Grand Lodge; and that the amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York, were made in exercise of a power inherent in every Grand Lodge.

“2. *Resolved*, That we are grieved and surprised at the conduct of those who aided in producing the lamentable schism which has occurred in the Grand Lodge of New York, and sincerely hope they will return to the principles of brotherly love, and obedience to the constituted authority, so that harmony may again be restored.

“3. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge approves of the course taken by M. W. John D. Willard, and those who supported him, on the 5th of June, 1849, in sustaining the dignity of his office and the rights of the Grand Lodge; and that we recognize the body over which he presides, as the only legal Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

“4. *Resolved*, That the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge are warned to be careful in the examination of visitors hailing from New York, and to admit none but such as exhibit proper evidence, emanating from the Grand Lodge recognized in the third resolution.”

Thus far the Texas report. Your committee cannot refrain from expressing their sincere regret, that any number of Masons, especially such as have hitherto occupied stations of honor and responsibility in the Grand Lodge, and were firmly entrenched in the confidence and esteem of their fellow-craftsmen, should allow themselves to be controlled by their passions, so far as to engage deliberately in riotous and disorderly conduct. In the view of your committee, although these deplorable proceedings may not and can not prove *fatally* disastrous to the interests of Masonry in the State of New York, yet a severe blow has been inflicted on the institution, which will be felt, not only in New York, but to the remotest bounds of our extensive country, and from the effects of which we fear it will be a long time before our beloved Order shall entirely recover.

NEW JERSEY.—From this Grand Lodge we have a pamphlet containing the proceedings of a special communication in May last, as well as of the annual communication in January of the present year. At the former meeting, Bro. E. T. Hillyer stated that, “although he was Senior Warden, he did appear as a representative from his Lodge; he therefore wished to know what were his privileges.” The Deputy Grand Master made the following decision:—“That a Warden of a subordinate Lodge, not appearing as a representative, is not entitled to vote in the Grand Lodge.” An appeal was made from this decision, which, after some discussion, was laid over till the morning session.

Your committee looked with some interest for the final decision of this question at the “morning session,” having ever supposed that the Wardens of subordinate Lodges were, as a matter of course, members of the Grand Lodge, under all organizations, whether specially appointed “representatives” or not; but we looked in vain. No quorum was present at the “morning session,” and in the minutes of the afternoon and evening sessions, the subject was not alluded to.

MARYLAND.—This Grand Lodge held its annual communication, in Baltimore, on the 19th of November last, when 19 Lodges were represented, by 53 brethren. An interesting letter was read from the Grand Master, Bro. Charles Gilman, who was in California, in which he says:

“I am happy in being able to inform you, that already in this extreme western region, a movement has been made to establish Lodges here, and I doubt not that ere long several will be opened, and a Grand Lodge established; and thus the benign influence of Masonic principles be spread over a land hitherto little known, except by the naked savage of the prairie and the mountain.”

The Committee of Correspondence presented an able report, in which they notice various matters of interest in the proceedings of other Grand Lodges. Speaking of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and of the last annual report of this committee, they say of us:—“They are opposed to publishing rejections of applicants for initiation. Your committee on a former occasion advocated the propriety of these publications, and still look upon them, not merely as expedient, but as of paramount importance. Your committee do not propose to argue the matter at this time, but merely to make a few suggestions. It is a matter of paramount importance to build up our Temple with good and perfect ashlers. An individual may be rejected by a Lodge in Connecticut, for some defect of moral principle, known to the members of that Lodge. He may remove to Mississippi, there apply to a Lodge; during the time he has resided in their midst, he has conducted himself properly, so far as they can learn, and is by them made a Mason; being defective in moral principle, he will at some future day become a blemish and a stumbling block. Had the Grand Lodge of Connecticut published this rejection, it is more than probable he would never have been admitted elsewhere. It has happened that an individual was rejected by an almost unanimous vote of a Lodge in the city of Baltimore, and in three months after he received the three degrees from a Lodge in Virginia; and the Grand Lodge of Virginia had, at the same communication, the evidence before her, that he was rejected in Maryland and initiated in Virginia.”

So it seems, after all, that the publishing of the rejection of a candidate by the

Grand Lodge of Maryland, did not prevent his being initiated in Virginia. Your committee are not convinced, by the reasoning of their Maryland brethren, of the propriety of these publications. We believe, as we did one year since, that "Masons should not do any man harm, if we cannot do him any good." We believe, with our respected brethren of Maryland, that "it is a matter of paramount importance to build up our Temple with good and perfect ashlers;" but if we occasionally find it necessary to throw a stone among the rubbish, as "unfit for the building," we can see no necessity for publishing that fact to the world, as a stigma upon the character of the rejected material.

VIRGINIA.—The Grand Lodge of this State, held its annual communication in Richmond, on the 10th day of December, 1849, when representatives were present from 61 subordinate Lodges. During the session, charters were granted for 13 new Lodges. A plan was reported for paying the expenses of representatives to the Grand Lodge, by which they propose to pay one representative from each Lodge, — cents per mile, as traveling fees; and to meet this expense they propose to tax each member of the subordinate Lodges fifty cents a year, and require the payment of two dollars to the Grand Lodge for each initiation.

The Grand Lodge complains of the recent establishment of a French Lodge within their jurisdiction, under the authority of the Grand Orient of France, and the Grand Secretary was directed to communicate to the Grand Orient a protest against the invasion of their rights.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—A semi-annual meeting of this Grand Lodge was held on the 1st day of May, 1849, and continued by adjournment on the 15th and 30th of the same month. A special meeting was also held on the 7th of July, and continued by adjournment on the 17th. A communication was presented by the Grand Master, from the Hon. B. A. Bidlake, late U. S. Minister to Bogota, enclosing a petition for a charter for a Lodge according to the *Scotch rite*. The high character of the petitioners were fully vouched for, one being the Secretary of State of the Republic of New Grenada. The Grand Secretary was directed to inform the memorialists that the Grand Lodge has no jurisdiction over any other than the rites of Ancient York Masonry, and to advise them what is the mode prescribed for the institution of Lodges.

A committee appointed to examine the constitutions of subordinate Lodges, made an interesting report, from which it appears that some irregularities are practiced, such as assimilating a Lodge to the ordinary beneficiary associations of the day; prescribing a fee for the degree of Past Master, when the Grand Lodge has decided that said degree shall not be conferred by a subordinate Lodge; balloting for the three degrees by Masons of each degree; transacting business in the Entered Apprentice degree; filling vacancies *by the Lodge*, in case of the absence of the first three officers; making Masons on the same night of the presentation of their petitions, &c. The committee reported a series of resolutions, supported by authorities, providing for the correction of these irregularities, which resolutions were adopted by the Grand Lodge.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Grand Lodge of this State commenced its annual session in the city of Raleigh, on the 3d of December, 1849, when representatives of 29 Lodges were present. The address of the Grand Master, Bro. Wm. F.

Collins, is an able and eloquent paper, replete with sensible and timely admonitions and suggestions. On the subject of a seminary for the education of children of indigent Masons, which has been for some years under consideration in North Carolina, the Grand Master says :

“There are about twenty-five hundred *active* Masons under our jurisdiction, and about two children for every twenty-five Masons, who have not the means of acquiring an education ; making, in all, about two hundred, who are swiftly approaching the terrible destiny of a dark and ignorant manhood. If this is a correct statement, (and I believe it to be nearly so,) for the past ten years, during which the subject of this seminary has been agitated before the Grand Lodge, two hundred children, who have claims upon the fraternity, have passed the bounds of instruction, and gone forth to battle with the storms and tempests of life, have launched their barks on that dark ocean upon which no sun ever rises, no star ever shines, whose terrible billows move forever onward in darkness, reaching no harbor of light, no haven of peace, until they break upon the shore of eternity. This is an awful state of affairs,—a state which I trust will not be suffered longer to exist.”

Bro. C. H. Wiley, the agent for soliciting funds in aid of the proposed seminary, submitted a report, in which we find the following eloquent passage, among others equally beautiful :

“As men, then,—as immortal beings, co-workers with immortal spirits,—we should do what we can to ransom from darkness the souls of those who cry to us from their prisons. A sum which we might not miss, and which is often expended in sensual pleasure, that only leaves a sting, might burst the chains of a neighbor, or release some caged intellect of boundless capabilities, and send it on a career of happiness and usefulness. It is a common desire among men, to leave monuments of their greatness behind them ; but monuments of brass and marble will crumble and fall, and even types grow dim with coming age, while one ransomed spirit will, through all eternity, be a living chronicle of the good deeds of its benefactor.”

SOUTH CAROLINA.—From the Palmetto State we have an abstract of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at several communications during the year 1849. The difficulties in Louisiana and New York were reported upon by special committees, and the Grand Lodge resolved to recognize only the Old Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and the Grand Lodge of New York of which M. W. John D. Willard is at present Grand Master. At the quarterly communication in September, the Grand Secretary presented an interesting report, from which we extract the following paragraphs :

“Since the last annual communication I have had an opportunity of visiting several foreign jurisdictions, examining with great care their mode of work, and comparing it with our own ; and I confess that I feel some pride in being able to say, that whatever may be our errors in other respects, I found nowhere that uniformity in opening and closing, and in entering, passing and raising, that exists in South Carolina.

“Among the instances in which the principles of our institution have been fairly and triumphantly tested, I will notice one. In the commencement of the

present year, I received an affecting letter from a young lady, the orphan daughter of a brother Mason, in one of our upper districts, who died the year before, in the service of his country, leaving his widow and children in a destitute condition. In this letter she stated her circumstances, and expressed a desire that she might be enabled, by the aid of her father's brethren, to complete her unfinished education, so as to fit her to obtain a livelihood by instructing others. It required but little effort on my part, to enlist the warm aid of the fraternity in her behalf, and she is now, by the generous benevolence of Hiram Lodge, No. 68, aided by the contributions of a few other Lodges, creditably supported at one of the best seminaries in the upper country, where she is receiving such an education as will prepare her in after life to buffet successfully with the storm of poverty."

GEORGIA.—At the annual communication of this Grand Lodge, in October, 1849, the M. W. Grand Master, in his address, speaking of education, holds the following language :

" Upon the subject of education, I feel assured there is but little if any difference of opinion among us. Although the Grand Lodge of Georgia has no Masonic College, yet the members of the Lodges throughout the State, as Masons, as men, and as citizens, are generally faithful to the cause of education; and if I could combine their individual efforts in that cause, and present it at one view, it would reflect great credit on the principles of our institution. Our principles, indeed, demand of us the improvement of the mind. Masonry is a system of morality, founded on a belief in God and the immortality of the soul of man. The teachings and precepts of the Bible are enjoined and inculcated by Masonry. Infidelity and Masonry are incompatible. Universal benevolence and charity are among its well known precepts. To assist those upon whom the hard hand of poverty rests heavily, to watch over the widow and orphan, to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, are practical moral duties, peculiar to Masons. But these are bodily and physical wants; there are higher wants which man feels, making life little else than a burthen. The *mind* and the *heart* have their times of destitution, as well as the body, and no less need the relieving hand of mental sympathy and charity. To these spiritual necessities Masons are no less commanded to minister, than to the gross necessities of the body. To shed the light of knowledge on a mind wandering in the darkness of ignorance and superstition, and to encourage advancement in the arts and sciences and in the acquisition of truth, is a part of the mission of Masonry. Let me therefore commend to your sincere reflection the consideration of the education of the dependent children of our fraternity, and to suggest the propriety of having diligent inquiry made into the state and condition of the poor in each Masonic district, so that immediate provision may be made for their improvement."

ALABAMA.—The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held on the 3d of December, 1849. The Grand Master's address seems to be a substitute for a report on correspondence, and reviews, at considerable length, and with much ability, the doings of the Grand Lodges of several States. On the subject of the difficulty in Louisiana, and the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in establishing Lodges in that State, the Grand Master is of the opinion that Missis-

issippi is *right*, and that the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana is *wrong*! He also approves of the organization of a General Grand Lodge. The address was referred to a committee, who, in their report, disagree with the Grand Master on both points above alluded to. We also find on the minutes, the following resolution:

“*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge recommends to all Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, to observe the uniform use of the time-honored name, ‘Free and Accepted Masons.’”

KENTUCKY.—From this Grand Lodge we have a volume of 160 large octavo pages, nearly half of which is devoted to returns from their subordinate Lodges. Your committee must be again permitted to speak of the practice of publishing the names of rejected candidates; and particularly would we enter a respectful but earnest protest against the *manner* in which rejections are published by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. To publish to the world the *name* of a rejected candidate, is bad enough in all conscience; but to accompany such publication with a minute description of the *personal appearance* of the unfortunate individual, as if he was a horse-thief, or a fugitive from justice, we must say is too bad, and ought not to be tolerated. We give two or three examples from the report before us:

“*Rejected*—T—M—, about 40 years of age; low; dark complexion; pert and forward in conversation; cabinet-maker by trade; member of the Baptist Church, but occasionally indulges in strong drink, to intoxication; married man, with no children; resides at Morganfield, but talks of removing to Grant county; rejected Jan. 15, 1849.”

“W—J—, aged about 55; 5 feet 4 or 5 inches high; thick set; occupation a farmer and methodist minister; residence Caldwell county; rejected July 14th, 1849.”

“T—R—, June 9th, 1849; residence New Concord; blacksmith by occupation; aged 36; 6 feet 2 inches high; square built; well set; rather dark complexioned; black hair; sparkling blue eyes, a little blood-shot.”

In like manner, a personal description of seventy-seven individuals is given, who were rejected, probably for good and sufficient reasons; but can equally good reasons be given for thus holding them up as objects of scorn to all into whose hands this publication may fall? Does it not look like a determination on the part of Masons to *destroy* every man who is not deemed worthy to become a brother among us? Certainly, it does not look much like “doing no man any harm, if you cannot do him any good.” We do ardently hope that our respected brethren of Kentucky will revise their practice in this particular, and no longer indulge in such manifold injustice.

TENNESSEE.—The stated communication of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, for the year 1849, was held in Nashville, Oct. 9th. The Trustees of the Masonic College made an encouraging report, from which we learn that the Faculty consists of a President, three Professors, and two Assistant Teachers, whose aggregate salaries amount to \$4,000. It is gratifying to witness the commendable zeal with which our brethren in several of the Southern and Western States, are engaging in the laudable enterprize of educating the children and orphans of indigent Masons; thus assuming important duties, which cannot fail to render our institution a blessing to the world.

The Grand Lodge adopted a regulation by which one representative from each Lodge is to be paid 5 cents per mile, and one dollar per day, for attendance at the meetings of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee of Correspondence approve of the proposition of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut for the organization of a General Grand Lodge, and of our plan for the formation of a constitution for such a body. The committee say, "Although the several constitutions, thus prepared, might be a mass of heterogeneous materials, yet an intelligent convention would be able to draw up a constitution which would be acceptable to all."

OHIO.—The Grand Lodge of this State held its annual communication on the 5th of October, 1849, when 137 Lodges were present by their officers or representatives. The *pay-roll* of the members amounted to \$4,018.88. The address of the Grand Master, and the report of the Grand Lecturer, are among the most eloquent papers that have come under the observation of your committee. The following resolutions was adopted:

"Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Grand Master, to collect all such facts and incidents connected with the introduction, progress, and history of Freemasonry in the State of Ohio, as may be deemed important for preservation; and especially with reference to its influence upon the moral and social condition of society; and that said committee report the result of their labors to the Grand Lodge, at the next annual communication."

The report of this committee will be looked for with interest by the members of the fraternity in all parts of the country. If similar researches were to be made in the several States of our Union, who can doubt that many hidden treasures would be brought to light, that have long lain buried in the rubbish of by-gone ages? Your committee would respectfully suggest the propriety of a similar investigation being set on foot within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio passed a series of resolutions, strongly urging upon her subordinate Lodges the duty of looking out such children of indigent Masons, (whether orphans or not,) as are not already enjoying the privileges of education, and seeing that they have secured to them "the blessings of a good instruction in some of the public schools, as provided by law; or in private schools, where no public ones are accessible."

MICHIGAN.—The Grand Lodge of Michigan met in annual communication at Detroit, Jan. 9. 1850. In the excellent address of the Grand Master, he congratulates the Grand Lodge on "the flourishing condition of our ancient and honorable institution at the present time, throughout the world, and especially in this State." "Tools and implements," he observes, "are again in requisition, and a general desire for knowledge is manifest. But I am not without fear, that in some instances, brethren, through their zeal, seek to establish new Lodges too near to those already formed, and which thereby prove detrimental to both; and also, in some Lodges, desire to augment their numbers, without proper care and inquiry into the qualifications and moral rectitude of the candidates; also in some Lodges, they are hurried from one degree to another, without having made suitable proficiency, *with perhaps the expectation that they will do so after they have received them.*"

Your committee fear that this evil is not confined exclusively to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Michigan. This is a matter which merits the careful attention of all who have a voice in controlling the work of subordinate Lodges.

INDIANA.—The Grand Lodge of this State held its annual communication, in the city of Indianapolis, on the 28th of May, 1849. In the Grand Master's address we find the following spirited paragraphs :

“Several Grand Lodges continue in their proceedings to repeat their censures against this Grand Lodge, for its action in the case of a former Grand Master. We venture this assertion that every member of this Grand Lodge ardently desires, for its own honor and the happiness of individuals, that on every Masonic lip there should be the seal of silence, and that every Masonic heart should feel no emotions but those of love and sympathy for that brother. But if our brethren will continue to let fly their arrows thick and fast upon us, they must expect that we lift our shield. We therefore repel all insinuations about our disregard to law and order, and are certain we feel as much just pride in the long line of Supreme Grand Officers, of the different bodies, who have been an honor to the craft and human nature, as any of our more ancient sisters. We cordially assure our brethren that the burning and shining lights of olden time, are as much revered by the back-wood brethren of Indiana as in more polished associations; but at the same time, we are unwilling to admit the doctrine or sentiment that Grand Masters are, by virtue of their office, above Masonic responsibilities, simply because, in the ancient regulations, there is no specific rule adapted to such cases. Grand Masters are created by Grand Lodges, and when invested with their insignia, among other things they promise in the most solemn manner strictly to obey the moral law. The craft have considered this one essential qualification for that high office; it is our acknowledged moral code. While a correct knowledge of ancient constitutions, laws, land-marks and usages, is indispensable; while broad, clear, and comprehensive views of the various interests of the institution, are all important, moral purity has been considered a necessary adjunct. We believe in all past time, that the moral code of Masonry, has been considered of equal obligation with its ritual and ceremonies. Grand Masters, as well as their subordinates, are expected to reflect the light that beams from the altar, and whenever by improper actions or imprudent conduct they obscure its rays or make the light darkness, Grand Lodges who make Grand Masters, in the absence of any regulation or higher judicature, have of necessity, the inherent power to act on questions of any kind. All Grand Masters, for the time being, are the conservators of the order, they embody the power of the Grand Lodges, they are created by them, and on the principles of common sense and the fitness of things, must necessarily be amenable to the power that created them.

“We doubt not much misapprehension has occurred among our sister Grand Lodges, on account of the wording of the resolution depriving our brother of fraternal intercourse, without expressing an opinion as to his guilt or innocence. Reference should have been made to previous resolutions and proceedings, and then there could have been no serious misunderstanding. As the brother to whom these observations refer has been restored to fellowship, they may seem to be out of place; but some notice of the subject was deemed necessary, to vindicate the Grand Lodge from charges of high misdemeanor.”

A special committee on "physical disabilities," made the following report, and it was concurred in:—"That as Masonry, in its primitive existence, was *operative*, as well as *speculative*, it was then necessary that candidates should possess soundness of body as well as of mind, to enable them to perform the usual mechanical operations of the craft. But as Masonry has now assumed altogether a speculative character, your committee offer the following resolution as the result of their investigations:

"*Resolved*, That when the physical disability of a candidate is not of such a character as to prevent his being *instructed* in the mysteries of the art, his admission will not be a violation of the ancient landmarks."

The Grand Master, in his address, having alluded to a practice, too common in many Lodges, of continuing their meetings to a late hour at night, a committee reported the following, which was adopted:

"In the opinion of your committee, our families have claims upon us, as well as our Lodges, and our Masonic labors should not and do not require of us any thing to affect unfavorably the interest or happiness of our families. There is no necessity, as a general rule, of being detained at our Lodge meetings later than nine or ten o'clock. For our members to be from their families later than the above hours, unless in cases of absolute necessity, tends to bring discredit upon the craft, and to create dissatisfaction in families, where all should be peace and harmony. If we are in the habit of being out at unseasonable hours, our sons and brothers, who are not Masons, may sometime plead our example in excuse for staying late at objectionable places, and thereby contract vicious habits."

The Grand Lodge passed a resolution, requesting Bro. John B. Dillon, State Historian, to use his efforts to rescue from oblivion the early Masonic History of Indiana.

IOWA.—The sixth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, was held at the city of Burlington, on the 5th day of June, 1849. The address of the Grand Master reviews the Masonic history of the year, and refers to various topics of interest, both at home and abroad. He represents the interests of Masonry as in good condition throughout his jurisdiction. Three dispensations for new Lodges were granted during the year. Measures have been taken for the establishment of a Masonic library for the use of the Grand Lodge, and already quite a respectable catalogue of books has been collected. The committee on correspondence say, "The Grand Lodge of Iowa has always declared herself to be in favor of the establishment of a General Head to the institution for this country." There are eighteen Lodges at work in this jurisdiction, nine of which were represented in May last.

WISCONSIN.—This Grand Lodge held its annual communication at Plattville, on the 12th day of December last, when thirteen subordinate Lodges were represented. The Grand Master delivered a lengthy and interesting address, in which he advocated the formation of a General Grand Lodge, to be clothed with authority to decide differences between State Grand Lodges. He considers "the denying of the advancement of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, by the operation of a simple vote of negation in the ballot box, as not only wrong in itself,

but also unmasonic; without sufficient cause shown to the contrary, the advancement may be demanded by the candidate as a matter of right. He has already submitted to the ordeal of the simple negative in the ballot box, and he stands in the Lodge as a man and Mason, subject to the action of a majority of his brethren on his merits and his demerits; the single voice is masonically bound to speak *openly*, in order that the whole Lodge may be enabled to judge on the subject justly and correctly."

On the subject of publishing the names of rejected candidates, it was reported by a committee, "that in their opinion, the practice of publishing such rejections is attended with no good, but on the contrary much injury to the craft, and is wrong in principle;" whereupon the Grand Lodge directed that no rejections shall be published under their jurisdiction.

Milwaukee Lodge having set up a doubt as to the authority of the Grand Master in conferring degrees, the subject was referred to a select committee, who reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:

"*Resolved*, As the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that the authority to confer degrees does not exist in the Grand Master, except in Grand Lodge duly assembled, or in a subordinate Lodge organized in a constitutional manner, and in no case without due inquiry into the character of the candidate, and upon a unanimous ballot of the Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That the exercise of the right to confer degrees in Grand Lodge is highly inexpedient, and should never hereafter be exercised by this Grand Lodge, except in cases of most extraordinary emergency."

Several Grand Lodges having animadverted on the action of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin in initiating, passing and raising a candidate, the committee on correspondence of that Grand Lodge felt themselves called upon to vindicate these proceedings, which they do in the following language:

"During the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge for the year A. L. 5847, this Grand Lodge received and acted upon a petition, and initiated, passed and raised Franklin Whitaker. To this proceeding, exceptions have been taken by several Grand Lodges, the right or power of the Grand Lodge questioned or denied, and the expediency of the exercise of such power by Grand Lodge also denied.

"Your committee deem it a duty which this Grand Lodge owes to the Masonic world, to vindicate its action at all times, and to sustain the correctness of our position by reason and by precedent. In regard to the expediency of the exercise of such power, of course each Grand Lodge must be its own and sole judge, as it alone can be cognizant of the facts and circumstances attendant. But your committee are free to present to our sister Grand Lodges, the reasons which determined them to confer the degrees on the occasion alluded to.

"By an article of our constitution, it is made the duty of the Grand Lecturer to exemplify the work and lectures before the Grand Lodge, at each Annual Communication. It was earnestly desired that on such occasions, the Masters and Wardens of all the Lodges being convened, an opportunity might be enjoyed either to see the work in fact performed, or to see it exemplified in Grand Lodge. But owing to the mass of business pressing upon the body, time was never found. On this occasion, a gentleman well known was desirous of becoming a member of

the Order, and on consultation, it was deemed a favorable opportunity to exhibit the actual work to the Masters and Wardens in attendance, as performed by the Grand Master and his officers. It was deemed the best mode of instruction, and entertaining no doubt of its power, the Grand Lodge resolved upon the proceeding."

FLORIDA.—The Grand Lodge of this State commenced its annual communication at Tallahassee, on Monday the 14th of January, 1850, and closed on Friday evening of the same week. M. W. Thomas Brown, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and Governor of the State, delivered a valuable address, in which he calls the attention of his brethren to a great variety of important topics. Alluding to the correspondence of sister Grand Lodges, he says: "But, brethren, if I had the whole year at my command, to devote to this duty, and a much larger share of ability than I possess, I could not in this address give you anything like an adequate idea of the vast amount of valuable Masonic information which this correspondence contains, embracing the proceedings of some thirty Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada." He closes his excellent address, by quoting with approbation some passages from an "Encyclical Letter of Advice and Admonition," addressed by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, to the Lodges under its jurisdiction, on the subject of the admission of members and the supervision of their conduct.

One brief sentence from this truly valuable letter, your committee beg leave to commend to the attention of the several Lodges in the jurisdiction of Connecticut; believing that here, as elsewhere, there is danger that unworthy members may be retained in the institution, long after all hope has been abandoned of their ever being restored to virtue and usefulness. Our South Carolina brethren say: "When such a man, living in the open shamelessness and abandonment of vice, without exhibiting in his life one guiding principle of Masonry, still continues to retain his membership in a Lodge in this jurisdiction, or claims to be a Mason in its vicinity, the Grand Lodge will hold such Lodge guilty of all the evil and disgrace which Masonry, in such a case, must necessarily receive."

A former vote of the Grand Lodge of Florida, made it the duty of subordinate Lodges to ascertain the number of children of Masons destitute of the means of education, and provide for them to the extent of their ability. Five Lodges reported to the Grand Lodge under this mandate, from which it appeared that there were but seven destitute children within their jurisdiction, and that measures had been taken to secure to them the blessings of education. A resolution was adopted, requiring the remaining Lodges to take immediate measures to carry out the benevolent designs of the institution in this particular, and to report to the next session of the Grand Lodge.

The committee on foreign correspondence, presented a voluminous and well digested report in 1849, which was acted upon and adopted at this communication. The committee review, in an intelligent and masterly manner, nearly every subject of interest which is engaging the attention of the craft in the United States. Most of these interesting topics have been alluded to in this report, and we need not refer to them again in this place. On the subject of expulsions, the Florida committee express the following opinion, in which we fully concur:—"The power to expel by a Lodge is coeval with the establishment of the order, and ex-

isted long before the establishment of Grand Lodges. We admit the right also of the Grand Lodge to expel from all the rights and benefits of Masonry; also its paramount authority. But the power of the subordinate, in one particular, cannot even be controlled by the Grand Lodge, viz: restoration of the expelled member to membership in the Lodge expelling him."

With reference to the practice of publishing the names of rejected candidates for the honors of Masonry, which is still continued by some of our sister Grand Lodges, and on which your committee have so often and so freely spoken in this and former reports, the Florida committee make this very just remark: "If he (the rejected) has been no gainer, he certainly should be no loser by any confidence he may have reposed in us."

So multifarious are the subjects brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge of Florida, in the able annual reports of her committee on foreign correspondence, and so important are these various topics considered by the Grand Lodge, that that enlightened body adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That hereafter the reports of the committee on foreign correspondence be printed in the recess of the Grand Lodge, and laid before the members on the first day of each annual communication.

LOUISIANA.—From this jurisdiction we have the gratifying intelligence that the difficulties are all amicably adjusted, and the whole fraternity united under one head, to wit, "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masters of the State of Louisiana."

Believing that the object of the appointment of a Committee on Correspondence is to bring to the notice of the Grand Lodge such matters of interest as may have engaged the attention of other Grand Lodges, the committee of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut have now attempted to perform this duty to the best of their ability. In the consummation of this labor, although much time has been consumed, it is not improbable that some matters of interest may have escaped their notice. If this should be found true, the committee throw themselves on the indulgence of the Grand Lodge, believing that they are entitled to the charitable consideration of their brethren.

On many of the important topics brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge in this report, your committee have refrained from any expression of opinion. They have done so, because in some cases, where they have discovered that a diversity of sentiment existed among eminent Masons, better qualified than themselves to decide, they have felt a diffidence in giving their own individual opinions; and also, because they have great confidence in the intelligence of their brethren of the Grand

Lodge here assembled, and believe them to be fully competent to decide these questions for themselves.

Your committee cannot conclude their labors, without congratulating the Grand Lodge and through them the fraternity at large on the prosperity of the Order in this jurisdiction, and on the exemption of our Lodges from all those causes of jealousy and contention which are distracting the counsels and interrupting the harmony of our brethren in various quarters. And we most devoutly wish for the speedy dawn of that desirable day, when the whole fraternity, throughout the land, shall be bound together by indissoluble ties of fraternal affection and confidence, and no harsh and discordant note shall be permitted to disturb their quiet.

In conclusion, your committee would recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge has witnessed, with profound regret, the unfortunate schism which has resulted in a disruption of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and the organization of an irregular body, styling itself the Grand Lodge of that State.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the conduct of Wm. Willis, Isaac Phillips, James Herring, and their associates, in interrupting the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York, at its annual communication in June, 1849, bidding defiance to the authority of the Grand Master, and proceeding in a rebellious and turbulent manner to the pretended organization of a new and independent Grand Lodge, was not only an outrage upon the rights of their brethren of the regularly constituted Grand Lodge, but a direct insult to the dignity of the Masonic Order, and open contempt for the benign and peaceful principles of our ancient institution.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut does not acknowledge, as a regularly constituted Grand Lodge of the State of New York, any other than the body over which M. W. John D. Willard is at present Grand Master.

Resolved, That Masonic intercourse is hereby forbidden and interdicted between the Lodges and members of the fraternity in Connecticut, and the Lodges and members in New York who do not acknowledge the authority and jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge recognized by the preceding resolution.

All of which is respectfully submitted in behalf of the committee.

WM. STORER, *Chairman.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1851.

At the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at Masonic Hall in the city of Hartford, on Wednesday, May 14th, A. L. 5851 :

PRESENT :

M. W. BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Grand Master.
 R. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Deputy Grand Master.
 DAVID CLARK, Senior Grand Warden.
 JOHN C. BLACKMAN, Junior Grand Warden.
 HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 THEODORE SPENCER, Senior Grand Deacon.
 FRAN'S TURNER, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
 HENRY A. HULL, Grand Marshal.
 CHARLES H. OLMSTED, Grand Sentinel.
 Rev. T. P. ABELL, Grand Chaplain.
 MASON GROSS, } Grand Stewards.
 SAMUEL TRIPP, }
 ELIZUR SKINNER, Grand Tyler.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, P. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.
 R. W. WILLIAM H. JONES, P. G. S., Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.
 R. W. JAMES WARD, P. D. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

Wm. H. Holly, George Giddings, Frederick Crosswell, William Storer, Cyrus Goodell, Henry Moore, James Stevens, Geo. Shumway.

At 10 o'clock A. M. the Grand Officers took their stations and the Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, with prayer by the R. W. Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Storer, Tripp and Hurlbut, a Committee on Credentials, who examined the returns, and reported that the following brethren were entitled to seats as

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—Francois Turner, Charles Brown, Howard B. Ensign.
- No. 2, St. John's, Middletown—Elliot Bradley, Jonathan Kilbourn, Jr.
- No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport—Alexander Hamilton, John H. St. John, Wm. S. Atkinson.
- No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—Henry J. Fox, Chester Hebbard, James B. Crosby.
- No. 5, Union, Stamford—John W. Leeds, Alexander Y. Sharp, Isaac Quintard, Jr.
- No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—John A. McLean, George F. Daskam, Dimon Fanton.
- No. 7, King Solomon's, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle.
- No. 11, St. Paul's, Litchfield—Alfred H. Beers.
- No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—J. W. Flowers, Sylvester Blake-man, Wm. Hawkins.
- No. 14, Frederick, Farmington—Giles Stillman.
- No. 20, Harmony, New Britain—Henry W. Flagg, Ezekiel Andrews, Jr.
- No. 25, Columbia, Glastenbury—Sabine Stocking, George W. Leonard, R. L. Brainard.
- No. 28, Morning Star, Warehouse Point—Harmon Terry, Humphrey Davis.
- No. 31, Union, New London—Geo. W. Goddard, Samuel Barry.
- No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—Wm. L. Brewer.
- No. 40, Union, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut.
- No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—Henry Chatfield, James M. Grannis

- No. 44, Eastern Star, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, Frederick P. Coe.
- No. 46, Putnam, Pomfret—C. L. Fisk, Isaac H. Coe.
- No. 49, Jerusalem, Ridgefield—Levi Bronson.
- No. 50 Warren, Andover—H. M. Booth, D. M. Buel.
- No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—William Hyde, Geo. E. Palmer, Junius M. Willey.
- No. 58, Northern Star, New Hartford—Hermon Chapin, Frederick J. Barwick, Josiah C. Allen.
- No. 60, Wolcott, Stafford—Wm. N. Clark.
- No. 62, Orient, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, Ralph Pitkin, Samuel O. Hollister.
- No. 63, Adelphi, Fair Haven—Ebenezer Allen, Elizur Harrison, Hosea N. Newton.
- No. 68, Charity, Groton—George Eldredge.
- No. 73, Manchester, Manchester—Jesse Ladd, A. E. Harrington.
- No. 77, Meridian, Meriden—Bertrand L. Yale, Tilton E. Doolittle, Wm. B. Olds.
- No. 78, Shepherd, Naugatuck—John A. Peck, Gideon O. Hollister, Stephen W. Kellogg.

On motion, it was voted that the report be accepted, and the committee discharged.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following standing Committees :

On Unfinished Business—A. Hamilton, E. Bradley, J. M. Grannis.

On Delinquent Lodges—I. W. Crawford, William Hyde, C. H. Olmsted.

On Grievances—D. Clark, G. Hebbard, W. Storer.

On By-Laws—T. P. Abell, J. W. Flowers, John A. Peck.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Sanford, it was

Resolved, That in addition to the usual Standing Committees, a Committee on Charters be appointed, to consist of one member from each County.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following brethren to compose said Committee :

F. Crosswell, New Haven County ; H. Goodwin, Hartford County ; J. Kilbourn, Jr., Middlesex County ; W. N. Clark, Tolland County ; Geo. E. Palmer, New London County : I. H. Coe, Windham County ; A. H. Beers, Litchfield County ; J. Stevens, Fairfield County.

R. W. Bro. Clark submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That all visiting brethren present, or who may be present during this communication, be invited to take seats with us and participate in all our doings except voting.

Resolved, That the first three officers of those Lodges working under dispensation be allowed to take seats in the Grand Lodge, and to participate in all our proceedings.

The M. W. Grand Master then addressed the Grand Lodge as follows :

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :

Having been permitted through the unmerited kindness of the supreme Grand Master of the Universe, to assemble again within these hallowed walls, consecrated to " Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love," it affords me no little pleasure to recognize the faces of so many with whom we have during a series of years taken sweet counsel. We meet under the most auspicious circumstances ; peace and harmony prevailing in all our borders, and the dearest interests of our beloved institution in a condition of prosperity hitherto unparalleled in the Masonic annals of this jurisdiction. In circumstances like these, surely our first emotion should be that of the warmest gratitude to Him who has watched over us and our time honored institution—who has preserved our Brotherhood from internal dissensions, and protected the sacred sanctuary of our mystic rites from unhalloved intrusion. In these aspirations of thankfulness I doubt not that each of you, my brethren, will cordially unite.

The limited field of the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge cannot furnish many topics on which it is necessary that I should address you ; and as to the condition of Masonry beyond our own territorial limits, doubt not that it will be laid before you by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom has been committed every thing of this nature, and from whose untiring industry on former occasions we are authorized to expect a faithful exposition of the details of all necessary information at this time.

The principles of Masonry are too well understood and too rigidly practiced in the several Lodges in this State, to call for the frequent interference of official authority on the part of the officers of the Grand Lodge, and it gives me pleasure to state that no such interference has been necessary during the past year. The only cases in which I have been called upon to exercise official authority since your last annual communication are two. During the past winter a petition was presented to me signed by a constitutional number of brethren residing in

Meriden, asking for a dispensation for a new Lodge in that town. Deeming this a suitable place for the location of a Lodge, I unhesitatingly complied with the request of these brethren. A dispensation was accordingly issued and the new Lodge has been at work since the first day of January last, and it becomes the duty of the Grand Lodge at this time, either to confirm or set aside my action. Several of the remaining members of St. Andrews Lodge, No. 64, formerly located at Winsted, addressed me some weeks since, asking the restoration of their charter with liberty to resume work, but as the annual communication of the Grand Lodge was so near at hand, I thought it advisable to postpone any action on the subject. The petition of these brethren is now committed to the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

In September last I received a communication from the Secretary of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, of Bridgeport, containing a proposition which originated in that Lodge, for the erection of a suitable Monument to the memory of our late Brother Gen. David Wooster, who was killed while fighting the Battles of American freedom, near Danbury, during the War of our Revolution. By a vote of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, at least \$100 was pledged from the funds towards the erection of such a Monument. The memory of the patriotic and devoted Wooster is cherished with affection by every Connecticut Mason. It is well known to every member of the Grand Lodge, that he was appointed more than a hundred years ago the first Master of the first Lodge instituted in this State, over which he presided with dignity, and to the acceptance of his brethren for several years. His character as a Christian, a Mason, and a Man, endeared him to his fellow citizens generally, and his death was deplored as a great public calamity. While as Masons we revere his memory, is it not fitting that we should take measures to perpetuate his virtues and hand down his matchless fame to future generations? As the originators of this project submitted it to me for an expression of opinion, I advised them, in reply, to postpone further action till the meeting of the Grand Lodge, not doubting your willingness to co-operate in so pleasant a work; and I now take pleasure in commending the subject to the liberality of the Grand Lodge, as well as to the several subordinate Lodges here represented. I cannot to highly extol the laudable public spirit of the brethren of St. John's Lodge, in this attempt to do an act of justice to the memory of a great and good man and distinguished Mason.

I received in September last, a letter from our Worshipful brother, Jeremy L. Cross, accompanying a beautiful volume of his true Masonic Chart or Hieroglyphic Monitor, to be presented to the Grand Lodge. This book has been long known and used in the several Lodges in this State, and I need say nothing of its merits. It is herewith submitted to the Grand Lodge.

I am happy in being able to inform my brethren that the unhappy difficulties which have so long existed between the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and a body styled St. John's Grand Lodge in the same State, have finally been amicably adjusted. The latter body has been dissolved and its members have been received as members of the true Grand Lodge. This re-union of long estranged brethren was celebrated in the city of New York, in December last, by a public procession and other appropriate exercises. This celebration, in common with the other Officers of this Grand Lodge, I received a frater-

nal invitation to attend, and I regretted that indisposition deprived me of the pleasure of being present.

Brethren, we miss from our assemblage to-day, some whose presence we have heretofore reckoned upon with as much confidence as our time of meeting, and when we came up to this sacred retreat we were not disappointed, they were wont to be with us; and to their assistance and deliberations and their wisdom and experience in action, we are indebted for much of our present prosperity. But they are not here to day; they have been called from labor, and we trust are now at rest in the Celestial Lodge above. Bro Chauncey Burgess, formerly a member of the Grand Lodge, has been taken from us by death since our last communication. Nor is this the only loss we deplore; it is only a few weeks since another beloved brother was snatched from us by a sudden and inscrutable dispensation of Divine Providence. Bro. Wilson B. Spring, long known as an active and efficient member of this Grand Lodge, while on his way to this city on business, in the early part of last month, met the grim archer on the way and was hurried into eternity. By a sudden accident, he was almost instantly deprived of life. And thus it is, one after another of our number is called away, and we are left to mourn, deprived of their valued aid and unassisted by their good counsel and advice, we are henceforth to labor on in our mission of good. Let us cherish their memory, imitate their virtues, and so perform the duties devolving on us, that when we too are called to render an account of our stewardship, we may receive the welcome plaudit of "well done, good and faithful servants."

Brethren, I tender to you my sincere wish that brotherly love and harmony may prevail in our councils and that every moral and social virtue may cement us.

B. A. SHEPHERD, *Grand Master*.

On motion of Bro. Willey, it was voted that the Address of the Grand Master be referred to a committee of three members, for an apportionment of its various subjects. Brs. Abell, Willey and Allen were appointed on the committee.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master submitted the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut:

BRETHREN—At our last annual communication, a resolution was adopted, empowering the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master to grant dispensations, in certain cases, during the recess, for new Lodges. Although no provision was made for a report of the performance of such duties, I have taken the liberty to consider that it was omitted through inadvertence, and therefore offer a brief statement of my official acts. Permit me, however, in the first place, to express my heartfelt gratification that we are permitted, by our Supreme Grand Master, to assemble under such favorable circumstances, to congratulate each other on the unexampled prosperity of our beneficent fraternity, not only in our own jurisdiction, but throughout the world. While our increase in numbers has been greater, during the past year, than in any year since I have known the Order, I have no reason to doubt that due caution has been used in the admission of can-

didates, and that the accession to our numbers has also been an accession of real strength.

Among the gratifying occurrences that have taken place since our last annual communication, I had the pleasure of attending, with several of our Grand Officers, the great union celebration of St. John's Grand Lodge with the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York. On this theme it is unnecessary to enlarge, as every brother must realize the joyful emotions which warmed the bosoms of all true Masons on that occasion. This union was consummated and celebrated at Tripler Hall in the city of New York, on the 27th of December, 1850.

On the 14th of January last, I received a petition from sundry brethren living at Naugatuck, for a dispensation for a new Lodge, with the official recommendation of Harmony Lodge, No. 42, of Waterbury. I immediately communicated with the Grand Master, asking his advice concerning the granting of the petition, and received his answer assenting to the same. Accordingly, on the 28th of the same month, I went to Naugatuck, accompanied by the R. W. Grand Secretary and by Brs. Crosswell and Flagg, of New Haven, and with their able assistance I conferred the dispensation on the petitioners, and instituted "Shepherd Lodge, No. 78," empowering them to work until this communication of the Grand Lodge. Although I have not visited them since, yet I have frequently heard, with great satisfaction, that they conduct the business of Masonry with care and prudence, and I recommend that a charter be granted them, on their surrendering the dispensation and making suitable returns.

On the 14th of February, I received from several brethren residing at Seymour, a petition for a dispensation, which having no recommendation attached, I sent it back, and on the 25th it was again returned to me, duly recommended by King Hiram Lodge, No. 12, Derby. On the 28th, I visited Seymour, in company with the Grand Secretary, for the purpose of granting the brethren there a dispensation, and instituting a new Lodge; but on conferring with the petitioners, and finding them not "duly and truly prepared," I declined proceeding. They will probably present their petition to the Grand Lodge at this communication.

Although I am satisfied that no high officer of this Grand Lodge would ever intrust a dispensation to any but well-qualified and worthy Masons, "good men and true," still I would suggest, that as the Grand Master and Deputy G. Master are required to perform certain official acts, they should each be required to make a report, at every annual communication, concerning such acts, if any have been performed, and if not, then a report on the existing state of the Order throughout the jurisdiction. If there was such a requirement in our by-laws, the officers would take pains to ascertain the situation and circumstances of the subordinate Lodges in our own State.

I would also suggest that a report from the Grand Secretary, at each annual communication, embracing a summary of such business as is likely to be presented would much facilitate the labors of the session, and would no doubt be beneficial.

Much has been said, during the past year, by brethren in different parts of the State, about Grand Lodge dues. For my own part, I have long been in favor of the adoption of a system which should require every member of the institution to contribute a small sum annually, to the support of it. A single dime a year,

which would be a small tax for each member, would in the aggregate make a sum that would be of much use to the Grand Lodge; and if every brother paid that small amount, unless excused for some special reason, we should always be able to know with *certainty* who our members actually are.

Finally, brethren, I hope to be pardoned for intruding upon the Grand Lodge with these ill-digested notions, as I solemnly affirm that they are prompted by a sincere wish for the welfare of our beloved Order, and offered in the hope that, through the attention of appropriate committees, they may be of some benefit to our Grand Lodge, and to the fraternity under its jurisdiction.

WILLIAM E. SANFORD,
Deputy Grand Master.

On motion of Bro. Holly the report of the Deputy Grand Master was referred to the same committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's address.

Bro. Hurlbut presented the following petition from Union Lodge, No. 40 :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut :

The petition of Union Lodge, No. 40, of Danbury, respectfully represents, that Major General DAVID WOOSTER, a native of New Haven, one of the most distinguished of the American Generals in the War of the Revolution, the first Worshipful Master of the oldest Masonic Lodge in the State of Connecticut,—Hiram Lodge, No. 1, at said New Haven,—was mortally wounded at Ridgefield, in this State, in a skirmish with the public enemy, on the 26th of April, 1777, and was brought to Danbury, where he soon died. He was buried in the public graveyard, and no monument whatever has been erected to his memory, or marks the place of his burial. For the purpose of aiding in erecting a befitting memorial of his character and services, his life and death, your committee solicit the cooperation of this Grand Lodge, and as in duty bound will ever pray.

Done, by order of the Lodge, at Danbury, May 10, 1851.

On motion, it was voted, that the petition be referred to a committee of three; and the M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Hurlbut, Turner and St. John.

The following communication from past officers of Frederick Lodge, No. 14, was received and read, and on motion referred to the Committee on Grievances :

To the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut :

We, the subscribers, late officers of Frederick Lodge, No. 14, Farmington, beg leave to make the subjoined statement :

That we are the only active Masons residing in Farmington, and that one of our number is constantly abroad in the regular pursuit of his business;—that no regular stated meetings of our Lodge have been held for nearly twenty years;—

that, so far as we are aware, the Treasurer's accounts have not been audited in that time;—that, at the virtual extinction of our Lodge, there was in the hands of the Treasurer, a considerable amount of funds, which has remained in the hands of some of the brethren since that time;—that at the death of Bro. Lemuel Whitman, a considerable amount of these funds were lost to our Lodge and to the Grand Lodge; that our late Bro. Henry Cowles, for some time nominal Master of said Lodge, has sold out his property, and removed to Alabama, taking with him about two hundred dollars of the funds of said Lodge; that the balance of said funds are now in the hands of Bro. Giles Stillman, a resident of New Britain, together with the records and other property of the Lodge.

We would further add, that we consider Bro. Stillman as an honest and industrious tradesman, and a worthy brother, and that we consider the funds in his hands as perfectly safe and well invested; but, fearing that the amount in the hands of Bro. Cowles will be eventually lost, we pray that the Grand Lodge will take notice of this statement, and act upon it as shall seem for the best interest of all concerned. Dated at Farmington, May 13, A. L. 5851.

EDWARD HOOKER,
CHARLES THOMPSON.

The Grand Lodge received invitations from Union Lodge, No. 5, and Eastern Star Lodge, No. 44, to attend the Festival of St. John the Baptist. On motion, it was voted, that the invitations be accepted.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 2 o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 14.

The Grand Lodge met at 2 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor.

Bro. Wm. Storer, chairman of the committee appointed for that purpose, presented and read the Report on Foreign Correspondence, accompanied by a resolution recognizing the Grand Lodge of California.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Clark, the resolution recognizing the Grand Lodge of California was adopted, the Report on Correspondence accepted, and the whole ordered to be printed with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Abell, from the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, presented the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, and the report of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to recommend, that so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the Wooster Monument, be referred to the special committee having in charge the petition of Union Lodge, No. 40, on the same subject ; that so much of the Deputy Grand Master's Report as relates to Shepherd Lodge, No. 78, be referred to the standing committee on Charters ; that so much as relates to a regulation requiring the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Secretary, to make annual reports, and so much as relates to yearly dues, be referred to the standing committee on By-Laws.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. P. ABELL,
J. M. WILLEY, } *Committee.*
E. ALLEN,

On motion of M. W. Bro. Ellis, the report was accepted, and the the recommendations adopted.

Bro. Hamilton, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, submitted the following report, which was accepted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The Committee on Unfinished Business, having attended to the duties of their appointment, would respectfully report, that the only subject they find coming within their jurisdiction, is the resolution introduced by Bro. Charles Brown, at the last annual communication, for an amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, giving Masters and Wardens of subordinate Lodges, who may hold office in the Grand Lodge, the privilege of appointing proxies ; which resolution was laid over to the present session. In behalf of the committee,

A. HAMILTON, *Chairman.*

On motion, it was voted, that Bro. Brown's resolution, referred to in the foregoing report, be now taken up for consideration. After a short discussion, the resolution was indefinitely postponed.

Bro. Crawford, from the Committee on Miscellaneous Correspondence, reported, that among the papers which had come under their observation was a circular from the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, containing the following resolution, which that Grand Lodge had adopted, with a respectful request that other Grand Lodges would adopt the same :

Resolved, That that this Grand Lodge hereby forbids the subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, to initiate, pass or raise any individual residing within the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, except such as shall present a recommenda-

tion for that purpose, unanimously adopted by the Lodge nearest the residence of the petitioner.

On motion, it was voted, that the report of the committee be accepted, and that the above resolution of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi be adopted as one of the permanent resolutions of this Grand Lodge.

The R. W. Grand Secretary reported to the Grand Lodge the case of Bro. Archibald A. Perkins, formerly a member of this Grand Lodge, and a Past Master of Hart's Lodge, No. 22, stating that he was thrown from a carriage on last election day, in consequence of his horse taking fright, by which accident he was severely injured, and probably made a cripple for life; and in addition to this dispensation, his wife was afflicted with a distressing cancer, which in all human probability would prove fatal; thus rendering this aged and respectable couple nearly helpless.

M. W. Bro. Ellis made a brief statement, corroborative of the above facts, and of the circumstances and Masonic character of Bro. Perkins; after which the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That fifty dollars be appropriated from the funds of the Grand Lodge, for the relief and benefit of Bro. Archibald A. Perkins, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer for the same, and also for the relinquishment to Bro. Perkins of the avails of a note given by our late Bro. Hezekiah Thomas to Hart's Lodge, No. 22, now in the hands of the administrator on Bro. Thomas' estate.

The R. W. Grand Secretary reported, that since the last annual communication he had visited North Stonington, and received the charter and books of Widow's Son Lodge, No. 53, together with such of the effects as could be found; and that among said effects were several notes given to said Lodge by members thereof, amounting, in the aggregate, including interest, to about two hundred and fifty dollars, which were now in his possession, subject to the order of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Hyde, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to notify all those brethren against whom he holds notes given to Widow's Son Lodge, that the Grand Lodge

expects them to pay said notes, and that he is ready to receive payment of the same.

The R. W. Grand Secretary reported, that in obedience to a resolution passed at the last annual communication, he had notified Moriah Lodge, No. 15, Hiram, No. 18, and Apollo, No. 59, that unless they show cause for their delinquency, at the present communication, the question would be taken on revoking their charters.

No reasons being offered in behalf of said Lodges, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the charters of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, and Hiram Lodge, No. 18, be and are hereby revoked, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to demand their effects.

A report of the doings of Apollo Lodge, No. 59, was received and referred to the Committee on Delinquencies.

Bro. Croswell, from the Committee on Charters, made the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The Select Committee to whom were referred several petitions for the restoration and renewal of various charters heretofore surrendered to, or annulled by this Grand Lodge, and for charters for new Lodges, respectfully submit the following resolutions :

F. CROSWELL, *Chairman*.

1 *Resolved*, That the charters of Friendship Lodge, No. 33, and St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 64, be restored.

2 *Resolved*, That the charter of Morning Star Lodge, No. 47, be restored, and that said Lodge be located in the town of Seymour.

3 *Resolved*, That the charter of Warren Lodge, No. 51, which has been annulled by this Grand Lodge, be renewed, and that said Lodge be located in the town of Portland.

4 *Resolved*, That a new charter be granted to Wooster Lodge, No. 10, Colchester,—the original one having been annulled and lost.

5 *Resolved*, That charters for new Lodges to be located respectively at New Haven, Meriden and Naugatuck, be granted according to the prayer of the petitioners therefor.

6 *Resolved*, That the petition of Bro. Loyal Dudley and others, for a charter for a new Lodge to be located in Berlin, be continued to the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge.

The above resolutions, with the exception of the third and sixth, were unanimously adopted. On motion of R. W. Bro. Storer, the third resolution was recommitted, and the sixth

amended by granting a charter to the petitioners for a new Lodge, by the name of Berlin Lodge, No. 80.

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the communication from Frederick Lodge, of Farmington, reported the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That Bro. Giles Stillman be a committee to procure and return the charter and effects of Frederick Lodge, No. 14, also to collect the money due to said Lodge, and deliver the same to the Grand Secretary.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 7 o'clock this evening.

Wednesday Evening, May 14.

The Grand Lodge met at 7 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor.

Bro. Crosswell, from the Committee on Charters, presented the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolution adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn.

The Committee on Charters, to whom was recommitted the petition for the renewal of the charter of Warren Lodge, No. 51, respectfully report, that upon a further investigation of the subject, they find that the charter of said Lodge has been annulled, and its surrender formally demanded by the Grand Secretary, in pursuance of a decree of the Grand Lodge, but that the demand has never been complied with. They therefore recommend the adoption of the subjoined resolution.

F. CROSWELL, *Chairman.*

Resolved, That when the charter and effects of Warren Lodge, No. 51, shall be surrendered, the Grand Secretary is hereby authorized to restore the same, and to change the location of said Lodge to the town of Portland.

Bro. T. P. Abell offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw twenty-five dollars from the treasury of the Grand Lodge, and pay the same to the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in remuneration for his services on that committee.

An invitation was tendered to the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, by R. W. Brother David Clark, to visit his

residence at 9 o'clock this evening ; and it was, on motion, resolved, that the invitation be accepted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Holly and Crosswell tellers, when ballots were taken, and the following brethren declared duly elected to the respective offices affixed to their names :

- M. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Grand Master.
 R. W. DAVID CLARK, Deputy Grand Master.
 THEODORE SPENCER, Senior Grand Warden.
 WILLIAM L. BREWER, Junior Grand Warden.
 HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 THOMAS H. SEYMOUR, Senior Grand Deacon.
 GEORGE F. DASKAM, Junior Grand Deacon.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed and invested with their jewels, by Past Grand Master Shepherd.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning ; and the officers and members proceeded in a body to the residence of the R. W. Deputy G. Master, where they partook of an elegant entertainment, and the remainder of the evening was spent in fraternal and social intercourse.

Thursday Morning, May 15.

The Grand Lodge met at 8 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

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

- Bro. HENRY A. HULL, of New Britain, Grand Marshal.
 " CHARLES H. OLMSTED, East Hartford, G. Sentinel.
 " JUNIUS M. WILLEY, Stonington, G. Chaplain.
 " SAMUEL WIRE, New Haven, } G. Stewards.
 " RALPH WARREN, Fair Haven, }
 " ISAAC TUTTLE, New Haven, Grand Tyler.

Bro. Hurlbut, from the Committee on the Wooster Monument, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The committee to whom was referred the subject of the Wooster Monument, beg leave to report, that they have attended to the duties of their appointment, and would respectfully recommend that the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated from the funds of this Grand Lodge to assist in the erection of a suitable Monument to the Memory of General DAVID WOOSTER, the same to be erected at Danbury, under the supervision of the Grand Lodge.

Your committee would further recommend, that a committee of one from each county in this State be appointed, to solicit subscriptions in their several counties, from Masons and others, for the purpose of erecting said Monument ; and that a committee be also appointed by the Grand Lodge to superintend the erection of the same, and receive and appropriate all funds raised for that purpose.

In behalf of the Committee,

STEPHEN A. HURLBUT, *Chairman.*

Bro. A. Hamilton offered the following resolutions, and they were adopted :

Resolved, That the first four officers of the Grand Lodge, together with the first three officers of Union Lodge, No. 40, be a committee to superintend the erection of the Wooster Monument, and to receive and pay out all funds raised for that purpose.

Resolved, That the W. Master of each Lodge in this jurisdiction be requested to solicit subscriptions from his Lodge, for the purpose of assisting in the erection of said Monument, and to transmit the same to the committee appointed for that purpose.

Bro. F. P. Coe offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary cause to be printed a circular, containing a brief statement in relation to the character and death of our eminent brother, Gen. David Wooster, together with subscription papers, and a statement of the object of the fund to be raised ; and that a copy of the same be sent to the W. Master of each Lodge in the State.

Bro. Crawford, from the Committee on Delinquent Lodges, submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The Committee on Delinquent Lodges, to whom was referred the case of Apollo Lodge, No. 59, respectfully report, that they find from the record of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge in May, 1850, that Apollo Lodge had made no returns, and had been wholly unrepresented, for the two preceding years ; and that a resolution was passed requiring them to give good reasons for their delinquency

at the next annual communication, or the question would then be taken on revoking their charter. Apollo Lodge having been duly notified of this resolution, and having neglected to comply with its requisition, your committee recommend that the following resolution be adopted :

Resolved, That the charter of Apollo Lodge, No. 59, be and is hereby revoked, and declared null and void.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I. W. CRAWFORD, }
WILLIAM HYDE, } *Committee.*
C. H. OLMSTED, }

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted, and the resolution adopted.

The Auditing Committee presented the following report, which was approved, accepted, and ordered to be recorded :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication, to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge for the year ending May 13, A. L. 5851, respectfully report, that they have attended to that duty, and find that all the moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, in whose hands there is now a balance in cash of ten hundred and eight dollars and fifty-three cents; which, with fifty-seven shares of the Union School Stock, valued at fifteen dollars a share, amounting to eight hundred and fifty-five dollars, make the whole amount of the funds of the Grand Lodge, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three dollars and fifty-three cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRED. CROSWELL, }
C. H. OLMSTED, } *Committee.*

GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, 1851.

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with H. Goodwin, 2d.

Dr.

Paid Hiram Lodge, No. 1, for room rent, - - -	\$10.00
Grand Secretary's bill, - - - - -	92.50
Grand Tyler's bill, - - - - -	5.00
Grand Steward's bill, - - - - -	40.60
Wm. Storer, per order Grand Lodge, - -	25.00
B. A. Shepherd's bill, - - - - -	34.96
Geo. Giddings' bill, - - - - -	11.75
F. P. Gorham's bill, - - - - -	12.50
Sundry bills for advertising, freight, &c. - -	10.83
Balance to new account, - -	1,008.53
	<hr/>
	\$1,251.67

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with H. Goodwin, 2d.
Cr.

By balance on hand, May, 1850, - - - - -	\$929.67
Cash received of Grand Secretary, - - - - -	268.00
Interest to May 1, 1851, - - - - -	54.00

\$1251.67

H. GOODWIN, 2d, *G. Treasurer.*

Grand Secretary's Account of Cash received, 1850.

Of Hiram Lodge, No. 1,	\$38.00
St. John's, No. 2,	3.00
St. John's, No. 3,	18.00
St. John's, No. 4,	22.00
St. John's, No. 6,	6.00
St. Paul's, No. 11,	3.00
King Hiram, No. 12,	6.00
Harmony, No. 20,	26.00
Morning Star, No. 28,	3.00
Union, No. 31,	18.00
Somerset, No. 34,	15.00
Union, No. 40,	2.00
Harmony, No. 42,	12.00
Eastern Star, No. 44,	1.00
Putnam, No. 46,	17.00
Jerusalem, No. 49,	12.00
Warren, No. 50,	6.00
Asylum, No. 57,	9.00
Northern Star, No. 58,	11.00
Wolcott, No. 60,	2.00
Orient, No. 62,	7.00
Adelphi, No. 63,	28.00
Manchester, No. 73,	2.00

Paid Grand Treasurer, \$268.00

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

R. W. Bro. Storer offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be and are hereby presented to our Most Worshipful Brother Benoni A. Shepherd, for the highly satisfactory and efficient manner in which he has discharged the duties of Grand Master for the past year.

Bro. Wm. H. Holly offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are due and hereby tendered to R. W. Bro. Clark, D. G. M., for his kindness and courtesy towards the members, during the present communication.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. William Storer, John W. Leeds, and Frederick Croswell, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and Bros. Charles H. Olmsted and Howard B. Ensign, Auditing Committee.

The business of the annual communication having been harmoniously concluded, the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, HIRAM, New Haven—Francois Turner, W. M.; Charles Brown, S. W.; James C. Blakeman, J. W.; Eliphalet G. Storer, Secretary. *Initiated*—George L. Cannon, Andrew Bird, Jr., Henry H. Foot, Robert H. Starr, Thomas J. Stafford, Ira Merwin, John Hendricks, Gilbert Camp, Charles Carlisle, Wilson J. Cunningham, Thomas Lawton, John Ritcher, Samuel E. Dennis, James H. Leforge, Gustavus Hausknecht, Samuel Zunder, Joseph B. Thompson, Alexander Buchanan, Addison Vorrey, Edward D. Moore, Thomas Phillips, Hiram P. Croffut, Gustavus B. Simonds, Charles B. Simonds, Wm. M. White. *Admitted*—Sherman Barnes, Paul Leroux. *Withdrawn*—Abraham Kauffman, Linus Cornwell, Louis Wiener, Isaac Wiener. *Died*—Cyprian G. Webster, John Douglass.

No. 2, ST. JOHN'S, Middletown—Elliot Bradley, W. M.; Jonathan Kilbourn, Jr., S. W.; L. B. Ward, J. W.; Wm. Corey, Secretary. *Initiated*—Solomon Sias, O. W. Brooks, Seth Church, David J. Neal, Wm. Cooley, Jr.

No. 3, ST. JOHN'S, Bridgeport—Alexander Hamilton, W. M.; John II. St. John, S. W.; Wm. S. Atkinson, J. W.; John M. Wilson, Secretary. *Initiated*—Henry Layfield, Adolphus Nanstead, James Smith, George W. Burger, Frederick W. Parrott, Francis Ives, George W. Yates, Wm. Boston, Wm. S. Hanford, Seymour Whiting, David L. Mills, Jr., Samuel Jones, Richard McGregor, Jr., Wm. H. Mills, Samuel P. Rand, David Trubee, S. B. Ferguson, Jr., John M. Samis, Samuel H. Hurd, Luther P. Bradley, Franklin Hitchcock, Wm. D. Bishop. *Admitted*—Henry C. Lobdell, Robert H. Smith. *Died*—Charles B. Nichols.

No. 4, ST. JOHN'S, Hartford—James H. Ashmead, W. M.; Chester Hebbard, S. W.; James B. Crosby, J. W.; J. S. Brown, Secretary. *Initiated*—N. Seymour Webb, A. C. Goodman, John C. Comstock, Wm. L. Wood, Solomon Colton, Rev. Henry J. Fox, Stephen Strickland, E. Thomas Lobdell, Elisha T. Smith, John B. Olcott, Wm. C. Armstrong, George King, Henry A. Goodwin, Thomas Peard, Oliver Woodhouse, Luther A. Pratt, Samuel Colt, Horace J. Larkum, R. Augustus Erving, George F. Wright, Abraham Rose. *Admitted*—Samuel Alexander, Jr., Edward Stevens, Stephen Babcock, Samuel F. Jones, Jr. *Died*—Orrin Smith, Wm. D. Eaton.

No. 5, UNION, Stamford—John W. Leeds, W. M.; James H. Miner, S. W. Isaac Quintard, Jr., J. W.; Roswel Hoyt, Secretary. *Initiated*—Alexander Y. Sharp, Sands Seely, Isaac J. Lockwood, Lewis Johnson, Chauncey Ayres, John J. Twiss, Edwin Bishop, Charles D. Carter. *Admitted*—Henry K. Skelding, Wm. A. Rose, Charles H. Merrick, Samuel Gage.

No. 6, ST. JOHN'S, Norwalk—Dimon Fanton, W. M.; Noah A. Disbrow, S. W.; Eli K. Street, J. W.; Wm. Haight, Secretary. *Initiated*—Jehiel Gruman, Ransford Banks, Ezra B. Kellogg, Thomas Benedict, James A. Hoyt, Wm. C. Adams, George G. Pennoyer, Wm. B. Miller, Amos J. Hubbard, Burr Winton, George P.

Sandborn, Eldridge Purington, Samuel Lynes. *Suspended*—Lewis Bennett.—*Withdrawn*—James H. Hoyt. *Died*—James Douglass.

No. 7, KING SOLOMON'S, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle, W. M.; Eleazar Welton, S. W.; Eri Riggs, J. W.; Charles H. Webb, Secretary.

No. 8, ST. JOHN'S, Stratford—John Goulding, W. M.; Samuel Benjamin, S. W.; Benjamin Fairchild, J. W.; Wm. T. Shelton, Secretary.

No. 11, ST. PAUL'S, Litchfield—Frederick Buel, W. M.; Frederick D. Beman, S. W.; Leveret W. Wessels, J. W.; George Seymour, Secretary. *Initiated*—Charles Vail, Solomon Marsh, 2d, John A. Poolton, Wm. Lord, Wm. H. Crossman, Charles L. Perkins, Edward O. Peck, Benjamin Pendleton.

No. 12, KING HIRAM, Derby—John W. Flowers, W. M.; Sylvester Blackman, S. W.; Wm. Hawkins, J. W.; Wm. Whitney, Secretary. *Initiated*—Royal Bassett, Francis Tucker, Nelson H. Downs, I. Stevens, Wm. L. Canfield, Theodore Swift, Samuel H. Cotter, Evan Williams, Peter Phelps, Peter Burns, Ambrose Beardsley, Wm. E. Downs, Simon Tomlinson, E. C. Smith, Miles L. Hoadley, Charles Wooster, Charles W. Storrs, E. C. Reamer, David C. DeForest, Wm. W. Hoyt.

No. 20, HARMONY, New Britain—Henry W. Flagg, W. M.; Ezekiel Andrews, S. W.; Luman F. Parker, J. W.; Wm. G. Coe, Secretary. *Initiated*—Newton Woodruff, Anan Hyde, Ernest Stanley, Wm. G. Coe, Wm. M. Fowler, James S. Hooker, Edward F. Barber, George H. Waters, Philo A. Clark, Samuel J. Parker, Gustavus West, Charles Stearns, Henry C. Miller, Edwin E. Stannard, Edward J. Collins. *Admitted*—Warren Lord. *Died*—Alfred L. Burt.

No. 25, COLUMBIA, Glastenbury—Sabine Stocking, W. M.; Robert L. Brainard, S. W.; George W. Leonard, J. W.; Oliver Brainard, Secretary. *Initiated*—John D. Williams, Benjamin Lawrence, Daniel H. Stevens, Francis L. Brainard, Wm. Tyler, Thomas Smith, Edwin Baker, Edwin Sherman, Woodward Dean, Samuel F. Jones, John W. Smith, Wm. W. Post.

No. 28, MORNING STAR, East Windsor—Harmon Terry, W. M.; Joseph Sullivan, S. W.; Humphrey Davis, J. W.; Edwin Dimock, Secretary. *Initiated*—Henry Bliss, John S. Doyle. *Expelled*—H. N. Barrows.

No. 31, UNION, New London—Edward Clark, W. M.; Cyrus Hewitt, S. W.; Samuel D. Barnes, J. W.; Royal J. Kimball, Secretary. *Initiated*—George W. Bailey, David P. Francis, Orrin F. Smith, Wm. Denithorn, Stephen Taylor, Wm. G. Crosby, Codding B. Fisk, Oscar Stroud, Charles Smith, Allen D. Smith, Wm. W. Bailey, Leonard Apes, Jeremiah Lester, Charles C. Cone. *Died*—Hezekiah Goddard, Joseph Bailey, Amos Starks, Lorenzo D. Gallup, Jeremiah Potts, David A. Reed, Alexander H. Hart, Wm. Rogers, Wm. Sisson. *Expelled*—Maston Merrill, Wm. W. Kingsley.

No. 34, SOMERSET, Norwich—Wm. H. Copp, W. M.; Roswel W. Roath, S. W.; Luther Pellet, J. W.; H. Hobart Roath, Secretary. *Initiated*—Willard Moore, John J. Walker, Darius Gardner, F. W. H. Rogers, Horace Thurston. *Withdrawn*—Jacob L. Myers, George S. Hopkins. *Died*—Chauncey Burgess.

No. 40, UNION, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut, W. M.; Ira Hodge, S. W.; John Ferguson, J. W.; Wm F. Taylor, Secretary. *Initiated*—Angel Barrio, Wm. F. Lacey, George Bates, Wm. F. Taylor.

No. 42, HARMONY, Waterbury—Henry Chatfield, W. M.; Edward Sandland, S. W.; George N. Pritchard, J. W.; Silas Y. Ives, Secretary. *Initiated*—Richard Allen, Charles E. Morse, Algernon S. Plumb, Silas Y. Ives, John W. Webster, Stephen W. Kellogg, Meyer Morrets, Lyman C. Camp, Peter Kirkham, William Leyden, John Radley, E. P. Leavenworth, John W. Paul, Frederick A. Warner. David E. Castle, David B. Hazel, John Adams, Aner Bradley, Jr., Thomas M. Payne, Henry R. Chambers, George B. Thompson. *Admitted*—Wm. Lamb, Wm. Spiers, E. N. Hawley; *Withdrawn*—Henry B. Day, Isaac M. Little, Henry Jones. *Died*—E. N. Hawley, Jacob Talmadge. *Expelled*—George B. Thompson.

No. 44, EASTERN STAR, Windham—Gurdon Hebbard, W. M.; David L. Fuller, S. W.; Elisha Tracy, J. W.; Wallace Huntington, Secretary. *Initiated*—Lloyd E. Baldwin, Louis Feldman, Frederick P. Coe, Robert K. Brush. *Admitted*—Thomas Campbell, George W. Keyes, Jared Wilson. *Died*—Gurdon Gayger, Ogden Kingsley, Burr Lincoln.

No. 46, PUTNAM, Pomfret—Benjamin Allard, W. M.; Lewis Williams, S. W.; Oliver P. Jacobs, J. W.; Augustus Green, Secretary. *Initiated*—George E. Preston, Daniel H. Hovey, George W. Eddy, Lewis Harrington, Otis E. Keith. *Admitted*—Dyer Ames, John Powdrell, Benjamin C. Palmer, Horton Webb, Timothy Coggshall, Ephraim Medbury. *Died*—Joseph Scarborough.

No. 49, JERUSALEM, Ridgefield—Hiram K. Scott, W. M.; David Dauchy, S. W.; Jacob L. Dauchy, J. W.; Walter Dauchy, Secretary. *Initiated*—Edmund B. Lee.

No. 50, WARREN, Andover—Timothy Dimock, W. M.; Ransford Button, S. W.; Charles G. Buel, J. W.; Adonijah White, Secretary. *Initiated*—George L. Metcalf, Joseph S. Lyman, Ralph Crittenden.

No. 57, ASYLUM, Stonington—Francis Amy, W. M.; George E. Palmer, S. W.; Russel A. Denison, J. W.; Junius M. Willey, Secretary. *Initiated*—Samuel Hancox, Henry C. Trumbull, Amos Palmer, Jr., John Brown, Thomas W. Palmer. *Admitted*—Elisha Faxon, Jr., Franklin A. Palmer. *Died*—Joshua Sanford, Joseph H. Pendleton.

No. 58, NORTHERN STAR, New Hartford—Hermon Chapin, W. M.; Samuel M. Tuber, S. W.; Josiah C. Alden, J. W.; Frederick J. Barwick, Secretary. *Initiated*—Wm. G. Canfield, James W. Jones, Caleb C. Goodwin, Fred. J. Barwick, John G. Case, Warren II. Drake, Charles H. King, Charles W. Nash, Fayette Alford, Enoch Gaines, Nelson M. Howe, Rollin O. Humphrey, Chester H. Bowen, John C. Guy. *Admitted*—Ralph Case. *Died*—Wilson B. Spring.

No. 60, WOLCOTT, Stafford—Alva Francis, W. M.; Wm. Adams, S. W.; Laurens Crawford, J. W.; Zina Winter, Secretary.

No. 62, ORIENT, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, W. M.; Ralph Pitkin, S. W.; Samuel O. Hollister, J. W.; Charles H. Olmsted, Secretary. *Initiated*—Fred'k

Cooley, George R. Curtiss, Clement Fox, Henry W. Johnson, George H. Risley, Joseph D. Stedman, Lyman Wetherell, Francis W. Whipple.

No. 63, ADELPHI, Fair Haven—Ebenezer Allen, W. M.; Elizur Harrison, S. W.; Hosea N. Newton, J. W.; Wm. N. Gesner, Secretary. *Initiated*—Ruel Rowe, James Wedmore, Henry R. Barnes, Ruel P. Tuttle, Lafayette J. Coates, E. B. Mallory, Selah S. Rowe, Harvey N. Rowe, J. Kingsbury, Charles P. Kellogg, Edward Avery, Nathaniel S. English, Joseph B. Wilcox, E. R. Higby, John A. Dibble, John Harvey, Charles E. Scranton. Horace Tuttle, Frederick Rose, Edwin Barnes, Thomas Grannis, Jr., John H. Beecher, Asa Wedmore, Wm. Botsworth, Wm. M. Whitney, A. L. B. Chamberlin, John E. Bray, Wm. Foot. *Admitted*—Richard Wilson, Zebina Allen, Daniel H. Brown, Willard Smith, Henry B. Day, Joseph H. Dunning, Lyman Parker, Lester Keep. *Withdrawn*—Sherman Barnes. *Died*—Wm. S. Rowe, Nathaniel Johnson.

No. 68, CHARITY, Mystic—Charles H. Mallery, W. M.; Albert G. Stark, S. W.; George Eldridge, J. W.; Wm. B. Smith, Secretary. *Initiated*—David O. Richmond, Elihu Spicer, Jr., Dudley A. Avery, Nelson Burrows, Nathan P. Sawyer, Roswel Brown, Albert G. Stark, Wm. B. Smith, Henry Latham, Nathan S. Fisk, Peter E. Rowland, John A. Forsyth, Wm. H. Latham. *Admitted*—Joseph Cothell, Charles Mallery, Jeremiah Holmes, Henry Ackley, Ambrose H. Burrows, Elam Eldridge, Horatio N. Fisk. *Died*—Hubbard W. Burrows, Stephen Billings, John Packer, John Stoddard, Ebenezer D. Minor.

No. 73, MANCHESTER, Manchester—Henry Marble, W. M.; Melancthon Hudson, S. W.; Alpheus E. Harrington, J. W.; Wm. M. Roberts, Secretary. *Initiated*—Charles Chapman, Francis W. Cowles, Ralph W. Haughton.

No. 77, MERIDIAN, Meriden—Humphrey Lyon, W. M.; John Parker, S. W.; Wm. Allen, J. W.; Bertrand L. Yale, Secretary. *Initiated*—Tilton E. Doolittle, Elias Newton. *Admitted*—Ira Twiss, Benjamin Twiss, Stephen Seymour, Henry Stedman, Humphrey Lyon, Almeron Miles.

No. 78, SHEPHERD, Naugatuck—Marshal Hoadley, W. M.; Gideon O. Hotchkiss, S. W.; Austin A. Hickox, J. W.; Stephen W. Kellogg, Secretary. *Initiated*—Joseph O. Kane, Stephen C. Warner.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut.

Your committee to whom was submitted the Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge, have much pleasure in coming before their brethren at this their sixty-second Annual Communication ; and while we feel a proud satisfaction in congratulating the Grand Lodge on the high degree of prosperity which characterizes the present position of Masonry in this State, we are pleased to notice the healthy and flourishing condition of the Order in all sections of our beloved country. The working tools of our profession appear to be in the hands of accomplished craftsmen, who are busily engaged in rearing the proud turrets of our stately Masonic edifice ; and the sound of the gavel is distinctly heard from shore to shore of this broad continent. Wherever the active enterprise and indomitable energy of our brethren lead them in the pursuit of worldly gear, there they are sure to introduce and disseminate the principles and practices of our ancient institution. The time has already come, when the great luminary of the day, from the moment he leaps from the Atlantic wave which lashes the rough coast of New England, till he leaves his burning brow in the placid waters of the Pacific, ceases not to shine on and illumine the towers and minarets of the beautiful temples of Free Masonry. From the granite coast of Maine to the golden shores of California, every State of this mighty empire of freemen has now its Grand Masonic Lodge ; and throughout each of these thirty-one separate and distinct jurisdictions, a year of unparalleled prosperity and success has just passed, closing up the busy account of another half century of the existence of our time honored institution. During these past fifty years, through how many vicissitudes has our beloved brotherhood passed ? And how nobly has it outrode every storm ! How gloriously triumphed over every obstacle ! How valiantly surmounted every difficulty ! How

manfully met and discomfited every foe! The hot blasts of calumny have passed over her,—but she is unscathed. The fierce and relentless opposition of superstitious bigotry has assayed the overthrow of our principles,—but in vain! Free Masonry to-day stands on a prouder eminence, and occupies a stronger position in the confidence and respect of the world, than ever before. She has “lived down” all opposition. The fierce enmity with which she has been assailed has indeed tried her, but we trust she has been purified as by fire. She enters on the second half of another century of her long existence justified of all her enemies, and high in the esteem and affection of the great and good of all climes. What shall be her position at the end of the present century, when another fifty years shall have rolled away, we cannot with certainty foretell; but, if we may judge from her past history and present circumstances, it may be safely predicted that her destiny is to be the acknowledged handmaid of Religion—the bold and successful champion of universal freedom.

In looking over the mass of documents placed in our hands by the Grand Secretary, we find that we are in possession of the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois, Indiana, Arkansas, Texas and California. To look over and note the contents of this collection of publications, containing from 24 to 170 pages each, has required a great amount of time; and even now, after having “wasted the midnight lamp” for many a weary hour in this employment, your committee are conscious that they have omitted to notice many things of interest to the fraternity. But the danger of being accused of a penchant for “book making” has warned them to forbear, and to cut short their investigations. Perhaps in no way can the general condition of our Order in the various American jurisdictions be more readily placed before the Grand Lodge at a single glance, than by adopting the course pursued on former occasions, and alluding to the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges in order. Here then we begin.

MAINE.—We have from this Grand Lodge the proceedings of her Annual Communication in Portland, on the 2d of May, 1850. The business of the session was principally of a local character, and the printed minutes show an enviable state of prosperity. The Grand Secretary reported that he had, in obedience to a vote of the Grand Lodge, caused the minutes of the proceedings of sister Grand Lodges, which have been accumulating for years, to be bound in convenient and substantial volumes, making in all twenty-six books, which he hopes will be the nucleus of a Grand Lodge Library, “which shall be not only honorable and useful to themselves, but of incalculable value to the craft during a long succession of future ages.” \$20 was appropriated for the purchase of books. The State of Maine is divided into nine Masonic Districts, each of which is under the supervision of a District Deputy Grand Master. Five of these officers made report of their doings. One of them asks, “Would it not have a desirable effect for the Grand Lodges, by a special committee or otherwise, to address a circular to the several subordinate Lodges on the all important subject of vigilance and strict attention to those cardinal virtues, *Temperance* and *Prudence*?”

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—From this Grand Lodge we have the proceedings of the Annual Communication at Concord, on the 11th and 12th of June, 1850, when the members of the Grand Lodge dined together, at the expense of its fund.

The opening address of the Grand Master is replete with valuable hints, from which we would gladly extract many things that might be of service to the Craft generally; but our limits will only allow this:

“We cannot be too often or too forcibly reminded of our solemn duty in the all-important matter of admitting new members into our time honored Institution. The qualifications of a candidate for the honors of Masonry, should be of a positive nature. It is insufficient that nothing of a vicious character is known respecting a candidate; the question should be,—is he truly a virtuous man, one who fears God, and works righteousness? Nor should any individual whose moral character is defective, be admitted under the hope that he may thereby be made better. If we would that the Masonic temple should endure, able to bear the buffetings of the storm and the shock of the tempest, we must take heed that the materials which are to compose it, be not only hewn and squared, but likewise sound to the very heart's core. Let the honors of Masoury be conferred only on those thus carefully selected, and our Institution will be as enduring as the everlasting hills. How impressive and emphatic the language of the good old charge—‘A Mason is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understands the Art, he will never be a stupid Atheist nor an irreligious Libertine.’”

New Hampshire is divided into four Masonic Districts, over which are four District Deputy Grand Masters. In the report of one of these officers we find a beautiful instance of the affection with which some of our more elderly brethren cling to the Masonic institution, and the value they put upon its privileges.—Speaking of his visit to St. Peter's Lodge, No. 31, at Branford—a Lodge that had barely “kept up its organization” for several years,—he says: “Having understood that this Lodge had done measurably no work for several years past, I had every reason to expect I should find the brethren few and those few discouraged, disheartened and dejected, rusty and uninstructed in the lectures and work i

but great indeed was my surprise on going into the Lodge. Instead of a few disheartened brethren as I expected, a goodly number had assembled, every office was filled, every officer and member Masonically clad, in his place, knowing his duty and prompt in the discharge of it. I found in the chair, presiding as Master, our venerable friend and brother, Worshipful Stephen Hoyt, retaining to a wonderful extent a correct knowledge of the work and lectures as anciently taught, and exhibiting a degree of fervency and zeal in the institution, and attachment to the principles of the Order rarely equalled and never surpassed by young or old in any age. There were also present other elderly brethren who seemed to engage in the ceremonies of the occasion with all the zeal and vigor of youth. Their venerable Master took occasion to announce to his Lodge that that was his birth day, numbering 80 years. Our venerable brother seemed to have retained his mental and physical powers to an unusual degree. His perceptions appeared as clear and distinct, his memory as retentive and perfect, and his step as firm and elastic, as in men ordinarily at 45 or 50 years of age, and his zeal and activity in the cause of Free Masonry is worthy of all imitation."

MASSACHUSETTS.—We have from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, an abstract of her proceedings from March, 1849, to March, 1850. At one of the communications, the doings of a subordinate Lodge passed in review; it appeared that a brother had been suspended when only *five* members were present, including the Tyler. A special committee of the Grand Lodge reported, that, in their opinion, this proceeding was irregular, and "that it requires the presence of at least seven members of a Lodge to act legally and constitutionally in a case of suspension or expulsion." We do not discover any action on this report, and know not whether it was adopted or rejected by the Grand Lodge. On the recommendation of a committee, it was decided that it is expedient so to amend the By-Laws, "that no proxy of a subordinate Lodge shall be permitted to vote in Grand Lodge without a jewel—which jewel shall be made of silver, in the form of a square, suspended in a circle, attached to a blue ribbon—unless excused by a vote of the Grand Lodge." A regulation was also adopted, "that neither present nor permanent members of the Grand Lodge shall be allowed to vote, without their jewel, unless excused by a vote of the Grand Lodge." A committee was also appointed, to consider the expediency of forming a Masonic Library, for the use of the Grand Lodge.

RHODE ISLAND.—The pamphlet from this State contains minute proceedings at sundry meetings of the Grand Lodge, from Aug. 28, 1848, to May 27, 1850. The business transacted at these meetings was principally of a local character. Resolutions were adopted in favor of the establishment of a Masonic Library, and requesting subordinates to make donations for that purpose; and at a subsequent meeting it was reported that four Lodges had made donations for that object, amounting to \$72.25. The Correspondence Report is an able document, touching upon all the interesting topics of the day. The committee disapprove of the "Representative System," as attended with difficulty and expense. On the subject of "side degrees," as they are called, the committee quote as follows, from the report of a committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, who are reviewing a sentence in the opening address of the Grand Master of Missouri, condemning these degrees:

“ We would inquire, does the Grand Master of Missouri know what these degrees are? Or, does he condemn them unknown and untried? It is a good rule, in regard to every thing, to inquire, ascertain, and possess some degree of knowledge, before we adjudge a case. How can one judge that does not know? Our institution originally was, probably, founded by males, who were operative mechanics, in whose mechanical pursuits females were physically and naturally unfitted to take part. Hence, and not on account of want of natural endowments, physical prerequisites, free birth, mental or moral qualifications, females were excluded. But shall we say that the Freemasons' Lodge is an unfit place, on any other account than that, for female morals, female purity and female piety. Never. The ancients provided for their participation in all the benefits of the institution but those particularly pertaining to membership. And they bound every member of it to award, on proper demand, to all worthy Masons' mothers, sisters, daughters, wives, widows and children, peculiar immunities and benefits. But they failed to provide them with any means of making themselves known as such.

“ These degrees supply the omission; and do that only, except giving moral instruction and conveying religious ideas, such as Masonry everywhere gives and conveys, and also gives such knowledge of real Masonry as the monitors universally afford to the uninitiated in the really ‘ ancient mysteries.’ This is all.

“ Are women unfit to possess this talisman against evil, accident, want, danger or distress—this key to a treasure that is theirs—this knowledge of their rights and that of their children; and this amount of information of the true design, nature, character and object of the institution? We trow not. And are these degrees *modern*? They have been conferred on Masons' wives, widows and daughters, in France, Switzerland, Italy and Germany, for a period of three hundred and ninety odd years at least. Are they unmasonic? They are conferred by the Masters of Lodges throughout those countries, and in Lodges of Masonic sisters affiliated to the Masters' Lodges, and under their visitation and government, and closely allied to them. Nor is this all. They are under the protection of, and specially protected by, the Grand Orient of France and other Grand Lodges in Europe. What is good Masonry there, with those whom we affiliate, ought to be good Masonry here, provided it does not encroach upon the ancient Constitution—and these degrees do not. They have been introduced into this country; how is unimportant. They are legitimate here; and they have been extensively conferred. The chairman of this committee willingly and cheerfully avows having conferred them upon large numbers, both male and female. No one that ever received them, of either sex, to our knowledge, condemned or otherwise than approved of them. They are pure as that purity of which the lambskin is the emblem. They are beautiful as the beauty of the sun's first rays in the light of the morning. Innocence itself can find no fault with them. Why should Masons then? Their purpose is innocent. Their use to the Fraternity and to the recipients is very great. The latter secure by them access to the rights which are theirs under well known laws. The former secure the *confidence, secrecy* and *co-operation* of the latter, in the glorious work which is the mission of the Order. And, again, are side degrees injurious? Do they overturn and destroy Masonry? Then why, if so, in seven hundred years and upwards, has not Masonry been destroyed by the *side*, or ‘ manufactured’ degrees of Holy Sepulchre, Chris-

tian Mark, Knights Hospitallers, Knights of St. John, and Knights Templar. Do we recognize in the possessors of those degrees, Masons? Then, why not these? Are none Masonic but the three ancient? Then, what are Chapter degrees? We have written on this subject more at length, because the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and that of Iowa, have, in addition to the authority of the Grand Master of Missouri, spoken disparagingly of such degrees. Whether they alluded to these or others, we cannot say. Yet, kindly differing from them, we can say we have seen no real or fancied injury result from the conferring of any such degrees, out of many we have received and conferred, and which are generally conferred in this State. They are all independent of ancient craft Masonry.

"We have one more fact in point. The United Grand Lodges of England in 1814, and the Grand Lodge of New York in 1819, if not earlier, authorized the conferring, in Master's Lodges, of 'The Union Master's Degree,' a *side degree* designed to detect clandestine Masons and imposters; and it is still conferred in some parts of both countries and in the British Provinces. How is this? Anti-masonic? It was deemed wise and proper at the time, by old, wise and prudent Masons, and has worked no injury that we know of. We would only remark, in conclusion, that it is better to know than to *guess*."

VERMONT.—The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was holden at Burlington, on the 8th of January, 1851. It is highly gratifying to notice the zeal and success of our Green Mountain brethren in "building up the waste places of our Masonic Zion. The tornado of anti-masonic bigotry and persecution, which swept, with such relentless fury, over that portion of our fair heritage, left but few or no Lodges in activity, and Masonry was well nigh extinct among those "everlasting hills." But how changed is the aspect of things since that cruel storm was lulled to rest! It is only five years since the Grand Lodge of Vermont renewed labor; and they have now 21 chartered Lodges, and three working under dispensation—and we have reason to believe that progress is making in the dispensation of pure Masonic light, though we find no report of the number of members or initiations. The Grand Master, M. W. Philip C. Tucker, delivered an excellent address at the opening of the session, in which he reviews, in an able and candid manner, most of the interesting topics which are enjoying the attention of the craft in various sections of the country. In congratulating his brethren on the happy auspices under which their meeting was held, he says—

"This completes the fifth year of our renewed labor within the Masonic jurisdiction of Vermont. Those years are far from having been spent in vain. They have done much towards restoring our temple and altars to their pristine beauty. The shades of our ancient Grand Masters seems to have again returned to survey the restored temple and hallow with their blessing the fresh incense of our altars. The summit of our Moriah appears again adorned with magnificent moral architecture, and the presence and smiles of Him who 'dwelleth between the cherubims,' is again felt over the once 'waste places of Judah.' For all these things, my brethren, the thanksgiving of grateful hearts should ascend from the sacred altar around which we are assembled."

The Grand Secretary reported that he had received, from a brother in Ohio, a

draft for one hundred and fifty dollars, "the donation of an unknown English friend, to be applied to the charity fund of such subordinate Lodges in Vermont as stand in want."

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is an able document, covering *thirty* octavo pages, and is from the pen of that faithful and accomplished Mason, Worshipful Brother, Nathan B. Haswell, Past Grand Master. The Grand Lodge, as a testimony of their appreciation of the long and eminent services of this respected brother, whom they style "our chief and skillful pilot during the anti-masonic excitement and war," ordered, a Past Grand Master's Jewel be presented to him, whenever the funds of the Grand Lodge would permit.

The right of a brother to cast a ballot in opposition to the initiation or advancement of a candidate, without giving his reason for such vote, having been questioned in some quarters, was alluded to by the Grand Master of Vermont in his address, and afterwards the subject was referred to a special committee. That committee subsequently reported the following very sensible resolution, which was adopted.

"*Resolved*, That no secular Lodge has the right to interfere with the right of private ballot, when exercised by one of its members; that if a brother chooses to avow his hostility to a petition, and does not disclose his reasons therefor, he stands in the same position as if he had cast a black-ball, and his reasons cannot be demanded by his Lodge; nor can they in any way deal with him for so doing. Should he voluntarily state his reasons, then he makes them the property of the Lodge; and, in that case only, has the Lodge a right to judge of their Masonic validity."

NEW YORK.—We have from this Grand Lodge, proceedings of the annual communication on the 4th of June, 1850. The Grand Master, M. W. John D. Willard, delivered an able address on opening the Grand Lodge, in which he feelingly alluded to the disgraceful scenes enacted at the previous annual communication. Notwithstanding these difficulties, which have distracted and divided the fraternity, he says:—

"The boundaries of our Masonic Zion have been greatly enlarged. Since June last, I have granted dispensations for eighteen new Lodges, and two new Lodges have been constituted by warrant, by the Grand Lodge, at a quarterly meeting, which had not previously been working under dispensation, making twenty new Lodges in the State within the year.

"The Lodges in the State, throughout the year, have been carefully and successfully at work. The accession to their number has been unusually large, and as a cautious scrutiny has been exercised, for the most part, in the admission of members, I have reason to hope and believe, that those who have been received into our Masonic temple, are good men and true, who will hereafter be an ornament and support to our Order."

On the subject of Masonic jurisdiction, he speaks as follows: "Some of the Lodges in this State have occasionally admitted residents of other States to the mysteries of Masonry. I am clearly of the opinion, that, as a mere question of power, the Grand Lodge and the Fraternity of this State, are enabled to do so without an infringement of the ancient landmarks. But I am also clearly of opinion, that it is a power, which, if exercised at all, should only be exercised on very

unusual and extraordinary occasions. Its exercise in this State has been a matter of complaint with several of our sister Grand Lodges. I recommend such amendment of our Constitution as shall prohibit the Lodges under this jurisdiction from making Masons of residents of other States in which there are Lodges and a Grand Lodge; an amendment which will tend to preserve that harmony with the fraternity of other States, which we should ever earnestly cultivate, and at the same time will greatly protect ourselves against the danger of conferring the honors of our institution upon men who are unworthy."

This subject was referred to a special committee of the Grand Lodge, who subsequently presented a report, in which they maintain the *right* of Lodges to initiate candidates from whencesoever they please.

They say "it is an unsound position assumed by some Grand Lodges, that it is an invasion of territorial jurisdiction or an infraction of the governmental law of Masonry, to initiate the resident of another State in one of the Lodges of our own. Theoretically that right exists for the very reasons that a Grand Lodge has no control over a citizen till he becomes a Mason, and then only in matters relative to Masonry, or his character as a Mason. It cannot dictate to any man as to when and where he shall receive the benefits of Masonry, or that he shall receive them at all; and further, as citizenship in any one State, is, according to our political institutions, citizenship in them all, and renders him amenable to the law of the State where he may chance to be a sojourner, he may receive the rights and privileges of Masonry by virtue of that citizenship, wheresoever he may knock at her portals, if he possesses the requisites to entitle him to admission—qualifications of which every Mason is well cognizant, and which, as a true Mason, he will ever see enforced. It is, therefore, in fact, an invasion of a sovereignty to deny this right, as much as it would be to deny us the privilege of planting Lodges in any territory where no Grand Lodge exists.

"But, in the exercise of this right, great practical difficulties arise, and positive evils are frequently done, from the very nature of the case, which prevents the application of the qualifications, indispensable in all cases. A candidate may come recommended as being worthy and well qualified; and yet he may practice deception and obtain admission into the Masonic family of the world by means of money, which was denied him by that portion of it at home for want of merit, and thus inflict upon it the deadly wound, the destruction of its harmony."

They conclude their report with the following resolution which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge earnestly recommends to its several subordinate Lodges, that in no case they should initiate a candidate who is a resident of another State, without the consent of the Grand Lodge of the State, or of the Lodge or brethren in the immediate vicinity of the candidate."

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is full of interest, and of great value, as affording a fund of information on various important topics. It covers 85 closely printed pages of large octavo size, and reviews the proceedings of most of the Grand Lodges in this country as well as in Europe. Three pages of the report are devoted to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and embody extracts from the address of our Grand Master, and the report of our Com. on Correspondence for the year 1849. Referring to our system of receipts and expenditures the committee say:

“Here is a model Grand Lodge, which neither exacts heavily from its members, or expends extravagantly for official salaries and the expenses of location. Let us seriously reflect upon the enormous amount of our own expenditures, as compared with those of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and as compared with the good we accomplish, and determine whether the charge made against us has not some foundation, that our charities cost four dollars for every one expended in actual benevolence; and if so, whether there is not some remedy, by which our expenses may be reduced and our benevolence increased.”

Alluding to the report of our Grand Secretary, on the subject of delinquent Lodges, in which he states that he had failed to receive the effects of sundry Lodges whose charters had been forfeited, on account of “the unwillingness of persons having them in possession to surrender such effects, some pretending to doubt the authority calling for them, and others claiming them as the private property of individuals,” the New York committee very properly add:

“All this is very deplorable, and ought to be remedied by promptly expelling the delinquents. Every Mason ought to know, that the charter and all property of a subordinate Lodge, when it ceases to work regularly, or fails to comply with the regulations of the Grand Lodge, is forfeited to that body; and if there be debts due from the Lodge to individuals, it is the province of the Grand Lodge to pay them out of such forfeited property, if justice or the honor of Masonry may demand it.”

MARYLAND.—We have from this Grand Lodge the proceedings of the semi-annual and annual communications in May and November, 1850. From the report of the Trustees we learn that the “Grand Lodge Charity Fund” amounts to the sum of \$6,212.62. This fund is accumulated for the purpose of building an asylum for the widows and orphans of deceased Masons. The “Baltimore Cemetery Association” have made a donation to the Grand Lodge of eight lots, for the burial of such Masons as may die in that city.

At the annual communication, in November, a “Committee on the Masonic History of Maryland” was appointed, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to have the proceedings of the Grand Lodge bound in handsome volumes, to be presented to the Historical Society of the State of Maryland.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence closes with the following paragraph:

“At no period have the prospects of the Craft been more flattering. Masonry is rapidly increasing, in members and respectability, in every portion of the United States. But, as prosperity is apt to beget carelessness, it would be well for the Craft to be more wary and cautious in the admission of individuals to the benefits and mysteries of the Order than they have heretofore been. We have lately recovered from a system of religious and political persecution, which no other merely human institution could have successfully withstood; for our Order is based on the best feelings of our human nature, and stands next to our holy religion in its civilizing and humanizing influence on society. Let us, therefore, guard with jealous care every avenue to its temple, and permit none to enter but such as upon ‘due trial and strict examination,’ shall be found fully worthy of admission.”

The M. W. Grand Master delivered an eloquent address, from which we make the following extract :

" My brethren, the signs of the times portend momentous things ; the spirit of disorganization has invaded the portals of our beloved institution, raising its hydra head at the altars where should be found only peace and unity. The political horizon of this glorious Union is at this moment overspread with dark and lowering clouds, which momentarily threaten to burst, scattering dissolution and destruction in our midst. Let us remember, that by the anxious toil and care of our venerated brother, GEORGE WASHINGTON, mainly, was this confederacy established, after he had, through a struggle of eight years, devoted " his life, his fortune, and his sacred honor," in achieving the liberties and privileges of which we are the inheritors. Let us also remember his parting and paternal admonitions, when bidding farewell to the people, and retiring to the shades of private life, and that while his life lasted his attachment and devotion to the Union remained unshaken, and his prayers for its preservation and perpetuity unabated. To his Masonic brethren, especially, should the legacy bequeathed by him to his countrymen be precious. The Mason, who can calmly entertain the idea, or lend aid to a plan, for the destruction of the work of his head and hands, is forgetful of his Masonic obligations, and guilty of gross wrong to our departed brother.— Let every Mason avoid giving any offence which may lead to this breach, but to contribute every effort to the restoration of peace and union."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—We have before us a report of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year 1850. The Committee on Correspondence, as usual, presented a candid review of the various questions which are engaging the attention of the several Grand Lodges. They pay a handsome compliment to our report for 1849, and devote a couple of pages to notices of it. As we, on several occasions, have spoken plainly against the practice of publishing the names of rejected candidates, we are much gratified to find, by an examination of these proceedings, that the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia has seen fit to abolish the practice, and to adopt the following resolution :

" *Resolved*, That the publication by this Grand Lodge of the names of rejected applicants for initiation, be hereafter discontinued."

VIRGINIA.—We have from this Grand Lodge the proceedings of their annual communication for 1850, also an account of the interesting exercises at laying the corner-stone of a monument to the memory of our illustrious brother, General George Washington, in the city of Richmond. The pamphlet is embellished with a beautiful lithographic print of the monument, which, if completed according to the original design, will be eminently worthy of the munificence of the State by which it is erected, and the memory of him whose virtues and patriotism it is intended to commemorate.

The Committee on Correspondence presented a short report, in which they include summarily to the prosperous condition of Masonry throughout the country. Of the Order in their own jurisdiction, they thus speak :

" Our good old Commonwealth has worked at all times unflinchingly in this cause. True, some of our sister States have gone before us, in some respects, but none can surpass us in devotion and practical adherence to the sublime tenets

of Masonry. We can boast of no costly and splendid Masonic edifices; but we claim to have labored to provide for the wants of the orphan and the widow,—to feed the hungry and to clothe the naked. Small as have been our means, they have been husbanded, and applied to do all possible good. The education of the destitute orphan children of Master Masons, has been one of the earliest and most cherished objects to which our charity fund has been applied. Its work is quiet and unobtrusive, but its blessings are sensibly felt, and their fruits are seen in the admiration and respect now almost universally expressed for our Order.—We have a faithful application of our charity fund to the purposes of education. This charity stands pre-eminent for its beauty and singleness of purpose,—a charity that goes to the humble cottage, and takes thence the destitute and un-instructed child, conducts him to the school-room, and there opens to him the inestimable treasures of knowledge and moral teaching. Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri have their Masonic Colleges,—institutions created by the charity of Masonry. We tread the humbler, but we trust not less useful pathway of taking the poor orphans, and instructing them in the first elements of a good English education. We approve and prefer our system, because it separates not our own people and schools from the other people and schools of the State. The Masonic pupil is not placed with Masonic pupils alone, but each mingles and associates with all other pupils, without distinction in any respect whatever. Masonry regards no man for his outward rank or worldly wealth. It looks alone to the virtuous principles that direct his conduct and govern his actions. So should it be in all applications of our charities.”

The Grand Secretary was directed to have bound, in volumes of convenient size, each year's proceedings of sister Grand Lodges, to form a part of the Grand Lodge Library. The following resolution was adopted, which we should like to see copied by our own and every other Grand Lodge :

“*Resolved*, That hereafter it shall be the duty of the Master of each subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction, immediately upon the death of a regular member of the same, in good standing, to cause a record of such death to be made upon the books of his Lodge, and report the same to the Grand Secretary, who shall thereupon transmit to the Master of said Lodge, a Grand Lodge diploma, filled up with the name of such deceased brother, free of expense, for the benefit of his widow and orphans, or either.”

NORTH CAROLINA.—At the annual communication, in December, 1850, the M. W. Grand Master, in his address, stated that he had received a donation of eighty dollars, from Miss Elizabeth Davies, of Shrewsbury, England, with special instructions to place the amount in the charity fund, for the relief of distressed Masons and their families.

Active measure are being taken by our brethren in North Carolina, for founding a Masonic College, and contracts for erecting suitable buildings for the same are to be made, as soon as subscriptions are secured to the amount of \$25,000,—which is half the estimated cost.

KENTUCKY.—This Grand Lodge held its annual communication for the year 1850, on the 26th of August. It affords us much pleasure to notice the onward march of Free Masonry in this State. They have 159 active Lodges, with a mem-

bership of 4,557; initiations last year, 1,789; deaths, 83. In this large accession to the Masonic ranks, we are induced to believe that our Kentucky brethren have been cautious to admit only the *worthy*, for we observe that they report a large number of rejections; but it almost makes us shudder to witness the manner in which these rejections are announced in the published proceedings—a particular description of each individual being given, in the same manner as in advertising a runaway negro. But we have hopes of better things in Kentucky; for we see that the following resolution was introduced, and laid over until the next annual communication, when we trust in mercy it will be taken up and adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge no longer deems it necessary or right, in the rejection of candidates, that they be particularly described, deeming the mention of the name and date of rejection amply sufficient."

TENNESSEE.—From the Grand Lodge of this State we have the proceedings of their annual communication in October, 1850. The report on Correspondence is an able document, covering 27 octavo pages, and was printed and placed in the hands of the members at the opening of the Grand Lodge; and \$300 was voted to the chairman as a compensation for preparing said report. The Masonic College is represented as in a flourishing condition, 130 students having been connected with it during the year ending July, 1850. A special committee reported in favor of a General Grand Lodge, giving preference to the plan proposed by the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island.

ILLINOIS.—At the eleventh annual communication of this Grand Lodge, which was held in October, 1850, representatives were present from only 21 subordinate Lodges out of the 84 in the jurisdiction.

The address of the Grand Master is an able discussion of several important principles; and on one or two points must we be allowed to quote his rational and very forcible remarks. On the subject of balloting for the three degrees, he says: "I am clearly of the opinion that one ballot entitles the candidate to three degrees. I will take the liberty of presenting in a very brief manner a few of the reasons which I think, sustain my opinion.

"When a man petitions a Lodge in the first instance, he states 'that having long entertained a favorable opinion, of your ancient institution, he is desirous, if found worthy, of being admitted a *member thereof*.' He does not specifically petition to become an entered apprentice alone, but to become a *member* of the fraternity. He knows little or nothing about the different degrees; his object is to become entitled to the *rights, lights and privileges* of the Order. His petition is referred to a Committee whose duty it is, to carefully inquire into the moral, physical and intellectual capabilities of the applicant—to decide upon his eligibility to receive, not only the entered apprentice's degree, but all the degrees within the jurisdiction of the Lodge he petitions.

"Should the report of the committee be favorable and the ballot clear in the first instance, the privileges of the three degrees are guaranteed to him, should his future conduct and improvement warrant his advancement.

"When an applicant is received, it is tacitly understood by every member, that full and rigid examination has, or should have been made, respecting his moral character and his other necessary qualifications to become a Mason, otherwise

the appointment of a Committee of investigation is silly and unnecessary. According to the laws and usages of Masonry throughout its extent, an interdict is placed upon the reception of a candidate by ballot, in a less time than one lunar month after his petition is referred; this is to give time for full investigation. No such interdict prevails respecting the time for conferring the second and third degrees, nor is it necessary. You will remember that the only question touching eligibility, which is legally propounded upon the admission of a candidate into either of the degrees after the first is, 'Has he made suitable proficiency to warrant his request for advancement.' For it will also be remembered that after having received the first degree he is no longer a petitioner for Masonry, but only for Masonic advancement—he is already introduced within the veil of Masonic mystery—he no longer belongs to the ranks of uninitiated. After receiving the first degree, he is no longer responsible to Masonic discipline for any offence, committed in the preliminary parts of the ceremony. At the time he *stands as a just and upright Mason*, he receives absolution for all antecedent offences—full, clear and irrevocable absolution so far as Masonry has right, power or control over him. Such being the case, he *then begins* to learn and receive those first instructions, whereon to build his *future* moral and Masonic edifice.

"Should an entered apprentice or fellow-craft be guilty of unmasonic conduct, after his *initiation*, no one will deny the right of dealing with him agreeably to the laws and usages of the Order. He is liable to reproof, suspension, or even expulsion, as the wisdom and justice of his *peers* may determine. But if no charges for offence committed since he entered upon the ground floor, can be sustained against him, the only question which can properly arise upon his application for advancement, is upon his suitable proficiency in the previous degrees."

INDIANA.—The Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, was holden in the city of Indianapolis, on the 27th day of May, 1850. The Grand Master, M. W. Elizur Deming, in his beautiful opening address, thus speaks of the progress of Masonry in that jurisdiction:

"Within our own jurisdiction, the past year has been one of marked prosperity. The elevating and ennobling principles of Masonry have had a more widely extended influence among our membership, and we trust the great heart of the fraternity in Indiana, has been more deeply moved than heretofore. From our private Masonic correspondence, we learn that in many of our Lodges there is a revival of the true Masonic spirit, manifested in a regular attendance at stated meetings, in increased zeal and earnestness, in acquiring the lectures, and in engaging in all proper and charitable enterprise, which have the sanction of the craft or the philanthropic every where. Our hope and trust is that this spirit may spread abroad, and enter and purify every Lodge, that in days to come, results may be seen, felt, and realized in fruit amounting to an hundred fold."

ARKANSAS.—The Grand Master recommends that funds be collected for the establishment of a Masonic College. He says there is no Institution of Learning in the State, the fund donated to her by Congress for the establishment of a University, having been distributed by the legislature for Common School purposes. In the subsequent proceedings, we find that the Grand Lodge made an appropriation of \$2000 from its funds towards the establishment of an institution to be

called "St. John's College of Arkansas," and requested the subordinate Lodges to take up collections for the same purpose. A new code of By-Laws for the government of Lodges under dispensation was adopted.

The Grand Lodge, by resolution, concede to Lodges in adjoining States the privilege of receiving and initiating citizens of Arkansas, whose residence shall be nearer such Lodge than any Lodge in that State.

TEXAS.—At the thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, held in the city of Austin, on the 21st of January, 1850, returns were received from every Lodge but four, showing an aggregate membership of 1384. The Grand Master in his address, speaks of the flourishing condition of the Order in his jurisdiction, and says all the subordinate Lodges, "are living in harmony, working zealously, and exercising that 'rigid scrutiny into the character of applicants for initiation,' that has been so frequently and so forcibly urged upon them by the authority of the Grand Lodge." That the brethren may keep themselves informed on all important subjects, and thus sustain the character of enlightened Masons, he "recommends to all Lodges, and especially those newly organized, to furnish themselves with a few copies of some tried and approved Masonic publication.

A resolution was adopted, earnestly recommending to the Lodges in that jurisdiction to provide themselves with libraries of standard Masonic books and periodicals. Bro. John Sayles, was appointed "to compile a history of the establishment, progress and present condition of Masonry within the State."

CALIFORNIA.—We are happy to announce that the hallowed mysteries of our beloved Order have been fairly and lawfully introduced on the golden soil of our young sister of the Pacific coast. We have before us the proceedings of a Convention, held at Sacramento, on the 7th of April, 1850, consisting of delegates from four Lodges, working under charters or dispensations, one of which was issued by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, one by Missouri, one by New Jersey, one by the District of Columbia. By this Convention, a Constitution was framed and the Grand Lodge of California organized in due form. We have also received from this new Grand Lodge, the proceedings of her first annual communication, held May 7, and the semi-annual communication, held Nov. 26, 1850, by which it appears, that at the last date, there were in that jurisdiction, eleven subordinate Lodges, with an aggregate membership of 247. We cordially extend to the Grand Lodge of California the hand of fraternal fellowship, and recommend that the Grand Lodge of Connecticut adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has learned with satisfaction of the organization of a Grand Lodge of our ancient and honorable fraternity in the State of California, and that we cordially welcome our young sister to the Masonic family.

All of which is respectfully submitted, in behalf of the Committee,
WM. STORER, *Chairman*.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1852.

At the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at the Temple, in the city of New Haven, on Wednesday, May 12, A. L. 5852, the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers and Representatives were present :

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Grand Master.

R. W. DAVID CLARK, Deputy Grand Master.

JOHN C. BLACKMAN, Senior Grand Warden.

WILLIAM L. BREWER, Junior Grand Warden.

HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.

ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.

THOMAS H. SEYMOUR, Senior Grand Deacon.

GEORGE F. DASKAM, Junior Grand Deacon.

HENRY A. HULL, Grand Marshal.

CHARLES H. OLMSTED, Grand Sentinel.

Rev. JUNIUS M. WILLEY, Grand Chaplain.

SAMUEL WIRE, } Grand Stewards.

RALPH WARREN, }

ISAAC TUTTLE, Grand Tyler.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, P. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

R. W. WILLIAM H. JONES, P. G. S., Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

R. W. JAMES WARD, P. D. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Henry Peck, Benoni A. Shepherd, Asa Budington, Wm. H. Holly, Frederick Crosswell, William Storer, James H. Ashmead, Elizur Skinner, Samuel Tripp, Samuel Bishop, Benjamin Beecher, Marcus Bassett, Cyrus Goodell, James Stevens, Philip Saunders.

At 10 o'clock the Grand Officers took their stations, and the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Storer, Tripp and Stevens a Committee on Credentials, who examined the returns, and reported that the following brethren were entitled to seats as

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—Wm. E. Sanford, J. M. Andrews, Howard B. Ensign.
- No. 2, St. John's, Middletown—Elliot Bradley, Jonathan Kilbourn, Loudon B. Ward.
- No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport—Alexander Hamilton, John H. St. John, John M. Wilson.
- No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—Chester Hebbard, James B. Crosby, Thomas H. Seymour.
- No. 5, Union, Stamford—John W. Leeds, Roswell Hoyt, Isaac Quintard, Jr.
- No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—Eli K. Street, Wm. Camp, Samuel Lynes.
- No. 7, King Solomon's, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle.
- No. 8, St. John's, Stratford—Samuel Benjamin.
- No. 9, Compass, Wallingford—Henry Martin, Almer I. Hall.
- No. 10, Wooster, Colchester—Pomeroy Hall, Joseph D. Packwood.
- No. 11, St. Paul's, Litchfield—Frederick Buel, Frederick D. Beeman, Alfred H. Beers.
- No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—J. W. Flowers, Calvin Curtis.
- No. 20, Harmony, New Britain—Ezekiel Andrews, Jun., Wm G. Coe, Artemas E. Hart.

- No. 25, Columbia, Glastenbury—Edwin S. Brainard.
No. 28, Morning Star, Warehouse Point—Harmon Terry.
No. 31, Union, New London—Seth Smith, Aaron E. Stone,
Isaac Treby.
No. 33, Friendship, Southington—Noah H. Byington.
No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—John J. Cook, Wm. B. Pettit.
No. 38, St. Alban's, Guilford—Charles Ball, C. MacKnight,
R. J. Holmes.
No. 40, Union, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut, Ira R. Wild-
man, Wm. F. Taylor.
No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—Henry Chatfield, Nathan Dike-
man, Jun.
No. 44, Eastern Star, Windham—Frederick P. Coe, Lloyd E.
Baldwin.
No. 46, Putnam, Pomfret—Isaac H. Coe.
No. 47, Morning Star, Seymour—David J. McEwen, Geo. W.
Devine, John L. Daniels.
No. 49, Jerusalem, Ridgefield—Wm. Beers.
No. 50, Warren, Andover—Anson R. Grover, Nathaniel P. Met-
calf.
No. 51, Warren, Portland—Geo. W. Leonard, S. Nelson Hall.
No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—George E. Palmer, William
Hyde.
No. 58, Northern Star, New Hartford—Hermon Chapin, Anson
Wheeler, Charles W. Nash.
No. 59, Apollo, Suffield—John P. Ingraham, Samuel N. Reid.
No. 60, Wolcott, Stafford—Wm. N. Clark.
No. 62, Orient, East Hartford—Ralph Pitkin, Horace Filley.
No. 63, Adelphi, Fair Haven—Hosea N. Newton, William N.
Gesner, Horace Tuttle.
No. 64, St. Andrews, West Winsted—Wheelock Thayer, Mac
Pherson Hubbell.
No. 68, Charity, Groton—Jeremiah Holmes.
No. 73, Manchester, Manchester—Wm. C. Strong, Ralph Che-
ney, F. W. Cowles.
No. 77, Meridian, Meriden—John Parker, Bertrand L. Yale,
Ira Twiss.

No. 78, Shepherd, Naugatuck—Marshal Hoadley, Gideon O. Hotchkiss, Timothy Langdon.

No. 79, Wooster, New Haven—Charles Brown, James L. Clark, Robert Edmondson.

No. 80, Berlin, Berlin—Loyal Dudley, Wm. M. Fowler.

On motion, it was voted that the report be accepted, and the committee discharged.

R. W. Bro. Brewer offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing, not members of the Grand Lodge, be invited to sit as visitors during the present communication.

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

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

BRETHREN,—In accordance with time-honored usage, I have the honor to report the following official acts, as executive officer of this Grand Lodge, during the past year.

On the 20th of May, 1851, I instituted Wooster Lodge, No. 79, at New Haven, installed the officers, and presented the charter granted by the Grand Lodge at the last annual communication. This Lodge being located in New Haven, I have been able to attend its meetings very often, and take great pleasure in witnessing its steady growth and great prosperity.

On the 29th of October I made an official visit to St. John's Lodge, No. 4, at Hartford.

The charter and effects of Warren Lodge, No. 51, having been surrendered to the Grand Secretary, on the 30th of October, in accordance with the vote of the Grand Lodge, I called together the petitioners for its restoration, at the new Lodge room in the town of Portland, installed the officers, and with the assistance of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Senior Grand Deacon, and several members of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, I opened the Lodge in due and ancient form, and initiated, passed and raised their first candidate.

In the month of November, in company with the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and S. G. Deacon, I made the following official visits, viz : on the 4th, to Adelpi Lodge, No. 63, at Fair Haven ; on the 5th, to Union, No. 5, Stamford ; and on the 6th, to Hiram, No. 1, New Haven. In March 1852, in company with the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, and Grand Secretary, I visited St. John's No. 3, at Bridgeport ; Union, No. 40, Danbury ; Jerusalem, No. 49, Ridgefield ; St. Johns, No. 6, Norwalk ; and Harmony, No. 42, Waterbury. On the 14th of April, Morning Star, No. 47, at Seymour, and on the 19th of May, St. Alban's, No. 38, Guilford, accompanied by the R. W. Grand Secretary, S. G. Deacon, and Bro. W. A. Ensign, of Wooster Lodge, No. 79.

In making these official visits, my *principal* object has been to witness the

work as performed in the different Lodges, and to ascertain what measures were necessary to be taken to secure uniformity in future throughout our jurisdiction. The duty, however, has not been performed with entire satisfaction to myself. Owing to my long absence in Europe, during the whole summer, my business has required, since my return, constant attention; so that I have been obliged absolutely to neglect the Lodges in the eastern part of the State, every one of which I had hoped and intended to visit previous to this session.

On this account, I do not feel competent to say what plan would be best for the Grand Lodge to adopt for the regulation of the work, but would suggest the appointment of a committee, consisting of one member from each county in the State, to consider and report a system of work and lectures to be adopted throughout the jurisdiction; or, if the Grand Lodge prefer that course, the appointment of a similar committee of one from each county, to report a *plan of action* for the Grand Lodge, which will best insure a uniform mode of work.

A large number of our sister Grand Lodges have divided their jurisdiction into convenient Masonic Districts, in each of which resides a District Deputy, (appointed by the Grand Master,) whose duty it is to inspect, superintend, and instruct the Lodges in his district. Some of the Grand Lodges hold "Quarterly Grand Lodges of Instruction." On this subject, Grand Master Gedge, of Louisiana, in his very able address, says, "If the Grand Lodge at this session should adopt the proposed amendment to the constitution, which I would beg it very respectfully and strongly to do, establishing Grand Lodges of Instruction, the District Deputies could be required to attend them, and by that means would acquire as complete an uniformity in the work and lectures as it is possible for minds differently constituted to attain." In this connection I would recommend to the Grand Lodge some action with regard to the Text-books or Charts, to be used by the subordinate Lodges. At the present time there are almost as many different kinds of Monitors used as there are Lodges, and in some cases half a dozen different kinds in the same Lodge.

Although it has been the *custom*, for a few years past, of the Grand Masters, to make a short address on the opening of the Grand Lodge, it has only been done voluntarily, our Grand Lodge having never required a report from any of its officers. At the last annual communication I had the honor to recommend to the Grand Lodge "that as the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master are required to perform certain official acts, they should each be required to make a report at every annual communication concerning such acts, if any have been performed, and if not, then a report of the existing state of the Order throughout the jurisdiction. Such a requirement in our By-Laws would oblige the Grand Officers to interest themselves in the situation and circumstances of the subordinate Lodges."

The report containing the above recommendation was referred to a committee for an apportionment of its various subjects. This committee, of whom the chairman was also chairman of the committee on By-Laws, made a report recommending "that so much as relates to a regulation requiring the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Secretary, to make annual reports at the commencement of each session, together with so much as relates to the adoption of a system of yearly dues, be referred to the committee on By-Laws." As no report of the committee on By-Laws appears in the published proceedings of the Grand

Lodge, and as I have no recollection of their making any report, thinking they may have forgotten the subject altogether, and deeming it to be of some importance, I take the liberty to renew the recommendation at this time.

WILLIAM E. SANFORD, *G. Master.*

On motion of R. W. Bro. Peck, it was ordered that the report of the M. W. Grand Master be referred to a committee of three, for a proper distribution and apportionment of its various subjects.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master submitted the following report :

To the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut :

We have great reason to congratulate each other, that every succeeding annual communication brings with it an increased interest in the prosperity and welfare of our beloved institution. No other evidences of the fact need be adduced, than to observe the great increase of members present, over any former communication. This is a gratifying circumstance, and truly significant of the progress of our cause, and of the more deep and abiding interest favorable to our Order, that is manifest throughout the State. Such, also, is the case throughout our wide extended country. It has been my privilege to visit, officially and unofficially, a large number of our subordinate Lodges, since our last annual communication, and I am pleased to bear testimony to the general prosperity which attends the Order, far exceeding that of any former period.

Immediately after the close of our last annual communication, our M. W. Grand Master visited the eastern continent, consequently the duties which usually devolve on him fell on me. My first official act was to install the officers of Morning Star Lodge, No. 47, whose charter was restored by the last Grand Lodge, to be located in the town of Seymour. On the 18th of June, agreeable to appointment, I visited Seymour, and with assistance of a number of the Grand Officers present, installed the officers of that Lodge in due form. The attendance from that and other Lodges in the vicinity was large, and a right Masonic spirit prevailed among the brethren present.

On the 2d of July I installed the officers of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 64, in the flourishing village of Winsted, whose charter was also restored by the Grand Lodge at its last session. Many of the brethren of this Lodge had long been deprived of the privileges of Freemasonry, and their hearts seemed to leap for joy, to know that these were again restored to them. I assisted them in conferring the degrees, instructed them in the work, and am informed that they are receiving good men and true within their fold, the details of which will be found in their returns.

On the 24th of July, upon the application of a legal number of brethren in the town of Wallingford, I granted them a dispensation, empowering them to work, under the name of Compass Lodge, No. 9; and on the 2d of August, assisted by the R. W. Grand Secretary and Grand Marshal, and accompanied by

the officers of Adelpi Lodge, No. 63, I installed their officers, and conferred the three degrees on candidates who had long been waiting to see pure Masonic light. They will surrender the dispensation at this communication, and ask for the restoration of their old charter, which I doubt not the Grand Lodge will not hesitate to grant.

On the 7th of August an application was made to me, by a competent number of brethren residing in Guilford, for a dispensation empowering them to work, and after due enquiry I granted their request; and on the 28th of the same month, with the assistance of several of the Grand Officers, and brethren of neighboring Lodges, I installed their officers, and conferred the three degrees on a candidate. They will also return their dispensation, and ask you to restore to them the old charter of St. Alban's Lodge, No. 38, which request I trust you will most cheerfully comply with.

At our annual communication in 1850, Apollo Lodge, No. 59, located in the town of Suffield, was summoned to show cause at the next annual communication why their charter should not be annulled. In the intermediate time the good work of Masonry revived amongst them, their Lodge was again organized, their officers duly elected, and as such made their report to the Grand Lodge in 1851. Supposing these proceedings a sufficient and satisfactory response to the call of 1850, the brother who made the returns being unable to attend the Grand Lodge after the morning session, their report not being clearly understood, and they not answering to the summons, their charter was annulled. Our brethren there felt aggrieved at this proceeding; but after a full consultation with a number of the members of the Grand Lodge, it was thought advisable to grant them a dispensation empowering them to work, which I accordingly did on the 9th of August, and the same will now be surrendered and a restoration of their charter asked for. I most cheerfully recommend that their petition be granted, as I have been informed they have conferred the degrees on a number of candidates who had long been waiting to behold the beauties of Freemasonry.

On the 5th of November I assisted the M. W. Grand Master in the installation of the officers of Warren Lodge, No. 51, in the enterprising and beautiful village of Portland. We also conferred the degrees upon candidates waiting to become members of our Order. It has been my pleasure to visit that Lodge since, and permit me to say that no Lodge within our jurisdiction is destined to be more successful than this. Their members are full of energy and zeal, their meetings regular, and their work mainly correct.

I have officiated in the installation of the officers of many of the subordinate Lodges during the past year, also visited a large number of the Lodges throughout the State, and witnessed their work, which if time would permit I should be pleased to notice in detail; but on this point I dare not trespass upon your patience only to say, that the greatest kindness, courtesy and attention has uniformly been shown me, as well as those who have accompanied me, by our brethren in these fraternal interviews, for which I am truly grateful, and shall ever hold them in kind and sacred remembrance.

Generally, those Lodges I have had the pleasure of visiting are in a highly prosperous condition. In some instances, however, I have observed the absence of some of the furniture which is deemed essential to every well governed Lodge.

It is impossible to confer the degrees in a satisfactory manner, and do justice to all interested, without suitable Lodge rooms, and such furniture and emblems as will illustrate our work. It is to be hoped that every Lodge that is deficient in these respects will immediately supply the deficiency.

Perhaps our work is as uniform as that of any of our sister Grand Lodges in the United States, yet ours is far from being as uniform as is desirable. At a special communication of this Grand Lodge, held in the city of Middletown, in October, 1847, called especially for the purpose of adopting a uniformity of work throughout our jurisdiction, and after an exemplification of the work by St. John's Lodge, No. 4, and several alterations made, which in no wise changed the ancient landmarks of Masonry, and in strict accordance with Cross' Chart, which has ever been our guide, it was adopted as the true and only work that would be recognized by this Grand Lodge. Having endeavored to qualify myself, as well as those who have been called upon to preside over the Lodge to which I have the honor to belong, we have never deviated from the work then adopted, and I am happy to say that a majority of our Lodges have been governed by it. But in some instances this has not been the case, and hence the difference in our work. I sincerely hope, that after an exemplification of the work from such Lodges as have come here prepared to make an exhibition in conformity to a vote of the last Grand Lodge, we shall be agreed in adopting work satisfactory to all the Lodges under our jurisdiction, and hereafter be strictly governed by it.

This is a subject I deem of great importance, and have given it much thought and attention. I can see no way to accomplish an object so much desired, but to appoint a Grand Lecturer, with a suitable number of assistants, who are fully competent to discharge this important duty. No State can furnish better and more correct workmen than ours, or those who will do it more effectively; and I earnestly hope this Grand body will deem it advisable to make such an appointment.

Brethren, unprecedented prosperity attends the Order in our State, as well as in the other States of this Union, of which I have frequent and cheering reports. It behooves us to exercise due caution and prudence, all of which is essential to our peace and welfare, and to look well to the character of the applicants who desire to become members of our brotherhood. Unless we do this, our Lodges will soon be filled with unworthy members, and disgrace will thus be brought upon our cause. From an observation of many years, I have noticed that those Lodges which have exercised proper caution in regard to the character of their candidates, have generally been successful, while those who have been less cautious have frequently experienced embarrassing and sometimes fatal divisions. Let no such motive as the increase of members, the want of funds, or the desire to return the largest number to the Grand Lodge, influence us in the admission of candidates. The only object that should govern us ought to be the *permanent* happiness and prosperity of the Order. One fact in this place it is proper to note; in admitting those who are unworthy of the Order, and are not calculated to honor and respect it, we prevent others from joining who would greatly add to its credit and renown. It is left for each Lodge to choose which class they will have; for most assuredly we cannot have both, as such uncongenial spirits will never mingle.

During the past year but few instances of mortality among our members throughout the State have come to my knowledge, and we have just reason to be thankful to a kind Providence for the great degree of health with which the most of us have been mercifully blessed. Is not this owing in a measure to some of the principles of the institution by which we are governed, such as prudence, temperance, and discreetness? This being the case, let us continue in the way of well doing, and by our daily walk and conversation convince those who would ridicule this institution, that we are the happy recipients of its benefits.

Brethren, before I close let me here bear testimony to the faithful manner in which our Most Worshipful Grand Master has discharged his duties during the past year. It has been my pleasure to have frequent consultations with him relative to the duties of his office, and to accompany him in many of his visits to the subordinate Lodges in this State, and I feel authorized to assure you he has, by his advice, his counsel, and his labors in season and out of season, in imparting needful instruction, in speaking words of encouragement to the weak and words of admonition to the incautious, unreservedly devoted his time and his means to the best interests of the institution. Believing he can be even of greater service to you another year, by having the experience of the past, I do most cheerfully and heartily recommend that you will honor him as well as yourselves by an unanimous re-election.

Brethren, I thank you kindly for the high honor and confidence you have reposed in me, of which I fear I am not deserving, and will only add, in closing, that distinction of position in our beloved Order forms no part of my ambition; my only aim is to be profited by its precepts and to make it beneficial to my brethren and fellow men. Whatever, then, may be my position, I shall continue ever to take a lively interest in the prosperity, welfare, and perpetuity of our worthy and time honored institution.

DAVID CLARK, *D. G. M.*

On motion of W. Bro. Palmer, the report of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master was referred, for apportionment, to the committee to be raised on the M. W. Grand Master's address.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following standing Committees:

On Unfinished Business—J. W. Leeds, Wm. Hyde, J. M. Grannis.

On Delinquent Lodges—C. H. Olmsted, Chas. Ball, Horace Goodwin.

On Grievances—Wm. G. Coe, H. B. Ensign, J. A. M'Lean.

On By-Laws—Isaac H. Coe, Henry A. Hull, J. M. Willey.

On Charters.—F. Crosswell, J. H. Ashmead, E. Bradley, N. P. Metcalf, W. L. Brewer, F. P. Coe, F. Buel, J. H. St. John.

On Grand Master's Address.—Henry Peck, B. A. Shepherd, Wm. H. Holly.

The Committee on Charters reported that Compass Lodge, No. 9, St. Alban's No. 38, and Apollo, No. 59, had returned their dispensations and asked for the restoration of their charters. Whereupon the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the charters of Compass Lodge, No. 9, St. Alban's Lodge, No. 38, and Apollo Lodge, No. 59, be restored, and that the representatives from said Lodges be allowed to take their seats as members of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. Wm. Storer, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of that committee, when, on motion of R. W. Bro. Peck, it was voted, that the reading of said report shall be the order at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

On motion of Bro. Holly, it was voted, that the election of Grand Officers shall be the order at 7 o'clock this evening.

A petition from Wooster Lodge, No. 10, praying the Grand Lodge to refund their charter fee, was referred to the Committee on Grievances.

A complaint of Adelphi Lodge, No. 63, against Friendship No. 33, for a breach of the 14th section of the By-Laws, was referred to the Committee on Grievances.

The following communication was read by the Grand Secretary :

NEW HAVEN, May 12, 1852.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The Grand Master will be happy to see his brethren of the Grand Lodge at his house, No. 124 Church street, at 8 o'clock this evening.

Respectfully, &c.

WM. E. SANFORD, *G. M.*

On motion of Bro. Holly, it was voted unanimously that the invitation be accepted.

The Grand Lodge was now called from labor to refreshment till 2 o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 12.

At 2 o'clock, the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence being the order for this hour, was now read by the chairman, Bro. Wm. Storer ; which report was accepted. (See appendix.)—The resolutions accompanying the report were taken up separately for consideration, and disposed of as follows :

1. Resolution on uniformity in work, discussed and laid on the table.

2. Resolution for appointing a committee to nominate suitable brethren to revise the work, laid on the table.

3. Resolution on the physical qualifications of candidates, adopted.

4. Resolution on the advancement of candidates after initiation, adopted.

5. Resolution on transacting business in the lower degrees, rejected.

6, 7. Resolutions concerning the degree of Past Master, adopted.

8, 9, 10. Resolutions concerning the usurptions of the Supreme Council (33d) in Louisiana, adopted.

11, 12, 13. Resolutions relating to assumption of jurisdiction in New York by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, adopted.

14, 15. Resolutions recommending a general celebration of the centennial anniversary of the initiation of GEORGE WASHINGTON, adopted.

16. Resolution for the appointment of a committee on the expediency of establishing a Grand Lodge Library, adopted.

[For the above resolutions, see the Report on Foreign Correspondence.]

The accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, for the current year, were presented and referred to the Auditing Committee.

Bro. Wm. G. Coe, from the committee on Grievances submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn:

The committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of Wooster Lodge, No. 10, located at Colchester, respectfully begs leave to report, that they have attended to the duties assigned them, and having heard the parties interested, do find that the charter of said Lodge was stolen about the year 1828, and has not since been recovered; and further, that at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, a new charter was granted to said Wooster Lodge, for which was paid the usual fee of fifteen dollars to the Grand Lodge, and five dollars to the Grand Secretary, together with other expenses. And your committee believing that said Wooster Lodge were in no way culpable for the loss of their said charter, would recommend that the sum of fifteen dollars paid to the Grand Lodge for their new charter, be refunded.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. G. COE, }
J. A. M'LEAN, } *Committee.*
H. B. ENSIGN, }

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted, and the recommendation adopted.

The committee on the Addresses of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, submitted the following report, which was accepted:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut:

Your committee to whom was referred the addresses of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, beg leave to report, that we have examined those papers with much care and pleasure, and believe we express the sentiments of every member of this Grand Lodge, when we say, that our gratitude is due to those Grand Officers, for the active and efficient manner in which they have discharged their respective duties the past year; and your committee would respectfully recommend that those addresses be published with the printed minutes of this Grand Lodge.

With respect to the suggestion in regard to the appointment of a Grand Lecturer, your committee, in consideration of their veneration and attachment to the ancient landmarks of the Order, have some fears that if such an appointment should be made, it would tend to introduce some new feature into the work, to the detriment of the harmony of our ancient Lodges. Still your committee would not dictate in this respect, but would respectfully recommend that if it should be deemed advisable to constitute a Grand Lecturer, such appointment should be made by the four first officers of the Grand Lodge, and that the services of such Lecturer should be paid for by the Lodge or Lodges requiring his services.

Your committee would also recommend that the portion of the address of the M. W. Grand Master relating to an annual report from the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Secretary, be again referred to the committee on By-Laws, with instructions to report a By-Law which shall secure such reports at every annual opening of the Grand Lodge.

Your committee would further report, that they fully concur with the R. W. Deputy Grand Master in the opinion that every Lodge should be in possession of all the furniture and emblems necessary for conferring the degrees and exemplifying the work according to ancient usage, and we recommend an order of the Grand Lodge to that effect.

Your committee would also report, that as they were born into Masonry with *Cross' Masonic Chart* in their hands, they are much gratified that the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, in his address, endorses that work, and if necessary to secure its uniform use in the Lodges under this jurisdiction, we would recommend that an order be promulgated by this Grand Lodge to secure such uniformity.

In relation to the qualifications of candidates, referred to by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, your committee fully concur with him in the opinion that too much care cannot be taken in their selection; and as a perfectly safe rule for our guidance in such selection, it appears to us that only such men as are good neighbors, good husbands, good fathers, and in short good citizens, can be expected to make good Masons; looking at the same time to the cardinal virtues of our Order; viz, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice, and more particularly to the first; as during an experience of more than a quarter of a century, your committee have found that a very large proportion of the scandal brought upon our institution has arisen from the violation of the virtue of *Temperance*.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

HENRY PECK,
B. A. SHEPHERD, } *Committee,*
WM. H. HOLLY,

Bro. W. G. Coe offered the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, That all matters appertaining to the subjects of Grand Lecturers and uniformity of work, be referred to a committee of one from a county.

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

On Masonic Library—Wm. Storer, N. H. Byington, B. L. Yale.

On Celebrating Washington's Initiation—Wm. L. Brewer, C. Goodell, W. Thayer.

On Uniformity of Work—Brs. Bassett, Ashmead, Dimock, F. P. Coe, Leonard, P. Hall, Buel and Leeds.

Bro Isaac H. Coe, from the committee on By-Laws, reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the M. W. Grand Master and R. W. Deputy Grand Master, at the opening of the Grand Lodge, at each annual communication, to make a report of their official acts during the preceding year.

The Auditing Committee presented the following report, which was approved, accepted, and ordered to be recorded :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication, to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge for the year ending May 13, A. L., 5851, respectfully report, that they have attended to that duty, and find that all the moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, in whose hands there is now a balance in cash of one thousand one hundred and three dollars; which, with fifty-seven shares of the Union School Stock, valued at fifteen dollars a share, amounting to eight hundred and fifty-five dollars, make the whole amount of the funds of the Grand Lodge, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight dollars.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. H. OLMSTED, }
H. B. ENSIGN, } *Committee.*

New Haven, May 12, 1852.

Grand Treasurer's Account, presented May 12, 1852.

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with H. Goodwin, 2d.

Dr.

Paid St. John's Lodge, No. 4, for room rent, - -	\$10.00
A. E. Burr's bill, - - - - -	.50
Boswell & Faxon's bill, - - - - -	1.50
Osborn & Baldwin's bill, - - - - -	4.80
Grand Secretary's bill, - - - - -	117.43
" " salary, - - - - -	50.00
Grand Tyler's bill, - - - - -	5.00
Grand Steward's bill, - - - - -	40.30
Wm. Storer, per order Grand Lodge, - -	25.00
A. A. Perkins, " " " - - -	50.00
Allyn Goodwin's bill, - - - - -	7.00
Balance of cash on hand, - - - - -	1103.00
	<hr/>
	\$1414.53

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with H. Goodwin, 2d.

Cr.

By balance on hand, May, 1851, - - - - -	\$1008.53
Cash received of Grand Secretary, - - - - -	346.00
Interest to May 1, 1852, - - - - -	60.00
	<hr/>
	\$1414.53

H. GOODWIN, 2d, *G. Treasurer.*

Grand Secretary's Account of Cash received, May, 1851.

Of Hiram Lodge, No. 1,	\$25.00
St. John's, No. 2,	5.00
St. John's, No. 3,	22.00
St. John's, No. 4,	21.00
Union, No. 5,	8.00
St. John's, No. 6,	13.00
St. Paul's, No. 11,	8.00
King Hiram, No. 12,	20.00
Harmony, No. 20,	15.00
Columbia, No. 25,	12.00
Morning Star, No. 28,	2.00
Union, No. 31,	14.00
Somerset, No. 34,	5.00
Union, No. 40,	3.00
Harmony, No. 42,	20.00
Eastern Star, No. 44,	5.00
Putnam, No. 46,	8.00
Jerusalem, No. 49,	1.00
Warren, No. 50,	3.00
Asylum, No. 57,	5.00
Northern Star, No. 58,	14.00
Orient, No. 62,	8.00
Adelphi, No. 63,	28.00
Charity, No. 68,	13.00
Manchester, No. 73,	3.00
Meridian, No. 77,	2.00
Shepherd, No. 78,	3.00
For Charters and Dispensations,	60.00

Paid Grand Treasurer, \$346.00

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

Bro. Wm. G. Coe submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That as one of the standing rules of this Grand Lodge, the Secretaries of the several subordinate Lodges be required hereafter to make out and forward their annual returns to the Grand Secretary at least three days previous to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge; and that it be the duty of the Grand Secretary to make out from said returns of the subordinate Lodges, a roll of members entitled to seats in the Grand Lodge.

M. W. Bro. Peck submitted the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That as one of the rules of the Grand Lodge, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be hereafter required to print their report previous to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and to forward a copy to each of the subordinate Lodges, and that the reading of the same in Grand Lodge be dispensed with.

A memorial from Eastern Star Lodge, No. 44, located in the town of Windham, was presented and read, asking permission to hold their meetings in the village of Willimantic, which is a part of said town. Whereupon,

On motion of Bro. F. P. Coe, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That every subordinate Lodge has a perfect right to hold their meetings in any part of the town specified in their charter as the location of their Lodge, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Peck and Shepherd tellers, when ballots were taken, and the following brethren declared duly elected to the respective offices affixed to their names :

M. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Grand Master.

R. W. DAVID CLARK, Deputy Grand Master.

THEODORE SPENCER, Senior Grand Warden.

WILLIAM L. BREWER, Junior Grand Warden.

HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.

ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.

THOMAS H. SEYMOUR, Senior Grand Deacon.

GEORGE F. DASKAM, Junior Grand Deacon.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed and invested with their jewels, by Past Grand Master Shepherd.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning; and the officers and members repaired in a body to the residence of the M. W. Grand Master, agreeably with the invitation received in the morning, where, after partaking of a splendid entertainment, the remainder of the evening was passed in fraternal and social intercourse.

Thursday Morning, May 13.

The Grand Lodge met at 8 o'clock, and was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

The Grand Secretary reported that in obedience to a resolution passed at the last annual communication, he had published "a brief statement in relation to the character and death of Br. Gen. David Wooster," together with subscription lists for raising funds to erect a monument to his memory, and had sent a copy of the same to the W. Master of each Lodge in the State. A verbal report of the committee on the Wooster Monument, appointed at the last annual communication, was then submitted, after which the following resolution was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge continues to take a lively interest in the erection of a monument to the memory of our late brother Gen. David Wooster, and that the committee appointed at the last annual communication, to whom this subject was referred, are earnestly requested to carry out the object so much desired.

R. W. Bro. Brewer offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of twenty-five dollars, and pay the same to the chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, for his services on that committee.

The Committee on Grievances submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the complaint of Adelpi Lodge, No. 63, against Friendship No. 33, respectfully report, that they find that Friendship, Lodge did initiate, pass and raise a candidate who belonged under the jurisdiction of Adelpi Lodge, No. 63, but that said Friendship Lodge did not willfully violate the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, having been deceived by the representations of the candidate. Your committee therefore recommend that the fine of twenty dollars be not imposed, but that said Friendship Lodge be required to pay over to Adelpi Lodge the sum of ten dollars, the same being the amount of fees for initiating, passing and raising, deducting actual expenses.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WM. G. COE, }
J. A. M'LEAN, } *Committee.*
H. B. ENSIGN, }

On motion, it was resolved, that this report be continued to the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary notify Friendship Lodge of the pendency thereof.

The committee on establishing a Masonic Library, offered the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of a Masonic Library, beg leave respectfully to report, that with the limited attention they have been able to give this, they are satisfied of the truth of the following propositions, viz :

That it is of the highest importance to the welfare of our time-honored institution, that each of its members should be thoroughly acquainted with the great principles which lie at its foundation, as well as with the work and lectures.

That much of the diversity of opinion and action that exists among Masons, touching important points of Masonic jurisprudence, are to be attributed to the want of correct information.

That it is the duty of the Grand Lodge, so far as it can do so, to furnish to her officers, committees, and subordinates, the means of acquiring sufficient information to enable them to discharge understandingly the several duties devolving on them as Masons.

That in no way can this object be so well accomplished, as by the formation of a library comprising standard works on Masonic jurisprudence.

Your committee would therefore recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the sum of dollars be appropriated for the purchase of suitable books for the formation of a Masonic library, the money to be expended under the direction of a committee to be appointed for that purpose; and that an annual appropriation of dollars be hereafter made for the purpose of making additions to said library.

Resolved, That the first four officers of the Grand Lodge be authorized to prescribe regulations for the use of the library, which shall be in the custody of the Grand Secretary.

Resolved, That as a further means of disseminating important Masonic information among the fraternity, a sufficient number of copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall be printed, to furnish one copy for each member of every subordinate Lodge in this State.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. STORER,
N. H. BYINGTON, } *Committee.*
B. L. YALE,

On motion of M. W. Bro. Ellis, the report was accepted ; and after much discussion, a motion to adopt the resolutions was laid on the table.

Bro. Bassett, from the Committee on the subject of Uniformity of Work, presented the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The committee to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. W. Grand Master and of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as relates to the subject of the Work and Lectures of the Masonic Order, beg leave to report, that they have carefully considered the important subject submitted to them, and would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the first four officers of the Grand Lodge, together with one member from each county in the State, to be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, be a committee to perfect the work and lectures of the three degrees ; and that said committee shall meet on the business assigned them at such times and places as the M. W. Grand Lodge may direct.

Resolved, That when said committee shall have agreed upon a system of work and lectures, it shall be the duty of the M. W. Grand Master to call a special meeting of the Grand Lodge, to hear and act upon their report.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MARCUS BASSETT,	} <i>Committee.</i>
J. H. ASHMEAD,	
T. DIMOCK,	
F. P. COE,	
GEO. W. LEONARD,	
JOHN W. LEEDS, POMEROY HALL,	

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted, and the resolution adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed the following brethren to compose that part of the committee provided for in the above foregoing resolution consisting of one member from each county :—Charles S. Thomson, New Haven ; Thomas H. Seymour, Hartford ; Samuel Babcock, Middlesex ; Timothy Dimock, Tolland ; Aaron A. Stone, New London ; Isaac H. Coe, Windham ; Hermon Chapin, Litchfield ; James Stevens Fairfield.

R. W. Bro. Brewer, from the Committee on the Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of Washington's Initiation, submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The undersigned committee, to whom was referred the resolutions offered by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, proposing a public commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the initiation of George Washington into the mysteries of Freemasonry, beg leave to report—

That they have had the subject under consideration, and are fully convinced that such a celebration as is proposed, while it would afford an opportunity for the members of the fraternity to testify, in an appropriate and becoming manner their veneration for the memory of their late illustrious brother, would at the same time be a means of promoting the highest interests of the Masonic institution in this State. Your committee, therefore, most cordially recommend the adoption of the resolutions submitted to them, and that the proposed celebration be held in the city of Hartford: *Provided*, that the expense to the Grand Lodge shall not exceed one hundred and fifty dollars.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. L. BREWER,
CYRUS GOODELL,
WHEELOCK THAYER, } *Committee.*

On motion, it was voted, that the report be accepted, and that the resolutions of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence (with the above proviso) be adopted.

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

- BRO. HENRY A. HULL, of New Britain, Grand Marshal.
 " CHARLES H. OLMSTED, East Hartford, G. Sentinel.
 " JUNIUS M. WILLEY, Stonington, G. Chaplain.
 " NOAH H. BYINGTON, Southington, } G. Stewards.
 " R. AUGUSTUS ERVING, Hartford, }
 " ELIZUR SKINNER, Hartford, Grand Tyler.

Bro. B. Beecher submitted the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That no member of any subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction, shall be permitted to join any other Lodge, without first obtaining a discharge from the Lodge to which he formerly belonged, where there is more than one Lodge in the same town.

The Committee on Delinquent Lodges submitted the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The undersigned, Committee on Delinquent Lodges, would respectfully report, that Rising Sun Lodge, No. 27, of Washington, has not been represented at the present or preceding communications of the Grand Lodge. We therefore recommend that said Lodge be required to show cause, at the next annual communication, why their charter should not be revoked.

CHAS. H. OLMSTED, }
CHARLES BALL, } *Committee.*
HORACE GOODWIN, }

The following resolution, offered by R. W. Bro. Brewer, was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be and are hereby tendered to our M. W. Grand Master, for his courtesy and hospitality in entertaining the members at his residence.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Clark, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will dispense for the future with the collation which has heretofore been furnished by the Grand Stewards.

R. W. Bro. Clark submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That no subordinate Lodge in this State be allowed to employ a Lecturer from another State, to instruct them in the work, unless such Lecturer be first approved by the officers of this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge a communication from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, embracing a series of resolutions extending and inviting sympathy and aid in behalf of our brethren in California. Whereupon the following resolutions (being similar to those of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts) were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge has seen with great satisfaction the noble stand taken by our brethren in California, in carrying out, at great personal loss, and amidst indescribable difficulties and dangers, the true and self-sacrificing principles of our Order. In the midst of "the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the destruction that wasteth at noon-day," firm in their Masonic faith, and fearless in the exercise of Masonic duty, they were, under God, the saviours of the distressed and dying brother, when there was none other to save; and have thereby earned a just title to the respect and gratitude of the Craft throughout the world.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge earnestly appeals to the Masonic sympathies of all the subordinate Lodges and individual Masons in this jurisdiction, in behalf of our brethren in California, with the strong hope that this most peculiar case will be met with that liberal response which is its due, and that Lodges and individuals will give of their substance, in proportion as the Supreme Architect has seen fit to bless them with means.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will appropriate, and hereby does appropriate, the sum of fifty dollars for the above object, sincerely regretting our inability to do more.

Resolved, That the circular of the Grand Lodge of California be printed, together with these resolutions, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to trans-

mit a copy thereof to each subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction, and to take charge of all donations made for the object, and forward the same to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California.

The Grand Secretary asked leave to call the attention of the Grand Lodge, especially the oldest members, to a communication from the Grand Lodge of Ohio, soliciting information regarding the early migration of Masons from the State of Connecticut to the Western Reserve, which information the Grand Secretary was unable to furnish. Whereupon, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the communication from the Grand Lodge of Ohio be referred to a committee, consisting of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for investigation and research ; and that any brother or any Lodge, having possession of documents or facts, calculated to throw light on the subject of inquiry, is hereby requested to communicate the same to either of the members of said committee.

The Grand Secretary made a verbal statement relative to the affairs of the late Frederick Lodge, No. 14, and Widow's Son, No. 53 ; whereupon, it was ordered, that the Grand Secretary be directed to settle the affairs of Frederick Lodge as speedily and amicably as possible, and that the notes against members of Widow's Son Lodge be placed in the hands of R. W. Bro. Brewer, for collection.

R. W. Bro. Clark offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars be appropriated from the funds of the Grand Lodge, for the purpose of procuring suitable regalia for Grand Officers.

On motion of Bro. Holly, the Grand Master and Deputy G. Master were appointed a committee to carry the above resolution into effect.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. William Storer, and J. M. Willey, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and Bros. H. B. Ensign and S. A. Hurlbut, Auditing Committee.

No other business appearing, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut.

In the performance of the duty assigned to your committee, the writer of this report has found a far greater amount of labor devolving upon him, than in any previous year since he assumed the arduous and responsible task of reviewing the correspondence of the Grand Lodge. There is now a regularly organized Grand Lodge in each of the thirty-one States of our National Union, and one in the District of Columbia. The proceedings of all these bodies, except Rhode Island and Pennsylvania, have been received by the Grand Secretary, and placed in the hands of your committee, constituting in the aggregate, a library of *one thousand nine hundred and ninety-three* pages. A careful perusal of this great mass of printed matter, has occupied many weary days and even weeks; and although the task has been arduous, it has been attended with much pleasure, and we hope with some profit.

These documents are fraught with matters of interest and importance to all who are desirous of conscientiously and intelligently discharging their Masonic duties and obligations; and an attentive study of them can hardly fail of making the seeker of "further light" a wiser and better Mason. In many of the pamphlets before us, great and important principles, inseparably connected with the prosperity—nay, the very existence of our ancient Institution, and involving the great fundamentals of Masonic science, are elaborately discussed by men of exalted talents, whose elevated positions, both in our own and the general institutions of society—political, social and ecclesiastical—entitle their opinions to the most profound respect. Although many of these questions may not have been agitated within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and may be considered by Connecticut Masons as having been immutably settled in ages long past, still, there may be—nay, we have reason to believe

there actually are, many members of our own Lodges, to whom the imparting of "more light" could do no harm. And even were *all* of our own membership fully and firmly "rooted and grounded in the faith once delivered" to true and enlightened Masons, the question may well be seriously pondered by this Grand Lodge, in this day when so many of our devoted brethren in other jurisdictions are diligently inquiring for "the old paths," with a sincere desire to walk therein, and are appealing with earnestness to their brethren abroad for assistance in searching out and establishing the "ancient landmarks," whether she would be true to herself and to the household of faith, were she to maintain the silence of carelessness and indifference.

Even were it certain that all our own practices were in strict accordance with the provisions and requirements of the Ancient Constitutions, should we be discharging our solemn obligations to the great body of the fraternity of which we are but humble members, were we to have no care whether our brethren of the universal Masonic family deviated, or not, from the established laws and usages of the Order? Your Committee do not thus understand the obligations and responsibilities of Masonry. The several Lodges, and the individuals composing them, in whatever quarter of the globe dispersed, are members of the same great family, and as such, each has a direct interest in whatever concerns the welfare or the woe of all or any of the rest. When we hear of the prosperity of our beloved institution in any quarter, how do our hearts thrill with emotions of joy! feeling that this prosperity is partly our own. And so, also, whatever affects the reputation or usefulness of one branch of the family, equally affects the whole body. We believe this principle attaches not exclusively to the Christian Church, but that in an eminent degree it is a vital principle of Masonry.

With this understanding of the subject, we can not deem the many important discussions and inquiries that are transpiring from time to time in our sister Grand Lodges, as of no consequence to us, and shall, in the succeeding pages of this report, endeavor to call the attention of our brethren of this Grand Lodge to some of the many subjects that are at present engag-

ing the attention of the fraternity in other jurisdictions. And here, before commencing our review, it may not be improper to premise, that neither the ability of the writer, the time of the Grand Lodge, nor the reasonable limits of an annual report, will allow us to do full and ample justice to many of these interesting topics. And indeed, after all the time we have devoted to the examination of the voluminous documents before us, it is more than probable that we may have overlooked even some of the most important of these absorbing themes.

In pursuing our labors, we propose to refer, separately and individually, (in alphabetical order,) to the several Grand Lodges whose proceedings we have received, giving an abstract of their statistics as far as reported, and alluding to such topics of general interest as have recently engaged their attention.

ALABAMA.

At the annual communication, Dec. 1, 1851, R. W. David Clopton, D. G. M., presided, and opened the session with an appropriate address. He deploras the want of uniformity in work, and lectures, (which it would seem exists in Alabama, as elsewhere,) and says :

One, cause, and perhaps a principal cause, of the want of uniformity, is the pernicious practice of advancing candidates with such hot haste from degree to degree. They obtain a confused and undefined notion of Masonry ; and afterwards it requires more study and application to give that notion shape, than they have time or inclination to bestow. It would be incalculably effective in eradicating the evil of a want of uniformity in work, if each subordinate Lodge would incorporate in its by-laws an article requiring every candidate to be thoroughly acquainted with preceding degrees before he should be permitted to advance, and unwaveringly adhere to the enforcement of the rule. By this means every member of the Lodge would soon become competent to act as its Master ; and when uniformity of work was once established, it would be permanent.

In these suggestions your committee most cordially agree with the Deputy Grand Master of Alabama, and would respectfully urge them upon the attention of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, within whose jurisdiction we have reason to believe there is as much "hot haste" exhibited in advancing candidates from one degree to another, as in Alabama or any where else.

The Grand Master of Alabama urges upon his Grand Lodge the importance of establishing a Masonic Library, that their members may understand "the principles, history and landmarks of Masonry."

This Grand Lodge has made liberal loans of its funds to several seminaries of learning in the State, and the Grand Master strongly recommends that the fostering care of the Grand Lodge be extended to the cause of education.

ARKANSAS.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was begun on the 3d of November, 1851, and ended on the 7th. The Grand Master, Bro. E. H. Whitfield, opened the session with a short but pertinent address, in which he recounts and enforces some of the sacred duties and responsibilities which are incumbent on all Masons; and that these duties, as well as the importance of correct and uniform work and lectures, may be understood and duly appreciated by the fraternity in that jurisdiction, he submits the following recommendation:

That the Grand Lodge divide the State into districts, four or more if necessary, and select from the fraternity in each district, experienced and proficient brethren, to teach, by precept and example, not only the mysteries of our Order, but the duties which as Masons we owe to our God, our country, our neighbor and ourselves.

This proposition of the Grand Master was carried out by the Grand Lodge, in an amendment to the constitution, by which the State was divided into five Masonic Districts, with a Deputy Grand Master in each. A Grand Lecturer is to be appointed for the State, who is required to obtain the correct work and lectures, and when they are approved by the Grand Lodge, to teach the same to the District Deputy Grand Masters, and they to the Lodges in their several districts. No new Lodge is to be chartered until it has worked under dispensation, and exhibited satisfactory evidence of ability.

An act of incorporation has been procured from the Legislature of the State, for a literary institution, to be called "St. John's College of Arkansas," which was located at Little Rock, by vote of the Grand Lodge.

CALIFORNIA.

Masonry is evidently destined to perform an important mission in this State, and the interests of the institution appear to be in safe and judicious hands. At the semi-annual communication, May 7th, 1851, the M. W. Grand Master, Bro. J. D. Stevenson, delivered an excellent address, from which we make the following brief extract :

But one year has elapsed since the organization of the Grand Lodge of California. At that time there were but three chartered Lodges in the State. Since that time, many Lodges have been organized, by charter and dispensation, both here and in Oregon, all of which are prosperous and flourishing. It should be a source of sincere and heartfelt pleasure to every true-hearted Mason, to know and feel that our institution has been productive of so much good in this new country, and that the members of the fraternity here are so numerous and respectable ; for it is a well established fact, that every arrival, whether from Europe or from the States, brings to us Masons of the highest character, respectability and usefulness. The great benefit of Masonry to the human family has been fully proved in California ; as it has been demonstrated that nowhere have so many sick and distressed brethren, within the same space of time, received so much fraternal relief and attention, as in California.

Owing to the peculiar organization of society, and the great rush of adventurers to the land of gold, from all parts of the world, our brethren have been called upon more extensively for the dispensation of charity, than any body of Masons since the laying of the first stone of that stupendous specimen of Masonic skill and enterprise, the Temple of the Living God at Jerusalem. So great has been the amount of sickness and suffering among those who have emigrated to California, from all quarters of the globe, that the fraternity there have expended more than \$30,000 in Masonic charity, besides incurring a debt of \$14,000 more, in the prosecution of this benevolent work. To enable them to liquidate this heavy debt, they very properly appeal to their brethren in the United States and Europe, for pecuniary aid. They have sent us the following circular, which we commend to the liberal consideration of the Grand Lodge, and to the subordinate Lodges and individual Masons of Connecticut.

CIRCULAR ADDRESS.

To the M. W. G. Masters, Wardens and Brothers of the Grand Lodges of the United States and of Europe, and to the W. Masters, Officers and Brethren of the subordinate Lodges under their respective jurisdictions :

At the annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of California, the following resolution was unanimously adopted :

“ *Whereas*, Several of the Lodges under this jurisdiction, and the members thereof, by their great liberality to strange brothers, have become indebted for greater amounts than they are able to pay, therefore,

“ *Resolved*, That a Committee of seven be appointed to address a circular to other Grand and subordinate Lodges, setting forth the amount and nature of the embarrassments aforesaid, and for what causes incurred, which circular shall be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.”

The undersigned were appointed that Committee, and in the discharge of their duties, beg your indulgence to state : That at an early period in the history of the immense emigration into this new country from every State in the Union, and from every part of Europe, it was found that vast numbers came without any adequate knowledge of the nature or extent of the wants to which they would become exposed, in the prosecution of the mining enterprises which they came to pursue, as well as without any idea of the causes which have been found to operate in breaking down their health and constitutions. They, therefore, came most lamentably unsupplied with any other means of providing for their necessities than their capacities for labor. It therefore happened in the autumn of 1849, and the succeeding winter, that large numbers were compelled to leave the mining districts, and repaired to Sacramento City for medical advice, and for attendance in sickness. As a considerable number of such sick and destitute persons were members of the Masonic Fraternity, they naturally and of *right* made their condition known to their brethren, then established at that place.

Under a most generous impulse, and a lively sense of their obligations, the brethren undertook to institute a sanitary establishment, that should supply the place of a hospital. At that time, municipal government had not been organized, and public affairs were conducted chiefly on the voluntary principle. So it was in the case of the health establishment set up by the Masons. They found, however, that the demands upon them were, in the course of a few months, increased to an extent greater than they had anticipated, and greater than their own means, and the contributions which they could collect, would enable them to meet. They could not, however, go back, nor could they abandon the sufferers whom they had been obliged to receive, and whose numbers were greatly multiplied by the distress caused by the freshet which swept over the city in the winter of 1849 and '50. As a consequence, they made themselves liable for the payment of bills, the payment of which would reduce some of them to absolute indigence. They raised and paid, for the purpose above stated, over thirty-two thousand dollars, and are now in arrears about fourteen thousand dollars.

For that, they feel justified in calling upon the Grand and subordinate Lodges of the fraternity, to aid in relieving them. No record has been kept by which it can be known what exact amount any one sufferer received, belonging to any

particular Lodge, of all that have been provided for. But this is certain; no sick, destitute and suffering brother has been permitted to suffer or die in their midst uncared for. The noble generosity and disinterestedness with which a few Masons in one of our new cities, have contributed so largely to the wants of the brethren coming in upon them from all parts of the civilized world, has afforded a brilliant illustration to the world of the excellence and strength of our principles, and has been most effective in commending our Order to the respect of those who are not of us. Inasmuch as the effort has produced a common good, and its benefits have reached members of such a great number of Lodges, it seems but right that the existing pecuniary obligations should be discharged by a *common effort of Masons*.

This circular is therefore designed to appeal to the several subordinate Lodges, for a contribution from each, of from five to ten dollars, or more, as their circumstances shall warrant; to be forwarded through the Secretaries of their respective Grand Lodges, to be concentrated in the hands of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, in N. Y. city, and by him transmitted to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California, or through any more direct channel, as may be most convenient.

Brothers, we do not think we ask too much, nor can we doubt you will give a prompt response to this appeal in behalf of these noble few, who have become embarrassed by their devotion to those who have acquired in your Lodges the right to draw upon their brethren on these western shores.

JOHN H. TUTT,	} <i>Committee.</i>
J. D. STEVENSON,	
L. STOWELL,	
P. A. BRINSMADE,	
T. A. THOMAS,	
B. JENNINGS,	
E. J. WILLIS,	}

Brethren, in addition to the claim which our California brethren have upon us as members of the same great Masonic household, there is if possible a still stronger reason why we should not turn a deaf ear to this their appeal. Many of the sufferers who have been relieved by this heaven-born charity were from our own dear New England; and those who have thus nobly come forward to alleviate the wretchedness of their sick and dying hour, are, "bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh." This indebtedness should be esteemed a common interest, as much binding on the universal family of Masons, as upon the individuals and Lodges whom an over-ruling Providence has made the agents for incurring it.

DELAWARE.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was holden at Wilmington, June 27th, 1851, when the M. W. Grand Master, Bro. Wm. T. Read, delivered a beautiful address, in which are mingled interesting Masonic and patriotic sentiments. In alluding to a special meeting on the 26th of October previous, called for the purpose of celebrating the funeral obsequies of the late Commodore Jacob Jones, of the U. S. Navy, Br. Read says :

This Grand Lodge, in conjunction with many visiting brethren, participated, with a great assembly of our patriotic fellow-citizens, in rendering funeral honors to the remains of our distinguished brother, Commodore Jacob Jones. You are familiar with his public services, from the war with Tripoli, so full of romantic incidents, in which were gathered the first laurels of our gallant navy, to that proud moment, when, after a hard-fought battle, the Frolic, of superior force, struck the meteor-flag of England to the ship he commanded.

To the patriotism of the citizens of Wilmington we owe it that the remains of Jones have their last resting-place within his native State. But I grieve to add, my brethren, that other illustrious men of Delaware, as yet remain unhonored. Kirkwood, who shared with the Delaware Regiment in the glory it won on thirty hard-fought battle-fields, and who fell at last under the ball or tomahawk of a savage foe,—Bayard, eminent among the early statesmen of our republic,—Macdonough, the companion of Decatur at Tripoli and the victor of Lake Champlain,—Rodney, U. S. Attorney General, Senator and Ambassador,—all have their graves without our boundaries. Delaware, by decreeing to these distinguished citizens graves within her limits, as she has done for Hazlett and Jones, would discharge, tardily indeed, a debt of gratitude she owes them.

But, my brethren, high honor might be won by the Masons of Delaware. At their request, I have no doubt, the government would promptly transport, in a public vessel, the remains of our brother Cæsar Augustus Rodney, now mouldering beside the magnificent La Plata, to a final resting-place in the city of Wilmington, where he was so honored and beloved in life, and lamented in death ; and this Grand Lodge, aided by our patriotic brethren in other States, who would emulously present their offerings for such an object, might build his monument.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is principally occupied with the difficulties in New York and Louisiana. Allusion is made to a few other topics, which have occupied the attention of some of the Grand Lodges ; among them is the question of *honorary membership*, which they thus summarily dispose of :

The practice of permitting subordinate Lodges to have honorary members,

exists in Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, and in our own jurisdiction; and your committee cannot but view it as a modern innovation, which is not in accordance with our tenets, and should be abolished. The Committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, in connection with this subject observe, that "in Masonry all are on a level, until some are elevated to office, and actually perform its duties, and then they are entitled to the rank and privilege, of office, which can be obtained in no other way."

We fully agree with our Delaware and Rhode Island brethren, never having found anything in the ancient regulations which would warrant honorary membership.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

At the annual communication in November, M. W. Benjamin B. French, the eloquent Grand Master, delivered one of his characteristic addresses, from which we extract the following remarks, on the importance of watchful vigilance in guarding the portals of the Masonic Temple :

Respectability of position, by bodies of men, either corporate or politic, does not depend upon numbers; far, very far, from it; and I am thankful that the Lodges under this jurisdiction are fast learning this truth. It is a solemn fact, my brethren, that it is better to follow the *body* of a brother to the tomb, than to follow his *good character* to its grave. To see one with whom we have been accustomed to associate on the warmest terms of fraternal affection,—one whom we had "grappled to our hearts with hooks of steel," unmasked before the world, and made a mark for scorn "to point his slow unmoving finger at," is one of the most humiliating positions in which a Mason can be placed; and it were better that not a single candidate should pass the threshold of a Lodge from year's end to year's end, than that one should be admitted who should ever cause us to blush that he was our brother.

During the year, the Grand Lodge made "a pilgrimage to the Tomb of Washington, at Mount Vernon," and on the 4th of July a special communication was called, on the interesting occasion of laying the corner-stone for the extension of the Capitol of the United States.

On the occasion of laying the corner-stone of the new Capitol building, as is probably known to every member of this Grand Lodge, an address was delivered by Hon. Daniel Webster, Secretary of State of the United States. The ceremony of laying the stone was performed by Grand Master French,

who delivered a short but pertinent address. As this brief oration is a beautiful exemplification of that patriotic love of country which will ever actuate all good Masons, we can not resist the temptation to lay it entire before the Grand Lodge. It is as follows :

MY MASONIC BRETHREN: I rise to address you on this occasion, deeply oppressed with the circumstances which surround me.

Standing, as I do, in the presence of some of the most exalted men of this nation, and to be followed, as I am to be, by one admitted by all as emphatically *the orator* of his time, and of whom I can truly say' "He it is who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not unworthy to unloose," you will believe me guilty of no affectation when I say I feel a diffidence which is to me unusual.

Still, as your Grand Master, I have a duty to perform, and I shrink from no duty, under any circumstances. I am unable to conceive of a more interesting occasion than this, upon which we are assembled, on this anniversary of the birthday of American Freedom.

Here we are—the proud dome of our Capitol towering above us—assembled together from the North and the South, from the East and the West, to perform a duty indicative, in itself, of the growth and prosperity of this mighty nation.

On the 18th day of September, 1793, was laid, by GEORGE WASHINGTON, President of the United States, and Grand Master of Masons, at least on that occasion, the corner stone of the magnificent edifice before us. It was, doubtless, supposed that, when completed according to the plan then adopted, it would be of ample dimensions to accommodate all the wants of all the people by whom it was to be erected for ages then to come. Fifty eight years have elapsed, and, in that comparatively brief space in the ages of governments, we are called upon to assemble here and lay the corner stone of an additional edifice, which shall hereafter tower up, resting firmly on the strong foundation this day planted, adding beauty and magnitude to the People's hearts of the principles of freedom, and the rapid growth of those principles on this Western Continent.

Yes, my brethren, standing here, where, fifty-eight years ago Washington stood, clothed in the same Masonic regalia that he then wore, using the identical gavel that he used, we have assisted in laying the foundation of a new Capitol of the United States this day, as Solomon of old laid the foundation of the temple of the living God! "Now, therefore," says the historian Josephus, "the king laid the foundation of the temple very deep in the ground, and the materials were strong stones, such as would resist the force of time;" and we, following this noble and sublime example, have laid here, deep in the ground, and of strong stones, which we trust will resist the force of time, the foundations of a house wherein we hope for lengthened years the representatives of a mighty people shall legislate for the glory, the happiness, and the good of that people.

When the corner-stone of the edifice before us was laid, in 1793, the government was justly considered an experiment, and the prediction was again and again made, by those who, thank God, turned out to be false prophets, that it

would fail. Doubtless, "the wish was father to the thought;" but it did not fail. The first census of the United States, in 1791, exhibited a population of less than four millions; and now, in sixty years, the number has increased to upwards of twenty millions! The predictions of failure, therefore, have themselves utterly failed, while the prayer has been answered, and the prophecy fulfilled, which was uttered by Washington on assuming the duties of President, in April, 1789. He then offered up his "fervent supplications to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect, that his benediction would consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States a Government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes; and would enable every instrument employed in its administration to execute with success the functions allotted to his charge."

The ear of the Almighty was opened to that prayer; it was recorded in heaven; and from Washington, down to the present President of the United States, who so worthily, and with so much dignity and honor, fills the proud station that Washington filled, it has been answered, and every instrument employed in the administration of this Government has executed with success the functions allotted to his charge.

After this supplication to the Most High, Washington expressed his conviction "that the foundations of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality, and the pre-eminence of a free government be exemplified by all the attributes which can win the affections of its citizens, and command the respect of the world.

"I dwell," said he, "on this prospect with every satisfaction which an ardent love of my country can inspire; since there is no truth more thoroughly established than that there exists in the economy and course of nature an indissoluble union between duty and advantage, between the genuine maxims of an honest and magnanimous policy and the solid rewards of public prosperity and felicity; since we ought to be no less persuaded that the propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained; and since the preservation of the sacred fire of liberty, and the destiny of the republican model of government, are justly considered as *deeply*, perhaps as *finally* staked on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people."

This prophecy has been fulfilled. "The foundations of our national policy *were* laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality," and the eternal rules of order and right *having been regarded*, the propitious smiles of Heaven have beamed upon "the American people," to whose hand the "experiment" was entrusted. Prophecy has become fact, hope has become fruition, and the experiment on which the destiny of our republican model of government was *deeply* and *finally* staked has been entirely successful.

But, my brethren, we must for a moment reverse this bright picture of the past. As, in the fabled mirror, when under the power of the magic wand, clouds obscure the view for a time, and darkness and desolation shut from the beholder's eye some scenes of happiness and joy, so, within a short time past, have been hovering over the brightness of our political horizon the dark and dismal clouds

of disunion, and the time was, and that recently, "when the boldest held his breath," in anticipation of the shock which was expected to overwhelm the Republic.

Thanks to Almighty God, the good old ship of State weathered the dangers that seemed about to overwhelm her, and, like that glorious old battle-ship, the Constitution, she has escaped the imminent dangers of "a lee shore," and is now again, we hope and trust, in smooth water, with a cloudless horizon all around her. Heaven works not on earth without human means, and men and patriots were inspired in our day of danger to cast themselves resolutely into the breach and strike boldly for the Union. The names of Clay, Webster, Cass, Foote, Cobb, Dickinson, Houston, Douglas, and a host of others, shall live in the history of the dark storm through which we have just passed, as the saviors of this glorious galaxy of American States; their names shall stand in history as pillars of their country in the hour of her darkest trial.

I know I shall be excused for saying that all save one whose names I have mentioned are "brethren of the mystic tie." He to whose eloquence you are about to listen is, if I mistake not, the only exception.

To these great, good, patriotic men, aided as they have been by the Executive of the nation, in whose every act a determination not to be misunderstood has been manifested to preserve the Union, do we, as I firmly believe, under God, owe the existence, this day, of these United States of America! Thanks be to God! thanks be to them!

And now, my brethren, do we see nothing here, in these ceremonies, on this occasion, to cheer us? Cold indeed must be our hearts, if they can beat on in their regular pulsations, while our eyes behold nothing but a plain rock of granite, hewed and squared, and our ears hear nothing farther than, "it is a corner stone."

I see in these ceremonies, as it were the spirit of WASHINGTON amongst us, renewing the hopes and wishes and prayers that he never failed to offer in his lifetime for the perpetuation of the Union; in that corner stone I perceive the seal set to a renewed lease of the existence of this Union. *Lease*, did I say! No, a deed of warrant in fee simple, to have and to hold to us and our heirs and representatives FOREVER!

In the erection of this new Capitol, adjoining the old one, I see Texas and California, and New Mexico, come in and unite themselves to our old Union, and become one and the same with it; and in leaving this old Capitol untouched, I see the old Union—South Carolina and all—standing firmly, proudly, in its glorious strength unbroken and unbreakable, and let us all firmly hope and pray, so may it stand, FOREVER AND FOREVER!

At a meeting on the 6th of May, 1851, the Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge a communication from Dr. J. W. Lugenbeel, of the Colonization Society in the city of Washington, covering a petition from J. J. Roberts, President of the Republic of Liberia, Henry J. Roberts, his brother, Rev. John Day, Rev. Eli W. Stokes, and others, citizens of Monrovia in

that Republic, praying for a charter for a Lodge to be opened in that place, to be called "Restoration Lodge." In answer to this petition, it was unanimously resolved, "that the prayer of the petitioners be rejected."

We are willing to make due allowance for the very natural prejudices of our Southern brethren. We should even doubt the propriety of initiating colored men into the mysteries of Masonry in any of the Lodges in the United States, or of instituting new Lodges here for their benefit. But as the Republic of Liberia is assuming an elevated position among the nations of the earth; as she is inhabited by a race of free and intelligent men, and is unquestionably destined to exert a great and salutary influence in the civilization and christianization of the whole vast continent of Africa, we can see no good reason for denying to the benign principles of Freemasonry the high privilege of contributing their proper share to the consummation of this great and glorious work. As at present advised, were the same petitioners whose prayer was rejected by our enlightened brethren of the Federal District, now to ask from this Grand Lodge a charter for a Lodge to be established at Monrovia, we should feel it our duty to favor the granting of the prayer of the petition.

FLORIDA.

We are always pleased, and we trust benefited, by a perusal of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, embracing, as it does, some of the most enlightened Masons in the land. The addresses and reports of her officers and committees are the productions of no ordinary minds, and discuss great questions of Masonic jurisprudence with a clearness of perception, and candor and fairness of argument, worthy of all admiration.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, in 1851, is from a Committee consisting of our exalted brethren, John P. Duval, Thomas Brown and John B. Taylor, and covers fifty-six large octavo pages. In this report, the Committee have made an alphabetical digest of the various topics discussed in the several sister Grand Lodges, giving their own opinions on each.

The *rights* of candidates for advancement having been under discussion in several Masonic jurisdictions in this country, the Florida Committee have noticed the subject at length; and as it is a matter of importance to the craft every where, we quote from their argument and from the authorities cited by them, as follows :

We find that the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin has decided that an Entered Apprentice shall not be refused advancement except by a vote of a majority of the Lodge, and that a Mason shall be admitted to membership by a vote of two-thirds of the Lodge. The Grand Master in his address says :

“ Denying advancement to an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft by the operation of a single negative in the ballot-box he considers not only wrong in itself, but also unmasonic. Without sufficient cause shown to the contrary, the advancement may be demanded as a matter of *right*. The single voice is Masonically bound to speak *openly*, in order that the whole Lodge may be enabled to judge on the subject justly and correctly.”

As we have read with much pleasure the report of the Committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, we are utterly astonished at their opinions on this subject. We always supposed if any one rule of ancient Masonry was more unquestionable than another, it was unanimity in balloting for initiation, passing and raising. In this view we are sustained by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Iowa, Maryland and Ohio. On “ the rights of Entered Apprentices.” there will be found an able article by Albert G. Mackey, M. D., Editor of the Southern and Western Masonic Miscellany, Vol. I, July, 1850, No. 8, page 234, to which we respectfully call the attention of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin. We copy from page 237 the following remarks :

“ Viewing the question in this light—and indeed we know of no other in which to view it—it seems to us to be perfectly evident that the peculiar constitution and principles of our order will require unanimity in the election of a person for initiation, of an Apprentice for a Fellow Craft, and of a Fellow Craft for a Master Mason,” and that “ while no Entered Apprentice can be expelled from the Order, except by due course of trial, it is competent for the Lodge at any time on a ballot, to refuse to advance him to the second degree. But let it be remembered that the Lodge which refuses to pass an Apprentice on account of any objection to his moral character, or doubt of his worthiness, is bound to give him the advantage of a trial, and at once to expel him if guilty, or if innocent, to advance him when otherwise qualified.”

We copy the following from Brother C. W. Moore’s Monthly Magazine, Vol. IX., No. 10, which should be in the hands of every Mason :

“ Personal dislikes should have nothing to do in the admission of candidates; at least not so far as the action of the Lodge is concerned. Individual members have a legal right to vote as they think proper, and for so doing are not to be questioned, yet if they negative a candidate for no other reason than that they do not like him as a companion, or from personal pique, they do a moral wrong to the individual, and an injury to the Lodge. Our Lodges can not become the *media* of malice or revenge.”

Your committee have no hesitation in saying, that if it should be proved that such motives operated on any Mason, he would be guilty of a gross crime against Masonry, for which he should be promptly expelled.

It is unnecessary to add, that we fully concur in the foregoing. The practice in the Lodges of Connecticut, we believe, has ever been in accordance with these principles.

On the subject of representation in the Grand Lodge, the Florida committee make extracts from the reports of several Grand Lodges, and also from the works of several Masonic writers, showing a great diversity of opinion and practice, with regard to the right of Wardens to represent their Lodges, and the right of Lodges to appoint delegates or proxies to represent them in the Grand Lodge. We quote the following :

Your committee believe, that according to the Ancient Constitutions, the proper and legal representatives of a subordinate Lodge in a Grand Lodge are the Master and Wardens ; and if they are unable to attend, the right rests with each to appoint his own proxy. The innovation of permitting Lodges to elect representatives to the Grand Lodge, has been attended with contradictory rules and decisions of the Grand Lodges of the United States. Some Grand Lodges permit delegates to be appointed by the subordinate Lodges, only when the three first officers fail to appoint proxies. Other Grand Lodges have appointed proxies for subordinate Lodges. The Grand Lodge of Indiana decided that the W. Master of a Lodge could not appoint a proxy to the Grand Lodge, without the concurrence of the Lodge over which he presided. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Florida recognizes the Masters and Wardens as representatives of the subordinate Lodges, with power to appoint proxies, but also authorizes each subordinate Lodge to elect one representative to the Grand Lodge, who votes with the officers of his Lodge.

The usage in Connecticut has ever been for the Masters and Wardens of subordinate Lodges, or their proxies, to represent their Lodges in the Grand Lodge. We know of no precedent in this State, for a departure from this ancient and correct practice.

GEORGIA.

The increase of the Order in this State has been very great ; the number of Lodges is 164, of which 21 were chartered at the annual communication in October last. The whole number of members is 6489, of which 1487 were initiated the past year.

Alluding to this great increase, the M. W. Grand Master, Bro. Wm. C. Dawson, in his brief but eloquent address, makes the following valuable remarks :

As to the present unexampled prosperity of our Order, I deem it a fit occasion to say, that the doors of our Lodges should be strictly guarded, that no unworthy applicant may be permitted to enter. The vital interest of Masonry imperiously require, that rigid examination should be made in every case. Relax this duty, and you open your arcana to impending dangers. It were better that fifty good men be rejected, than that one bad man be admitted. A Lodge cannot be called prosperous, which admits indiscriminately the evil and the just. The prosperity of a Lodge depends infinitely more upon the *character*, than upon the *number* of its members. Let this be good, and the shafts of envy, malice, bigotry and superstition, will fall harmless at your feet.

The following resolution of the Grand Lodge of Georgia we hope to see adopted by all other Grand Lodges :

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction be instructed not to initiate, pass or raise any candidate, who has not resided in the State twelve calendar months before making application ; and that the expediency and propriety of adopting a similar resolution be earnestly recommended to our sister Grand Lodges, as one means of preventing unworthy men from gaining admission to our mystic temple.

ILLINOIS.

The annual communication, for the year 1851, was held on the 6th of October. In consequence of the death of the Grand Master, the session was opened by the R. W. Thomas J. Pickett, Deputy Grand Master, from whose address we make the following extract :

As a society, the Grand Lodge of Illinois has reason for thankfulness and rejoicing. No previous year has shown such prosperity among our subordinate Lodges, as the one now drawing to a close. Good men and true are knocking at our doors and obtaining admittance. New Lodges are springing into existence in various portions of our glorious State, and the sound of the gavel is now heard where but a short time since no signs of civilization could be distinguished. Ignorant and malevolent opposition have in a great degree ceased their mad raving, and no danger need now be apprehended from without ; but if ever the beautiful columns of our Masonic edifice are to be broken or defaced, the vandal hand that strikes the blow will come from within its sacred courts. How important, then, that the entrance to our sanctum sanctorum should be guarded against the approach of the unworthy ! How important that our members should bear in mind, that too great care cannot be exercised in selecting the material with which to construct our noble fabric, so that " its several parts will fit with exactness."

But, while we have cause for thankfulness, my brethren, we have also cause to mourn. In passing along the journey of life, we are constantly reminded of the stern lesson, that "we are born to die." Since our last annual communication, this warning has again been repeated to us. Our Grand Master (M. W. Giles Yates Taylor) is no more! Our beloved brother, who occupied the highest place within our gift, has passed from his labors on earth, as we confidently trust, to "everlasting refreshment in the Paradise of God!"

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented an able and elaborate report, in which they discuss numerous questions which are occupying the attention of other Grand Lodges. On the subject of the hasty advancement of candidates, by making their cases "*emergent*," they have a good-natured controversy with their neighbors of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, who had taken exception to a statement made by the Grand Master of Illinois, that "he had granted eighteen dispensations to confer degrees in a shorter time than is prescribed by the regulations." The Indiana committee disapprove of this practice, saying "the rule in Indiana is different; the subordinate Lodges, each for themselves, determine the emergency; and thirty years practice has worked no evil." To this the Illinois committee reply:

It appears by the list annexed to the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, that there were thirty-eight suspensions and seventeen expulsions last year. What has "worked this evil"? Is it not the unrestricted privilege given into the hands of subordinate Lodges, to make any and every application a case of *emergency*, and to initiate, pass and raise the candidate immediately, and at one and the same communication?

We do not doubt the competency of a subordinate Lodge to judge and act correctly in the premises, but assume that the rule requiring a petition to lay over from one regular meeting to another before action is taken thereon, being an old and generally established regulation, if not an *ancient* one, may not be violated or deviated from, except by special dispensation of the Grand Master, who may permit or authorize the same, upon good reasons being assigned by the subordinate Lodge.

Our experience teaches us, that where subordinate Lodges are permitted for themselves to determine cases of emergency, in their anxiety to confer degrees, or to gratify the wishes of a candidate, they are too apt to declare such a case one of emergency, and proceed immediately to give one or all of the degrees; which hasty action must certainly be condemned and discountenanced by all reflecting Masons.

It would seem that neither the practice in Illinois or Indiana has superseded the necessity of resorting to the expulsion of un-

worthy members. In Indiana, where each Lodge judges for itself of cases of "emergency," we have seen seventeen expulsions in one year ; and in Illinois, where a dispensation of the Grand Master alone can settle the question of "emergency," we find thirteen expulsions reported for the last year.

Now, although we have no right to say that none of these expulsions would have taken place if the ancient rule had been strictly adhered to, yet we may say, that the more strict the scrutiny, and the more cautious the action of the Lodge, in the initiation and advancement of candidates, the less occasion, in all probability, there will be for the expulsion of unworthy members.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois adopted the following resolutions, which we believe to be strictly in accordance with correct usage :

That a summons, issued by a subordinate Lodge, or by the W. Master thereof, may be either *written* or *oral*.

That any summons, issued as aforesaid, need not contain any other matter except the requisition to attend upon the Lodge issuing the same, or the Master thereof, when required.

That every Master Mason, on being so summoned, whether he be a member or not, is bound to attend the meeting of the Lodge so requiring him, whether the same be done for the purpose of getting his testimony on matters before the Lodge, or to answer charges against himself.

That every Master Mason is subject to the discipline of the Lodge under whose jurisdiction he may reside, whether he is a member of such Lodge or not.

INDIANA.

At the annual communication, May 26th, 1851, the Grand Master, M. W. Elizur Deming, delivered an eloquent address, full of lofty sentiments of patriotism and devotion to Masonry. From this address, would time allow and room permit, it would be pleasant to cull many a flower ; but we must be content to make the following brief extracts :

Our Masonic and Military History is rich in incident ; and while we treasure in our hearts the memory of all who at any time fought or fell in defence of our frontier homes, it is peculiarly fitting that we make honorable mention of those brethren, not residents of our State, who voluntarily came to our aid, in the hour of darkness and danger, and sacrificed their lives for our security. Among the hallowed names of those whose last resting-place was the memorable battle-

ground of Tippecanoe, are those of Davies and Owen, of Kentucky. Their biography shows the estimation in which they were held by their fellow-citizens, as well as by their brethren of the Masonic fraternity; and our correspondence, at this late day, in reference to their personal history, shows that their memories and virtues are deeply embalmed in the hearts of surviving friends and acquaintances.

Col. Davies, at the time of his death, was the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky; and we believe it is the second instance in the world's history, where a Masonic Grand Master came to a violent death.

As so many Masonic reminiscences cluster on the field of Tippecanoe, and as so large a number of our illustrious dead remain there in their solitary sepulchres, we recommend to the Grand Lodge of Indiana to take such measures as in its wisdom may seem fit, to obtain from the State of Indiana the privilege and liberty of building a plain monument to the memory of those brethren and others who fell there. In the performance of this work, we would invite the assistance and co-operation of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, that by the united efforts of the Craft, and citizens of both States, we may erect a shaft on the spot where Davies fell, worthy of the cause, the principles, the characters, and chivalry of those men, a shaft that shall tell to all coming generations, the enduring but silent and effective attachment of Masonic love and Masonic brotherhood. Long ago the blood of our brethren was poured out there as a rich libation. Let that ground, in all future time, be consecrated to the country, virtue and Masonry.

Indiana has much classic ground. She was the early theatre of great moral movements in the north-west. More than a hundred years ago, the voice of the missionary was heard along her great waters, and in her vast prairies, pointing the Indian to the cross, and telling him the story of "peace on earth and good will to men."

Indiana was the favorite land of the Aborigines in all the great West. This was their home and the seat of their affections. Here the most distinguished civil and military leaders lived and acted. Here resided that mighty chief, whose superior genius controlled the various tribes of his people, from Minnesota to Arkansas—from Foud du lac to Tippecanoe. In all this region their council fires have gone out, and there is now no memorial of the great Shawanee but the hearth-stone of his wigwam. To-day we would affectionately remember our brethren among them. In years gone by, both Delawares and Miamies were visitors in our Lodge at Post Vincennes, and within its sacred precincts acknowledged their adherence to the genuine principles of brotherly love, relief and truth.

Freemasonry travels with the star of empire. Ever since it took its western way, she has been its constant companion, carving the way for the arts of civilized life. Every new conquest increases the company of her brotherhood, and enlarges the area of her kingdom. The sound of her gavel is heard farther and farther west, until it dies away amidst the murmers of the Pacific. It will soon be heard in the islands of sea, and

"Where the morning breaks on the Orient."

In closing my official connection with the Grand Lodge, in reviewing the past and looking at the present, we have much ground for rejoicing. By the co-operation of the brethren, and their unanimous support of wholesome measures, we

have had for several past years continued prosperity. Those causes which for a series of years paralyzed our energies, have now, we believe, exhausted themselves. The breath of a new life is again moving us, and the spirit of our principles seems once more to pervade our hearts. That good seed sown and watered by our predecessors, though long buried, is now springing up, and promises to yield abundantly of those good fruits which have ever been characteristics of genuine Free Masonry. If our growth has been rapid, it has not been sickly. Our novitiates have, as a class, been respectable for talents, integrity, and devotion to our cause, and for qualifications as adepts in the work; the Lodges in our jurisdiction will compare favorably with those of older States. The moral power of our association has also been greatly increased. In this respect, what is true of the Union at large is true of Indiana. It is our true glory, that we have always kept the faith. No schism has destroyed our unity. With us, no repulsive forces have ever broken the attraction of brotherly love. We have here but one light. The URIM THUMMIM gives but one response. That our prosperity may continue, we must abide by the ancient landmarks, and carefully walk in the old paths.

The great and cardinal principles of our institution need no mending. They are adapted to the nature of man—to his wants in every varied condition, and need no change for the sake of conforming to the spirit of this or any other age. Like primal truth, they are one—the same now as in the morning of time—the same now as when light and order first spread their glories on the bosom of chaos; they will remain the same as in the past.

The days of our Masonic pilgrimage have been more than thirty years. They have been variegated with sunshine and shadow. During this time, it has been our privilege to be numbered among the faithful and true, who remained with the tabernacle, the altar, and the ark, in the time of their desolation—the hidden manna sustained us—fraternal hands were reached out to support us, and we feel doubly compensated by the privilege of joining our brethren in keeping this jubilee.

The M. W. Grand Master, in pursuance of a resolution of the Grand Lodge, presented a biographical sketch of the lives of several of the early distinguished members of the craft in the State of Indiana, and those who fell in Indiana during the late war, in defending the settlers of the then Indian Territory.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Grand Master in his opening address, the Grand Lodge adopted resolutions, appointing a committee to prepare a drawing for a Masonic monument on the heights of Tippecanoe; directing the Grand Secretary to open a correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Kentucky on the subject of the monument; and appointing a committee to ask of the Legislature of the State leave to erect and maintain such monument.

IOWA.

The address of the Grand Master is wholly occupied with a report of his official labors during the previous year, in which time he granted seven dispensations for new Lodges. A resolution was adopted, requiring the Grand Master to hold a *Lodge of Instruction*, at one or more times and places, on which the Masters of subordinate Lodges shall be summoned to attend, and that they be thoroughly instructed in the work and lectures of the three degrees of Symbolic Masonry. The business of the session was principally of a local character, and appears to have been conducted in harmony.

KENTUCKY.

Annual communication, 25th August, 1851. The Grand Master reported that he had granted dispensations for twenty-one new Lodges. The report on Foreign Correspondence is a well written and elaborate document. The following remarks on an important topic which has occupied the attention of several of our sister Grand Lodges, meet with the hearty concurrence of your Committee, and we doubt not will commend themselves to the approbation of the Grand Lodge :

Our attention has been called to the existence of a practice which has prevailed, to some extent, in the United States—that of receiving and acting on the petitions for initiation, &c., of transient persons, not resident within the jurisdiction of either the subordinate Lodge or Grand Lodge under which it works. Most of the Grand Lodges, whose proceedings have been examined by us, are opposed to the exercise of that power; and when we reflect on the importance to the craft, that the character of all applicants for initiation should be fully known, that it has universally been considered so essential, and on the facility with which men pass from one part of our large and populous country to another, and the means of imposition which are so often practiced, your committee think that the Lodge to whom such application is made, owe it to themselves, to the craft in the State from whence the applicant came, as well as to the order generally, to abstain from entertaining, for a moment, such applications. Those who favor it assign as a reason, that a person traveling, or about to leave the United States, finding that a connection with the order may be of great service to him, applies to a Lodge wherever he may happen to be, and if this right is not exercised, a worthy member may be lost and he may be put to some inconvenience and trouble, in his travels.

This whole argument is based on the assumption that Masonry is intended to pander to the self-interest of men. Nothing is more foreign to its designs. The

candidate is expressly required to say, at the outset, that his application is not made from selfish considerations or "mercenary motives," but that it is because he has for "a long time entertained a favorable opinion of the Order." Now we would suggest that if he had entertained this opinion for such a "long time," why he had not made his application at the place of his residence, where his character might undergo a full investigation, and the purity of his motives be judged of? Brethren who claim from their Lodges this right, should reflect that, while they may be promoting their own interest by receiving the fees for such initiations, and run no risk themselves of injury in receiving an unworthy person who is transient, they are throwing out a member on the confidence of the Masonic world at large, without, in the nature of things, that knowledge of his character which our standards require; and if the person should prove unworthy, although that unworthiness may be exhibited many thousand miles from them, and they not be directly injured by it, yet Masonry at large receives a wound, and the cause, at the particular point where this unworthiness may be manifested, will receive an irreparable injury.

We quote the following paragraphs from the remarks of the Kentucky committee upon the subject of the right of Grand Lodges and Grand Masters to make Masons :

There is an old established principle, that a Grand Master can make Masons at sight; and it is only the operation of this, and the right supposed to exist in him to call on the Grand Lodge to assist him, that has furnished an apology for the exercise of such a power. This principle, we are satisfied, was never intended to operate in its broad and unrestricted sense; it is subject to divers limitations. It surely cannot mean that a Grand Master can make Masons outside of a duly constituted Lodge. It does not contemplate that the Grand Master shall make a Mason without previous inquiry into his character, and unanimity on the part of his Lodge; and that inquiry, in justice to the Order and to the candidate, should be made in the neighborhood of his residence. All these are certainly restrictions on that great right of the Grand Master.

While we are in favor of a strict adherence to the ancient landmarks, a casual exercise of a power, in the early ages of Masonry, or in time of danger, such as was exercised by the Grand Master, when he initiated the officers sent by Queen Elizabeth to disperse his Lodge, can hardly, in this age, when the powers of the Grand Lodge and Grand Master are well defined by written constitutions, be considered a precedent for our action, and is in no sense a landmark, although we see it relied on as such by some Grand Lodges.

On the subject of the *physical qualifications* of candidates, which has been discussed, with various results, in several quarters, the Kentucky committee give their views in the following sensible manner, which is in consonance with the opinions heretofore expressed in the reports of your committee, and adopted by this Grand Lodge :

Some of the Grand Lodges seem to consider the possession of physical qualifications a *sine qua non* for admission, and claim that it is one of the *landmarks* of the Order. The Grand Lodge of Kentucky claims to be as zealous to maintain a strict adherence to the landmarks as any of her sisters; yet we cannot consent that every brother, or every Grand Lodge, shall set up what he or it may choose as a landmark, and require us to respect it as such. Our constitutional provisions contain the following:—"Art. 44. When the deformity of a candidate for initiation is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the mysteries of Freemasonry, his admission will not be an infringement of the landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the sprit of the institution."

In the early ages of Masonry, (when its character was *operative*,) the physical qualifications were essentially necessary; but since Masonry has assumed the *speculative* cast, the reason for the rule has ceased to exist, and whenever the reason for a rule ceases, the rule also ceases, and can in no sense be considered as a landmark in Masonry. Some of our brethren have gone so far as to say, that they would as soon dispense with the rule which requires the candidate to believe in the existence of God, as to dispense with the physical qualifications. Your committee see a vast difference; one *is important*, the other *is not*. The speculative Mason cannot advance, in head or heart, without acknowledging the Supreme Architect of the Universe; but, with this great truth to start from, his mind may perceive the great principles of Masonry, his heart be warmed by them, and his conduct influenced by them, as effectually with one leg or arm as with two.

In concluding this branch of our duty, we cordially subscribe to the following, taken from the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana:—"We most heartily congratulate the fraternity upon this rise from the mechanical to the intellectual part of our profession. We augur from it the happiest results,—the elevation of mind in those who pursue such researches,—the eliciting of truth from discussion, and the spread of information resulting from their labors."

We observe with pleasure that the Grand Lodge of Kentucky adopted the resolution, "that the practice of publishing the names of rejected candidates, be discontinued."

LOUISIANA,

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held on the 19th of January, 1852. At the date of our last previous official advices from this State, there were two bodies claiming jurisdiction there,—one known and recognized as the "Grand Lodge of Louisiana," the other styling itself "The Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons." The first named of these bodies was recognized by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, as well as by almost every other Grand Lodge in the Uni-

ted States, as the only legal Grand Lodge in Louisiana. We have now the gratifying intelligence, officially communicated, that the conflicting claims of the two rival bodies have been amicably settled, by a Convention of all the Lodges in the State, which resulted in the formation of a union under one Grand Lodge, and the adoption of a Constitution for its government, denominated "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and accepted Masons of the State of Louisiana."

We sincerely congratulate our brethren of Louisiana, and the fraternity at large, on the settlement of these unhappy difficulties; and we believe that the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and all its subordinates, will ever be happy to acknowledge and exchange Masonic greetings with their brethren hailing from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Louisiana.

It would be happy for us, and for our blessed institution, if we could be permitted here to close our notice of the craft in Louisiana. But, as faithful reporters, we are under the painful necessity of alluding to another unhappy difficulty which has arisen in that State, directly upon the heel of the happy reunion just recorded. The nature of this difficulty is stated in a circular letter from the M. W. John Gedge, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, addressed to the Grand Masters of all Grand Lodges in the world. The following is a copy of the circular:

NEW ORLEANS, March 1st, 1851.

Most Worshipful Brother—Permit me to submit for your consideration the following facts, with certain queries arising from them, which appear to me to involve principles, in the correct understanding of which the whole fraternity is interested.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana dates its origin from the year 1812, and has always been the head and governing power of symbolic Masonry in the State. Its present Constitution contains the following provisions:—"It is constituted as a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and in that capacity recognizes nothing but pure Ancient Freemasonry, consisting of the three symbolic degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, and is forbidden to tolerate any distinctions derogatory to the character in which it is constituted. It shall have the exclusive right to constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in this State. Every regular Lodge of Symbolic Masonry in this State, must be held under a charter or dispensation of the Grand Lodge."

This Constitution was ratified and approved by every existing Lodge in the State, and promulgated by the Grand Lodge, as the Masonic law of its jurisdiction. Since then, three of its constituent Lodges have returned their charters to the Grand Lodge, and have re-organized by warrants of constitution from a body in New Orleans, styling itself "*The Supreme Grand Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the 33d Degree of the Scottish Rite.*" They demand of the Grand Lodge and her constituents, to recognize them as legal Lodges, and their members and initiates as lawful brethren.

The questions arising from these facts, to which I respectfully solicit your answers, are—

1. Can this Council of the 33d degree of the Scottish Rite, lawfully constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in this State ?

2. Will the fact that they are constituted as Lodges of the *Scottish Rite*, make any difference ?

3. Are Lodges thus constituted, entitled to be recognized as "just and legally constituted Lodges ?

4. Are the members of such Lodges, and persons initiated therein, entitled to visit and communicate with the Grand Lodge and its constituent Lodges ?

A reply to these questions, at your earliest convenience, will confer a great favor. Please accept the assurance of my highest fraternal regard and consideration.

JOHN GEDGE, *Grand Master.*

Of the body styling itself the "Supreme Council of Grand Inspectors General of the 33d Degree," your committee do not pretend to any knowledge. Of the origin of their pretended claim to jurisdiction over the three degrees of symbolic Masonry, we are equally ignorant. It is enough for us to know, that from time immemorial, Lodges, with power to confer the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, have derived their authority from, and acknowledged fealty to, Grand Lodges, and no other Masonic bodies. If we are rightly informed, there are two other "Supreme Grand Councils of the 33d Degree," in the United States,—one in New York, and one in Charleston, S. C.,—neither of which claim any jurisdiction over the symbolic degrees of Masonry, and both unite in condemning this assumption of power on the part of the Council at New Orleans, as well as in denouncing that body as a spurious organization. The circular of the Grand Master of Louisiana has occupied the attention of most of the Grand Lodges in the United States and Europe, who have condemned, *in toto*, this arrogant assumption of power ; and your committee feel confident that every member of the Grand Lodge of Connecti-

cut will concur with them in this universal sentiment of condemnation. We append to this report a resolution to the same effect.

In their Report on Foreign Correspondence, the Louisiana Committee contend against the propriety of allowing Lodges under dispensation to send representatives to the Grand Lodge, or to have their officers installed. It is hardly necessary to say, that your committee agree with them on this point, although our Grand Lodge has, in one or two instances, through inadvertence we believe, allowed a different course.

The committee concluded an able argument on the subject of the "Past Master's Degree," by the introduction of the following resolution, which, after full discussion and consideration, was unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge :

"Be it Resolved, That as the ancient laws of our Order, and the 2d section of Article 2d of our Constitution recognize the three degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason *only*, this Grand Lodge is prohibited from recognizing the *Degree* of Past Master. That, consequently, this Grand Lodge can only concede, and does only concede, the title and privileges, and confide the duties of Past Master only to such Master Masons as have been regularly elected, and installed into the office of Master of a Lodge of Symbolic Free Masonry, constituted and chartered by a lawful Grand Lodge of the Order."

MAINE.

The proceedings before us were had at the annual communication on the 1st of May, 1851. The Grand Master, M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, announced in his annual address, that he had granted dispensations for four new Lodges, and for the revival of two already chartered. He had also granted a dispensation for a Lodge in California, which, however, could not be used, a Grand Lodge having been organized in that State before the dispensation arrived.

As a means of securing uniformity of work and lectures, a Committee of three brethren was nominated by the Grand Officers, and elected by the Grand Lodge, whose duty it was to agree upon what shall be considered the true mode of work and lectures in the several Lodges of the State ; said Committee to meet on the Tuesday next preceding the day for holding the

next annual communication, then to exemplify the work and lectures before the Grand Lodge, who are required to be in attendance for that purpose; the services so performed by the committee to be paid for by the Grand Lodge. This Committee, we understand, have during the past year visited the Lodges of other States, Connecticut among the rest, for the purpose of witnessing and comparing the various modes of work, preparatory to the making of their report.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of our accomplished brother, Rev. Cyril Pearl, and is a beautiful contribution to the Masonic literature of the age.

MARYLAND.

From this Grand Lodge we have the proceedings of a semi-annual communication on the 12th of May, 1851, and the annual communication on the 17th of November of the same year. From a report of the Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund, at the annual meeting, it appears that this sacred deposit amounts to the sum of \$8,077. The Grand Master, in his address, urges the increase of this fund, and suggests the plan of founding an Asylum for the widows and orphans of deceased indigent Masons, so soon as the increase of the fund shall be sufficient for the support of such an institution. A report on Foreign Correspondence was presented both at the annual and semi-annual meetings. The committee allude to an announcement by the Grand Master of New Jersey, that he had granted a dispensation for a new Lodge and installed its officers, and that on a subsequent occasion he was present at an election of officers in said Lodge under dispensation, and installed the Master elect. On this proceeding, the Maryland Committee remark :

Your committee have always believed that the officers of a Lodge U. D. are not to be installed; and this is the first case that they have ever heard of or known, in which a Lodge under dispensation has elected officers and had them installed previously to receiving a warrant of Constitution.

All warrants or charters must emanate from a Grand Lodge; but a Grand Master may, in the recess of his Grand Lodge, issue a dispensation to properly qualified and well recommended brethren to form a Lodge to proceed to work forthwith, which dispensation remains in force until the Grand Lodge meets, when it

is delivered to the Grand Lodge with a copy of all the proceedings had under it; and if the work be approved of, a warrant is issued. And this has been the practice, so far as your committee have knowledge, ever since the institution of Grand Lodges.

This is correct doctrine, to which we most heartily respond, so mote it be!

In the course of their report, the Maryland Committee make the following remark, in which we cordially concur:

There appears to be, in the Free Masonry of these days, a progressive spirit, which probably arises from our political situation, that cannot brook all the salutary restraints of former days. Now Masonry, in its usages and forms, is *not progressive*; and any deviation from ancient usages, the more important of which have acquired the name of "Landmarks," weakens its foundations, and impairs our respect for it.

The Grand Lodge of Maryland appoints an officer, called a "Grand Inspector," for each county in the State. As a means of securing uniformity of work and lectures, the want of which is every where felt, perhaps no better method could be devised. Let these Inspectors be selected from the best informed Masons in each County; require them to meet together in general council as often as once in each year, and agree upon what is the correct work and lectures; then let each, in his own county, call together the first three officers of the several Lodges, quarterly, or oftener if deemed necessary, and instruct them thoroughly in the approved work. If this were done in this State, your Committee believe we should soon cease to hear the complaint, as we do from all parts of our jurisdiction, that there is no uniformity in the mode of work.

MASSACHUSETTS.

From this elder sister of the American Masonic family, we have the proceedings of quarterly communications, June, 12 and Sept. 11, 1850; annual communication, Dec. 11, 1850; regular communication, Dec. 27, 1850; quarterly, March 5, June 12, and Sept. 10, 1851. The Grand Master stated that he had issued a dispensation for a Lodge at Holyoke, to be called Mount Tom Lodge.

At the meeting, June 12, 1850, R. W. Augustus Peabody

announced the death of Bro. Winslow Lewis, P. J. G. W. At the annual meeting, Dec. 11 of the same year, the Grand Master announced the decease of R. W. Augustus Peabody, P. G. M.; and at the meeting on the 27th of December, the Grand Master announced the death of R. W. Asa T. Newhall, J. G. W., and Rev. Addison Searle, P. G. Chaplain. On the same day, Rev. Brother Paige, in an address before the Grand Lodge, announced the death of R. W. William J. Whipple, P. S. G. W., and P. D. D. G. M.

At one of the meetings, a Committee to whom the subject had been referred, reported a plan for the formation and regulation of a Masonic Library; and by a resolution of the Grand Lodge, the sum of \$100 was appropriated for the purchase of books, for the commencement of a Library. It was also resolved, that the sum of \$25 should hereafter be annually appropriated for its increase.

MICHIGAN.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was holden on the 15th of January, 1852. In his opening address, the Grand Master alludes to the practice which had prevailed in some of the Lodges, of balloting for candidates while the Lodge was organized in other degrees than that of Master Mason, and also to ballot for the three degrees at one and the same ballot. This he believed to be inconsistent with the spirit and intent of the Ancient Constitutions; he therefore inhibited this practice, till the Grand Lodge could take action on the subject. The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution, "that no ballot, either for candidates or degrees, shall be had in any but a Master's Lodge, and that no ballot shall be had for more than one degree at the same time."

In the report on Foreign Correspondence, the Committee allude to the new difficulties in Louisiana, and quote from a Manifesto issued by the "Supreme Council of the 33d" in New Orleans, as follows:

On the day our Brethren of the United States are ready to investigate the true origin, not of Fellow Craft, but of Free Masonry, and to have the matter hon-

estly discussed, we doubt not that they will adhere to our doctrines and principles; for instead of securing the despotic sway of Kingly and Ecclesiastical powers, which Masoury, as understood by a few exalted reformers of the same in England, has for its object to maintain, they lead to civil and Christian liberty, and secure the enjoyment of both. To any person skilled in the study and history of Free Masonry, it is clear that France, Spain, Italy and Germany owe their progress, respectively, to the influence of the ancient and accepted Scottish rite.

On this the Michigan committee remark :

We are bound to conclude that this Grand Consistory, or body of "Sovereign Grand Inspectors General," speaking for itself, and sending forth its manifesto, (of which the above is an extract,) have presented a fair statement of their case, and that they draw just conclusions from their own premises. They assure us that if the Masons of the United States will adhere to *their* doctrines and principles, we shall free ourselves from the despotic sway of kingly and ecclesiastical powers, and secure the blessings of civil and Christian liberty, such as is enjoyed in France, Spain, Italy and Germany!

Your committee think these conclusions prove too much, and we do most devoutly and sincerely pray:—From all heresy, hatred and schism, from all such progress, and such civil and religious liberty, as is at present enjoyed in France, Spain, Italy and Germany, "good Lord deliver us!"

MISSISSIPPI.

At the annual communication, held January 19th, 1852, the M. W. Grand Master, Bro. Stevens, delivered a brief and pertinent address, replete with wholesome advice. Alluding to the rapid increase of the Order, he says :

We should carefully scrutinize the character of every candidate for our mysteries. The strictest examination should be made into the history of his life and conduct, and no one should ever pass the porch of our mystic edifice, or enter the middle chamber, until he is "duly and truly prepared." A Fellow Craft should not be raised to the degree of Master, until his mind is fully invested with the principles of the preceding degree. If the first and second steps have been cautiously and considerately taken, we may reasonably expect that he will be rightly conducted into the sanctum sanctorum, and worthily walk in that solemn retreat, having his soul filled with the loftiest impulses.

On the subject of celebrating the centennial anniversary of Washington's initiation, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi passed the following resolutions, which we find have been responded to by most of the Grand Lodges which have since held their communications :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommends to all the Lodges under this jurisdiction, that they celebrate, in an appropriate manner, on the 4th day of November, 1852, the one hundredth anniversary of the reception of the illustrious WASHINGTON into the Masonic fraternity.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge respectfully recommends the adoption of a similar resolution to all Grand Lodges with which it holds correspondence, and that the Grand Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to said Grand Lodges.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, from the pen of the Grand Secretary, R. W. Wm. P. Mellen, is an able paper, in which many important subjects are discussed. On the subject of the degree of "Past Master," the report says :

It is said by the Grand Master of Wisconsin, whose address we find copied at large by the Texas committee, that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania authorizes the degree of Past Master to be conferred by dispensation, in Lodges working in the symbolic degrees. The Grand Master of Wisconsin thinks this is wrong, as an infringement upon the rights of Chapters, in which the Past Master's is actually a degree.

We should think the practice highly inexpedient, if the Grand Lodge possessed the power; nor do we understand by what reasoning the possessor of the degree deems himself authorized to confer it, except upon a Master elect. It was anciently a prerequisite to the Royal Arch degree, that the candidate must have passed the chair. It is so still; and the Chapter has assumed the power of conferring it; and this claim has been acquiesced in, though not properly a Chapter degree. The Grand Lodge, in the exercise of its sovereign power, may have the right to confer it, or to grant dispensations to confer it, upon a W. Master elect. In Mississippi any Past Master can confer the degree upon the Master elect of a Lodge. In Virginia, as we learn from Bro. Dove's "Text Book," this degree is conferred upon the Wardens of subordinate Lodges. We are informed that it is a common practice in England, for subordinate Lodges to confer the Past Master's degree; and, at all events, under the influence of an English Mason, one of our Lodges, (the Army Lodge, St. John's,) conferred the degree upon several Master Masons, though expressly restricted, by their dispensation, to the first three degrees.

However expedient it might be deemed to multiply the recipients of the Past Master's degree, there is to our mind an insuperable objection to conferring this degree, except upon Masters elect; and if this objection does not present itself at once to our brethren in Pennsylvania and Virginia, the manner of conferring the degree there must vary from ours in one essential point at least.

On the subject of disciplinary jurisdiction, the Mississippi committee presented the following case :

A Lodge in Iowa having committed a grave offence, a question was raised whether the Grand Lodge had original jurisdiction; for example, "if an entire

Lodge becomes basely immoral and grossly unmasonic, who shall arraign, try, and expel its members?" We should unhesitatingly answer, that the Grand Lodge could arraign and try the members of such Lodge, or delegate the power to another subordinate Lodge, as she may deem best.

To this opinion of our Mississippi brethren, in the view of your committee, common sense responds a hearty concurrence.

MISSOURI.

This Grand Lodge met in annual communication on the first Monday in May, 1851. The business of the session was wholly of a domestic character, and appears to have been transacted in the spirit of harmony and brotherly love. The interests of Masonry seem to be in a healthy state. The reports of the President and Curators of the Masonic College represent that institution as in a flourishing condition, and promising great good to the community at large.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The annual communication for the year 1851, was held at Concord, on the 10th of June. The Grand Master's address is principally occupied with a history of the new usurpation of Masonic jurisdiction in Louisiana, which he condemns in pointed terms. He announces the decease of two of the oldest and most respected members,—R. W. Samuel Cushman, Past Deputy Grand Master, and R. W. Isaac Hill, Past Senior Grand Warden. He also announces the revival of six dormant subordinate Lodges, and the organization of one new one.

The Committee on Work and Lectures, appointed at the preceding annual communication, reported that they had "spent six days close and exclusive application in discharge of the important and responsible duties involving upon them," and that "they were most happily disappointed in finding among themselves (although belonging to different and distant Lodges,) a much greater uniformity in the Lectures and work, than had been represented to exist among the different Lodges." The committee further say :

They are inclined to the belief that the want of uniformity in the subordinate Lodges, so much complained of, is attributable more to the depressed and almost dormant condition of some of the Lodges, for a series of years past, than to any intentional interpolation, or to any wrong instruction. Many of our Lodges, for the last ten or fifteen years, have done little more than to assemble annually and elect their officers. It is not to be wondered at, then, that they are deficient in the lectures and work, and that a want of uniformity exists. It is more to be wondered at, that a much greater deficiency in Masonic knowledge does not exist. The trite remark, that "practice makes perfect," will apply with as much force to the work of the Masonic Lodge, as to any other calling or profession. The mechanic, the artisan, and the professional man, after years of devotion to other pursuits, and neglect of their usual vocations, cannot be expected to resume their several trades and professions with the same familiarity with its principles and usages, as those who have constantly practised upon those principles and usages. The committee commenced their labors by agreeing upon the lectures, and then upon a system of work conforming as strictly as possible to the lectures.

The constitution of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire contains the following salutary provision :

At every annual communication of this Grand Lodge, the lectures of one degree, at least, shall be rehearsed in open Lodge.

Also, the following :

All Entered Apprentices must work one month, as such, before they can be passed to the degree of Fellow Craft; and all Fellow Crafts must work in a Fellow Craft's Lodge one month, before they can be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

NEW JERSEY.

From this Grand Lodge we have an abstract of proceedings at the annual communication held January 14, 1852. These proceedings are almost wholly of a local character, and afford nothing of any particular interest beyond the limits of their own jurisdiction. We find "the craft at work as usual."

NEW YORK.

The annual meeting in June was attended by the representatives of 141 subordinate Lodges. The Grand Master, M. W. William H. Milnor, in his annual address at the opening of the Grand Lodge, represents the institution of Masonry as in an unusually flourishing condition in that jurisdiction. In allu-

sion to the unhappy schism which resulted in the formation of what has been called the "Phillips and Herring Grand Lodge," in opposition to the authority of the legitimate Grand Lodge of the State, he makes the following truly Masonic suggestion :

There is another subject which I deem it my duty to refer to. It is well known that unhappy differences exist among us. We should make all honorable effort to end them. I would not advise an unworthy surrender of principle, nor any course derogatory to the honor or dignity of the Grand Lodge. But there exist misunderstandings, which explanation may clear away, and bitter feelings, which a few kind words may possibly soothe. We owe it to ourselves, to the cause of Masonry, to make the effort. "Blessed are the peace makers." We occupy the vantage ground, and should make the initiatory movement. Brotherly kindness is the first Masonic principle, and to cast the mantle of charity over the erring, the first duty. The Christian and Masonic laws most beautifully harmonize. "Shall I forgive my brother seven times?" "Yea, seventy times seven." I would recommend the appointment of a committee, to whom the whole matter may be referred."

Grand Master Milnor also makes the following announcement of another unwarrantable infringement on the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York :

With respect to our foreign relations, I regret that an incident has occurred during the past year, which I am afraid will produce a breach of harmony between one of the most important of these bodies and ourselves. Some months ago, a communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, requesting permission to grant a warrant to one of our Lodges, Pythagoras, No. 86, and thus assume jurisdiction over her. I immediately wrote to the Grand Master, stating to him that I would lay his communication before my Grand Lodge, but that no action could be taken until June. I entered into a full explanation of the reason why, referred to the existence of a prohibitory law, and concluded with expressing my own opposition to any such measure, and my belief that both city and country would be united in opposition. In due time I received a reply to this, stating that the matter should have been acted on at the quarterly communication, and that unless a decided prohibitory law existed, they would feel constrained to issue a warrant. The law, as they understood it, simply prohibited the existence of two Grand Lodges within the boundaries of the State, but do not forbid the exercise of foreign jurisdiction. In my answer, I went again over the whole ground, explained clearly and distinctly the state of feeling existing throughout the whole country, enclosed the law, with our reading of it, and ended with a formal protest, as Grand Master. The only reply to this has been the transmission of a warrant. This warrant was received but a short time since, and Pythagoras Lodge is now working under it. Since this last and final action of Hamburg, there has not been time for action on my part. I concluded it would be better, our annual session being so near at hand, to leave it to the Grand Lodge

to take such action as may be deemed proper, and I trust, my brethren, that action will be prompt and decisive. I trust the official protest which I have made will be sustained, and no such license be permitted.

There is no one point on which the Grand Lodges of the United States are more firm and united, than this,—to allow no interference with their jurisdictions. The reason advanced by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg are specious and fallacious. The step they have taken, acknowledged and established as a precedent, would be fatal to the unity and integrity of Masonry in the United States; and must lead to endless confusion. Masonry is indeed universal in her principles, but the benefits she confers are only to be secured by the establishment and maintenance of order and discipline. Weaken the restraints which these impose, and you at once open the door to misrule and anarchy.

This unjustifiable act of foreign interference with the rights and jurisdiction of American Grand Lodges, has been taken into consideration by every Grand Lodge that has been in session since the outrage was inflicted; and the usurpation has been denounced by the unanimous voice of the fraternity, so far as they have had an opportunity to make their sentiments known.

On the subject of the relation of non-affiliated Masons to the subordinate Lodges, which has occupied more or less of the attention of nearly every Grand Lodge in this country, a special committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, after a careful examination of the subject, presented a lengthy and able report, at the close of which they propose that the following new regulations be adopted :

1. Any subordinate Lodge may receive, as an adjoining member, a poor brother, who is unable to pay his adjoining fee, without requiring such fee; and any Lodge may, in its discretion, excuse a poor brother, who is unable to pay dues, from the payment of such dues; and in all such cases they shall report the facts to the Grand Lodge in their annual returns, and shall not be required to pay adjoining fees or annual dues for any brother so returned.

2. Every Mason ought to belong to some particular Lodge, and comply with its by-laws, and with the general regulations in relation to the payment of dues and contributions to the charity funds; and any Mason who does not contribute to the funds, or belong to some Lodge, is not entitled to visit a Lodge more than twice while he remains non-affiliated, nor to join in processions, or to relief from the funds, or to Masonic burial.

3. Any Lodge, or the Master or Warden of any Lodge, who shall knowingly permit any violation of the foregoing regulation, shall be subject to severe censure by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge, and, if thought expedient, to be deprived of their office or charter.

4. Any non-affiliated Mason, violating any of these regulations, shall be subject to censure, or absolute suspension, by the Grand Lodge, or the nearest subordinate Lodge.

These regulations were adopted by the Grand Lodge, for one year; and, in the mean time, they were to be submitted to the subordinate Lodges for their approval.

NORTH CAROLINA.

This Grand Lodge held an annual communication on the 1st of December, 1851, at Raleigh. The M. W. Grand Master, in his address, states, that in compliance with instructions from the Grand Lodge, he had prepared and transmitted to 1537 of the subordinate Lodges in the United States, a circular letter, asking donations in behalf of the proposed Masonic College in that State. He does not tell us with what success this effort was attended, but we would fain hope the appeal was liberally responded to.

The Grand Secretary reported that *fourteen* new Lodges had received charters since the last meeting, and that dispensations had been issued for *twelve* others during the year, indicating a high degree of popular feeling in favor of the institution in North Carolina.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented an able report, from which we would gladly make copious extracts, did time and space permit. Alluding to "Masonic difficulties in New York," the report says :

There is no doubt about the primary cause of these difficulties. It may be traced, directly or indirectly, in all its varied forms, from the Morgan excitement to the outbreak in June, 1849, to the introduction of *improper material* into the Lodges,—material that was unsound, and that would not admit of the true Masonic polish; and when the storm came, and the winds blew against the beautiful edifice of which they were constituent parts, their rottenness was discovered,—the beautiful temple appeared sadly mutilated,—and they were cast forth, as unsound ashlers, among the rubbish.

We do not make these remarks in reproach of the noble Sons of Light of New York, who have been as true to their principles as the needle to the pole; but our object is to warn our brethren every where, of the great peril in admitting unworthy men to the fraternity. To examine rigidly the material presented at the door of our Lodges, is one of the first great duties we owe to the Order.

OHIO.

Annual communication, Oct. 23, 1851. The Grand Master announced that he had, during the past Masonic year, granted eleven dispensations for new Lodges. He also calls attention to the charity fund of the Grand Lodge, "known on its books as the School Fund." This fund for the years 1848 and 1849, inclusive, amounted to the sum of \$4,602.48, and probably more than \$2,000 would be added to it by the accumulations of the year 1850. The address is a beautiful production, and contains many important suggestions.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a brief report, well written and spirited, but containing nothing requiring particular notice from us.

A committee was appointed, "to investigate and ascertain the *appropriate* work for the three first degrees of Masonry, as the same has been practiced by the most distinguished and best informed Masons; and to be prepared to report and exemplify the same in full at the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge."

Questions were submitted to the Grand Master on the subject of Past Master, and answered as follows:

Is the degree of Past Master conferred in a Chapter, *the* Past Master's degree meant, that a Master of a Lodge should have, to qualify him to preside?

Yes. The Lodge of Past Masters, in a Chapter, confers the same degree and for like purposes and powers, with that conferred by a convention of Past Masters.

Is a Senior or Junior Warden of a Lodge, not having received the Past Master's degree, competent, in the absence of the Master of the Lodge, to confer degrees?

In the case put, the Senior Warden, and in his absence the Junior Warden alone, (excepting the rights and powers of the Grand Master,) has the power to summon or call the Lodge; and the Senior Warden presiding, will, by olden custom and usage, govern his Lodge in all its business,—and in his absence, the Junior Warden succeeds to the like station and power. Then if degrees are to be conferred, it is customary for the presiding Warden to call the last Master who has served as such, to the Chair. In the absence of such, then the oldest Past Master present,—if none be present, the presiding Warden has the right, *ex officio*, to confer the degrees.

The following resolution, offered by the S. G. Warden, was referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, who are to report at the next Grand communication:

Resolved, That all Master Masons, in good standing, have the right to ballot on the application of candidates for degrees, in any Lodge in which they may be present, whether they are members of such Lodge or not. And that the subordinate Lodges be requested to act accordingly.

It is easy enough to see that this might, on some accounts, be a wholesome regulation ; and yet, it is doubtful whether the Lodges generally would be willing to adopt such a rule. Every member of the Fraternity has an equal interest in keeping unworthy men out of the Order. A case might occur, where a candidate is about to be balloted for, and a visiting brother is the only person in possession of facts which ought to cause his rejection. In such a case, shall the visitor be allowed to preserve the integrity of the institution, by balloting against the candidate ? It should be borne in mind, that the injury inflicted on the institution of Masonry is not confined to the particular Lodge where the candidate is initiated, but will be felt by the fraternity at large.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

We have received from this Grand Lodge, minutes of their proceedings, during the past year, at various quarterly and special communications, from March 5 to December 27. The R. W. Grand Secretary, Bro. A. G. Mackey, in his annual report, makes the following very sensible suggestions :

During the few past years, many of the Grand Lodges have indulged so much in the practice of legislation, and the confirmation of old or the enactment of new laws, that the subject of Masonic jurisprudence has almost been exhausted. Over-legislation has heretofore been an easily besetting sin, in some of our sister jurisdictions. New regulations, inconsistent with the landmarks, have often been adopted at one communication, only to be repealed at the next. Old and undisputed maxims of the Order, have been weakened in their authority, and deprived of their venerable character, by being submitted to discussion, and finally adopted, as though they were questionable, by the decision of a majority. Such has never been the practice of our Grand Lodge ; the rules and regulations of the craft, as set forth in the ancient constitutions, and embodied in the Ahiman Rezon, have continued to be our unalterable guide, without the necessity of an annual confirmation of their authority

Among the ancient regulations which have been the subject of discussion in some of our Grand Lodges during the past year, the most prominent one is that which relates to the power of the Master in deciding questions of order. Some

Masons, perhaps young in the Order, and bringing into it preconceived opinions, obtained in other institutions, have contended that an appeal can be taken from the decision of the presiding officer to the Lodge. In two jurisdictions, at least, those of Mississippi and Georgia, this question has been mooted; but both those Grand Lodges have decided that no such appeal can be taken. Such is undoubtedly the ancient law of Masonry, and it is unnecessary for this Grand Lodge to make an expression of opinion on the subject. In South Carolina it has always been held, as I believe it is every where else, that the authority of the Master in his Lodge is supreme, and that an appeal from his decision can only be taken to the Grand Lodge.

This is the doctrine, and we believe has always been the practice, in Connecticut.

TENNESSEE.

The annual communication was held October 6, 1851. We quote from the M. W. Grand Master's address the following paragraph :

It is said, that Masonry arrogates to itself duties properly belonging to the Christian religion. Were this objection valid, it would prove an insurmountable obstacle to the onward progress of the Order. But it has not even the semblance of truth, and it may well excite an emotion of surprise, that men can be found, at the present day, who in matters of much less importance are careful of their reputation for veracity, will so far forget the duties inculcated by their holy profession, as to give circulation to an idea so utterly at variance with the truth. In all such instances, if properly inquired into, it will be found that those who utter the charge are men who have either been denied admission, or have no desire to solve the mysteries of our Order, and are therefore willing to believe any thing, however extravagant, to the prejudice of an institution that deserves a better judgment upon its acts, from its earliest organization to the present time. The Masonic institution is not the offspring of yesterday; its venerable head is white with the frost of ages, and has occupied no mean position before the world. It is an institution purely of a moral character, inculcating love to man, by teaching the brotherhood to practice the sublime precept of "doing unto others as we would that they should do unto us."

In these proceedings we find the following report of a committee, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge :

The committee to whom was referred the inquiry whether it be unmasonic for a Mason to unite with a Church which prohibits its members from joining the Masonic fraternity, report, that they have had the said subject under consideration, and would recommend that the sense of this Grand Lodge be expressed by declaring it to be the undoubted right of every Mason to entertain such political or religious sentiments as he may choose, and that he is not to be held answer-

able for attaching himself to any political party or religious sect, so long as his conduct, in other respects, is unexceptionable.

The following wholesome rule is found among the edicts and resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee :

No subordinate Lodge shall confer the degrees of Fellow Craft or Master Mason upon any brother, until he shall have passed a satisfactory examination, *in open Lodge*, on the preceding degree.

Were this rule universally adopted and adhered to, we should not have so many Masons as we now have, ignorant of "the alphabet of the Order."

TEXAS.

The fourteenth annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held on the 20th of January, 1851. In the address of the M. W. Grand Master, it is stated, that dispensations had been granted, during the previous year, for two new Lodges. We notice, in the proceedings, the passage of the following resolution, the propriety of which we have not as yet been able to discover :

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that a Master Mason can be a member of two Lodges at one and the same time.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is an elaborate and well written document ; but as most of the subjects discussed, which are of a general nature, have already passed under our review, we do not deem it necessary to notice it particularly.

VERMONT.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Vermont was held on the 14th of January, 1852. In the address of the M. W. Grand Master, he gives the following history of a remarkable transaction in the annals of Masonry :

I brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge, last year, a question about the right of private ballot, which had arisen in Franklin Lodge, No. 4, and the consideration of it was sent to a strong committee, who reported a definite resolution on the subject, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge. I then supposed that the question was finally settled, and that all of the past in relation to it, was

then ultimately disposed of. I regret to be obliged to inform you otherwise, and that important details of the case existed previous to our last annual communication, which were not then made known to me, and which I deem of sufficient importance for communication now.

At the communication of Franklin Lodge, in August, 1850, the subject of the objecting brother's course, in refusing to give his reasons for opposing the admission of a petitioner, was taken up and discussed, and during the discussion one of the members moved that the objecting brother be suspended. Whereupon the objecting brother, under the influence of this course of action towards him, rose in his place and stated to the Lodge his reasons for objecting to the petitioner. Those reasons, as declared by a competent committee, "were sufficient to satisfy all present that the petition ought to be withdrawn,"—and it was withdrawn accordingly. The statement of the objecting brother was repeated out of the Lodge, (by whom has not been ascertained,) and reached the knowledge of the petitioner, who commenced an action in the county court, for slander, against the objecting brother, for words spoken in the Lodge,—the plaintiff avowing his intention to resort to members of the Lodge for evidence to be used in court.

A knowledge of these facts reached me on the 15th of August last, and on the same day I directed Bro. T. H. Campbell to notify the Master of Franklin Lodge that if said Lodge did not take action at once, to have that slander suit taken out of court, without trial, I should consider it my duty to suspend its charter. I am happy to inform you that the difficulty was settled and the slander suit discontinued.

We have copied the foregoing statement for two particular reasons. First, that we might impress upon the minds of our brethren, in this jurisdiction and elsewhere, the importance of a strict observance of that "*caution*," which is one of the earliest lessons taught to the newly initiated Mason. The seal of profound *silence* should be placed by every brother upon his own lips, as he leaves the consecrated halls of Masonry, on no account to be broken, until he returns to the same sacred sanctuary. The violation of this great principle of Masonry by an imprudent member of Franklin Lodge, might have involved the craft in Vermont in a serious difficulty, had it not been for the prompt and energetic action of Grand Master Tucker.

Secondly, we wish to express our hearty concurrence with the M. W. Grand Master of Vermont, in his opinion of the sacredness of the right of private ballot. No objecting brother can be called upon to divulge the reason of his objection to a candidate; it is enough that he has an objection, and so long as a single member of the Lodge objects, the candidate cannot be received.

VIRGINIA.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was holden on the 19th of January, 1852. From the excellent address of the Grand Master, we quote the following brief passages :

At no period in the history of our beloved Institution in this jurisdiction, has there been more cause of congratulation than at the present: new Lodges are rapidly springing up around us; old Lodges are calling for the renewal of their charters; men, good and true, in every department of life, are knocking at our doors for admission. The old Mason, who had permitted his zeal to abate, is asking to be again admitted, and rekindle the fire that once burned so brightly and so usefully in his bosom. The reproaches of the ignorant and designing are no longer or but seldom heard against it. The pure principles which Masonry teaches, the quiet benevolence of its character, its universality for good, its reprobation of the vices and immoralities of life, quietly pursuing the even tenor of its way, without entering into any of the trials and commotions which agitate society, have awakened an interest in the subject, among the intelligent and worthy in every part of our beloved Commonwealth, and put to shame and reproach all apparent cause of opposition.

The day has passed, when the inquiring Mason can be satisfied with a superficial knowledge of the principles of Masonry. A better understanding of the individual responsibilities that rest upon the Mason, causes him to seek all opportunities of information and instruction. Satisfy him of what his duties are, and you at once find prompt effort on his part to discharge them. Questions are constantly mooted which engage the attention of our sister Grand Lodges, and are examined by minds which grasp the subject to settle it by the strong force of reason.

The Grand Master also announced, in feeling terms, the recent decease of two P. G. Masters of the Grand Lodge, and one of the District Deputy Grand Masters.

From the report of a committee on that subject, we learn that the funded property of the Grand Lodge, which is invested in public stocks, amounts to \$14,850.

M. W. William H. Milnor, P. G. Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, was present as a visitor, and addressed the Grand Lodge on the subject of the usurpation of jurisdiction in New York by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg. A select committee to whom the subject was referred, made a report, which was adopted, declaring that the facts in the case "demand the unqualified censure of the Masonic world upon the Grand Lodge of Hamburg."

The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a brief report, acknowledging the receipt of the proceedings of most of the Grand Lodges in the United States, but forbearing to comment on them. They say :

Here, we have endeavored to keep to our old landmarks, to adopt no new doctrines, to tolerate no innovations, to propose no modern ceremonies. This is the true cause of the peace, harmony and fraternal feeling, which for now nearly a century have marked and distinguished Masonry in Virginia.

WISCONSIN.

Annual communication, Dec. 11, 1850. In the address of the Grand Master, we find the following language :

Some of our sister Grand Lodges have passed some strictures on the act of our Grand Lodge in permitting brethren not members of the Grand Lodge to be present at the balloting for Grand Officers. On this subject, I hesitate not to say, that on the occasion of voting for Grand Officers, as well as on every occasion where *business* of the Grand Lodge is to be transacted, members of the Grand Lodge *only* are entitled to be present. The body of the Grand Lodge is about to act; members of other bodies can not then and there have a place. There is no want of courtesy in this, nor deprivation of right to our brethren. By the ancient rules and regulations, all brethren, except members, were excluded from Grand Lodges; Master Masons are now at all times permitted by courtesy to visit the Grand Lodge, except when *special business* is before it; but whenever elections take place—when investigations of the conduct of Lodges are entered into—when questions in relation to expulsion of members are before the Grand Lodge—when trials of officers of the Grand Lodge are entered into—when appeals from subordinate Lodges are under consideration—in fine, whenever any of the *high duties* of the Grand Lodge, in the examination, deliberation and action upon matters *wholly* and *solely* under their jurisdiction, are about to be exercised, can we accede to the proposition that any brother, except he be a member of the Grand Lodge, should be present? I think not. Worthy brethren under our jurisdiction, and well recommended visitors from abroad, will always find our portals open to them, excepting only when business is before the Grand Lodge on which members of the Grand Lodge are alone entitled to vote and determine.

This is new doctrine in Connecticut. We have not here understood that there was any impropriety in allowing the presence of Masonic visitors at the sittings of the Grand Lodge. And what there is in the proper *business* of the Grand Lodge, which it is improper for members of the subordinate Lodges to witness, we do not know. A precious act of "courtesy," indeed, to allow a worthy brother to enter the "open portals" of the

Grand Lodge when there is nothing going on,—to permit him to gaze for a time at the Grand Officers, as they sit in silent pomp,—and then to turn him out of doors, because the Grand Lodge is about to proceed to “business!” Such a visit must be peculiarly interesting to the subjects of this gracious condescension! How we should enjoy a visit to the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin,—to be taken by the hand by her worthy Grand Master, and welcomed to her fraternal hospitalities in something like the following strain: “Brother, we are happy to meet you here, and to welcome you to this sacred retreat, as a ‘well recommended visitor from abroad.’ Masonry is universal; we are all members of the same great household of faith; wherever a worthy brother may chance to wander in his pilgrimage, he has only to make himself known as a Mason, and how do the warm gushings of fraternal sympathy run out to meet and embrace him! He may rest secure in the confidence and affection of his brethren. We are especially happy to welcome among us the children of our elder sisters, the Grand Lodges of the East, and take pleasure in assuring them, through you, that whenever they may have occasion to visit the West, they ‘will always find our portals open to them, Brother, in the name of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, I again bid you a cordial welcome to this her solemn assembly. But sir, we are now about to proceed to the consideration of *business*, ‘on which members of the Grand Lodge are *alone* entitled to vote and determine,’—and you must be off! Bro. Senior Deacon, you will conduct our brother to the door.” What a profound obeisance we should make, as we left the presence of the Grand Lodge! But seriously, where is the consistency of denying to the members of the subordinate Lodges the privilege of witnessing any part of the business of the Grand Lodge, when every item of that business, when consummated and printed, is “ordered to be read in all the subordinate Lodges?”

CANADA WEST.

We have before us the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, under the authority of the United Grand

Lodge of England, (of which Sir Allan Napier Macnab is R. W. Provincial Grand Master,) at sundry half-yearly communications, from June 15, 1849, to Nov. 15, 1850. At one of these meetings, a committee of five was appointed, "for the purpose of establishing an uniform system of work," to report at a subsequent meeting of the Grand Lodge.

At the last named meeting, "the Grand Registrar gave notice, that at the next regular meeting of the Grand Lodge, he will move that the 15th article of the By-Laws be amended, by making it a ground for not permitting the Master, Wardens and Past Masters of any Lodge to attend any meeting of the Grand Lodge, that either the returns or payments to the Grand Lodge have been neglected for the space of one year."

CONCLUSION.

Thus your Committee have completed the arduous task of examining the Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge for the past year. In this review, we are sensible that we have not done full and ample justice to many of the interesting topics that are engaging the attention of our sister Grand Lodges. Our report has extended to a greater length than could have been wished; and yet, long as it is, we have aimed not to notice any subject that is not of general interest to the Craft. On several of the questions embraced in the report, it seems to your Committee that this Grand Lodge should express an opinion; and to these we beg leave to call attention in a brief recapitulation.

UNIFORMITY OF WORK AND LECTURES.

Perhaps the most important topic to be considered, is the establishment of the work and lectures in the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, on a correct, uniform and permanent basis,—returning, if possible, scrupulously to the *old formula*. A want of uniformity in the work, and a wide departure from the old standards, is lamented by almost every Grand Lodge whose transactions have come under our notice; and in nearly all of our sister jurisdictions efforts are being made to search

out the old paths, and to secure a uniform adherence to them hereafter. Some Grand Lodges have appointed Grand Lecturers ; others have divided their jurisdictions into small districts, appointing District Deputy Grand Masters, or Grand Inspectors, in each district ; while others have appointed Committees to search out and report a uniform and correct system. It is believed by your committee, and by many intelligent and experienced Masons with whom they have conversed, that the work and lectures, as practiced in this State, are as deficient in uniformity, and vary as materially from the correct standard, as elsewhere.

True, indeed, it is but a very few years since an attempt was made in this State, to establish a correct and uniform mode of work,—and at a special meeting of the Grand Lodge, called for that purpose, an imperfect system was hastily adopted ; but it is believed that even this system of work is not generally practiced by our Lodges, and that we are as far from uniformity as ever. Your committee would therefore earnestly recommend that the Grand Lodge do at this time take an initiatory step toward a revision of the work and lectures ; and with this view, they offer the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That a Committee of three experienced brethren be appointed by this Grand Lodge, whose duty it shall be to prepare and arrange a system of work and lectures in the three degrees of Ancient Freemasonry, getting back as nearly as possible to the formula of our fathers ; that when said Committee shall have completed their labors, and are ready to make their report, they shall notify the Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to call a special meeting of the Grand Lodge, at such central point in the State as he may think best,—at which meeting it shall be the imperative duty of the Masters and Wardens of the several subordinate Lodges to be in attendance ; that said committee of revision shall then and there exhibit and exemplify their work, in the presence of the Grand Lodge so assembled ; that if the work and lectures so reported and exemplified by the committee shall be approved by the Grand Lodge, it shall be established as the uniform and permanent system, and no other shall be used or tolerated in any of the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

2. *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed, to present to the Grand Lodge a nomination of suitable brethren to be appointed as the Committee of revision provided for in the foregoing resolution.

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS.

Believing, with many of our sister Grand Lodges, that inas-

much as Masonry, in these latter days, is more properly to be considered an *intellectual* than a *mechanical* science, your Committee do not think the original requirement of physical perfection an essential qualification for admission to the privileges of the Order.

It is our opinion, that when the *necessity* of the rule ceases, the rule itself ceases to be of binding force. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

3. *Resolved*, As the sense of this Grand Lodge, that whenever the personal deformity or dismemberment of a candidate for the degrees of Masonry is not such as to prevent his *instruction* in the principles, labors and ceremonies of the Lodge, he is not, *physically*, disqualified for the rights and privileges of the Order.

ADVANCEMENT OF CANDIDATES.

In a firm belief that a too hasty advancement of candidates from one degree to another is highly detrimental, not only to the candidate himself, but to the best interests of the Masonic institution, your committee recommend the following resolution to the Grand Lodge for adoption :

4. *Resolved*, That the advancement of an Entered Apprentice to the degree of Fellow Craft, or of a Fellow Craft to the degree of Master Mason, before he is fully acquainted with the preceding degree, is highly improper, and injurious to the best interests of Masonry ; and that the several subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be required to conform to the Ancient Regulations in this respect.

TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS IN LODGES.

Your committee are satisfied, that according to ancient Masonic usage, the transaction of business in a Lodge, in any degree below that of Master Mason, excepting merely the conferring of a degree, or lecturing in that degree, is entirely wrong. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

5. *Resolved*, That it is highly improper and unmasonic to introduce or transact, in a Lodge open on any degree below that of Master Mason, business of any kind, excepting only the conferring of the degree of Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, and lecturing on said degrees ; and that ballots for all the degrees must be taken only in a Lodge of Master Masons. The several subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are hereby required to govern themselves accordingly.

PAST MASTER'S DEGREE.

Your committee are convinced, after reading the able arguments of well informed Masons, and from much reflection on the subject themselves, that the jurisdiction of the degree of Past Master does not properly belong to a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. They have been unable to discover any good reason why a Royal Arch Chapter should prescribe the qualifications of a Master of a Lodge of Ancient Craft Masonry, inasmuch as a Lodge of Master Masons derives all its powers and privileges from the Grand Lodge, and owes no allegiance to any other Masonic body. If the Past Master's degree is necessary to qualify the Master of a Lodge for the intelligent discharge of the duties of his office, and if this, as we believe, is its only use,—then surely it should be under the control of the Grand Lodge, and should be conferred only on the Masters elect of Lodges. We feel confident that every member of this Grand Lodge, who will give the subject a careful consideration, will fully concur in this opinion. We therefore beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

6. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the jurisdiction of the Past Master's degree ought, in the fitness of things, to be vested in the several Grand Lodges, and not in Chapters of Royal Arch Masons.

7. *Resolved*, That a respectful representation be made to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Connecticut, requesting that M. E. body to use its influence at the next triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, to induce that exalted body, and its subordinates, to relinquish the control of the Past Master's Degree, so that it may be assumed by the several Grand Lodges of the United States.

USURPATION IN LOUISIANA.

Your committee have witnessed with deep concern, the daring assumption of authority on the part of a body styling itself the "Supreme Council of the 33d and last degree of the Ancient Scottish Rite," located at New Orleans, in issuing charters for Symbolic Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. This high-handed act of usurpation should be reprobated in the strongest terms by all good Masons. We invite this Grand Lodge to adopt the following resolutions :

8. *Resolved*, That the Symbolic Lodges in the several States of our National

Union are, and of right ought to be, under the sole jurisdiction and control of the Grand Lodges of the States respectively where such Lodges are located.

9. *Resolved*, That the issuing of charters and the organization of Symbolic Lodges in the State of Louisiana, by a body styling itself a "Supreme Council of the 33d and last degree of the Ancient Scottish Rite," is an usurpation of authority and jurisdiction, unwarranted by any known Masonic law, and subversive of every principle of right and justice. The Grand Lodge of Connecticut can not for a moment tolerate or bear with any such infringement upon her own or sister jurisdictions.

10. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge does not recognize as legally constituted Lodges, any such as have received charters from the said "Supreme Council," and that all Masonic intercourse between Masons under this jurisdiction and members of Lodges chartered by or owning allegiance to said "Council," is hereby strictly forbidden.

FOREIGN ASSUMPTION OF JURISDICTION.

It is with unfeigned sorrow that your Committee have been made acquainted with the fact of the issuing of a charter by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, in Germany, for the institution of a Lodge in the city of New York, in spite of the remonstrance of the Grand Master of New York against this invasion of the rights and prerogatives of his Grand Lodge by a foreign power. This act of injustice should be met by a pointed and emphatic rebuke on the part of every American Grand Lodge. Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

11. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Connecticut does not acknowledge the right of any European or foreign power to establish Masonic Lodges in any of the States or Territories of the American Union ; nor can she, on any account, consent to the usurpation of that right by any foreign Grand Lodge or other Masonic body.

12. *Resolved*, That the recent act of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, in granting a charter for a Lodge in the city of New York, after the respectful and affectionate, but earnest remonstrance of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York against the issuing of such charter, is a direct insult to the dignity, not only of the Grand Lodge of New York, but of every American Grand Lodge.

13. *Resolved*, That all Masonic intercourse between Connecticut Masons and the members of any Lodge in the United States, chartered by or owning allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, is hereby strictly prohibited.

INITIATION OF WASHINGTON.

Your Committee have no hesitation in believing that every member of the Masonic fraternity in this State will delight, at any and all times, to do honor to the memory of him who was "first in peace—first in war—first in the hearts of his countrymen,"—our late illustrious Brother GEORGE WASHINGTON. It will be recollected that on a preceding page of this report, we have quoted a resolution of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, recommending that the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Initiation of Washington into the mysteries of Masonry be celebrated by the several Lodges under her jurisdiction; and inviting sister Grand Lodges to make arrangements for similar celebrations. We notice that nearly or quite every Grand Lodge that has been in session since this idea was first suggested, has cordially responded to the invitation, and that the proposed celebration is likely to become general throughout the length and breadth of the land. Your committee believe that in no part of the country is the memory of Washington cherished with a greater degree of reverence and affection, than by the Masons of Connecticut. They have much pleasure in recommending to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolutions:

14. *Resolved*, That the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Initiation of GEORGE WASHINGTON into the mysteries of Ancient Free Masonry be commemorated by appropriate services and ceremonies, at the city of Hartford, on the 4th day of November next, under the direction of the Grand Lodge; and that the members of the Masonic fraternity in this State be invited to attend said celebration, *en masse*.

15. *Resolved*, That the first four Officers of the Grand Lodge be a committee to make the necessary arrangements for the celebration provided for by the foregoing resolution, with power to add to said committee.

MASONIC LIBRARY.

Your Committee can not close this report, without alluding to the importance of disseminating information on subjects pertaining to the interests of Masonry, among all the individual members of the fraternity in this jurisdiction. Great questions, affecting the prosperity of the Institution, and involving the fundamental principles of the Order, are agitating the several Masonic organizations throughout the world, and especially in

our own country. Errors in practice are creeping into the Lodges in various quarters, against which the voice of wisdom and experience is raised in trumpet tones, and the authoritative enactments of the Grand Lodges are required, as a means of purging them from the body of Masonry. These questions are equally interesting to every Mason under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, as well as elsewhere. These errors have an actual, tangible, real existence, and shutting our eyes to exclude them from our sight will not alter the fact of their existence. What then shall be done? is a question to be considered by all who love Masonry. There can be no doubt that in ours, as in other institutions, ignorance is the parent of error. Ignorance of the fundamental principles and ancient practices of the fathers of Masonry,—ignorance of the immutability of Masonic principles and customs and ceremonies and laws,—ignorance, in short, of the great principles of Masonic Jurisprudence, must be acknowledged as lying at the foundation of every act that has proposed dangerous “innovations on the body of Masonry.”

How important, then, that the means of enlightenment be afforded to the young and ardent seeker for Masonic truth. In view of the importance of this subject, almost every Grand Lodge with which we are in correspondence has taken it into consideration, and, with a singular degree of unanimity, have consented to the absolute necessity of applying the remedy suggested by your committee. In most of the States, measures have been adopted for the gathering of Masonic Libraries to be accessible at all times to the officers and members of the Grand and subordinate Lodges, under prescribed regulations. Some Grand Lodges have already made considerable collections of books, embracing in their catalogues the most approved and authentic publications of the past and present ages.

In nearly every Grand Lodge, voluminous reports are annually made by Committees on Foreign Correspondence, and by able special committees, to whom great questions are submitted, in which reports are embodied, the results of the wisdom and experience of the most able expounders and learned doctors of the Masonic law. In one of the Grand Bodies whose proceed-

ings we have had under review, and whose Committee had presented an extremely luminous and valuable report, it was ordered that a sufficient number of the proceedings be printed, to furnish a copy for every member of the several subordinate Lodges in the State.

In view of the importance of the subject here alluded to, your Committee beg leave to recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolution :

16. *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed, to inquire and report to this Grand Lodge, at its present session, as to the expediency of making an annual appropriation for the purchase of books for the formation of a Masonic Library for the use of this Grand Lodge and its subordinates; and that said committee be also instructed to report on the expediency of publishing a sufficient number of copies of the proceedings of this Annual Grand Communication, to furnish one copy for each member of every subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM STORER,
Chairman of Committee.

[For the manner in which the several resolutions appended to the foregoing report were disposed of, see page 235.]

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, HIRAM, New Haven—Wm. E. Sanford, W. M.; J. M. Andrus, S. W.; Howard B. Ensign, J. W.; Edward I. Sanford, Secretary.

Initiated—Frederick Ketterer, Wm. H. Allen, John E. Elliott, Hebron Douglass, Jonah D. Treat, Geo. E. Hubbell, Wm. L. Stark, Edward I. Sanford, James W. Waugh, Wm. J. Smith, John L. Patterson, David A. Strong, Marcus Lyon, Wm. F. Humphrey, Ethan C. Prior, George Augur, Wm. R. Kinley, Wm. T. Raymond, Charles Seeley.

Admitted—Jonathan M. Andrus, Lebens C. Chapin.

Withdrawn—Charles Brown, Linus Cornwell, James C. Blakeman, Silas R. Wickes, Joseph Kirkman, Alexander Buchanan.

Died—Christopher Sweetman.

Suspended—George Shumway.

No. 2, ST. JOHN'S, Middletown—Elliot Bradley, W. M.; Jonathan Kilbourn, S. W.; Loudon B. Ward, J. W.; James E. Bidwell, Secretary.

Initiated—Frederick W. Crowell, Norman L. Brainard, Hiram Bailey, Wm. B. Casey, George T. Markham, James E. Bidwell, Patrick Fagan.

Admitted—Charles C. Hufferaker, John S. Singleton.

Withdrawn—Russell Hopkins.

Died—Elias W. Newton.

No. 3, ST. JOHN'S, Bridgeport—John H. St. John, W. M.; Wm. S. Atkinson, S. W.; John M. Wilson, J. W.; Harvey Treat, Secretary.

Initiated—John W. Clark, Thomas H. Barnes, John W. Wilmot, Blaise Soule, P. C. Calhoun, Peter Groundeson, H. K. Harrall, James A. Tuttle, Philip Jones, James H. Preston, James P. McNamar, John N. Knapp, James L. Gould, Philip Cook, E. H. Taylor, James Myatt, James E. Dunham, Hiram Hedden, Robert H. Mills, Emory A. Weller, Levi G. Silliman, George B. Wheeler, Wm. Strain, Richard E. Hough, Thomas G. McGavern, Oscar P. Lewis, David W. Clark, Sylvester H. Gray, Robert H. Sterling, Tyler W. Hartshorne, Henry F. Betts, Richard G. Waterous, Charles A. Bailey, Abel Hawley, Joseph Clark, Wm. Pinkerman.

Admitted—Joseph V. Holmes.

No. 4, ST. JOHN'S, Hartford—Chester Hebbard, W. M.; James B. Crosby, S. W.; Thomas H. Seymour, J. W.; R. Augustus Erving, Secretary.

Initiated—Albert Wilcox, Matthew B. Bartlett, J. Judson Dimock, Lorenzo Church, Henry C. Deming, Allen E. Clapp, Thomas S. Boardman, John L. Apgar, David M. Rogers, Amos G. West, Oliver D. Seymour, George C. Roberts, James B. Shultas, Edward H. Bowers, Charles Reed, Franklin Root, Almon G. Cooley, Wm. T. King.

Admitted—Luther A. Cheeney, Samuel D. Sizer, Wm. Harris.

Died—Asa Farwell, George King.

No. 5, UNION, Stamford—John W. Leeds, W. M.; Roswel Hoyt, S. W.; Isaac Quintard, Jr., J. W.; James H. Miner, Secretary.

Initiated—Jarvis Renoud, John A. Scofield, James Lucas, Denham Palmer Abraham W. Williams, Hezekiah Bulkley, Wm. H. M. Smith.

Admitted—Hawley Adams, Lewis Mead.

No. 6, ST. JOHN'S, Norwalk—Eli K. Street, W. M.; William D. Camp, S. W.; Samuel Lines, J. W.; Wm. R. Nash, Secretary.

Initiated—Thomas B. Butler, Stephen H. Smith, Jr., Henry C. Randall, Wm. L. James, Wm. W. Storey, Charles T. Cornwall, John Beswick, Wm. R. Nash, Crowell Marsh, Gould D. Jennings, Samuel E. Olmsted, Joseph W. Hubbell, Jr., Mark Wheaton, Delos E. Culver, Elbert Curtis, Stephen Olmsted, Geo. C. Mead, Nathan Turk, J. B. Williamson, Edward C. Bissell, Riley Nash, Wm. T. Craw, Augustus Sammis, Seth A. Sears.

Died—Eldridge Purinton, Eben Boalt.

No. 7, KING SOLOMON'S, Woodbury—Benjamin Doolittle, W. M.; Wm. Cothren, S. W.; Edward W. Atwood, J. W.; Charles H. Webb, Secretary.

Initiated—Luke S. Putnam, Levi Curtis, Edward W. Atwood, Wm. R. Galpin, Norman Parker, Wm. Cothren, Rufus Clark, Robert P. Bradley.

Expelled—Harry Candee.

No. 8, ST. JOHN'S, Stratford—John Goulding, W. M.; Samuel Benjamin, S. W.; Benjamin Fairchild, J. W.; Wm. T. Shelton, Secretary.

No. 9, COMPASS, Wallingford—Henry Martin, W. W.; Almer I. Hall, S. W.; Lucien Pomeroy, J. W.; Randal Cook, Secretary.

Initiated—Elisha M. Pomeroy, Jr., Lucien Pomeroy, Henry Martin, Almer I. Hall, George D. Lane, Medad D. Munson, Solomon T. Parker, Elbridge G. Hall, Benjamin T. Jones.

Admitted—Selden J. Steele.

No. 10, WOOSTER, Colchester—Pomeroy Hall, W. M.; Joseph D. Packwood, S. W.; Joshua B. Wheeler, J. W.; Charles H. Rogers, Secretary.

Initiated—Samuel A. Kellogg, Curtis R. Holmes, George W. Pendleton, Samuel S. Dickinson, Charles H. Rogers, Henry W. Burr, Ebenezer E. Strong, Watson T. Strickland, Henry H. Heyneman, Edmund C. Weeks, Matthew T. Newton.

Admitted—David Fox, John Peddinghaus.

Died—George Way.

No. 11, ST. PAUL'S, Litchfield—Frederick Buel, W. M.; Frederick D. Beman, S. W.; Leveret W. Wessels, J. W.; George Seymour, Secretary.

Initiated—Charles S. Buel, Lyman Tyrrel, John M. Madra, David C. Bulkley, E. W. Andrews, Albert Sedgwick.

No. 12, KING HIRAM, Derby—John W. Flowers, W. M.; Edward C. Remer, S. W.; Calvin Curtis, J. W.; Wm. E. Downs, Secretary.

Initiated—Hiram W. Hubbard, Hanford Burr, Calvin Curtis, John McCormick, Joseph A. Bunnell, Andrew J. Stevely, Henry R. Downs, Joseph McAuley.

Admitted—Linus Cornwell, Manning P. Stryker.

Withdrawn—Charles W. Storrs, Charles A. Wooster.

Died—Andrew French.

No. 20, HARMONY, New Britain—Ezekiel Andrews, Jr., W. M.; William G. Coe, S. W.; Artemas E. Hart, J. W.; George H. Waters, Secretary.

Initiated—John Tolles, Franklin Graham, John Hungerford, George W. Woodruff, Barton J. Smith, John W. Humphrey, Calvin L. Hubbard, Jonah P. Allen, Lucius L. Sperry, Thomas Parkington, Joseph Reynolds, A. P. Collins, Oswyn Stanley, Wm. Harris, Francis Fenton, Thomas R. Hicks, Barzillia Deming, Oliver Fenton.

No. 25, COLUMBIA, Glastenbury—Sabine Stocking, W. M.; Robert L. Brainard, S. W.; Francis L. Brainard, J. W.; Oliver Brainard, Secretary.

Initiated—Joseph Barry, John Ward, Henry Hills, Wm. Chapman, Edwin S. Brainard, Warren Thrall.

Withdrawn—George W. Leonard, Joel Patten.

No. 28, MORNING STAR, East Windsor—Harmon Terry, W. M.; Joseph Sullivan, S. W.; Humphrey Davis, J. W.; Reuel Thrall, Secretary.

Initiated—Henry W. Calkins, Rollin C. Crane.

Admitted—John Williams.

Died—Charles P. Hollister.

No. 31, UNION, New London—George W. Goddard, W. M.; Aaron E. Stone, S. W.; C. H. Whittemore, J. W.; J. B. Lyman, Jr., Secretary.

Initiated—James A. Comstock, James M. Williams, Goodman Roberts, Levi Betts, Nathan Leve, Peter Darrow, David Sprague, James Green, Nathaniel H. Niles, Joseph C. Crocker, John Beaumis, Oliver Sisson, Samuel Woods, Antone Smith, Henry T. Smith, Wm. Babcock, Orlando A. Lane, James M. Niles, Henry W. Bartlett, Leander Gitchel, James A. Rogers, F. D. Beckwith, Wm. W. Whipple, Henry W. Washburn, Simeon A. Jordan, Gilbert R. Warren, John Allen, Seth Smith, D. B. Hempsted, Elbridge Tufts, Robert A. Morgan, Frederick W. Perkins, H. C. Brigham, George H. Rogers, Francis W. Lane.

Admitted—Edward Coates.

Died—Parker H. Smith, Alfred W. Bush, James Rogers, Joshua Powers, D. B. Hempsted, John L. Harris.

Expelled—Lucius H. Tracy.

No. 33, FRIENDSHIP, Southington—Noah H. Byington, W. M.; Oswald K. Norton, S. W.; Austin W. Bradley, J. W.; John E. Jones, Secretary.

Initiated—Ira Huff, Hezekiah S. Atwood, Wm. Mallary, Orrin Atwater, Daniel Norton, Moses W. Buckley, Jr., Lewis Merriman, Seth W. Hotchkiss, Henry M. Beecher, Eliphalet B. Abby, Robert Hollis, Elnathan Atwood, Wm. Goodfellow.

No. 34, SOMERSET, Norwich—Wm. H. Copp, W. M.; Charles L. Danielson, S. W.; Wm. W. Avery, J. W.; H. Hobart Roath, Secretary.

Initiated—Wm. McCune, Albert G. Dewey, Charles N. Farnam, John W. Stedman, Amos A. Gore, Martin R. Kenyon, Ira Young, Henry Bill, A. T. Nelson, Ellison Cooper, George W. Monroe, Daniel A. Hough, Moses Titcomb, Joseph A. Smith, Wm. H. Hyde, A. L. Loveland, Samuel H. Johnson, William R. Prentice, Henry Phelps.

Admitted—Isaac H. Cook.

Withdrawn—Jacob L. Myers, George S. Hopkins.

No. 38, ST. ALBAN'S, Guilford—Charles Ball, W. M. ; C. McKnight, S. W. ; R. J. Holmes, J. W. ; Jedediah Lathrop, Secretary.

Initiated—Charles W. Miller, Asahel B. Morse, James Monroe, Samuel Shelly.
Admitted—Josiah Hunt.

No. 40, UNION, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut, W. M. ; Ira Hodge, S. W. ; Martin Mead, J. W. ; Wm F. Taylor, Secretary.

Initiated—Frederick Barnes, Nelson L. White, David B. Booth, Samuel Gregory, George Ferry, James L. Taylor, Stephen S. Bedient, Jarvis Polley, R. Bedient, Edward H. Dann, Franklin Crofut, Reuben H. Booth, Wm. H. Birchard, Thomas E. Tweedy, Wm. H. Green.

No. 42, HARMONY, Waterbury—Henry Chatfield, W. M. ; Nathan Dikeman, Jr., S. W. ; David B. Hurd, J. W. ; Silas Y. Ives, Secretary.

Initiated—Nathan Dikeman, Jr., Edward C. Lyon, Wm. Kelly, John H. Smith, Adolph Lansbury, Otto Gotchling, George H. Stebbins, Philander Hine, Darwin Ellis, Stephen A. Dudley, Enoch L. Savage, James W. Lyon, George C. Scarritt, Letson S. Wooster, Wm. Church, Hiram E. Hine, Noble S. Warner, Wm. Van Velsor, Horace Trafford, James Scarritt, Wheeler Perry, Charles B. Richardson.

Died—Charles S. Seymour.

No. 44, EASTERN STAR, Windham—Wallace Huntington, W. M. ; Frederick P. Coe, S. W. ; Lloyd E. Baldwin, J. W. ; Louis Feldman, Secretary.

Initiated—Hiram I. Fisk, Wm. Wales, S. W. Bassett, George Hanover, Thomas Turner.

No. 46, PUTNAM, Pomfret—Isaac H. Coe, W. M. ; Darins Williams, S. W. ; Thomas S. Aldrich, J. W. ; Mowry Amsbury, Secretary.

Initiated—Israel A. Randall, Albert H. Chase, Squire B. Miller, Josiah H. Bennett, Leonard R. Bennett.

Admitted—Wm. Stone, Wm. Hill.

Withdrawn—Eseck Joslin.

Died—Arthur Gleason.

No. 47, MORNING STAR, Seymour—David J. McEwen, W. M. ; Hiram Upton, S. W. ; John L. Daniels, J. W. ; Charles W. Storrs, Secretary.

Initiated—Ashbel Storrs, Harris B. Munson, George W. Devine, John W. Storrs, Irsael French, Harpin Davis, Sheldon Bassett.

Admitted—James Davis.

No. 49, JERUSALEM, Ridgefield—David Dauchy, W. M. ; Levi Bronson, S. W. ; Horace Wheeler, J. W. ; Hiram K. Scott, Secretary.

Initiated—Gideon Hinman, Jason Whitlock.

Withdrawn—Lockwood K. Osborn.

Died—Matthew Seymour, James E. Jones.

No. 50, WARREN, Andover—Henry M. Booth, W. M. ; Anson R. Grover, S. W. ; Nathanel. Metcalf, J. W. ; Zurial C. Hartshorn, Secretary.

Initiated—Zurial C. Hartshorn, Eli Perkins, John M. Smith, Addison H. Fitch, Seth S. Collins, Henry L. Newcomb, Joseph S. Lyman.

No. 51, WARREN, Portland—George W. Leonard, W. M. ; Joel Patten, S. W. ; Wm. R. Smith, J. W. ; Timothy Robinson, Secretary.

Initiated—S. Nelson Hall, Luke Alexander, Francis Bolton, Timothy Robinson, Roswell Hodge, Alfred Hall, Charles Griswold, Gilbert Griswold, David Robinson, Jr., Silas Stebbins, George Stancliff, Wm. Lewis, Sylvester S. Gildersleeve, George Gillum.

Admitted—George W. Leonard, Bussel Hopkins, Joel Patten.

No. 57, ASYLUM, Stonington—George E. Palmer, W. M. ; Russel A. Denison, S. W. ; David W. Thompson, J. W. ; Junius M. Willey, Secretary.

Initiated—Joshua Haley, Jr., E. B. Trumbull, Anson Foster, Elisha H. Everett, P. M. Randall.

Admitted—John C. Hayes, Joshua Wheeler.

Died—Charles W. Brown,

No. 58, NORTHERN STAR, New Hartford—Hermon Chapin, W. M. ; Charles H. King, S. W. ; Nelson Gaines, J. W. ; John C. Guy, Secretary.

Initiated—John H. Thompson, Wm. S. Nash, Lemuel B. Dresser, Joseph Spencer, Philemon R. Allen, Wells Case, John Seger, Joseph Gould, Joshua M. Barwick, Jason J. Graham, George L. Brown, C. A. Belden, Wm. G. McNary.

Admitted—Howell W. Brown, Santiago Flores.

Suspended—Nathaniel Healey.

Died—George H. Clark.

No. 60, WOLCOTT, Stafford—Wm. N. Clark, W. M. ; Elijah Fairman, S. W. Laurens Crawford, J. W. ; Zina Winter, Secretary.

Initiated—Wm. S. Carpenter, Rufus Weston.

Died—Benjamin Salisbury, Henry C. Baker, Horace Orcutt, Stephen Smith.

No. 62, ORIENT, East Hartford—Ralph Pitkin, W. M. ; Samuel O. Hollister, S. W. ; Albert Keeney, J. W. ; Charles H. Olmsted, Secretary.

Initiated—Wm. Hanmer, Samuel G. Phelps, Charles R. Riley, Charles Smith, Samuel A. Snow, Jeremiah W. Strong.

Admitted—Alexander Kay.

Died—Cornelius Wells.

No. 63, ADELPHI, Fair Haven—Hosea N. Newton, W. M. ; Wm. N. Gesner, S. W. ; Horace Tuttle, J. W. ; John H. Beecher, Secretary.

Initiated—Joshua H. Dill, Harvey Barnes, 2d, Wm. Farren, Smith G. Tuttle, Isaac P. Palmer, David Moulton, Ralph Lawson, Ogden Price, Noah A. Chichester, Oliver W. Miller, Wm. Bryan, Jr., George A. Ball, J. B. Hutchings.

Admitted—Volney Pierce, Anthony de Fontaine.

Withdrawn—Jonathan M. Andrus.

Died—Selah Rowe, Edwin Terry.

No. 64, ST. ANDREW'S, West Winsted—Thomas Senior, W. M. ; H. S. Steele, S. W. ; George Taylor, J. W. ; John L. Wakefield, Secretary.

Initiated—Henry B. Steele, Seth L. Wilder, Spencer W. Coe, Thomas Senior, George M. Wentworth, Wm. B. Andrews, Caleb P. Newman, Daniel Palmer, Geo. Camp, Sterling M. Mills, Henry Bills, J. L. Wakefield.

Admitted—Joel Humphrey, James H. Hatch.

No. 68, CHARITY, Mystic—Albert G. Stark, W. M. ; Dudley S. Avery, S. W. ; Wm. G. Dewey, J. W. ; Nathan S. Fish, Secretary.

Initiated—Wm. H. Holmes, George B. Crary, Edward Downer, Daniel E. Burrows, Jeremiah Sawyer.

Admitted—John Holdredge, Shubael Brown.

Died—John O. Miner, Charles Wolfe, Stephen Haley, Jr.

No. 73, MANCHESTER, Manchester—Jesse Ladd, W. M. ; Henry Marble S. W. ; Alpheus E. Harrington, J. W. ; Wm. M. Roberts, Secretary.

Initiated—Wm. C. Strong, Alva L. Carpenter.

Expelled—Jonas C. Main.

No. 77, MERIDIAN, Meriden—Almeron Miles, W. M. ; Bertrand L. Yale, S. W. ; Ira Twiss, J. W. ; L. Parmelee, Secretary.

Initiated—Andrew J. Smith, Wm. Cochran, Francis Bottom, Wm. A. Foskett, Edmund Parker, Orville H. Platt, Luther E. Webb, Henry W. Lester.

Admitted—Dexter R. Wright, John P. Warner.

Withdrawn—Stephen Seymour.

Died—Wm. Allen, Jr.

No. 78, SHEPHERD, Naugatuck—Marshal Hoadley, W. M. ; Gideon O. Hotchkiss, S. W. ; Timothy Langdon, J. W. ; Stephen W. Kellogg, Secretary.

Initiated—Horace V. Porter, Timothy Langdon, Wm. F. Goulding, Franklin Howard, Thomas Twitchell, Calvin Hoadley, Cornelius T. Candee, Levi P. Woodworth, Charles Twitchell.

Withdrawn—Thomas Twitchell.

Died—Enos Osborn, Frederick A. Ellis, Elihu Hitchcock.

No. 79, WOOSTER, New Haven—James L. Clark, W. M. ; Nehemiah D. Sperry, S. W. ; Wooster A. Ensign, J. W. ; Thomas W. Ensign, Secretary.

Initiated—Charles Atwater, Jr., John R. Street, Wooster A. Ensign, William S. Howarth, Wm. W. King, Thomas W. Ensign, Treat Merwin, Charles Webster, Thomas Lombard, John E. Parmelee, Chauncey E. Sperry, Salmon C. Bulkely, James C. Parmelee, David H. Thomas, Horatio D. Smith, John B. Hotchkiss, Thomas W. Chapman, Horace Bowman, Jr., Wm. Young, Amos Munson, John Woodruff, George B. Bouton.

Admitted—Stephen M. Wier, John B. Magie, Richard Fitzgerald.

No 80, BERLIN, Berlin—Loyal Dudley, W. M. ; William M. Fowler, S. W. ; Charles Stevens, J. W. ; Lorenzo Lamb, Secretary.

Initiated—Lockwood J. Lamb, Wm. M. Smith, R. B. Williams, Elisha Norton, Wm. Addis, Orrin Mildrum, Walter A. Parmelee, Isaac North, Henry Sage, Noah C. Smith, James C. Arnold, Joseph E. Hull.

Died—Richard B. Williams.

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY
OF
GEORGE WASHINGTON'S INITIATION,
NOV. 4, A. L. 5852.

Agreeable to a resolution adopted at the last annual communication, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut convened at Masonic Hall in the city of Hartford, on Wednesday, the 4th day of November, 1852, for the purpose of celebrating the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Initiation of our beloved brother the Illustrious GEORGE WASHINGTON into the Mysteries of Free Masonry. The following Grand Officers were present :

M. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Grand Master.

R. W. DAVID CLARK, Deputy Grand Master.

THEODORE SPENCER, Senior Grand Warden.

WILLIAM L. BREWER, Junior Grand Warden.

HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.

ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.

THOMAS H. SEYMOUR, Senior Grand Deacon.

GEORGE F. DASKAM, Junior Grand Deacon.

NATHAN M. WATERMAN, Grand Marshal, p. t.

CHARLES H. OLMSTED, Grand Sentinel.

Rev. JUNIUS M. WILLEY, Grand Chaplain.

NOAH H. BYINGTON, } Grand Stewards.
R. AUGUSTUS ERVING, }

ELIZUR SKINNER, Grand Tyler.

M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, P. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

R. W. JAMES WARD, P. D. G. M., Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

A large number of brethren were also present, from almost every Lodge, Chapter, Council and Encampment in the State, and many from adjacent States, a correct list of whose names it was found impracticable to obtain.

At half past 9, A. M., preparatory to forming into line, the several bodies of Masons assembled at their places of rendezvous, viz :—The Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges, at Masonic Hall ; Grand and subordinate Chapters and Councils, at the South Baptist Church ; Grand and subordinate Encampments, at Wadsworth's Hall.

After opening the Grand Lodge, and delivering a brief address, appropriate to the occasion, the M. W. Grand Master appointed Bro. Nathan M. Waterman, of Hartford, Grand Marshal for the day, and Bro. James Gallagher, of New Haven, and Elihu Geer, of Hartford, Assistant Marshals.

At half past 10 o'clock, a Grand Procession was formed on Main street, in the following order :

- Grand Marshal.
- Hartford Brass Band.
- Knights Templar, on horseback, as Escort.
- First Assistant Marshal.
- Two Stewards.
- Subordinate Lodges, in order of Seniority.
- Second Assistant Marshal.
- Carriages, with the aged and infirm Brethren.
- Chapters of Royal Arch Masons.
- Councils of Royal and Select Masters.
- Grand Tyler.
- Past Grand Officers.
- Holy Bible, borne by a Brother.
- Officiating Clergy.
- Grand Orator.
- Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge.
- Grand Sentinel.

The procession (consisting of about fifteen hundred members

of the fraternity) proceeded through Main and State streets, to the First Universalist Church, where the following exercises were performed :

I. VOLUNTARY, ON THE ORGAN.

II. CHORUS, FROM MOSE IN EGITTO.

ROSSINI.

Bright shine your fame for ever,
Sires who our nation planted,
By storm and death undaunted,
Firmly on Freedom's rock !

When danger rose around you,
Loudly glad hymns ye chanted,
While every bosom panted
Wildly with Freedom's glow.

Dark grew the clouds above you,
Loud howl'd the midnight tempest,
While through the pathless forest
Rang out the savage yell.

Still rose your song triumphant,
Danger and death despising,
Still to Jehovah rising,
Proudly your anthems swell.

III. INOCATION.

REV. BRO. J. J. TWISS.

IV. HYMN, COMPOSED FOR THE OCCASION.

BRO. HARTLEY.

Now voices, hearts and hands unite,
Let Masonry your souls arouse,
Cheered by its never-failing light,
Come, brothers, here renew your vows.

Say to the brother in distress,
His wants you'll willingly supply ;
And if in vain he seeks redress,
Bid him on Masonry rely.

Should sickness visit his abode,
And dim the brightness of his eye,
Listen, and cheer the weary road
That leads him to Eternity.

And when the monarch of the grave,
In ghastly form, excites his fear,
Tell him that God hath power to save,
And change to joy his sorrowing tear.

Tell him that those he dreads to leave,
 Dependent on a cold world's care,
 Shall brothers find, who will relieve,
 And homes that brothers' friends may share.

But while we live, we'll live aright,
 On bravely march, a Spartan band;
 The Plumb and Level e'er in sight,
 The Square and Compass e'er in hand.

V. READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES. REV. BRO. ABELL.

VI. PRAYER. REV. BRO. TILLOTSON.

VII. ORATION. REV. BRO. WILLEY.

VIII. CHORUS. CHERUBINI.

High in glory dwell the raptur'd saints above
 All their cares are over.
 Peace dwelleth ever with them in their mansion holy,
 All their toils are over, and they are at rest.
 And they shall praise his name for evermore.
 For ever they dwell by they flowing river,
 No sorrow may befall them,
 For the Lord is their light and shield.
 Death has confessed their victory,
 And they shall live for evermore.
 They know no sorrow,
 The Lord shall bless and comfort them.

IX. HYMN. OLD HUNDRED.

From all that dwell beneath the skies,
 Let the Creator's praise arise;
 Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
 Through every land, by every tongue.

Eternal are thy mercies, Lord,
 Eternal truth attends thy Word;
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
 Till sun shall set and rise no more.

X. BENEDICTION. REV. BRO. ABELL.

XI. VOLUNTARY ON THE ORGAN.

After the exercises in the Church were concluded, the procession was again formed, in the same order as before, and pro-

ceeded to the refreshment room in the City Hall, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Brother Joseph Pratt, under the direction of the Committee of Arrangements; ample justice to which was done by the crowded mass of brethren present, who testified their entire satisfaction by an unanimous vote of thanks, accompanied with tremendous cheering.

The line was then again formed, under the direction of the Grand Marshal, and the Grand Lodge returned to the Masonic Hall, where the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted:

By R. W. Bro. Clark. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to Rev. Bro. J. M. Willey, for his able, interesting, and eloquent address, delivered before this body to-day; and that he be requested to furnish a copy of the same to be published with these proceedings, and laid up in the archives of the Grand Lodge.

By Bro. H. C. Deming. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be presented to the Trustees of the Universalist Church, for the use of their church edifice on this interesting occasion.

By Bro. J. Gallagher. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the Organist and Choir of the Universalist Society, for the excellent music performed by them in the course of the exercises in the Church.

By Bro. M. Gross. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the South Baptist Society, and also to the Proprietors of Wadsworth's Hall, for their generosity in allowing us the use of convenient apartments in their respective edifices for this occasion.

By Bro. W. Storer. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be presented to the Committee of Arrangements, and to the brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 4, for the efficient and satisfactory manner in which they have carried out the wishes of the Grand Lodge and of the fraternity generally, in their preparations for this festival.

After prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

At a special communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at Masonic Hall in the city of Bridgeport, on Tuesday, the 22d day of March, A. L. 5853, the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and Representatives were present, viz :

GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Grand Master.
 R. W. DAVID CLARK, Deputy Grand Master.
 THEODORE SPENCER, Senior Grand Warden.
 WILLIAM L. BREWER, Junior Grand Warden.
 HORACE GOODWIN, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 THOMAS H. SEYMOUR, Senior Grand Deacon.
 GEORGE F. DASKAM, Junior Grand Deacon.
 ELIZUR SKINNER, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

William H. Ellis, A. C. Babcock, John C. Blackman, William H. Holly, Marcus Bassett, Samuel Wire, Charles Brown.

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—Howard B. Ensign, Edward I. Sanford.
 No. 2, St. John's, Middletown—Merrils Ward.
 No. 3, St. John's Bridgeport—William S. Atkinson, John M. Wilson, Harvey Treat.
 No. 4, St. John's Hartford—James B. Crosby, Henry C. Deming.
 No. 5, Union, Stamford—John W. Leeds, Isaac Quintard, Jr., N. D. Haight.
 No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—William D. Camp, Samuel Lynes.

- No. 11, St. Pauls, Litchfield—Charles O. Belden.
No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—John W. Flowers, Calvin Curtis, Sylvester Blackman.
No. 20, Harmony, New Britain—Ezekiel Andrews, James Smith.
No. 31, Union, New London—A. E. Stone, Seth Smith, N. H. Niles.
No. 33, Friendship, Southington—O. K. Norton, A. W. Bradley, E. N. Stannard.
No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—William H. Copp.
No. 38, St. Alban's, Guilford—C. L. Crowell, E. B. Evarts.
No. 40, Union, Danbury—S. A. Hurlbut.
No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—Henry W. Chatfield, J. M. Andrus, J. W. Paul.
No. 47, Morning Star, Seymour—H. S. Welton, Ashbel Storrs.
No. 57, Warren, Portland—George W. Leonard, J. W. Gladwin.
No. 58, Northern Star, New Hartford—Charles H. King, C. W. Nash, F. J. Barwick.
No. 63, Adelphi, Fair Haven—Charles S. Thomson, Horace Tuttle, Ebenezer Allen.
No. 73, Manchester, Manchester—Martin Hewins.
No. 77, Meridian, Meriden—Almeron Miles, Ira Twiss.
No. 78, Shepherd, Naugatuck—Timothy Langdon, H. N. Porter.
No. 79, Wooster, New Haven—James L. Clark, N. D. Sperry, Chas. Webster.
No. 80, Berlin, Berlin—Loyal Dudley, Chas. Stevens, H. C. Miller.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, and Brs. Storer, Holly, and Stone appointed a Committee on Credentials.

The M. W. Grand Master, in a brief verbal communication, announced to the Grand Lodge that this special meeting had been called in conformity with a resolution adopted at the annual communication in May last, to hear and act upon the report of a committee at that time appointed, "to perfect the

work and lectures of the three degrees ; which committee consisting of one member from each county, together with the first four Grand Officers, had held several meetings in various parts of the State, and were now ready to report the result of their labors, by exemplifying the work before the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Credentials reported that they had attended to the duties assigned them, and found the legally qualified representatives present from twenty-four subordinate Lodges, making with the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers present, an aggregate of sixty-nine members entitled to vote. The report was accepted.

On motion of Bro. Holly, it was voted, that the usual courtesy be extended to Master Masons in good standing, by inviting all such to sit in the Grand Lodge as visitors.

The Committee then proceeded to present their report by exhibiting the work of the three degrees, commencing with the first degree ; for which purpose a Lodge of Entered Apprentices was opened in due and ancient form :

R. W. David Clark acting as W. M. ;
Theodore Spencer, as S. W. ;
William L. Brewer, as J. W. ;
Horace Goodwin, as Treas. ;
E. G. Storer, as Secr'y ;
T. H. Seymour, as S. D. ;
A. E. Stone, as J. D.

The committee having gone through with their report of the degree of Entered Apprentice, including the ceremony of opening and closing Lodge, the form of proposing candidates, the manner of balloting, and every portion of the work, a motion was made and carried, that the report be laid on the table until afternoon.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock.

Two o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

On motion, the report of the Committee on work was taken up.

Bro. H. C. Deming moved that the work of the Entered Apprentice's degree, as reported by the committee, be adopted.

Bro. Charles Brown moved an indefinite postponement, which motion was lost.

After a free discussion of some length, and the adoption of a motion to decide the question by yeas and nays, the motion of Bro. Deming to adopt the Entered Apprentice's degree, as exhibited by the committee was carried by the following vote: Yeas 42—Nays 18.

The Committee then continued their report, by an exemplification of the Fellow Craft's degree, including the ceremony of opening and closing Lodge, and the manner of conferring the degree.

On motion of Bro. Horace Tuttle, it was voted, that the work of the Fellow Craft's degree, as reported by the committee, be adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until 7 o'clock.

Seven o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Committee on Work completed their report, and exemplified the work in the third degree, by raising to the sublime degree of Master Mason a candidate furnished by St. John's Lodge, No. 3, which Lodge was opened and closed by the officers of the Grand Lodge for that purpose.

On motion, and after due discussion, it was voted, that the work of the third degree, as exhibited by the committee, be adopted by the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. H. Tuttle, it was voted, that the report of the Committee on Work be accepted and the committee discharged.

Bro. H. C. Deming submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be hereby presented to the committee, for the fidelity with which they have carried out the resolution of the Grand Lodge, and for the zeal and ability which they have displayed in presenting for the Lodges within this jurisdiction a uniform system of work.

A petition was presented from Bro. F. Turner and 20 other Master Masons residing in the city of New Haven, praying for a charter for a new Lodge, to be called "Elm City Lodge." Bro. Storer moved that the petition be continued to the annual communication in May next, that it might have the usual reference to the standing committee on charters ; which motion was not seconded.

Bro. J. B. Crosby moved that the petition be indefinitely postponed ; which was carried.

R. W. Bro. Clark submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to the officers and members of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, for the use of their beautiful hall on this occasion, and for their uniform courtesy and kindness towards us during this communication.

No other business appearing, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1853.

At the Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, held at Masonic Hall in the city of Hartford, on Wednesday, May 11th, A. L. 5853, the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers and Representatives were present :

GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. DAVID CLARK, Deputy Grand Master.
 THEODORE SPENCER, Senior Grand Warden.
 WILLIAM L. BREWER, Junior Grand Warden.
 HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 THOMAS H. SEYMOUR, Senior Grand Deacon.
 GEORGE F. DASKAM, Junior Grand Deacon.
 CHARLES H. OLMSTED, Grand Sentinel.
 Rev. T. P. ABELL, Grand Chaplain, pro tem.
 NOAH H. BYINGTON, } Grand Stewards.
 R. ADOLPHUS IRVING, }
 ELIZUR SKINNER, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Henry Peck, Benoni A. Shepherd, Wm. H. Ellis, James Ward, Frederick Crosswell, William Storer, James H. Ashmead, Ingoldsby W. Crawford, Philip Saunders, Henry Moore, Asahel Saunders, George Giddings, Ralph Warren, Mason Gross, Cyrus Goodell, James Stevens, Wm. H. Holly.

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, Hiram, New Haven—Howard B. Ensign, Hiram P. Crofut, George Lindley.
 No. 2, St. John's, Middletown—Elliot Bradley, Merrils Ward, Arthur B. Calef.

- No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport—Alexander Hamilton, Wm Boston, Wm. H. Williams.
- No. 4, St. John's, Hartford—James B. Crosby, Thomas H. Seymour, Henry C. Deming.
- No. 5, Union, Stamford—John W. Leeds, Isaac Quintard, Jr., Hezekiah Bulkley.
- No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk—Samuel Lynes, Peter L. Cunningham, John A. McLean.
- No. 7, King Solomon's, Woodbury—Wm. Cothren, Benjamin Doolittle.
- No. 8, St. John's, Stratford—Samuel Benjamin.
- No. 9, Compass, Wallingford—George D. Lane, J. B. Pomeroy, Lucien Pomeroy.
- No. 10, Wooster, Colchester—Joseph D. Packwood.
- No. 11, St. Paul's, Litchfield—Frederick Buel, Frederick D. Beeman, Albert Stoddard.
- No. 12, King Hiram, Derby—John W. Flowers, Calvin Curtis, Wm. E. Downs.
- No. 20, Harmony, New Britain—Ezekiel Andrews, Jr., Henry Tolles, R. S. Southworth.
- No. 25, Columbia, Glastenbury—Sabin Stocking.
- No. 28, Morning Star, Warehouse Point—Harmon Terry, Solomon Terry, Humphrey Davis.
- No. 31, Union, New London—Elisha Douglass.
- No. 33, Friendship, Southington—Oswald K. Norton, Austin W. Bradley, E. N. Stannard.
- No. 34, Somerset, Norwich—Wm. H. Copp, H. Hobart Roath, Henry Bill.
- No. 38, St. Alban's, Guilford—C. L. Crowell, E. B. Evarts.
- No. 40, Union, Danbury—Stephen A. Hurlbut, D. B. Booth.
- No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury—J. M. Andrus, David B. Hurd, John W. Paul.
- No. 44, Eastern Star, Windham—Lloyd E. Baldwin.
- No. 46, Putnam, Killingly—Moses Chandler.
- No. 49, Jerusalem, Ridgefield—Hiram K. Scott, John B. Hyatt.
- No. 50, Warren, Andover—Anson R. Grover, Ralph Crittenden,
- No. 51, Warren, Portland—S. Nelson Hall, Joel Patten.

- No. 56, Franklin, Bristol—Henry A. Mitchell, J. H. Austin.
No. 57, Asylum, Stonington—George E. Palmer, Thomas E. Swan, Jonathan Pendleton.
No. 58, Northern Star, New Hartford—Hermon Chapin, C. W. King, F. J. Barwick.
No. 59, Apollo, Suffield—Samuel N. Reid, J. M. Hathaway, Moses S. Austin.
No. 62, Orient, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, S. O. Hollister, Wm. B. Smith.
No. 63, Adelphi, Fair Haven—Horace Tuttle, Wm. N. Gesner, Ebenezer Allen.
No. 64, St. Andrews, West Winsted—MacPherson Hubbell.
No. 68, Charity, Groton—Albert G. Stark, Peter E. Rowland, Archibald T. Douglass.
No. 73, Manchester, Manchester—Wm. C. Strong, Ralph W. Haughton, Martin Hewins.
No. 77, Meridian, Meriden—Almeron Miles, Tilton E. Doolittle, Ira Twiss.
No. 78, Shepherd, Naugatuck—Stephen W. Kellogg.
No. 79, Wooster, New Haven—James L. Clark, N. D. Sperry, Charles Webster.
No. 80, Berlin, Berlin—Loyal Dudley, Charles Stevens, Henry C. Miller.

At 10 o'clock the Grand Officers took their stations, and the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Bros. E. G. Storer, Tripp, and Palmer were appointed a Committee on Credentials, who entered at once upon the duties of their appointment, and reported the above list of Grand Officers, Past Officers, and Representatives, as entitled to vote in the Grand Lodge; which report was accepted

On motion of Bro. Palmer, an invitation was extended to all Master Masons in good standing to visit the Grand Lodge during the present communication.

The M. W. Grand Master not being present, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master submitted the following

ADDRESS:

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE:

In consequence of the absence of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, on account of a somewhat protracted illness, which rendered it necessary for him to repair to a more genial climate, I am unexpectedly called upon to preside over your deliberations at this time, and lay before you such of his official acts, as well as those of my own, which are of interest and importance to the Craft.

Before proceeding to that duty, permit me to say, we have great reason to be thankful to the Supreme Architect of the Universe for his kind care and watchful eye which has ever been upon us, and has permitted us this day to assemble within the walls of this beautiful temple, which has been dedicated to Masonry, to Virtue, and to Universal Benevolence, since our last annual communication, and to enter once more upon the duties and responsibilities which relate to the government and happiness of this Grand Lodge.

I take great pleasure in saying to you, that harmony and brotherly love, to an unusual degree, have existed among the Lodges of this State during the past year. But few differences of opinion have occurred, which it is to be hoped have, in most cases, been reconciled by love and affection—the true genius of Masonry—or by a cheerful acquiescence in the decision of your constitutional authorities.

Permit me, Brethren, to congratulate you upon the high, and I trust firm and stable eminence, which Freemasonry has attained in our State. Never, since the days when the black pall of anti-masonry hung heavily over us, has our time honored institution reached such an exalted position. But more especially do I congratulate you, that during the past year many of the wise and good men of our State, men occupying high and exalted positions in the nation, have knocked at the gates of our temple and they have been opened for their reception. These accessions give us character and strength, for when our institution has the approval and support of such men, slander loses its force and effect, and passes by as the idle wind.

I contend, Brethren, that Masonry is not only a moral but a divine institution, and when the Grand I AM put it into the mind of man to call it into existence, he had high and holy purposes to accomplish. For Freemasonry has its object, aim, sphere and *destiny*, as much as any other institution that ever emanated from the source of All Good. It was designed for our individual and mutual benefit; to make us wiser and better men, neighbors, citizens, brothers; to inspire us with a regard to the wants, happiness, and interests of others; that we might practice towards our fellow-men those cardinal virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, which are so often and so forcibly recommended in our Lodges.

Let us then see to it that we faithfully discharge our duty while this sacred boon is placed under our care and guardianship. We can not exercise too great caution and watchfulness in our deliberations, for the respectability and perpetuity of our glorious Order depends in no small degree upon the careful supervision of the craft, by those to whom this high and sacred duty has been confided. Our solicitude, amid the rapid augmentation of our numbers, ought to spring not merely from a sense of duty, but from a deep and lasting regard for the future permanency of the Order. Let us then guard with sleepless vigilance the en-

trance of our mystic temple, and see that none be admitted who are unworthy of these high and sacred trusts; for in our prosperity it would oftentimes be well for us to remember that the *strength* of Masonry is not in the number, but in the *virtue* and *wisdom* of its members.

Shortly after our last annual communication, an application was made to our M. W. Grand Master, by a constitutional number of zealous brethren in the town of Bristol, for a dispensation to empower them to work, under the name of Franklin Lodge, No. 56, which, after due inquiry, was granted. They soon procured a suitable hall, and commenced their labors. During the winter I had the pleasure to visit our brethren in Bristol, in company with the M. W. Grand Master, a number of the other Grand Officers, and a large number of brethren of other Lodges in the vicinity, and assist them in their work. They will render a good account of their stewardship, and return here their dispensation, and ask for the restoration of their charter, which no doubt you will readily grant.

At our last annual communication a verbal report was made relative to the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of our lamented brother, General David Wooster, whose remains were deposited in a grave-yard in the town of Danbury, without a stone to mark the spot where they rest. I then took it upon myself to raise by subscription or otherwise the sum of \$2500 for that purpose, and adopted the following plan for the accomplishment of the object: The citizens of Danbury agreed to raise \$500; the sum of \$1000 to be collected by subscription among the brethren throughout the State, or by appropriations from the different Lodges; and \$1000 as an appropriation from the State treasury, for which the Chief Executive—our worthy Senior Grand Deacon—had by special message called the attention of the General Assembly, which was then in session. It was supposed that the representatives from the town of Danbury would have taken special charge of the matter before the committee to whom it was referred, but for some reason, of which I am not informed, they paid no attention to it, and the committee took no further action whatever upon the subject. I would recommend a renewal of the effort, and trust we shall yet be able to accomplish an object so much to be desired.

The committee appointed at the last annual communication to agree upon a uniform system of work and lectures, and report to a special communication to be called for that purpose, immediately entered upon the duties assigned them, and after several long, patient, and arduous sessions, in which the whole work and lectures were carefully and minutely reviewed, they agreed upon such a system, and made their report at a special communication held in the city of Bridgeport in March last. After the report of the committee was made, and a full and lengthy discussion upon its merits and demerits had taken place, the report was adopted, as the recognized work of this Grand Lodge, and by which the Lodges in this State are to be governed. I am gratified to learn that a number of the Lodges have already adopted it, and others are qualifying themselves for that purpose, and it is to be hoped that *all* will soon follow it, so that our work may be uniform throughout the State. This object has long been desired, and it now remains for you to say whether it shall be accomplished.

In noting the events of the past year, I cannot omit to mention the celebration in the city of Hartford, on the 4th of November last, in commemoration of the

100th anniversary of the initiation of George Washington into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

As most, if not all of you were present on that interesting occasion, it is not necessary that a minute description of it should be given, but only to remark it was truly a grand and interesting event, which made a marked impression not only upon the minds of those who participated in it, but upon those of our citizens who are not members of our Order. One hundred years hence, our children's children will again celebrate this day. Another assembly shall gather themselves together, and tell how one century before, we, their fathers, held a holy festival in commemoration of the initiation of George Washington into the Masonic mysteries. We can justly claim that we have set them a noble example, which they will do well to imitate. I, in common with yourselves, have only one thing to regret with this celebration, which is, we were unable to procure a copy of the able and eloquent address of the Orator of the day for publication. Your Committee used their best endeavors for this purpose, but were unsuccessful. The publication was desirable as a matter of *history*, and for many other weighty reasons which might be named.

Our brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 6, Norwalk, actuated by a zeal worthy of imitation, have, during the past year, erected a beautiful Masonic Temple, and the most appropriate day, the 27th of December was set apart for its dedication. Many of the Grand Officers were present, and a large number of brethren from other Lodges in that vicinity. After due examination, this Temple to Masonry was dedicated according to ancient form and usage, and an able and eloquent oration was pronounced to our brethren only, by our worthy brother Rev. Doct. Mead, which was highly instructive and gratifying to all who had the pleasure of listening to it. In the evening the Hall was opened to the citizens generally, to witness the imposing ceremonies of the installation of the officers, after which several appropriate addresses were made by our brethren, interspersed with singing various Masonic odes and glees by an efficient choir. This Lodge is one of the oldest as well as the largest in the State. It can be truly said, that the best men of that town are Masons. Many others imitate their example and the craft generally will be benefitted thereby.

On the 26th of January last, this beautiful Hall, in which we are now assembled, built by the voluntary subscriptions of our brethren, was solemnly dedicated to Masonry. Previous to the ceremonies of dedication, a beautiful exordium on Masonry was given by Bro. Seymour, our S. G. Deacon, and after it an oration was pronounced by our worthy and much esteemed brother Rev. O. H. Tillotson, replete with instruction and good counsel to the craft. A large number of brethren from this and other Lodges were present and took a lively interest in the various proceedings of the occasion.

St. John's Lodge No. 4, has been the past year, and is now, doing a good work, and furnishing suitable materials for the Grand Masonic Temple. Several of our most distinguished citizens have been initiated, and others will soon follow in their footsteps. Their work is in accordance with that adopted by the Grand Lodge, and their officers efficient and punctual in their attendance, and *harmony* prevails among their members.

During the past year it has been my pleasure, either alone or in company with

some of the Grand Officers, to visit a majority of the Lodges in this State, either to install their officers, to witness their work, or give what was deemed good and wholesome advice to the brethren. I can most cheerfully say, that those visits have been highly gratifying to myself and I trust not without their benefits to the Lodges. The greatest courtesy, kindness and attention have uniformly been extended to me as well as to those who have accompanied me. for which I wish at this time to make my acknowledgments, and for which I am truly grateful. I made a memorandum of the different Lodges which I have visited, and noted what was most important in their proceedings, which it would afford me great pleasure to lay before you in detail if time would permit. But upon this topic I dare not longer trespass upon your patience only to say, that a great majority of them are in a highly prosperous condition, the officers well qualified to discharge their duties, the brethren punctual in their attendance, and take a deep interest in the proceedings. Harmony prevails among the members, and the only contention that exists, is "that noble contention, or rather glorious emulation of who can best work and best agree." And so my brethren I trust it may ever be, both here and throughout the world where Masonry is known. May her precepts be taught in their purity. May her doctrines be embraced and lived up to the *realities*, by her votaries, and the world through them be made wiser and better to the end of time.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence will lay before you such matters of interest as relate to our sister Grand Lodges in the several States of the Union. I will therefore allude to only one at this time. A majority of the Grand Lodges have expressed an opinion in favor of a General Grand Lodge with limited powers and restrictions. Upon this subject this Grand Lodge has twice expressed its concurrence decidedly, and I have no doubt the views then expressed remain unchanged. If such is the case, I will only add we shall be ready to meet delegates from the several Grand Lodges, or a majority of them, at such time and place as will best accomodate those who may attend to form such an institution. For the purpose of bringing this subject definitely before other Grand Lodges, I would suggest that the first day of January, 1853, be the time for holding the Convention, and the city of Washington the place. If the views here expressed meet your approbation, I would recommend that the Grand Secretary give immediate notice to the several Grand Lodges of this Union of our action upon this subject.

Permit me to call to your notice an evil which has arrested the attention of our brethren in other States, and which if prevailing in our Lodges demands a reform. I allude to a certain degree of levity and inattention during our ceremonies. Is there an intelligent Mason who can point to our ceremonies without finding food for solemn reflection? Is there in our ritual one sentence but is well calculated to excite the most solemn sentiments in one of sufficient intelligence to understand its symbolic *meaning*? There is in every ceremony and every *word* of Masonry *something* intended to convey some great solemn truth. I ask your serious attention to this subject, and where such evils exist, to correct them.

Brethren, I desire to call your attention to the subject of the conferring of either of the three degrees on more than one candidate at the same time. I am informed that such is the practice in some of our Lodges in this State, the propriety of which I very much question, believing it to be clearly a departure from

the ancient landmarks of Masonry, which it is our duty carefully to preserve. You will take such measures as in your judgment will best remedy this evil.

In connection with the above topic, the frequent suspension of the by-laws of the Lodge is another evil to which your attention is invited. Agreeable to the by-laws of this Grand Lodge, no candidate can receive more than one degree at the same time, unless it be a case of great emergency.

Yet in the haste to make Masons, the three degrees are conferred on a candidate at the same time in many of our Lodges, and when he is through he is as ignorant of the beauties of Freemasonry as when he first enters. To do this the by-laws are suspended and hence one error leads to another. The suspension of by-laws is the abrogation of them for the time being, and of course they become a nullity. In that case they afford neither security to business nor protection to the minority. I trust that every Lodge which has been guilty of the violence of the fundamental principles of Masonry in this respect will at once correct the error.

I will call your particular attention to a growing and alarming evil, which prevails to a great extent at this time. I allude to *traveling mendicants*. Scarcely a day passes, but some person of this character applies for charity to our brethren in this city, and I have heard frequent complaints from other sections, leading me to believe it to be quite general. They are, for the most part, foreign vagrants, of the lowest class, begging their way from one town to another, urging their necessities and their claims on Lodges and individual brethren, wherever they find them.

This kind of gentry are prepared with any quantity of diplomas and certificates, which are generally spurious, or belonging to deceased Masons, or have been surreptitiously obtained, the better to urge their claims. We should manifest no sympathy for such mountebanks, and no charity for them further than food and lodging. If it should be that such persons have ever been made Masons, they are prostituting Masonry most shamefully; for a Mason is to be *industrious*, and to gain a living by an honest occupation.

When such persons ask for aid, give them *work*, or assist them to find it, and give them food and lodging, but nothing more; for should you bestow upon them *money*, you may, as we have sometimes done, have the mortification of seeing them intoxicated in the streets, and be tauntingly asked if they are not your brethren. The remedy for these abuses is in our own hands, and it is our own fault if we do not apply it.

Brethren, I have already occupied too much of your time and attention with these remarks and suggestions, which seemed to me applicable to the present time and occasion; I will therefore only add, in closing, that it is the earnest prayer of my heart that our deliberations at this time may be so conducted that whatever we do may redound to the honor of Freemasonry. Although differences of opinion may exist, let us charitably believe that each brother present is actuated by pure motives, and that his only aim and object is to promote the interest of our beloved fraternity. Carry this sentiment with you, and practice it in the Lodges you represent, and we can truly say, peace reigns within our walls and prosperity in our temples.

DAVID CLARK, D: G. M.

Bro. Wm. Storer moved that the address of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master be referred, for apportionment, to a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair. The motion was adopted, and Brs. H. C. Deming, H. Peck, and H. Bulkley, appointed on the committee.

The accounts current of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary, for the past year, were presented, and referred to the Auditing Committee for adjustment.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees :

On Grievances—Brs. H. A. Mitchell, H. Tolles, and J. W. Flowers.

On By-Laws—Brs. A. B. Calef, F. D. Beeman, and J. D. Packwood.

On Unfinished Business—Brs. J. W. Leeds, B. Doolittle, and H. Terry.

On Delinquent Lodges—Brs. W. Storer, W. H. Copp, and H. Chatfield.

On Charters—Brs. C. H. Olmsted, H. H. Roath, H. B. Ensign, L. E. Baldwin, F. Buel, S. Lynes, E. Bradley, and A. R. Grover.

A complaint was received from Morning Star Lodge, No. 28, against Harmony Lodge, No. 42, for refusing to allow a member of said Morning Star Lodge to visit said Harmony Lodge. Referred to the Committee on Grievances.

Brs. Charles E. Moss, Wm. Padley, and George N. Pritchard, severally presented appeals from the action of Harmony Lodge, No. 42, expelling them from said Lodge. Referred to the Committee on Grievances.

The following petitions were received :—Bro. F. Turner and others, for a new Lodge in the city of New Haven ; Bro. H. Lyon and others, for a new Lodge in West Meriden ; members of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, for restoration of charter and change of location ; members of Village Lodge, No. 29, for restoration of charter ; Warren Lodge, No. 50, for permission to remove from Andover to West Coventry ; members of Franklin Lodge,

No. 56, for restoration of charter. The petitions were severally referred to the Committee on Charters.

The Grand Lodge was now called from labor to refreshment till 2 o'clock, P. M.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 11.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 2 o'clock.

Bro. Deming, from the committee to whom was referred the address of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolutions adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The committee on apportionment of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master's address to appropriate committees, ask leave to report, that some parts of said address have already been referred to appropriate standing committees ; there are other parts devoted to judicious and fraternal counsel, as to which, in our opinion, a reference to a special committee is not necessary. In regard to those parts of the address upon which, in our judgment, a committee is called for, we would offer the following resolutions :

Resolved, That so much of the address of the Deputy Grand Master as relates to the erection of a monument to the memory of our deceased brother, Gen. David Wooster, be referred to the first four officers of the Grand Lodge, to take immediate measures for the accomplishment of this object, and report thereon at the next session of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the portion of the address which relates to a General Grand Lodge, is hereby referred to a select committee of three, to be appointed by the chair, and that said committee be requested to report during the present session of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the R. W. Deputy Grand Master is hereby authorised to appoint a select committee of three brethren, to whom such parts of his address as relate to "levity and inattention during ceremonies," to "conferring degrees on more than one candidate at the same time," and to the "suspension of by-laws," is hereby referred, and that said committee be requested to report at this session of the Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. C. DEMING, }
HENRY PECK, } *Committee.*
H. BULKLEY, }

In compliance with the foregoing resolutions, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master appointed Brs. Brewer, Crosswell and Booth, a committee on the subject of a General Grand Lodge, and on the several subjects of "levity and inattention," the "conferring degrees on more than one candidate at a time," and "the suspension of by-laws," Brs. McLean, Hyatt and Andrews.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by the chairman of the committee, and referred to the committee on the subject of a General Grand Lodge.

Bro. J. W. Leeds, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, called up the complaint of Adelphi Lodge, No. 63, preferred against Friendship Lodge, No. 83, for an alleged invasion of jurisdiction, which was laid over from the last annual communication. Upon due discussion, the subject was indefinitely postponed.

A memorial was received from St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 64, showing that their Lodge Room had been destroyed by fire, by which said Lodge had suffered the loss of its charter, records, jewels and other effects. Whereupon the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby directed to furnish St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 64, with a new charter, to replace the one recently destroyed by fire, and that the expense of the same be paid from the funds of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary reported, that in obedience to a resolution of the Grand Lodge at the last annual communication, he had issued circulars to the Lodges in this jurisdiction, soliting pecuniary aid in behalf of our brethren in California, and had received, in response, the following sums :—From Hiram Lodge, No. 1, \$20 ; Putnam, No. 46, \$25 ; Wooster, No. 79, \$10 ; Union, No. 41, \$5 ;—which, with \$50 appropriated by the Grand Lodge, had been transmitted to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California, whose acknowledgement had been received.

On motion, it was voted, that the report be approved and accepted.

The Auditing Committee presented the following report, which was approved, accepted, and ordered to be recorded :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The undersigned committee, appointed at the last annual communication, to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge for the year ending May 11, A. L. 5853, respectfully report, that they have attended to that duty, and find that all the moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, in whose hands there is now a balance in cash of nine hundred and forty dollars and forty-four cents; which, with fifty-seven shares of Union School Stock, valued at fifteen dollars a share, amounting to eight hundred and fifty-five dollars, make the whole amount of the funds of the Grand Lodge, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five dollars and forty-four cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. B. ENSIGN, }
S. A. HURLBUT, } *Committee.*

Grand Treasurer's Account, presented May 11, 1853.

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with H. Goodwin, 2d.

Dr.

Paid Hiram Lodge, No. 1, for room rent, - - -	\$10.00
Wooster Lodge, No. 10, refunded, - - -	15.00
Storer & Morehouse's bill, - - - - -	78.00
Wm. Storer, per order Grand Lodge, - -	25.00
Babcock & Wildmann's bill, - - - - -	2.92
Grand Secretary's bill, - - - - -	94.50
Grand Steward's bill, - - - - -	61.34
Grand Tyler's bill, - - - - -	22.45
Loss on broken bank bill, - - - - -	5.00
W. Storer, for printing For. Cor., - - - -	105.35
D. G. Master's order for regalia, - - - -	100.00
" " " celebration, - - - -	150.00
Balance of cash on hand, - - - -	940.44
	<hr/>
	\$1610.00

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in account with H. Goodwin, 2d.

Cr.

By balance on hand, May, 1852, - - - - -	\$1103.00
Cash received of Grand Secretary, - - - -	459.00
Interest to May 1, 1853, - - - - -	48.00
	<hr/>
	\$1610.00

H. GOODWIN, *G. Treasurer.*

Grand Secretary's Account of Cash received, May, 1852.

Of Hiram Lodge, No. 1,	\$19.00
St. John's, No. 2,	7.00
St. John's, No. 3,	36.00
St. John's, No. 4,	18.00
Union, No. 5,	7.00
St. John's, No. 6,	24.00
King Solomon's, No. 7,	8.00
Compass, No. 9,	9.00
Wooster, No. 10,	11.00
St. Paul's, No. 11,	6.00
King Hiram, No. 12,	8.00
Harmony, No. 20,	18.00
Morning Star, No. 28,	2.00
Friendship, No. 33,	13.00
Somerset, No. 34,	19.00
St. Alban's, No. 38,	4.00
Union, No. 40,	15.00
Harmony, No. 42,	22.00
Eastern Star, No. 44,	5.00
Putnam, No. 46,	5.00
Morning Star, No. 47,	7.00
Jerusalem, No. 49,	2.00
Warren, No. 50,	7.00
Warren, No. 51,	14.00
Asylum, No. 57,	5.00
Northern Star, No. 58,	13.00
Apollo, No. 59,	7.00
Wolcott No. 60,	2.00
Orient, No. 62,	6.00
Adelphi, No. 63,	13.00
St. Andrew's, No. 64,	12.00
Charity, No. 68,	5.00
Manchester, No. 73,	2.00
Meridian, No. 77,	8.00
Shepherd, No. 78,	9.00
Wooster, No. 79,	22.00
Berlin, No. 80,	12.00
Dividend on Union School Stock,	57.00

Paid Grand Treasurer, \$459.00

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary.*

The Auditing Committee also presented the following report, which was accepted, and the resolution accompanying the same adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, now in session :

The auditing committee, to whom was referred the bill of expenses for the Washington Centennial Celebration, held in Hartford, Nov. 4th, 1852, respectfully report, that they have examined the matter referred to them, and have found said bill to be correct ; they therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be and is hereby authorized to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of \$106.33, and apply the same to the payment of the balance on the bill of expenses for the celebration of the centennial anniversary of Gen. Washington's initiation.

H. B. ENSIGN, }
S. A. HURLBUT, } *Committee.*

The G. Secretary made a report on the affairs of Frederick Lodge, No. 14, that the sum of \$79.24 had been received from Bro. Giles Stillman, but that nothing had been heard or received from Bro. Henry Cowles, in whose hands were most of the funds of said Lodge.

After an explanation by Bro. Stillman, the following resolution, offered by Bro. H. C. Deming, was adopted :

Resolved, That Bro. Giles Stillman be and hereby is exculpated from all delinquency, as a man and a Mason, in connection with the unpaid funds of Frederick Lodge, No. 14.

Bro. S. Tripp offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of officers at 8 o'clock this evening.

Bro. C. H. Olmsted, from the Committee on Charters submitted the following report, which was accepted and the resolution adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee on Charters respectfully report, that Franklin Lodge, No. 56, Bristol, has returned their dispensation, and now ask for the restoration of their charter. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the charter of Franklin Lodge, No. 56, be restored, and that the representatives from said Lodge be allowed to take their seats as members of this Grand Lodge.

By order of the Committee.

C. H. OLMSTED, *Chairman,*

Bro. Wm. Storer, from the Committee on Delinquent Lodges, submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the resolution adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee on Delinquent Lodges have had under consideration the case of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 27, in the town of Washington. They learn from the Grand Secretary, that said Lodge has not responded to the action of the Grand Lodge at the last annual communication. Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the charter of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 27, be and it hereby is revoked, and the Grand Secretary instructed to demand and receive the funds and effects of said Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. STORER,
WM. H. COPP, } *Committee.*
H. CHATFIELD,

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge a copy of "The Ahiman Rezon," or Book of the Ancient Constitutions of Freemasonry, published by the R. W. A. G. Mackey, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and presented by that Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

On presenting this book to the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the beautiful and useful volume presented to us by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina be accepted and placed in the *Library* of this Grand Lodge, and that Past Grand Master William H. Ellis, the Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina in this Grand Lodge, be and hereby is respectfully requested to convey to his constituents the high sense which we entertain of this renewed token of their fraternal regard.

R. W. Bro. Brewer reported verbally upon the subject of the notes placed in his hands by the Grand Secretary against certain members of the late Widow's Son Lodge, No. 53. Whereupon, it was on motion voted, that Bro. Brewer be requested to continue his exertions to bring those claims to a final adjustment.

On motion of Bro. H. A. Mitchell, the Committee on Grievances were discharged from the consideration of the complaint of Morning Star Lodge, No. 28, against Harmony, No. 42, and the same was referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

Bro. A. B. Calef, from the Committee on By-Laws, submitted the following report, which was accepted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The Committee on By-Laws beg leave to report, that they have had the by-laws of Apollo Lodge, No. 59, under consideration, and approve of the same with the exception of the last clause of Article 8. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the last clause of Article 8th, of the by-laws of Apollo Lodge, No. 59, viz, "Unless the candidate is about to remove or to be absent some time from the jurisdiction of this Lodge, he cannot receive more than one degree at any communication, unless all the brethren present consent thereto," is not approved by this Grand Lodge.

A. B. CALEF, }
F. D. BEEMAN, } *Committee.*

Bro. C. H. Olmsted, from the Committee on Charters, submitted the following reports, which were severally accepted and the accompanying resolutions adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee on charters respectfully report, that they have had under consideration a petition for a new Lodge in the city of New Haven, and are unanimously of opinion, that said petition ought *not* to be granted. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the petitioners for a new Lodge in the city of New Haven have leave to withdraw their petition.

By order of the committee.

CHAS. H. OLMSTED, *Chairman.*

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee on charters respectfully report, that they have had under consideration, a petition for a new Lodge in West Meriden, and are unanimously of opinion that the prayer of the petitioners ought *not* to be granted. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the petitioners for a new Lodge in West Meriden, have leave to withdraw their petition.

By order of the committee.

CHAS. H. OLMSTED, *Chairman.*

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master, from the committee appointed at the last annual communication to make arrangements for the celebration of the centennial anniversary of Washington's initiation, presented several bills for expenses incurred in said celebration, exceeding the amount appropriated by the Grand Lodge for that purpose, which were, on motion, referred to the Auditing Committee.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until 7 o'clock.

Wednesday Evening, May 11.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 7 o'clock.

Bro J. A. M'Lean, from the Committee on a part of the Address of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, submitted the following report which was accepted, and the resolutions adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut :

The committee to whom was referred those portions of the D. G. Master's address relating to the levity and inattention during ceremonies, to conferring degrees on more than one candidate at the same time, and to the suspension of the by-laws, beg leave to report, that as the by-laws of each Lodge, and the Institution of Masonry gave to the Master sufficient power to restrain all irregular and disorderly conduct, the Master is alone responsible, and we would therefore recommend the following resolution :

Resolved, That if any member or visiting brother complain to the W. M. it shall be his duty to inquire into the same and correct the evil. But if the Master cannot restrain the irregular and disorderly conduct of the brethren, it shall be his duty to close his Lodge and report the same to the M. W. G. M.

On conferring the degrees on more candidates than one at the same time, we beg leave to report that it is the opinion of your Committee that it is not only contrary to ancient usage, but it does much to detract from the solemnity of our ceremonies, and although this is practiced in some Lodges, your Committee would recommend to this Grand body to discountenance the practice.

On the subject of suspending by-laws, your committee would recommend the adoption of the resolution of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of last year.

Resolved, That the advancement of an Entered Apprentice to the degree of Fellow Craft, or of a Fellow Craft to the degree of Master Mason, before he is fully acquainted with the preceding degree, is highly improper, and injurious to the best interests of Masonry ; and that the several subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be required to conform to the Ancient Regulations in this respect.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. M'LEAN,
JOHN B. HYATT, } *Committee.*
EZEKIAL ANDREWS, }

Bro. C. H. Olmsted, from the Committee on Charters, presented the following reports, which were accepted, and the several accompanying resolutions adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee on charters respectfully report, that they have had under consideration a petition for the restoration of the charter of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, and are of opinion that the prayer of the petition ought to be granted. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution .

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to resume the charter and other effects of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, and when so resumed, that they be restored to the petitioners, and said Lodge be located at Danielsonville in the town of Killingly, said town to be within the jurisdiction of Moriah Lodge, No. 15.

By order of the committee.

CHAS. H. OLMSTED, *Chairman*.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee on charters respectfully report, that they have considered the petition of members of Village Lodge, No. 29, for the restoration of their charter and other effects, and recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted. They therefore submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That the charter and other effects of Village Lodge, No. 29, be restored, said Lodge to be located at Collinsville in the town of Canton.

By order of the committee.

CHAS. H. OLMSTED, *Chairman*.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The committee on charters respectfully report, that they have had under consideration the petition of Warren Lodge, No. 50, and are of opinion that the prayer of said petition ought to be granted. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That Warren Lodge, No. 50, now located at Andover, have leave to remove their Lodge to South Coventry, whenever a majority of its members shall vote so to do, at a communication duly warned and held for that purpose.

By order of the committee.

CHAS. H. OLMSTED, *Chairman*.

Agreeable to previous order, the Grand Lodge proceeded, at 8 o'clock, to the choice of officers. Brs. Deming, Crosswell and Lines, were appointed tellers, when the following brethren were duly elected :

M. W. DAVID CLARK, Grand Master.

R. W. THEODORE SPENCER, Deputy G. Master.

WILLIAM L. BREWER, Senior Grand Warden.

GEORGE F. DASKAM, Junior Grand Warden.

HORACE GOODWIN, 2d, Grand Treasurer.

ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.

JOHN W. LEEDS, Senior Grand Deacon.

HOWARD B. ENSIGN, Junior Grand Deacon.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment till 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday Morning, May 12.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 8 o'clock; when the Grand Officers elected last evening were duly installed into office by M. W. Benoni A. Shepherd, Past Grand Master.

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

Rev. CHARLES R. FISHER, Grand Chaplain.
 Bro. CHARLES H. OLMSTED, Grand Marshal.
 NOAH H. BYINGTON, Grand Sentinel.
 CHARLES S. THOMSON, } Grand Stewards.
 HERMON CHAPIN, }
 EBENEZER ALLEN, Grand Tyler.

Bro. Wm. Storer submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted, and ordered to be published with the permanent resolutions :

Resolved, That whenever a candidate is proposed for initiation in any Lodge in this State, and his application has passed the first ballot, it shall not be in the power of his proposer, or any other person, to withdraw the name of such applicant.

Resolved, That no Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall grant a demit to any of its members, except for the purpose of joining some other Lodge; and no member shall be considered as having withdrawn from one Lodge, until he has actually become a member of another.

Bro. Mitchell, from the Committee on Grievances, presented the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn. :

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the appeal of Charles E. Moss from the decision of Harmony Lodge, No. 42, on the charges against him; by the request of said Moss, and said Harmony Lodge, would respectfully recommend, that the whole matter be referred back to said Lodge, with the recommendation to review their action in the premises.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. A. MITCHELL,
 H. TOLLES,
 JOHN W. FLOWERS, } *Committee.*

Bro. Mitchell also offered the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the appeals of William Padley and George H. Pritchard, from the decision of Harmony Lodge, No. 42, expelling them from said Lodge, would respectfully report that the said appeals be continued to the next communication of the Grand Lodge, that in the meantime the said Padley and Pritchard be considered as suspended, and that the said Harmony Lodge be empowered to restore them to membership in said Lodge, provided that suitable concessions are made to said Lodge by said Padley and Pritchard.

Respectfully submitted.

H. A. MITCHELL,
H. TOLLES,
JOHN W. FLOWERS, } *Committee.*

Bro. A. B. Calef, from the Committee on By-Laws, offered the following report, which was accepted and the resolution adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee on By-Laws beg leave to report, that in their opinion, the first clause of Article 4th, of the by-laws of Harmony Lodge, No. 42, in Waterbury, is contrary to Masonic usage within this jurisdiction, and to the spirit of Freemasonry generally. The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the first clause of Article 4th, of the by-laws of Harmony Lodge No. 42, viz, "No brother living within the jurisdiction of this Lodge, shall be admitted as a visiting brother more than three times, except by consent of the Lodge," is not approved by this Grand Lodge.

By order of the committee.

A. B. CALEF, *Chairman.*

Bro. C. H. Olmsted offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer, in favor of the proper agent of the Washington National Monument Association, for the sum of one hundred dollars, appropriated for that purpose, by this Grand Lodge at its session in Norwalk, December 26th, 1849.

Bro. D. B. Booth, from the Committee on that part of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master's Address which alludes to the subject of a General Grand Lodge, presented the following report, which was accepted, and the accompanying resolution adopted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Conn :

The Committee to whom was referred so much of the address of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master as relates to the subject of the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, have attended to the duty assigned them, and beg leave respectfully to report, that at a special communication of this Grand

Lodge, holden at Norwalk, on the 26th Dec. A. L. 5849, the subject of the formation of a General Grand Lodge was presented by the M. W. Avery C. Babcock, then Grand Master, and referred to a committee, consisting of Bros. David Clark, John A. M'Lean, and Loyal Dudley, who submitted an able report, and upon their recommendation the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is in favor of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and will proceed at this time to elect by ballot three delegates to attend a convention for the purpose of forming such General Grand Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That in case either of the delegates elected as above shall be unable to attend said convention, such delegate shall have power to appoint some other member of this Grand Lodge as a substitute."

The Grand Lodge thereupon elected as such delegates, Bros. Loren P. Waldo, David Clark, and E. G. Storer; and at the annual communication in May following, this Grand Body, adopted a resolution approving of the proceedings of the special communication, continuing the appointment of Bros. Waldo, Clark, and Storer, (no convention having as yet been held,) and authorizing them to attend such convention, as delegates from this Grand Lodge, "whenever and wherever the same should be holden." Since that time no action has been taken by this Grand Lodge, and no convention for forming a General Grand Lodge has been held. By an examination of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, it will be seen that the subject is attracting the serious attention of our sister Grand Lodges, and your committee hope that such united action will be taken by the fraternity throughout the country, as will speedily ensure the desired result. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, that the appointment of Brs. Loren P. Waldo, David Clark, and E. G. Storer, as Delegates to the Convention for forming a General Grand Lodge, be and is hereby continued, and those brethren are authorized to attend such Convention, as Delegates from this Grand Lodge, whenever and wherever the same may be holden.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. L. BREWER, }
 FRED. CROSWELL, } *Committee.*
 D. B. BOOTH, }

R. W. Bro. Brewer, from the committee to whom was referred the "Report on Foreign Correspondence," submitted the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be accepted and published with the proceedings, and that the several resolutions submitted with said report be and are hereby adopted.

Bro. J. W. Leeds offered the following resolution, and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Master is hereby authorized to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of fifty dollars, in favor of the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as a compensation for his services the past year.

Bro. F. Crosswell offered the following resolution, and it was adopted :

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding thirty-five dollars be appropriated from the treasury of the Grand Lodge, for the purchase of suitable vessels for dedicatory purposes.

Bro. Booth offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be and are hereby tendered to M. W. William E. Sanford, for the able and impartial manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office of Grand Master of this State for the past two years.

Bro. J. L. Clark offered the following resolution for amending the Constitution, which was continued to the next annual communication :

Resolved, That Article I, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, be amended, by striking out the words "all Past Grand Officers," and inserting "all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Wardens, Past Grand Treasurers, Past Grand Secretaries, and Past Grand Deacons."

Bro. T. E. Doolittle moved to amend the charter of Meridian Lodge, No. 77, located at Meriden Center, by striking out the word "Center." The motion was laid on the table.

Bro. D. B. Booth, in behalf of Union Lodge, No. 40, presented an invitation to the Grand Lodge to attend the celebration of the approaching Festival of St. John the Baptist, at Danbury. On motion, the invitation was accepted.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brs. Wm. Storer, H. C. Deming, and A. B. Calef, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and Brs. J. W. Leeds and S. Lynes, Auditing Committee, for the ensuing year.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No. 1, HIRAM, New Haven—Howard B. Ensign, W. M.; Edward I. Sanford, S. W.; Hiram P. Croffut, J. W.; Francois Turner, Secretary.

Initiated—Isaac Harris, Miers C. Cornwell, Salle Cahn, Joseph L. Eisner, Wm. Ludden, John Devlin, Charles McKean, Wm. G. Hunter, Charles Robinson, Jun., Wm. H. Griffing, Otis T. Baker, Wm. Burke, Colin M. Ingersoll, Augustus Smith, Wm. Johnson, Wm. Dexheimer, Wales Hotchkiss, Benjamin F. Mansfield, Marcus Zorkowski, Henry C. Seabrook, Hiram Upson, Jun., Charles Wm. Bradley, Abraham Kraus.

Admitted—James Frink, Cornelius H. Webster, Henry Heinnemann, William T. Pratt.

Withdrawn—Jonathan M. Andrus.

Died—Philip Schenour, Wm. G. Hunter, Knight Reed.

No. 2, ST. JOHN'S, Middletown—Elliot Bradley, W. M.; Wm B. Casey, S. W.; Arthur B. Calef, J. W.; David J. Neale, Secretary.

Initiated—John Briggs, Elias Levy, Loren Cowdrey, David B. Bonfoey, Eugene Franckfort.

No. 3, ST. JOHN'S, Bridgeport—Wm. S. Atkinson, W. M.; John M. Wilson, S. W.; Harvey Treat, J. W.; Wm. H. Williams, Secretary.

Initiated—Warren R. Preston, Charles A. Davis, Cyrus W. Burton, Frederick Sterling, Henry Hubbell, Lazarus C. Shepard, Walter E. Bradley, Pinckney Lesser, H. R. Conklin, John R. Van Blarkum, Marcus Haran, Wm. W. Narramore, John Layfield, Wm. R. Higby, William H. Williams, A. W. Fowler, Peter Reed, Wm. G. Lineburg, Henry L. Sturgess, John Hughes, Charles B. King, Elias P. Barnes, Wm. W. Smith, C. M. Stagg.

No. 4, ST. JOHN'S, Hartford—James B. Crosby, W. M.; Thomas H. Seymour, S. W.; Henry C. Deming, J. W.; Ezra A. Dow, Secretary.

Initiated—Franklin Sisson, James H. Most, Theodore H. Bunce, Ezra A. Dow, Francis A. Shuck, Rawson Reed, Arthur F. Wilmarth, Henry C. Spalding, Horace W. Smith, Marcus Smith, Samuel B. Beresford, Edward Wadsworth, Gurdon W. Russell, Elijah S. Alford, Charles R. Fisher, James Spencer, Francis B. Hancock, Charles F. Howard, Herman G. Patterson.

Admitted—Romanta Seymour, Benjamin Hastings, Philip Ripley, John A. Butler.

Died—Romanta Seymour.

No. 5, UNION, Stamford—John W. Leeds, W. M.; Roswel Hoyt, S. W.; Isaac Quintard, Jr., J. W.; James H. Miner, Secretary.

Initiated—Duncan Fyfe, John W. Hendrick, Joseph D. Warren, George T. Holly, Lewis R. Hurlbut, Wm. L. Lyon, Titus Mead, Charles Downes, John Warren, John A. Ingraham, Orrin A. Perkins, Samuel B. Gorham, Joseph Giberson

Lewis Guinand, David L. Brown, John St. John, David D. Huddleston, Edward Capron, George L. Lowndes, Henry H. Goldy, Thomas Reed, Lorenzo Meeker.

Admitted—Silas Camp.

No. 6, ST. JOHN'S, Norwalk—William D. Camp, W. M. ; Samuel Lines, S. W. ; Thomas Warner, Jr., J. W. ; Wm. R. Nash, Secretary.

Initiated—George D. Williamson, Joseph Byxbee, Hiram Hale, David S. Burr, George A. Bissell, H. N. Eggleston, Harmon H. Bill, Frederick St. John Lockwood, Lorenzo D. Wheeler, A. M. Hallenbeck, John Feltham, John A. Worley, Jr., Henry Carlson, Charles F. Osborn, Wm. E. Dikeman, Charles Smith, Isaac Lorenstein, Wm. Gay, Richard W. Fowler, Samuel F. Mack, Junius F. Hill, George A. Olmsted, O. P. Quintard, Wm. W. Hallock, Cornelius Bogart, Cornelius Platt, Wm. B. Swan, Charles L. Benedict, Asa Smith, Wm. St. John, David S. Eldridge, Charles Fitch.

Withdrawn—Asahel Deming, Noah Disbrow.

Died—Hezekiah Smith, Elijah Gregory, Daniel W. Tucker.

No. 7, KING SOLOMON'S, Woodbury—Wm. Cothren, W. M. ; Edward W. Atwood, S. W. ; Wm. R. Galpin, J. W. ; Willis A. Strong, Secretary.

Initiated—John H. Doolittle, Willis A. Strong, Charles Cothren, Franklin A. Tolles, Hiram Manville, George Lathrop, Isaac Smith, Charles B. Crafts, Jackson J. Nettleton, Lucius H. Foot, Charles W. Burritt, John B. Hillson.

Withdrawn—Willis Judd.

Died—John Marvin.

No. 8, ST. JOHN'S, Stratford—John Goulding, W. M. ; Samuel Benjamin, S. W. ; Benjamin Fairchild, J. W. ; Wm. T. Shelton, Secretary.

Died—David H. Wheeler.

No. 9, COMPASS, Wallingford—George B. Lane, W. M. ; J. B. Pomeroy, S. W. ; Lucien Pomeroy, J. W. ; Randal Cook, Secretary.

Initiated—George Dutton, Stephen Rembert, Alexander Hall, John Barker, Edward Barker, Jerome B. Pomeroy, Darius Stebbins, Henry Austin, Horatio N. Bradley, Isaac R. Stetson, George W. Sturgess, David H. Morse.

No. 10, WOOSTER, Colchester—Joseph D. Packwood, W. M. ; Alfred B. Pierce, S. W. ; Henry W. Burr, J. W. ; Charles H. Rogers, Secretary.

Initiated—Elisha K. Robbins, Chauncey F. Bailey, Irving Jayne, Solomon Taintor, Dwight R. Smith.

No. 11, ST. PAUL'S, Litchfield—Frederick D. Beman, W. M. ; Leveret W. Wesels, S. W. ; Wm. Lord, J. W. ; Albert Stoddard, Secretary.

Initiated—Abraham Herrmann, Chester Thomas, Albert Stoddard, Sidney H. Grannis, Carl G. Buttkeireitt, Wm. Rogers, Henry Ward, Harvey Turrill.

Admitted—Benjamin Tompkins.

Withdrawn—Charles W. Wadsworth.

Died—Edward C. Buel, Lucius Tompkins.

No. 12, KING HIRAM, Derby—John W. Flowers, W. M. ; Calvin Curtis, S. W. ; Sylvester Blackman, J. W. ; Wm. E. Downs, Secretary.

Initiated—Joseph McAuley, Robert C. Naramore, Wm. C. Bristol, David F.

Lumsden, Jacob Hobday, Willis Hotchkiss, Jun., Edwin Eells, Edmund Moody, Russell W. Perkins, Joel A. Potter, S. C. Farbel, Thomas M. Newson, James W. Fields, T. B. Smith, John Cowel, Marcus Davis.

Admitted—Henry Whipple.

No. 20, HARMONY, New Britain—Ezekiel Andrews, Jr., W. M.; William G. Coe, S. W.; Artemas E. Hart, J. W.; George H. Waters, Secretary.

Initiated—Ten. *Rejected*—Three. *Expelled*—One.

No. 25, COLUMBIA, Glastenbury—Sabine Stocking, W. M.; Robert L. Brainard, S. W.; Francis L. Brainard, J. W.; Oliver Brainard, Secretary.

Died—Jonathan Wells.

No. 28, MORNING STAR, East Windsor—Harmon Terry, W. M.; Joseph Sullivan, S. W.; Humphrey Davis, J. W.; Renel Thrall, Secretary.

Initiated—Edmund Mohl, Benedict Kreiner, Charles White.

Died—Horace Hawkins, Ashney Pasco.

No. 31, UNION, New London—Aaron E. Stone, W. M.; Seth Smith, S. W.; Nathaniel H. Niles, J. W.; F. H. Bacon, Secretary.

Initiated—D. S. Ruddock, Robert B. Smith, Frank D. Brandege, George H. Perine, James M. Latham, Martin F. Rogers, Frederick H. Bacon, Frederick L. Allen, Courtland I. Shepherd, Isaac D. Chappell, Joseph R. Merriman, Wm. Bowen, Edwin A. Delanoy, Thomas R. Carrol, Henry P. Hewitt, Henry S. Badet, Joseph A. Buckingham, Wm. Meeker, Wm. B. Tate, Edmund F. Havens, Elisha Hewitt, A. O. Gallup, Joseph Jerome, Wm. Denison, Gaius P. Pomeroy, Charles Cranston.

Suspended—J. H. Goddard.

Expelled—Lucius Tracy, Jeremiah Slater.

No. 33, FRIENDSHIP, Southington—Oswald K. Norton, W. M.; Austin W. Bradley, S. W.; Edwin N. Stannard, J. W.; Moses W. Beckley, Jr., Secretary.

Initiated—Dennis P. Finch, Benjamin F. Seward, Anon Bradley, Levi Alcott, Josiah Upson, Lyman Fenner, Anon T. Clark, Ferdinand Cadwell, Charles O. Olney, Henry J. Hudson, Roswell A. Neal, Seth Lamkin, Augustus Hurthall, James W. Shepard, Thomas A. Lee, Jesse Olney, Walter S. Merrill, Edward J. C. Clark.

Admitted—Dennis Porter, Lauren Campbell.

Withdrawn—Henry M. Beecher.

No. 34, SOMERSET, Norwich—Wm. H. Copp, W. M.; H. Hobart Roath, S. W.; John Backus, J. W.; F. W. H. Rogers, Secretary.

Initiated—Robert Stanton, Henry Harris, Jared Chapman, E. P. Branch, Geo. A. Leland, James Bussey, Jr., Henry Harvey, Christopher C. Brand.

Admitted—Wm. H. Boyd, Roswell B. Streeter, Seth Jillson, John G. Case.

Withdrawn—A. T. Nelson.

Died—George Moore, Joseph Powers.

No. 38, ST. ALBAN'S, Guilford—C. L. Crowell, W. M.; Charles W. Miller, S. W.; E. B. Evarts, J. W.; James Monroe, Secretary.

Initiated—Samuel Loper, Charles Beckley.

Died—Richard C. Weld.

No. 40, UNION, Danbury—John H. Dart, W. M.; David B. Booth, S. W.; Martin Mead, J. W.; Jarvis Polley, Secretary.

Initiated—Walter Simonson, Wm. Barry, Pierre A. Sutton, Henry Wildman, George L. Tucker, Austin Spellman, Charles White, Wm. W. Bedient, David S. Wildman, Edwin M. Griffith, Wm. E. Hurlbut, Roger Averill, Orrin Benedict, Ethel T. Farnum, Asa N. Hawley, Wm. H. Clark, Edward D. Ritton, James Fenning, Ephraim D. Barnum, Charles Edwards, Philip W. Sommers, Enoch R. Gardner, George M. Raymond, Granville W. Morriss, Edward E. Barnum, George H. Gilbert, Ezra G. Wildman.

Admitted—Salmon C. Bulkely.

Withdrawn—Reuben H. Booth.

Suspended—N. C. Goodell.

No. 42, HARMONY, Waterbury—Nathan Dikeman, Jun., W. M.; David B. Hurd, S. W.; John W. Paul, J. W.; Enoch L. Savage, Secretary.

Initiated—Henry B. Fish, Charles B. Richardson, Wm. Clark, Amos A. Hitchcock, Henry U. Church, Joseph T. Grilley, Morris Orbeck, Richard Hunting, Merrit Lane, Cornelius Cook, Frederick J. Seymour, John D. Parker, Jeremiah Parker, Julius Perry, Henry Lane, John Kendrick, Lyman W. Coe, Charles N. Upson, S. M. Judd, Alexander Hine, Julius B. Cook, Thomas L. Snyder, Dennis Chatfield, Orson Castle, John C. Eggleston, David P. Foote.

Admitted—Jonathan M. Andrus, Dyer Ames, Jr., Henry F. Fish, Henry M. Beecher.

Expelled—E. Beebe, L. P. Roberts.

Died—Isaac B. Castle, D. Castle, P. A. Cowles, Wm. Spencer.

No. 44, EASTERN STAR, Windham—Wallace Huntington, W. M.; Lloyd E. Baldwin, S. W.; Samuel Stanton, J. W.; Joshua B. Lord, Secretary.

Initiated—Wm. K. Otis, Charles Palmer, John G. Keigwin, Joel R. Arnold, Wm. King, John Hill, Jr.

No. 46, PUTNAM, Pomfret—Darius Day, W. M.; Thomas S. Aldrich, S. W.; Wm. Clapp, J. W.; Andrew A. Williams, Secretary.

Initiated—Henry D. Jones, Abraham Selig, John D. Rood, Stephen C. Smith, Albert Underwood, Joseph K. Green, Elisha Williams, Wolcott Day, Henry C. Peckham, Albert Smith, John McGregor, Alexander Warner.

Died—Samuel Bowen, Orlando Clark.

No. 49, JERUSALEM, Ridgefield—David Dauchy, W. M.; Wm. Beers, S. W.; John B. Hyatt, J. W.; Hiram K. Scott, Secretary.

Initiated—John B. Hyatt.

Suspended—Russell Jones.

No. 50, WARREN, Andover—Anson R. Grover, W. M.; Ralph Crittenden, S. W.; Addison H. Fitch, J. W.; Ransford Button, Secretary.

Initiated—George Hunt, Wm. Dorrance, Wm. Huntington.

No. 51, WARREN, Portland—S. Nelson Hall, W. M.; Joel Patten, S. W.; Wm. Lewis, J. W.; Theodore Lewis, Secretary.

Initiated—Wm. S. Strickland, Frederick Russell, Joseph C. Gladwin, Henry S. Cadwell, Daniel P. Brown, Joseph Williams, Stephen H. Stocking.

Admitted—Erasmus Gladwin.

Died—Seth Overton, Sylvester Gildersleve, Eleazar Veasey, Marshal Pelton.

No. 56, FRANKLIN, Bristol—Henry A. Mitchell, W. M.; Cyprian J. Elton, S. W.; Samuel W. Squires, J. W.; Alphonso Barnes, Secretary.

Initiated—Alphonso Barnes, Winthrop Warner, Anson G. Twitchell, Azel T. Robinson, Lora Waters, Henry Kilbourn, Isaac Gillett, Alonzo Warner, James H. Austin, Wm. P. Morgan, Lester Robinson, Adna Whiting, Jerome B. Hubbard, Joel B. Root.

No. 57, ASYLUM, Stonington—George E. Palmer, W. M.; Russel A. Denison, S. W.; Thomas E. Swan, J. W.; Junius M. Willey, Secretary.

Initiated—Thomas Wilcox, Henry H. Farnham, John H. Wade, David H. Copp, James S. Hyde, Jesse N. Brown, Joel Stone, Francis C. Walker.

No. 58, NORTHERN STAR, New Hartford—Charles H. King, W. M.; Charles W. Nash, S. W.; Frederick J. Barwick, J. W.; George L. Brown, Secretary.

Initiated—Alonzo E. Burr, James B. Crow, Edmund Smith.

Admitted—Uriah Case, Wait Garrett.

Died—Joseph Spencer, Philemon R. Allen.

No. 59, APOLLO, Suffield—Samuel N. Reid, W. M.; John M. Hathaway, S. W.; Moses S. Austin, J. W.; Luther Loomis, Secretary.

Initiated—Henry L. Burpee, Henry L. Jones, D. B. Marshal, William A. Hill, John Morron, Henry W. Endress, Henry Bingham.

Admitted—David Cline.

No. 62, ORIENT, East Hartford—Samuel Tripp, W. M.; Samuel O. Hollister, S. W.; Wm. B. Smith, J. W.; Ezra E. Smith, Secretary.

Initiated—Charles S. Cooley, Edward S. Goodwin, James N. Sparrell.

Died—Gurdon Fox, Normand Hills.

No. 63, ADELPHI, Fair Haven—Charles S. Thomson, W. M.; Horace Tuttle, S. W.; Henry R. Barnes, J. W.; Wm. N. Gesner, Secretary.

Initiated—Horace A. Barnes, Miles P. Tuttle, James F. Mallary, Irving R. Newton, Warren O. Nettleton. Dwight R. Stetson, George E. Maltby, Thomas D. Jones, John Neal, Charles A. Warren, John S. Sanford, Samuel Matthews, Daniel Church, Edwin S. Bradley, Joshua Pearl.

Admitted—Alfred G. Dowd, Wm. Mallory.

Died—Elizur Harrison, George Bunnell, Frederick Rose, Noah H. Chichester, George I. Ball, Alfred G. Dowd.

No. 64, ST. ANDREW'S, West Winsted—Seth L. Wilder, W. M.; H. B. Steele, S. W.; Spencer W. Coe, J. W.; George M. Wentworth, Secretary.

Initiated—E. B. White, Prosper M. Smith, D. W. Patterson.

Died—Stephen Fyler.

No. 68, CHARITY, Mystic Bridge—Albert G. Stark, W. M.; David O. Richmond, S. W.; Wm. S. Battey, J. W.; Benjamin F. Holmer, Secretary.

Initiated—Winthrop Sawyer, Joseph L. Denison, Thomas E. Wolfe, Frederick W. French, Jeremiah N. Sawyer, Elam Eldridge, Jr., Archibald T. Douglass.

Died—Wm. H. Holmes.

No. 73, MANCHESTER, Manchester—Wm. C. Strong, W. M.; Ralph W. Haughton, S. W.; Martin Hewins, J. W.; Ethan E. Strong, Secretary.

Initiated—Henry B. Willey, John Wyllys, Alexander McClure, Alvah H. Smith, Henry Gardner, George H. Walker.

Admitted—Zelotes W. Hunn, John Ward.

Died—Henry C. Woodbridge.

No. 77, MERIDIAN, Meriden—Almeron Miles, W. M.; Humphrey Lyon, S. W.; Ira Twiss, J. W.; Edmund Parker, Secretary.

Initiated—Timothy F. Davis, Lauren Tuttle, Benjamin R. Stevens, Edward R. Fitch, Richard S. Gladwin, H. G. Kilbourn, Oliver Snow, Lewis Barnes, E. H. Hotchkiss, O. N. Perkins, James M. Perkins, Asahel H. Curtis, V. D. Anderson.

Admitted—George B. Conklin, Horace Dowd.

No. 78, SHEPHERD, Naugatuck—Timothy Langdon, W. M.; Horace V. Porter, S. W.; Wm. T. Goulding, J. W.; Homer Twitchell, Secretary.

Initiated—Robert Twitchell, Calvin Hotchkiss, Charles M. Clark.

Died—Samuel O. Smith.

No. 79, WOOSTER, New Haven—James L. Clark, W. M.; Nehemiah D. Sperry, S. W.; Charles Webster, J. W.; John E. Parmelee, Secretary.

Initiated—George A. Shubert, Alfred H. Abbott, Alvin L. Willoughby, Henry L. Pierpont, Wales B. French, Henry C. Wire, Willis G. Judson, Charles Hine, Jacob H. Simmons, Nicholas Berge, Charles Bishop, Wm. R. Ferree, David B. Sanger, Eli Baker, Samuel F. Eastman, Benjamin S. Pardee, John B. Gardner, James A. Quintard.

Admitted—Henry Peck, Joseph C. Dennett, Noah Disbrow.

Withdrawn—Salmon C. Bulkely.

No 80, BERLIN, Berlin—Loyal Dudley, W. M.; Charles Stevens, S. W.; Henry C. Miller, J. W.; Norman Loomis, Secretary.

Initiated—Francis Chambers, Sherman R. Couch, Russell A. Belden, Horace B. Meigs, Wm. Beckley, Horace H. Norton, Edwin McCall, Charles G. Wilcox, David H. Hurlbut, Marvin R. Warner, Isaac H. Warner.

Admitted—Josiah H. Warner.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut :

The unceasing flight of Time has again brought us to the return of that season, when your Committee on Foreign Correspondence are accustomed to lay before your M. W. body an abstract of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges with whom we are in fraternal communion. In performing this pleasing duty, your committee feel no ordinary degree of satisfaction in being permitted to assure their brethren of the continuance of the same degree of harmony and prosperity which have for several years marked the progress of our beloved Institution, in every part of our own land and of the world. The elevating and enlightening principles of Free Masonry are accomplishing their sublime mission, not only in every section of our own free and happy country, but even under the despotic governments of the Old World ; finding increased favor from the Royal houses of Denmark and Sweden, of Prussia and Bavaria, of France, of Sardinia and Lombardy, and of the Sultan of Turkey ; all of them permitting and encouraging the spread of the institution among their people, and in some instances, actually presiding in it, and giving it the sanction of their personal example and favor.

When we look abroad over the face of the world and witness the unexampled prosperity which the Supreme Architect of the Universe has been pleased, in his infinite wisdom, to permit our revered Order to enjoy, we are led to exclaim with one of old, "Behold what God hath wrought ;" and our warmest and most devout ascriptions of gratitude and thanksgiving are due to Him who sitteth between the cherubim, and who has seen fit thus to bless and prosper the labors of those who are striving to disseminate the heaven-born principles of "brotherly love, relief and truth." Let us remember, that without His blessing, even the holy principles of Masonry could not accomplish the work

assigned them. To Him, therefore, be all the glory, and all the praise.

In the discharge of the duty assigned us, your Committee propose to follow the same course which they have marked out for themselves on former occasions, and take a rapid glance at the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges, whose returns have been received,—noting such matters in each as seem to be of general interest, or which seem to call for the consideration of this Grand Lodge.

ARKANSAS.

The annual communication was holden at Little Rock, on the first day of November, 1852. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence briefly reviews the proceedings of sister Grand Lodges. The Grand Lodge of California being under review, the Committee allude to the proceedings in reference to the Grand Master of that State, and conclude with the following resolution :

Resolved, That there is no inherent right in a Grand Lodge to prefer or inquire into charges of official misconduct against a G. Master, after his installation, during the term for which he has been elected; nor to pronounce any censure or other decision against him: And to do so, by a new regulation or otherwise, is a violation of the ancient land-marks of our Order.

We are not prepared fully to endorse the sentiment of this resolution, although we entertain a good degree of reverence for the character and office of Grand Master. It is easy to conceive of various circumstances in which the conduct of a Grand Master might inflict an irreparable injury on the Masonic institution, were there no authority in the Grand Lodge to call him to an account. If, in the Constitutions of the several American Grand Lodges, there is no express provision for holding the Grand Master responsible for even the highest crimes that he might be disposed to commit against the body over which he presides, or the universal body of Masonry,—this omission may be attributed to a general belief that none but the most *worthy* would ever be elevated to this high position, and that no brother, who should be thus elevated, would be capable of committing grave

offences. But, so far from its being a violation of the "landmarks of our Order" for the Grand Lodge to "pronounce any censure or other decision" against the Grand Master, it is expressly asserted in the "General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of England," the authority from whence Masonry was introduced into this country, that "if the Grand Master should abuse his power, and render himself unworthy of the obedience of the Lodges, he shall be subjected to some new regulations, *to be dictated by the occasion* ; because, hitherto, the ancient fraternity have had no reason to provide for an event which they have presumed would never happen."

CALIFORNIA.

This Grand Lodge held her annual communication at San Francisco, on the first Tuesday in May, 1852. The Grand Master, M. W. John A. Tutt, in his opening address, speaks of the advancement of candidates, in the following sensible manner :

I deem it necessary to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the subject of the length of time which should elapse after the receipt of one degree, before another is conferred. In some of the Lodges it is well known that at times the degrees follow one another in inexcusable haste. According to the Ancient Constitutions of the Order, it was indispensably requisite that a candidate should be perfect in a preceding, before he was allowed to take a higher degree, and this perfection was ascertained by examination in open Lodge. In latter days, however, one would think from the course that has been pursued, that the only object is to increase the number of the fraternity ; for how often is it the case that we find Masons advanced who know nothing whatever of the degrees which they have received. Such Masons are no credit to the fraternity, and it is to be ascribed to this cause alone—the haste with which the degrees are conferred, and the neglect to require the candidate to be versed in the work and lectures of the degree received before he can be advanced, that we find so few bright Masons. It appears to me that the proper course to be pursued to correct this evil, is not only to prescribe that a definite length of time should elapse between the conferring of the degrees, but to require the subordinate Lodges to satisfy themselves that the candidate has made suitable proficiency before he is permitted to be passed or raised.

The Deputy Grand Master, B. D. Hyam, in his report, alludes to an evil which is felt to be a very serious one by our brethren on the Pacific side of the continent. He says :

I deem it my imperative duty to direct your especial attention to the accumulation of "young Masons" in this State, made on the Atlantic side, but more especially in the western portion, where they have been made with railroad dispatch, for the California market. I beg to quote from a Masonic letter on the matter:—

"Masonry is flourishing here—*furiously*, but I tremble for the result. It is one thing to grow in strength and beauty, like the towering oak, to live for ages, and when time shall be no more to die a glorious death; and quite another thing to spring up like a garden weed, growing rank and luxuriant for a brief space, then wither and die, without having accomplished a single desirable thing. Masonry here, is too much like these garden weeds: petitions come pouring in, and 'cases of emergency' are as frequent as mushrooms after a moist night in April, and under one pretext and another, men are made Masons who will never add anything to the credit of Masonry. At present the California fever is raging, and some twenty are '*up*' for California in February, and all '*cases of emergency*.'"

It is a matter of notorious and stubborn fact, that for the last three years thousands of "new made Masons," from the older States, have found their way to this new State, both by the plains and the Isthmus, and with very few exceptions, have not been in a position to, "after due trial," gain admittance in our Lodges; and when inquired of why such should exist, have declared "that they were made within two nights" of leaving home.

I found the same evil existed during my sojourn in Panama, in the fall of 1850. The injury to those persons, if it only rested with them, I would not have touched on; but I must ask the question, if it is correct that "Masons should be made by wholesale," the funds derived thereby benefiting the Lodges wherein they were received, and we in this State to have to bear the heat and burden of extending the benevolence, to the illimitable extent we have, to these same persons, without having received one cent of the money?

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented an elaborate and well digested review of the transactions of sister Grand Lodges. In alluding to our own Grand Lodge, and to the report of your Committee in 1851, they copy from us a quotation from the address of the Grand Master of New Hampshire on the subject of the qualifications of candidates for the honors of Masonry, and then remark as follows:

Your Committee cannot too strongly or fraternally impress this sound and wholesome doctrine upon the Craft in our jurisdiction, for nowhere, in our opinion, have the same difficulties existed, as in California, where all, as it were, are strangers to each other, thrown together from all portions of the world; and the general rules relative to admitting members into the order, are wholly inapplicable here—for, we believe, that in California greater caution and scrutiny must be used, than elsewhere, and we hope our Lodges will be slow to record any case of "emergency," but compel *every* applicant for our mysteries, to travel the well-known and beaten track.

We think the old and well-established rule "that a petition must lay over one month," should be rigidly adhered to by *all* our Lodges, and the candidate never advanced, except he be qualified in the degree preceding—and in furtherance of this view, we would suggest that your Worshipful Body adopt rules of sufficient stringency to enforce it.

We trust our Lodges have to much respect for their own success, and that of our venerable order, to send forth a brother unable to pass examination and gain admission anywhere.

Such, however, we regret to say, is not the case or course pursued in our sister States. From various sources, we are constrained to believe that numerous Lodges under the jurisdiction of our sister Grand Lodges on the Atlantic and east of the Sierra Nevada, have been making Masons, not precisely in conformity with "*old established usages*," but rather with "*telegraphic dispatch*," more especially for the California market.

To this we at first give little credence—we could not believe that such violence would be offered to the Institution, or to the well known prescribed duties which Masons owe to each other, evincing thereby such utter want of self-respect and veneration for the well known and defined principles of our ancient and venerable order—but too many *living witnesses* testify and corroborate these facts.

Innumerable applicants at the "outer door" of our Lodges have been unable to procure admission to our temples—evidencing ignorance in what they should at least have been more perfect in, and universally the excuse has been—"I was made just as I was ready to start from home for California, and have never been in a Lodge since."

This calls from us feelings of animadversion, which we hope will prevent a recurrence. For many of those, perchance, who were *thus made*, were sincere and proper applicants—to such a gross wrong has been done. They paid their fees, and received the degrees without sufficient (or possibly any) instructions, to make themselves known as Masons, and consequently are debarred the benefits and privileges to which they are, or should be, justly entitled.

But we fear that class are less numerous, than those who applied through mercenary motives, thinking that Masonry might prove a "*personal benefit*" to them on arriving in California; and would not, or could not have received the degrees, had they not have been leaving their home for the Far West.

For such we have little or no pity, and we feel satisfied they will have to return to the place whence they came, to reap the benefits of Masonry.

The material and work are bad, and not such as we are authorized to receive. Hence we say to the craft here, guard well the "outer door."

And we would most fraternally remonstrate with those who have committed this palpable wrong, (and perchance unwittingly,) to pause, and reflect thereon, if but for a moment, and we feel satisfied they cannot but perceive the lasting injury inflicted upon the fraternity, and reaping only a temporary benefit to their individual Lodges.

Therefore we say in all kindness,—put aside those tools of iron, and apply the plumb, square and level to all your work, and such as will not stand the test of the *Overseer's square*, cast it forth into the rubbish of the temple.

We want it not! Neither will we have it.

The Committee allude to the response of various Masonic bodies to their "*Circular*" of last year, in terms of lively gratitude, and then add as follows :

In order that the intent of our Circular may be understood, and that we are not asking charity for the Fraternity here, we would state that the committee has made due inquiry of the officers and representatives of our Lodges now here, and can find but one instance where a "*member*" of any Lodge under this "*this jurisdiction*," has ever asked or received a dollar of charity. This would hardly seem possible where there has been so much distress, and so many relieved—yet, it is true. This is sufficient evidence to whom the bounteous hand of charity has been extended. It was to Masons of every clime; none were asked from whence they came. It was sufficient for us to know that it was "*a brother in distress.*"

At the time referred to, the "*members*" of the order here were few in number—the amount of distress incalculable—the application for relief almost incredible—and the *exorbitant* price of all the necessaries and comforts of life required a large amount of funds. The brethren at Sacramento, who undertook to provide a hospital, became responsible for all the accruing indebtedness—they paid a large amount—for the balance, of over \$14,000, a judgment has been obtained, and it is to assist us in canceling this, and not to refund anything that has been paid, "*the call*" has gone forth to our brethren throughout the world. And it may not be inopportune to state that one brother, whose zeal in the noble cause that then was engaging the attention of the Sacramento brethren, has become a martyr thereto, and lost his little all therein.

We do not wish to herald forth what has been done by others, or by Masonry, but we must state that other Lodges and individual brothers in this State were never found wanting, when an appeal was made to their "*charity.*"

However significant may be the name of "*Golden Sister*," and the supposition rife that all the sands of this State are composed of "*precious gold*," and notwithstanding the fact that the "*golden treasure*" has flowed into our coffers and our "*private resources*" heavily taxed in addition thereto, still our treasuries are empty. The "*profuse hand of charity*" has been and is still busily and actively employed. The benign and glorious principles of our beloved Order have been fully tested in this new state—and who shall say they have been found wanting? From the evidences now before us we trust, nay, hope, ere long, our Sacramento brethren will be relieved from their embarrassments.

M. W. Benjamin D. Hyam was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Levi Stowell, Grand Secretary.

We have also before us the proceedings of a special communication of the Grand Lodge of California, held at San Francisco on the 17th day of August, 1852. This meeting was called by authority of the Deputy Grand Master, (the M. W. Grand Master being absent from the State,) for which the following reason is assigned in the official notice issued by the Grand Secretary :

This call of the Grand Lodge is occasioned by certain extraordinary proceedings of the M. W. Benj. D. Hyam, Grand Master of Masons in this State, which deeply and vitally affect the Institution of Freemasonry; it is therefore especially desired that every member may be present.

Complaints were made against the Grand Master, by California Lodge, No. 1, charging him with exercising "tyranny over and malice towards individual Lodges, and wantonly abusing the great power and trust reposed in him." The complaint was received by the Grand Lodge and referred to a special committee, from whose report, (which we give entire,) and the subsequent proceeding of the Grand Lodge, the nature of the charges against the Grand Master may be learned :

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 19, 1852.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of California:

Your committee appointed to take under consideration the complaints made by California Lodge, No. 1, against the conduct of the M. W. Grand Master, B. D. Hyam, respectfully report :

That they have patiently and carefully examined all the facts and authorities in relation thereto, of which they could obtain possession. Their duty has required considerable attention and labor, which they have performed to the best of their ability, and with a due sense of the importance of the subject, and their own responsibility. The case is one of so remarkable a character that no express provision appears to have been made to meet it, doubtless owing to the fact that the supposition was never entertained of its coming within the range of possibility. The complaint involves, to a lamentable extent, the reputation of a brother who has been exalted to the highest honors the fraternity can bestow, and is of so serious a nature as to demand the most prompt and decisive action of the Grand Lodge.

The absence of the Grand Master from this investigation was a source of regret to the committee. Knowing, as he did, that the Grand Lodge was about to assemble for the express purpose of considering his Masonic conduct, we could not but wonder that he should depart from the State; especially as he had been earnestly solicited by a large convention of brethren to remain. Offences so grave as those with which he is charged, should not have been treated so lightly, nor should the desires of brethren who had so recently elevated him to power, be scorned or disregarded. Still, all proper allowance was made on that score, and the case of the Grand Master has been considered with as much delicacy as though he were present at its discussion. Indeed, the committee have manifested more concern for his reputation than he himself appears to have entertained. Under all the circumstances, he can have no reasonable ground to complain of the result.

Besides other imputations that have been presented to the notice of the committee, injurious to the Masonic standing of the Grand Master, the following allegations are embraced in the complaint of California Lodge :

1. That Grand Master Hyam, on the night of the 25th of June last, assembled several Masons in a house not devoted to Masonic uses, and there conferred the three degrees of Masonry upon an individual who had been duly rejected as a candidate on the 3d day of the same month, in California Lodge, No. 1, in the presence of the said Grand Master; and that those degrees were given purposely in a covert manner, and in a spirit of malice towards the Lodge in which the candidate had been rejected.

2. That the said Grand Master, on another occasion, and in a similar manner, conferred the Masonic degrees upon a candidate who had been rejected in Mountain Shade Lodge, No. 18, receiving a fee of one hundred dollars therefor.

3. That on other occasions, in the near vicinity of working Lodges, the Grand Master, in known opposition to the desires of the fraternity, and without any good reason, much less necessity for so doing, made Masons at will, receiving fees for the work, and appropriating them to his own use.

4. That the Grand Master has entered a working Lodge, as a visitor, interfered with its proceedings, refused to obey the gavel when called to order, and to treat the W. Master with the respect due to his office, using language unworthy of a Mason, and otherwise conducting in an unmasonic manner.

Such is a brief synopsis of the offences of the Grand Master, of which complaint is made. The evidences of their truth are conclusive. The facts were substantially admitted by the party accused. At the convention above named, the Grand Master confessed having acted injudiciously in regard to the rejected candidate of California Lodge, and furnished no excuse for his conduct. On being assured that he had lost the confidence of the fraternity in the State, and solicited to discontinue the further exercise of the powers he had so strangely abused, he refused in such terms as to indicate a disregard for the opinions of his brethren, or the prosperity of the institution of which he has been made the head.

The Grand Master persisted that though his acts might tend to evil, he could do no wrong for which he could be held responsible; for, by virtue of his office, he had the *power* and the *right* to perform such acts as he might deem proper. He maintained that as Grand Master he was superior to all Masonic authority,—that his will was above law,—that in him was vested the discretion and the power to make and break Masons, and to create and destroy Lodges at will,—that he could not be shaken from his high position,—and that to himself alone was he accountable. This opinion seems to have actuated him in pursuing a course of conduct that has set the feelings and wishes of the fraternity at defiance, disturbed the peace and harmony of Lodges, and violated the rules and usages by which the Institution of Freemasonry has been so admirably controlled from immemorial time.

In examining documents on this subject, your committee perceive that some authorities, for which they desire to entertain the highest respect, seem to sustain the Grand Master, to a considerable extent, in his despotic and destructive course. In a report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, we find the following paragraph:

“Since the time when the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, Grand Masters have enjoyed the high prerogative of making Masons *at sight*, without

any preliminaries, and at any suitable time and place,—they alone being judge of the propriety of the time and place. And for so doing no earthly power can call them to account.”

In another part of the same report, the committee say:—“Of his possessing the power to do this, we have no doubt whatever. With regard to the expediency of doing so in a particular case, he is the sole judge. The Grand Lodge, during his term of office, cannot act upon it. After his term expires, they can. But can only proceed to the extent of censuring, by report of committee, or by resolution, and of expressing opinions on the questions involved. They cannot deal with him for an error of judgment in the exercise of his prerogatives, nor deprive him of any rights for or on account of its exercise, or of any error of judgment he may commit in the exercise. He cannot be suspended, or expelled, or deprived of his office, dignities or membership in the Grand Lodge, or any other privilege or right, during his term, nor be put upon trial during his term; for there is no power to try him, or to which he is amenable.”

Your committee find in substance the same doctrine published by other well-instructed brothers; but are unable to indorse it without material qualification. Let it be fully carried out by one possessing the spirit and disposition of our present Grand Master, and its results would be disastrous in the extreme. There can be no limits to the evils to our institutions that would necessarily accrue. There could be no peace or safety for Freemasonry so long as such a Grand Master possessed the prerogatives ascribed to him under the circumstances named. It is true that the brethren who entertain the sentiments quoted, unite in their opinion, that it would be injudicious and improper for a Grand Master to exercise the powers they accord him. In this respect your committee go beyond them. They think the Grand Master should possess no prerogative, the full exercise of which is wrong. And they cannot believe that the spirit and genius of Freemasonry ever intended that he should possess any such prerogative. Neither can they believe that, in electing a brother to the office of Grand Master, we absolve him from all or from any of his Masonic obligations, or from the proper consequences of their reckless and wanton violation. They cannot believe that in thus electing him we elevate him upon a pinnacle so lofty that he cannot be reached—that we have the right or power to place him in a position that enables him to scorn with impunity the principles and laws of the fraternity, and trample under foot our time-honored institution. In assuming his office, the Grand Master is obligated to support and enforce our Constitution and Laws, and the dignity of the station should render him, if possible, far more observant of such obligations than other brothers, and far more reprehensible for their violation. It is, perhaps, owing to this fact, that no written law exists to govern this particular case. We can be guided only by precedents, and no case like that before us has occurred, we have not even a precedent for our guide. Indeed, it seems never to have been imagined that a brother could by any means reach the elevated place of Grand Master who was capable of forfeiting Masonic confidence by unmasonic deeds. The ancient Romans had no law by which to punish fratricide, they not supposing it possible that a man could be so vile as to commit a crime so terrible. But when a case occurred, a law was made for the occasion. So with our ancient brotherhood; they never supposed it possible that a Grand Master could to any

extent abuse his high prerogatives. But the case has transpired, and it now becomes the brethren everywhere to look well to the matter, and guard by proper and effectual means against its repetition. If there are no prescribed limits to the powers of the Grand Master, there should be, and they cannot be too soon adopted. If there is no law that holds the Grand Master accountable for unworthy acts, it is high time that one should be established.

That our present Grand Master has shamefully abused the powers of his office; that he has employed that office for unworthy purposes; that he has exhibited an inexcusable indifference toward the consequences of his unmaasonic acts; that he has wilfully violated the spirit of our Grand Lodge Constitution; that he has appropriated to his own use money that was never contemplated being employed for any other than Masonic uses; that he has conducted himself with impropriety in a Lodge meeting; that he has treated his brethren with unmerited contempt; that he has done all this and more, deserving of reprehension, there is no room for any one conversant with the facts to doubt. And we repeat, if there is no precedent or law by which we can reach such flagrant acts, it is proper that one should now be made. Your committee are pleased to observe that the "General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of England" acknowledge the right and power of Grand Lodges to adopt such measures as exigencies may demand to meet such cases as that being considered. They say:—

"If the Grand Master should abuse his power, and render himself unworthy of the obedience of the Lodges, he shall be subjected to some new regulation, *to be dictated by the occasion*; because, hitherto, the ancient fraternity have had no reason to provide for an event which they have presumed would never happen."

Were it otherwise, or were it indeed true that no law exists and none can be made to limit the rights and powers of a Grand Master, our institution would occupy a position not only lamentable, but ridiculous. Our own Grand Master, for instance, might return among us, (a calamity which we desire may not happen), and in the exercise of his despotic power, close every Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of California, and make merchandise of Masonry by manufacturing Masons, wholesale, even without (as the New York Committee say) being "*obliged to work the degrees*," at any time and place that may best suit his interest and convenience, and for any purpose he may think proper. All this he can do under the sanction of his high prerogatives, and in the exercise of his legal Masonic power. And there exists no authority, nor can any be instituted, that dares question his motives or hold him accountable for his deeds. No doctrine can be sound that tends to results so pernicious. And we question whether the fraternity in any State in the Union would sit tamely by and suffer the institution to be thus abused and destroyed by any brother, simply because, in their misplaced confidence, they had chosen him for their Grand Master.

Your committee were pleased to perceive that an opinion differing from that quoted from the New York report prevails with many brethren well instructed in Masonic knowledge. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, touching this subject, reason as follows:

"At that period of our history when there existed no Grand Lodges, as at present organized, and the craft only met at an annual Grand Convocation, like that held by Prince Edwin at York, the Grand Master, elected by them, held all

the power and authority of Masonic government in his hands ; being guided by no other rule than the ancient charges, and the customary unwritten laws. When the present system was adopted, and Grand Lodges became legislative bodies, the authority formerly held by the Grand Master alone, became invested in him and the Grand Lodge together. He can make no law by himself, nor can he perform any attribute of government, save under the authority of the Grand Lodge,—to every law of which, and to its constitution, must he yield obedience and support, as well by his obligations of office, as by reason of his authority being derived from it. He is now strictly a constitutional officer, elected under and by virtue of a constitution, deriving his powers from it, and subjected to its limitations ; it is only when that constitution is silent, that he can fall back on any of the former attributes of the office, and exercise them for the good of the institution. This is the natural and infallible result of the present Grand Lodge system—and to say that the fraternity, in forming a Grand Lodge, with a written constitution, have not the power to limit and define the power of the Grand Master, is saying that they have no right to create a Grand Lodge at all ; for if they cannot do so, then, as a natural result, his authority is superior, or at least equal, to that of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master having the power to disregard and nullify every act that did not please him. If we accept the present Grand Lodge system, we must accept its consequences—one of which must infallibly be the curtailment of the power and prerogatives formerly attached to the office of Grand Master—the making him subject to the constitution and laws, and leaving him no other powers formerly attached to his office, but such as are not laid down in those laws and constitution, or inconsistent with them. This is no more a violation of, or encroachment on, the ancient rules of society, than the creation of modern Grand Lodges, the requiring of charters for private Lodges—or many other regulations of the present day, which encroach upon ancient rights and privileges, but which have been voluntarily and even cheerfully submitted to by the fraternity, for the sake of discipline, harmony, order, and good rule ; and upon exactly the same principle that men in civil societies surrender many natural rights for the mutual support and protection afforded by a natural government.

After a thorough examination of this whole matter, your committee are clearly of the opinion that it is competent for this Grand Lodge to take such action in the case of Grand Master B. D. Hyam, as in its wisdom may be deemed expedient and proper. The course he has pursued has deprived him of the confidence of his brethren. He can no longer command the respect necessary to render the office he holds satisfactory to himself or beneficial to the fraternity ; and it is therefore desirable that he should cease immediately to perform the functions of that office. This is probably the unanimous wish of the members of all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the California Grand Lodge. To accomplish this end, however, we would advise the adoption of the mildest course that circumstances will permit. The absence of the Grand Master, though voluntary on his part, has tended measurably to influence this advice. Had he been present, agreeably to the repeated solicitations of his friends who desired his welfare as well as that of Freemasonry, a more stringent policy might with propriety be proposed and accomplished without the violation of any well established law or regulation.

The Grand Lodge of California being the youngest of the Grand Lodges in the United States, we deplore the unfortunate necessity of taking action in a case involving important doctrines, concerning which, such a contrariety of opinion exists among the older Grand Lodges. But the exigencies of the case demand that action, and we should be unworthy of the name of Freemasons should we from any considerations shrink from the responsibility. It is the deliberate opinion of the committee that it is of the utmost importance to the well-being of Masonry that Grand Master Hyam should retire from the responsible station he so unhappily fills, and that he may be induced so to do, we offer for your consideration the following resolutions:

Resolved, That Grand Master B. D. Hyam has, since his elevation to the office of Grand Master, been guilty of conduct unbecoming his high station and tending materially to disturb the harmony and prosperity of the fraternity within his jurisdiction, and has therefore merited the unqualified reprehension of Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That upon his return to this State, from which he is now temporarily absent, Grand Master Hyam be requested to permit the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master to discharge the functions of Grand Master during the remainder of the present Masonic year.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge requests each Lodge under its jurisdiction to appoint a committee to notify Grand Master Hyam of the proceedings of this convocation, and to induce him to comply with the terms of the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, That all the Grand and subordinate Lodges with which we are in communication, are hereby requested not to forward or pay to Grand Master B. D. Hyam, any funds intended for this Grand Lodge.

This report was accepted by the Grand Lodge, and, after a thorough discussion, the resolutions were taken up separately and adopted.

Your committee are aware that it has been claimed, from time immemorial, that a Grand Master possesses the right of making Masons at sight, and we are not disposed to question this right. But if the facts are as stated in the foregoing report, we have no hesitation in saying that the Grand Master of California has exercised a power never dreamed of by the founders of the Masonic Institution. We do not believe that it was ever intended by the ancient regulations that a Grand Master should assume the right to make Masons of persons who had been rejected by a regular Lodge; much less, that he should be allowed to make merchandise of our noble institution, by arbitrarily admitting unworthy men to its mysteries, and pocketing the fees. We have no idea that a single Grand Lodge in the

United States would quietly submit to such an exercise of power on the part of their Grand Master.

How strangely does this action of Grand Master Hyam harmonize with his written language, as Deputy Grand Master, only six weeks before, in which he complained bitterly of the "railroad speed" with which Masons had been made in other States, "for the California market," and discoursed feelingly on the necessity of the closest scrutiny into the moral character of candidates for our sublime mysteries !

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

We have received from this Grand Lodge an abstract of the proceedings at the several communications during the year 1852. In the address of the M. W. Grand Master, B. B. French, Esq., at the opening of the annual session, he thus alludes to the hall in which the Grand Lodge holds its meetings, and to their appeal to the fraternity throughout the Union for aid in erecting a Masonic Temple in the city of Washington :

In this place I am reminded of the inappropriateness of the room we now occupy for holding the meetings of the Grand Lodge. In the first place the room presents hardly a decent appearance ; it is altogether too small, and the access to it is nearly as bad as if we were obliged to mount a ladder and enter a back window. For my own part, I am always thankful when in my egress I arrive at the back door, by which we are forced to enter and depart, and find my neck and limbs unbroken ; and for this room the fraternity are paying, in rent, the interest of five thousand dollars. I feel a degree of mortification, when I invite to our Grand Lodge visitors from abroad, that here, in the metropolis of the United States, we are under the necessity of introducing them into, perhaps, the poorest Grand Lodge Room in the whole Union. We have endeavored to awaken a spirit of generosity in our brethren abroad, to aid us in doing, what we are not of ourselves able to do ; that is, in erecting a Masonic Temple here, that would be an honor to the Craft ; but no response, leading to any hope of accomplishing our wishes, has been made. Some of the Grand Lodges have considered the subject, and if an energetic start could be made, doubtless something might be done.

That a suitable building, to be devoted to Masonic purposes, in the capital of our republic, would be an honor to the Craft in this country, there can be no manner of doubt ; but whether the Grand Lodge of Connecticut can contribute anything towards the erection of such a building, is a question which we respectfully submit to the consideration of our brethren.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented at the stated communication on St. John's day, Dec. 27th. In alluding to the condition of Masonry in our country at large, the Committee say :

From every source there is the language of exultation at the increased and increasing prosperity of the fraternity—the expression of joy, at the revival on many altars of fires, which the lukewarm within had suffered merely to glimmer in decay, or which the timid, through pressure from without, had permitted entirely to expire—the exhibition of the necessity of our venerated Institution, in its appearance in parts where civilization has scarcely effected a foothold, and there, not in isolated Lodges of our brethren, but in such numbers and manly growth that *Grand Lodges* present themselves for admission into the common brotherhood, and of its value by the good scattered abroad, but more particularly in those places where other restraints were wanting, and where the framework of society needed the bracing effects of the pure morality and stern principles of the Order.

The Committee then proceed to a notice of the several Grand Lodges with which they are in correspondence, and review with seeming candor their published proceedings. When they come to Connecticut, after quoting our notice of the refusal of the Grand Lodge of the Federal District to grant a charter for a Lodge at Monrovia, in the Republic of Liberia, they say :

“ We are willing to make all due allowance for the very natural philanthropic feelings of our Northern Brother, who penned this bid, for the honor of introducing Masonry among a nation of men, very few of whom can possess *one of the essential requisites* of a ‘ good man and true,’ but we would most earnestly claim for our Grand Lodge, from our sister Grand Lodges, the merit of acting in the sphere of our duty from higher motives than natural prejudice against the colored man, and if not from any other consideration, demand, as coming within the scope of brotherly courtesy, some consideration for that action before its effect should be nullified by another Grand Body who ought to be governed by like action, upon like points of fact. Your Committee would simply ask, if a colored man, *now free*, but who was *born a slave*, should demand admission at the door of a subordinate Lodge of Connecticut, and that Lodge was unrestricted, entirely, as to the mere question of color, whether, that Grand Lodge would sanction the admission of such person ?”

This is not the place to discuss questions growing out of the “ peculiar institution ” of the South. We will merely say that the writer of this report has never been ranked among that class of his fellow citizens technically termed “ abolitionists,” nor has he any ultra opinions on this subject to maintain or defend.

We hope ever to be ready to acknowledge any error of opinion or language into which we may be inadvertently led in considering the acts or words of our Masonic brethren ; and we are willing to accord to our Columbian brethren "the merit of acting in the sphere of their duty from higher motives than natural prejudice against the colored man." We will go even farther than this, and say in all honesty and humility, that if our brethren of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia have deemed our former remarks as not "coming within the scope of brotherly courtesy," we sincerely regret having made them, assuring them that they were not dictated by an unkind or discourteous spirit. We were sincere in saying, that "as the Republic of Liberia is assuming an elevated position among the nations of the earth ; as she is inhabited by a race of free and intelligent men, and is unquestionably destined to exert a great and salutary influence in the civilization and christianization of the whole vast continent of Africa, we could see no good reason for denying to the benign principles of Freemasonry the high privilege of contributing their proper share to the consummation of this great and glorious work.

The petition for a Lodge at Monrovia was signed by the President of the Republic of Liberia, by two clergymen, and other citizens of that place, of whom, we have no evidence that any one of them was ever a slave. It should be recollected that a great number of intelligent "free born" colored men have emigrated to Liberia from the Free States of our Union ; and that there are now living within the bounds of that Republic, thousands of civilized native Africans, no one of whom was ever a slave, and we must be permitted devoutly to hope and pray that no one of them ever will be. Shall we deny to Freemasonry the blessed privilege of aiding those men in their great mission of light and love to the dark and benighted continent of Africa ?

We will reply to the question of our good brethren at Washington, by asking another. But a few years since, it was the custom of the inhabitants of the Barbary States to capture and enslave all Europeans and Americans on whom they could lay their hands. We will suppose that a gentleman from the city

of Washington, with his wife, had been captured by one of the corsairs that infested the Mediterranean, and had been carried to Algiers, or Tripoli, or Tunis, and there sold into slavery; that while thus living, in captivity, a son had been born to them; that finally, through the energetic action of the Government of the United States, they had been liberated and returned to their native land; that this son, born in Algerine slavery, should apply for initiation in a Lodge in the District of Columbia; that on due inquiry it should appear that he was "of lawful age," "of good report," and "well recommended;" would he be denied the honors of Masonry because he was not "free born?"

We cordially agree with the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in their opinion of the importance of a complete work on Masonic Jurisprudence. In noticing the Grand Lodge of Ohio, they say:

The Committee of Correspondence make an important suggestion, which your Committee hope to see carried out by some brethren of known talent and eminence, viz: the compilation of a work on Masonic Jurisprudence, containing the acknowledged opinions of the great mass of the Fraternity, on the various questions constantly arising in our Grand and Subordinate Lodges, many of which have long since been decided, but are constantly renewed by brethren who have no knowledge of the decision, or means of acquiring such information.

As the last proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Michigan have failed to reach us, we must avail ourselves of the report of the Committee of the District of Columbia, to lay before the Grand Lodge an extract from the address of Grand Master Smith, of Michigan. Referring to applications that have been made to him for dispensations to confer degrees *more expeditiously* than the Constitution of the Grand Lodge allows, Bro. Smith says:

Where a young man has grown up in ignorance of the principles or spirit of Freemasonry, and nothing has occurred to call his attention to the subject in a particular manner, until he is about to go forth into the world as a man among men, and his views and objects of life lead him to scenes and countries distant from the home of his youth, and he desires to affiliate himself, by the tender ties of Masonry, with the home and the friends of his childhood and to superadd a social to a natural maternity, I have never hesitated to grant the dispensation requisite. But in cases where a man has spent a great portion of mature life in

the immediate vicinity of Masonic light, and has neglected to make application for admission, until he was about to go upon a journey, or change his residence, in which case he imagined that the key to the Masonic world might enable him to unlock the door of its treasury, and thus imagining, he has sought admission, I have been compelled to regard the motive thus indicated as a selfish and mercenary one, and to deny the dispensation.

One who becomes suddenly awakened to the beauties of Masonry, because he is about to need its benefits,—who discovers its excellencies only when it may be to his advantage,—stands, in my judgment, in a suspicious light, and is not entitled to the favor of the Grand Master, in regard to the time of his probation.

FLORIDA.

The Grand Lodge of Florida met in annual communication, in the city of Tallahassee, on the 10th of January, 1853. The M. W. Grand Master, being absent on account of sickness in his family, the R. W. Samuel Boardman, Senior Grand Warden, was called to the East, and delivered an address in behalf of the Grand Master. From this address we copy the following paragraph, on the important subject of guarding against imposition in the bestowal of Masonic charity

The necessity of some unity of action among the Grand Lodges, relative to applications for relief to Lodges out of the jurisdiction to which the applicant belongs, is felt by many of the Lodges, especially those situated in seaport towns, as absolutely essential to their protection from imposition. The passage of a resolution by this Grand Lodge, requesting the other Grand Lodges to recommend to their subordinates not to grant relief to any applicant from this jurisdiction, unless he presents evidence that he is a contributing member of a regular Lodge, or gives satisfactory reasons why he is not one, and the passage of a similar resolution by the other Grand Lodges, might perhaps diminish the evils complained of. Many of the Lodges have expended nearly all their charity fund upon applicants from distant jurisdictions, of whose worthiness or unworthiness they had no means of judging, and for fear they might do injustice to a worthy brother unwittingly, grant aid to nearly all who apply. Some test of the worthiness of an applicant for relief ought to be applied, and certainly no applicant can complain if he is not prepared to show that he has been a contributor to the charity fund of a Lodge, when his circumstances allowed him to be one. The Mason who is able but unwilling to aid his brethren when in distress, can have but little claim upon their kind offices when reduced by imprudence or misfortune, to solicit that charity which, in his days of plenty and prosperity, he refused to others. It is well known, that few worthy Masons are ever so reduced by misfortune as not to be able to recover therefrom by the ever ready and willing assistance cheerfully and gladly rendered by their more prosperous and wealthy brethren. It is seldom any but the vicious and idle, who are found traveling the country soliciting aid from the charity fund of Lodges—perhaps spend-

ing the money thus obtained in the indulgence of the very passions and vices which had reduced them to the deplorable and unfortunate position in which they were placed—and absorbing the funds thus misapplied, which if not so wasted, would be ever cheerfully and readily given to the really worthy, though unfortunate Mason—the weeping widow and orphan children of a brother who perhaps had left them but the legacy of his good name, but who died confident that these, the objects of his care and love, would never be thrown on the cold charity of the world, so long as a brother remained who could share with them the protection of his roof, or break with them his last crust of bread. Some efficient means will have to be taken to protect Lodges from such impositions, and the passage of a resolution, such as is suggested, might perhaps do something towards affording it, till a more judicious plan could be decided upon.

The subject was referred to a select committee, who reported the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge would respectfully request her sister Grand Lodges to pass resolutions requesting their subordinates not to grant relief to any applicants from this jurisdiction, without he produces evidence that he either is a contributing member of a Lodge, or assigns good and sufficient reasons why he is not.

Resolved, That the several Grand Lodges of the United States be respectfully requested to pass reciprocal resolutions, similar to the above.

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges in this State are directed not to grant relief out of the Lodge funds to any applicant, unless he proves that he is an affiliated Mason, or gives good reason why he is living in the non-performance of this Masonic duty.

INDIANA.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Indianapolis, May 24th, 1852. The Grand Master, M. W. Alexander C. Downey, delivered an excellent address, from which we copy the following paragraphs :

During the year that has passed, nothing has transpired calculated in the least to dampen the ardor of the friends of Masonry, or to weaken our confidence in her ability and fitness to accomplish all the benign results at which she aims. There has been a steady increase in the number of both Lodges and members; and while I do not intend to reflect unjustly upon the past, I think I can say, in truth, that the standard of *moral fitness* for admission to our rites has never been higher, or more firmly maintained. While this is the case, we have nothing to fear, but everything to hope, from the rapid increase of membership. Should it ever become the case, that numbers, without regard to fitness, shall be the aim of our Lodges, they must inevitably forfeit the confidence of the community in which they exist, and cease to exercise any salutary or beneficial influence.

The second section of the regulations of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, for the government of its subordinates, provides that "in the absence of the Master the Wardens, according to rank, shall succeed to the duties of the chair;" and the eighth section provides that "no Lodge, in the absence of the Master, shall initiate, pass or raise, unless a Past Master be present and presiding." It is believed that this last regulation is contrary to the ancient regulations of the craft, productive of great inconvenience, and little or no good. The Wardens are seldom possessed of the degree of Past Master, and according to our laws are not entitled to it until they have been elected to preside over a Lodge; so that, in a majority of cases, when the Master is absent, the work of the Lodge cannot go on unless there should be a Past Master present. In some instances which have been reported to me, the work of the Lodge has not been done because no Past Master could be procured to attend, and the Wardens were not permitted to do it. It is submitted that section second, above quoted, contains the true rule on this subject, to wit, that in the absence of the Master the Wardens shall succeed to his station, and that the eighth section is an unnecessary, unwarranted and inconvenient restriction of the rights and duties of Wardens.

We fully agree with Grand Master Downey, that the second section of the Rules and Regulations of his Grand Lodge express the true rule in regard to the government of a Lodge, and that their eighth section, which requires a *Past Master* to perform the *work* of conferring degrees in a Lodge, is contrary to ancient usage.

Your Committee have no need to assure their brethren of this Grand Lodge, that the following language, which they quote from the report of a committee, has their cordial approbation:

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to temperance, have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully report, that they fully concur in the remarks of the M. W. Grand Master, and deem it their duty to ask the Grand Lodge to urge upon the craft the practice of this great cardinal virtue; and while we disavow the sentiment, that it is necessary to pledge a man to total abstinence, in order to his gaining admission to the fraternity, yet we hold that no man should be made a Mason who is not practically an observer of this virtue. We conceive that the prosperity of our beloved institution mainly depends on a strict adherence to the moral code, and perhaps no single item of the teachings of Masonry is more important than temperance. Your committee are of the opinion, also, that many subordinate Lodges are not sufficiently attentive to enforcing the practice of this virtue, and we offer for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That subordinate Lodges be instructed to deal promptly, kindly and efficiently with all brethren in their jurisdiction, who do not, in their daily walk and conduct, practice that first cardinal virtue, temperance.

This report was accepted, and the resolution adopted, and we wish that every Grand Lodge in the United States would take similar action.

The following quotation from the Grand Master's address, on the subject of the rights of membership, is also, in our opinion, sensibly conceived and expressed :

A question has been raised as to the proper construction of that section of our by-laws which provides that " whenever the Grand Lodge shall abrogate the decision of a subordinate Lodge suspending or expelling a brother, and thus restore him to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, he shall not thereby be reinstated to membership in the subordinate Lodge, without its unanimous consent."

The question suggested is, does this provision apply to cases brought before the Grand Lodge by appeal? Suppose a Mason is tried and expelled by a subordinate Lodge, and on appeal to the Grand Lodge is adjudged innocent of the charge, does he forfeit his membership in the subordinate Lodge? I think he would not, or at least it would be clearly wrong that such should be the case. The determination in the Grand Lodge is the final one, and must govern. He is there adjudged innocent, and it would be manifestly unjust that he should suffer the punishment of forfeiture of membership. I think the provision referred to was intended, and should be confined to cases where the judgment of expulsion or suspension is abrogated by the Grand Lodge without an appeal, under the authority which she reserves to herself of restoring expelled Masons.

This admirable address closes with the following appropriate language :

It is very much to be desired that all who attach themselves to our order should become familiar with her rites and ceremonies, and with their origin and import; but it is much more to be desired that they recognize in her a teacher of those great moral and social principles upon which, and for the inculcation of which she was founded, and has been perpetuated. As well might the confirmed atheist learn and repeat over the sacred scriptures, or bow the knee and with irreverent lips repeat his *pater noster*, and expect to be benefited by it, as for an individual to expect to be benefited by the rites and ceremonies of Masonry, without a conformity to her ethical teachings. Our forms and ceremonies are but the habiliments of our Order's tenets; they are but as the casket to the jewel, or as words to the ideas which they convey. He alone whose heart is imbued with the spirit of our institution, and who squares his life by its teachings, can claim the proud title of a " Free and Accepted Mason."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented an exceedingly able and interesting report, alluding in many terms to various important questions which are under discussion among the fraternity. Our own proceedings for 1821 were not received

by them. On the subject of the powers of Grand Masters, the Indiana Committee quote a remark from the Correspondence report of North Carolina, which says of the Grand Master, "He is absolutely supreme, being amenable to no man, or any set of men." They then say :

Such sentiments will appear strange to our brethren of Indiana. At this enlightened age of the world, we had believed that no enlightened body of Masons could be found to endorse and promulgate such sentiments, or maintain such opinions. We deem it entirely superfluous to controvert an opinion so at war with the great principles of Masonry, to any considerable extent. But we may be permitted to ask, from whence do Grand Masters derive their authority? We answer, most assuredly from the Grand Constitution. Grand Constitutions are formed by any number of subordinate Lodges, by their representatives, not less than three; consequently the Grand Master has not nor can he have any but delegated authority; and we have yet to be informed that any Grand Lodge in the world has by her constitution invested her Grand Master with absolute supremacy. Most, if not all the Grand Constitutions of this continent require their Grand Masters to report their official acts to the Grand Lodge for their approval or disapproval. To argue that the power of the Grand Master is "absolutely supreme," would be to argue that the creature is greater than his Creator; and would be at war with the eternal principles of truth and justice. As Masons we have been taught to acknowledge none as supreme but the GREAT JEHOVAH. We contend most distinctly that Grand Masters are amenable to their Grand Lodges for their official acts, and at the end of their official existence they are *amenable* to the subordinate Lodges in whose jurisdiction they may reside for their moral conduct during the time they have been Grand Masters.

In the opinion of your Committee, there is much good sense in the above. But we wish to go a little farther than our Indiana brethren. We do not believe that in all conceivable cases it is necessary or right to wait till the end of the official existence of a Grand Master, before calling him to account.

Our Indiana brethren, in reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin for 1850, make the following remarks :

The Grand Master informed the Grand Lodge that he had granted a charter to certain brethren to establish a Lodge in California. This is also unconstitutional and unprecedented. We have examined the Grand Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, and find that the Grand Master may grant dispensations in the recess of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge only can grant charters. We would remark that most if not all the difficulties in Wisconsin, have arisen from the exercise of forbidden or doubtful powers by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Officers.

Among the permanent resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, we find the following :

Resolved, By this Grand Lodge, that any kind of gambling or betting is considered unmasonic, and that the Grand Lecturer be requested to give the same in charge to the subordinate Lodges ; and that such as are guilty of it be subject to admonition and suspension, and, if no marks of reformation are exhibited, to expulsion.

Resolved, That the Worshipful Master of a subordinate Lodge cannot appoint a proxy to the Grand Lodge, without the concurrence of the Lodge over which he presides.

The first of these resolutions, in the opinion of your committee, is in the true spirit of Masonry. The second, we are equally clear, is contrary to the ancient regulations of the craft, which declare that the Masters and Wardens of the several subordinate Lodges are members of the Grand Lodge ; and that if either of these officers shall find it inconvenient to attend any communication of the Grand Lodge, he may appoint a proxy to attend in his stead.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky held its annual communication in the city of Lexington, on the 30th of August, 1852. From the address of the M. W. Grand Master we make the following extract, which gives his views on the important subject of the evil results of hastily conferring the degrees of Masonry :

Some of the Lodges disregard the regulation requiring time to intervene previously to advancement, after initiation ; and some dispense altogether with an examination of the candidate. Surely, brethren do not reflect upon the consequences which would result from such a course, if generally adopted. It cannot be expected that either intelligent or attached Masons can be made in this way. Precipitately hurried from one degree to another, without becoming proficient in the rites and ceremonies, and unimpressed with the beauties of the precepts and doctrines thus symbolically inculcated, the perception of them must be vague and undefined. Those thus hurried on, little taught and less learned, are generally but illiterate smatterers in the work, thoughtless of the grand design portrayed by every ceremony and emblem, and unembued with the deep and consoling spirit which, like an ethereal and heavenly thrill, pervades the whole system. The result is, they become indifferent and non-affiliating, and ceasing altogether to contribute either to the knowledge, brotherly love or charity of the

Order, they are drones in the hive, forgetting that they are members of it, except when distress or want of assistance drives them pleading to its bounteous almonry. The Lodge indulging in such practice may flourish for a while, but will inevitably droop away into the mere shadow of a name.

The Kentucky Committee on Correspondence presented a brief report; a portion of which is devoted to strictures on the remarks of your committee last year concerning *side degrees*. We had prepared a brief reply to these strictures, as well as some remarks on the continuance by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky of the odious practice of advertising rejected candidates like runaway convicts; but on reflecting that the ground has heretofore been pretty thoroughly gone over, we have concluded to "let her slide."

Judging from the document before us, we are inclined to the opinion that Freemasonry is in a flourishing condition within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

MAINE.

A special communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was held at Concord, on the 4th, 5th and 6th days of May, 1852, for the purpose of receiving and acting upon the report of a committee appointed at the previous annual communication, to "determine the true mode of lecturing and work for the several Lodges in the State." The meeting was well attended by the representatives of the subordinate Lodges, and the committee reported by an exemplification of the full work of the three degrees. The work and lectures, as reported by the committee, were sanctioned and adopted by the Grand Lodge.

At the annual communication, which was held May 6th, the business was principally of a local character, and with the exception of one or two cases of grievance, devoid of special interest out of the State of Maine.

The Committee on Correspondence, of which our talented brother, the Rev. Cyril Pearl, was chairman, presented an elaborate report, in which he reviews, with his characteristic ability, the proceedings of sister Grand Lodges. The same committee also presented a special report, in obedience to the instructions

of the Grand Lodge, touching the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. This report was ordered to be transmitted to every Grand Lodge in the United States, and is as follows :

Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in relation to a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

TO THE M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MAINE:

At the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge, it was

Voted, That the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be, and are hereby requested to correspond with the several Grand Lodges in the United States, recognized by this Grand Body, urging upon them the necessary steps for forming a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

As the Committee were not instructed in relation to the method of correspondence, or the time of presenting the result of their labors, they have felt somewhat embarrassed as to the best method of complying with the resolution, and meeting the wishes of this Grand Lodge. From the results of efforts thus far made to secure a General Grand Lodge, the committee were satisfied that nothing could be gained by precipitation, but that if such a body was to be formed with any prospect of success, it must be a work of time, and mature deliberation.

It has seemed to them desirable that if another attempt were made to organize such a body, it should be done when this branch of the Masonic fraternity could be generally and ably represented, and without involving heavy expense to the several State Grand Lodges.

It has also seemed desirable that such an attempt should be made when there were no exciting influences, or perplexing controversies to disturb the deliberations of a preliminary meeting, or enlist any of the Grand Lodges against the measure, or against each other.

The committee have also desired to profit by the experience of the General Grand Bodies in the other departments of Masonry, and by whatever light the communications from the several Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters of the Union might incidentally reflect on this subject, the present year.

They have believed that the most favorable time for attempting an organization would be at the time of the next Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, which bodies are to assemble in Lexington, Kentucky, in September, 1853.

For these and other reasons, your committee have thought proper to delay addressing the sister Grand Lodges on this subject till their views could be better matured and submitted to this Grand Lodge, and if approved, to send them out in connection with the proceedings of this annual communication, and also in the form of a Circular, to all the elective officers of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, inviting the early attention and reply of their respective bodies to this proposition.

Such being the views of the committee, they will briefly indicate the outlines of this question, as they understand it.

1. We believe the interests of Freemasonry in our country, in all its depart-

ments, would be greatly promoted by the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, with appropriate powers and limitations.

2. That the voice of a decided majority of the Grand Lodges of this country has been clearly expressed in favor of such an organization.

3. That the diversity of sentiment as to the precise duties, powers and limitations of such a body, so far as expressed, do not at all discourage the hope of essential agreement, on a satisfactory basis, whenever a suitable number of delegates can be assembled.

4. That the progress already made in the settlement of long standing difficulties, in some of the States, is one of the most encouraging evidences that a General Grand Lodge may be harmoniously and successfully organized.

5. If all the difficulties of jurisdiction, and the intestine strifes in the several States, were healed, so far from diminishing the necessity of a General Grand Lodge, the difficulties in the way of its organization would be removed, and the way successfully opened for its beneficent career.

6. That such an organization is highly desirable, that it may complete our national Masonic organization, and co-operate successfully with the other General Grand Bodies in the United States. Such an organization should hold its sessions in connection with the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, and in many cases the same individuals would represent each department of the Order, and the expense of representation be equitably shared by the several State Grand Bodies. In this way, all the interests of Masonry would be brought into notice, and in a way most likely to harmonize and promote the interests of all the departments. Such a gathering of the Masonic family, in all its branches, would congregate Masons of high character, talent and moral worth, familiar with the wants of the various departments of the Order, and the happiest results might be anticipated from their labors.

7. The committee believe that such an organization, with proper regulations, would be of great value, not only to the Masonic fraternity in this country, but to the interests of our Order throughout the world. It would become the center of correspondence for all the Grand Lodges of the world, and the Masonic union of these United States would present to our brethren of all lands a most happy illustration of our national motto,—*E Pluribus Unum*.

8. In conclusion, the committee suggest that such an organization, meeting regularly with the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, and bringing together, from all parts of the country, noble-minded men, imbued with the spirit of Masonry, and charged with the responsibility of legislating for its welfare, would be most happy in its influence on the stability and welfare of our Union. The meetings of these bodies might sometimes occur near our halls of national legislation, and give them an example of legislation which knows "no North, no South, no East, no West," and have no "Mason's and Dixon's line."

In the report on Foreign Correspondence for the last year, the committee gave some views of the mission of Masonry, in relation to our National Union, to which they respectfully refer.

Should this Grand Lodge approve these suggestions of the committee, they would propose that they be sent out to the fraternity as proposed, with an introductory note, desiring early attention and reply.

The committee would also propose that a copy of the circular be sent to the elective officers of all the Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters and Grand Encampments of the United States.

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut has, on former occasions, declared her readiness to unite in the formation of a General Grand Lodge, with limited powers ; and your committee have, in one or two instances, urged the propriety of such an organization. But a more thorough investigation of facts and circumstances, sometimes cause even the wisest of men to revise and change their opinions. It is doubtful whether our Grand Lodge would now become a party to the organization of a General Grand Lodge. At any rate, your committee would be disposed to hesitate, and consider the subject more thoroughly than they have recently done, before they could conscientiously advise to such a step.

MARYLAND.

This Grand Lodge held an annual communication in the city of Baltimore, on the 15th day of November, 1852. The Grand Master, M. W. Charles H. Orr, delivered a brief but pertinent address, giving an account of his official acts during the previous year, and alluding to some matters in foreign jurisdictions. In noticing the difficulty in the jurisdiction of California, with their Grand Master, B. D. Hyam, Bro. Orr uses the following language, in which we heartily concur :

The right of a Grand Master to preside in any meeting of a Lodge subordinate to his own Grand Lodge, is undeniable ; but the propriety and expediency of his doing so at all times, and under all circumstances, is not so clear and undeniable. If he is present at a meeting of a subordinate Lodge, and does not take possession of the chair, he is bound by every principle of Masonry, not only to obey the gavel, but to set an example of obedience and decorum to all the brethren.

The prerogative claimed by the Grand Master to make Masons *at sight*, or to cause them to be made in his presence, is also clear and undeniable ; but that he may pick up an individual in the street, or in any public place, or make a Mason of one who has been rejected by a Lodge, is not unquestionable. Yet still more questionable is his right to make Masons of whom, when and where he pleases, and to put into his pocket, for his own use, whatever fees he may be able to extort from them. The acknowledgment of such doctrines is repugnant to every sense and feeling of right, and would prove the certain and inevitable destruction of Freemasonry.

I am not prepared to admit the right of a Grand Master to make a Mason, unless the individual have received the unanimous vote of some regular Lodge; nor his right to make him, except in some convenient and proper place; nor can I concede to him the right to divert one penny of the fees to his own use.

The Grand Chaplain, Rev. Bro. J. N. McJilton, laid before the Grand Lodge a communication from Bro. A. Kimmel, R. W. P. D. G. Master, accompanying a present of an ancient copy of the Bible. The following brief extract from the communication is not without interest:

This "*Biblia Sacra*," in the Latin language, with the German letter of the fusil type, was printed in the city of Venice, in the Christian Era, 1482, and six years before the establishment of the "ALDINE PRESS," which makes it, this year, 370 years old. What events have transpired since that period! In order to show its great age,—twelve generations have passed away.

The report on Correspondence is a well written paper, and contains correct and valuable notions of Masonic law. The Grand Lodge of Texas having resolved "that a subordinate Lodge may reinstate a suspended member by a vote of two-thirds," the Maryland Committee remark:

A Mason is never suspended without some cogent reason, and should never be reinstated while a single member of the Lodge deposits a black ball against him; for re-admitting him otherwise than unanimously might endanger or destroy the harmony and welfare of the Lodge.

In noticing the proceedings of our own Grand Lodge at the last annual communication, they quote our resolution in relation to the physical qualifications of candidates, and add, that it is "an exceedingly indefinite rule, and well calculated to admit into our Temple the lame and halt, at a period, too, when so many of 'entire limbs' are knocking at its portals for admission to its mysteries."

As to the indefiniteness of our rule, we have no fear that any member of a Lodge in this State will ever be at a loss as to what the Grand Lodge means by the declaration that "whenever the personal deformity or dismemberment of a candidate for the degrees of Masonry is not such as to prevent his *instruction*, and a participation in the labors and ceremonies of the Lodge, he is not physically disqualified for the rights and privi-

leges of the Order." We are tired of hearing so much said about the absolute importance of "entire limbs," as a qualification for the honors of Masonry,—as if this were all that is needed. If we were merely an association of brick-layers, it might do to insist on these things; but as Free Masonry is an *intellectual and moral science*, and can be as thoroughly understood and appreciated by a cripple as by a man of "entire limbs," we can see no propriety in this constant agitation of the subject of physical qualifications. The qualities of the *heart* are what constitute the true Mason; and if this organ be right, we should care but little whether the candidate have any limbs at all, if he be an upright man, "of good report."

MASSACHUSETTS.

This Grand Lodge having recommended and established a system of work and lectures, a series of resolutions was adopted at the annual meeting in 1851, to provide for the dissemination of the revised work among the subordinate Lodges. As our own Grand Lodge has recently revised the work and lectures in the first three degrees, and as it will doubtless be deemed necessary to take some steps for the introduction of the work among our subordinates, we copy the following resolution, for the information of our brethren.

Resolved, That in order to insure a strict conformity throughout the State with the system of Work and Lectures enjoined by this Grand Lodge, the Grand Lecturers of the State, together with the District Grand Masters, shall meet in convocation at the time of the Annual Meeting in December, in each year, in the city of Boston, or wherever this Grand Lodge may be held, and then and there compare carefully their mode of work and lecturing; correct all changes and errors, and under the supervision of the Grand Master and Wardens, bring all things committed to them, in every point, into exact conformity with the authorized system; and in case of any difference of opinion at any time between the District and State Grand Lecturers, upon any point of ritual or phraseology in the work or lectures, the decision of the latter shall be final and binding, except otherwise decided by the Grand Master and Wardens.

At the installation of the officers of the Grand Lodge, an appropriate address was delivered by M. W. P. G. M. Edward A. Raymond, from which we extract the following paragraphs:

Brethren, while it is proper that we should rejoice, and be thankful to Him who directs our destinies, and in whose infinite mercy and goodness we humbly "put our trust," for the manifestations of His power, and approval of our labors, —let us not forget, that the hour of prosperity is often the hour of danger. When all around is bright and beautiful as a summer morning,—when the winds and the waters repose in silence, and the murmurings of the tempest are not heard,—*there is danger*;—danger that, through too great confidence in the stability and perpetuity of that which is now pleasing to the eye and to the senses, we neglect those precautionary measures of security on which alone we can with reasonable confidence rely when the tempest shall come, the winds blow, and the waters be agitated again.

Allow me, then, my Brethren, to admonish you to be ever watchful of your institution. Guard well the doors of our Lodges. Cause strict examination to be made into the character of your candidates. Suffer none to cross the threshold of our Lodges whose reputation is not pure and spotless. Recollect that the future success and usefulness of our institution depend very much more on the *character* than the *number* of its members.

After the ceremony of installation was concluded, the M. W. Grand Master, Rev. George M. Randall delivered an address, in which he gave utterance to several truly Masonic sentiments, couched in beautiful language. We quote the following :

While important interests are entrusted to the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, the prosperity of the Institution is, in a very important measure, committed to each individual member. The humblest brother holds the key of admission in his hands. On every member, therefore, whatever his rank, is devolved the responsibility of allowing or refusing admission to applicants. It is for them to say who shall and who shall not, become members of the Fraternity. You have been impressively told this evening by your late Grand Master, that a season of prosperity is a season of danger. I trust that this salutary admonition will be duly heeded. Let every member feel the responsibility that rests upon him, and with moral courage meet and discharge his duty. In the ballot which is placed in your hand, reposes a silent but effective power, and you should use it without prejudice, or partiality, or passion;—discreetly, conscientiously and firmly.

If we would have our Institution hold that place in the estimation of the public, to which its principles justly entitle it, then we must seek to secure this distinction by the elevated character of its members. While Masonry is *conservative*, to a degree beyond any other human society, yet it may and should be *progressive*;—we may advance, and to be true Masons we must advance, in all that elevates and ennobles human character. It should be our endeavor to maintain our fraternity at such an elevation, that all who aspire to enter its mystic pale, shall be required to ascend rather than to descend in order to do it. Let no member hesitate to use the prerogative and power of the ballot, when a candidate is proposed, who has a questionable moral character. However it may be in other

societies, it is enough that a man is a profane swearer, or habitually intemperate, to warrant his silent but prompt rejection from the doors of our institution. How can we consistently permit an individual to enter our pale, where he is taught, first of all, to look to God as the author of all blessings, and to revere His Word as the source of divine knowledge, whose tongue is blistered with blasphemy?—and how can we, knowingly, admit within our Temple a drunkard, and call him brother? Our principles, not to say a sense of self-respect, imperiously require us to guard our doors against all who will not be an honor and an ornament to our ancient Order.

There are two species of qualifications, moral and intellectual, which should be required of all candidates; and in guarding and promoting the interests of this Institution, a due regard should be had to both the mind and the character of the applicant. The officers of subordinate Lodges should be well qualified for their duties. Without proper qualifications they cannot expect to discharge their duties satisfactorily or successfully.

During the evening, an interesting incident occurred, the narration of which is in the following language:

The Hon. MYRON LAWRENCE, of the State Senate, was introduced to the Grand Lodge by the M. W. Grand Master. On rising, the Hon. Brother respectfully acknowledged the courtesy of the chair—referred to his former connection with the Masonic fraternity of this Commonwealth, and with this Grand Lodge, as one of its District Deputy Grand Masters—said that he had not been in a Lodge for many years—that in the stormy times of anti-masonry he had contended against the enemies of the institution with his “armor on;” and that, though at last, in common with all his brethren in the section of the State in which he resided, he was forced to yield in the unequal contest, he did so with his flag still flying over his head. But the immediate object of rising, he said, was to exhibit to the Grand Lodge an ancient *Masonic Jewel*, which had just been handed to him by his Brother, Col. Flores, Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Peru, (then present,) and which had once been worn by Gen. WASHINGTON, as the presiding officer of a Lodge in the army of the revolution.

The history of the Jewel, as the Hon. Brother gave it, on the authority of Bro. Flores, is briefly as follows:—He said it originally belonged to Bro. Bystranowski, a Polish soldier, who came over to this country about the time that Kosciusko arrived here, and immediately entered and served in the American army under General Washington. Being a Mason, he was associated with Washington in one of the army Lodges, having authority to confer the Mark degree, and over which Washington presided for a time, as Master. This Jewel, being the only one in the possession of the brethren, appropriate to a Mark Lodge, was loaned to Gen. Washington by Bro. Bystranowski, and was worn by him at the regular meeting of the Lodge. On the disbanding of the army, Washington returned it to its owner, with a complimentary letter. At his death, Bro. Bystranowski bequeathed it to his children, through whom it has been transmitted to one of his grandsons, then present in the Grand Lodge.

A special communication, on the 10th of May, was called by

the M. W. Grand Master, for the reception of the distinguished Brother Louis Kossuth, of Hungary :

At eight o'clock, the distinguished visitor was introduced by a Committee, and received by the M. W. Grand Master and the brethren assembled, with appropriate marks of distinction. He was subsequently welcomed by the M. W. Grand Master, in an able and felicitous address, in which the speaker sketched in clear and comprehensive terms, a brief outline of the general principles and purposes of the Institution, and of its present condition in Europe.

The eloquent reply of Gov. Kossuth occupied about three quarters of an hour, and was listened to with profound attention. He expressed his thanks to the Grand Lodge for the kind invitation it had extended to him, and for the welcome manner in which he had been received. He regarded it as an honor that he was a member of the Fraternity, and closed by saying—

“ I am one of the humblest of the Brethren among you, an exile from a distant land ; but your kindness and the generous hospitalities, and great attention bestowed on me by the citizens of your magnificent country, I attribute to no merits of my own, but to a generous sympathy in the sufferings of my people.

“ M. W. Grand Master and Brethren, I thank you again for these distinguished marks of your kindness. Rest assured it will be the great aim and effort of my life to walk worthy of the character of a Mason, and to fulfil the duties which devolve, according to his ability and rank, on every member of our noble Institution.”

At a quarterly communication, in June, the M. W. Grand Master, from a committee on the petition of Jacob Norton and others, presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted :

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Jacob Norton and others, professing the Jewish religion, praying this Grand Lodge to cause such changes to be made in the Masonic usages and ritual, as will conform the *work* of the Order to what they regard as ancient usage, beg leave to present the following REPORT :—

The committee invited Bro. Norton to meet them and express his views on this subject, which he did very fully, candidly and ably. After due and careful consideration, your committee unanimously recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw. The committee make this recommendation for reasons which they will endeavor to state, as briefly as a respectful consideration of the subject will admit of.

Your committee would observe in the first place, that the petitioners desire that all reference to the fact or to the doctrines of the Christian religion, in the work or in the lectures of Freemasonry, should be expunged. The petitioners say in their petition, that “ Masonry was intended to unite men of every country, sect and opinion.” This is not so. All reasoning, therefore, upon such premises, is erroneous. This society was not designed to “ unite men of *every opinion.*” For example:—If a man believe, that there is a God, and yet holds, that He is

not the object of divine worship; is not a being to whom prayers are to be addressed; that the Bible is not His inspired word; that an oath is not binding; that there is no such thing as a moral obligation to lead a pure life; he is not a person whom Freemasonry would unite with her Institution;—and why not? We answer, because his *opinions* do not agree with her principles.

The basis of this Fraternity is indeed broad, very broad, but not so broad as "*to unite all men of all opinions.*"

Freemasonry opens her doors to men of every country and of every sect in religion:—to Jews and to Gentiles. She does not close her portals against any man for his religion. In this she is tolerant, in the fullest degree. The Jews in this country are allowed to enter our Institution and enjoy all its privileges, of whatever name or nature. No restrictions whatever are placed upon them, because of that religion, which has drawn upon them the most terrible persecutions in almost every land, but our own. In this Fraternity they are admitted to an equality with all others, and no distinction whatever is allowed to their prejudice. However the Jew may be looked upon and treated in the world, in a Masonic Lodge, he is recognized and greeted as a brother.

In this sense, our institution is not exclusive, and embraces men of all religions, without invidious or prejudicial distinctions. When the Lodge has done this, she has done all that her professions require her to do. If we did not do thus, our Jewish brethren would have good cause of complaint.

The petitioners do not pretend that they are oppressed in this respect; that they are not admitted freely and fully to an equal enjoyment of all the privileges and benefits of this institution. But they wish to have the ritual and usages of Freemasonry, as it exists in this State, and as it has existed here since its introduction into this country, so changed that its ceremonial shall be perfectly agreeable to their religious views.

It appears to your committee, that any alteration for such a reason, would be to make Freemasonry do the very thing which the petitioners say it should not do, viz. make the society sectarian. For if a Jew have a right to require the work of the Lodge to square with his peculiar views, so may a Romanist or a Protestant make the same demand. A *Quaker* may object to any obligation; the *Deist* may object to all prayers; the *Swedenborgian* to all reference to the doctrine of the resurrection of the body; the *Papist* to the use of an English version of the Bible; the *Mormon* to the use of any Bible at all. The *Socialist* may object to the rule of obedience and the practice of preferment, and to all distinctions whatever. When Freemasonry professes to receive into her pale, men of every religious sect, excluding none on account of their religion, she does not mean to stultify herself by pretending that all her lectures and ceremonies are so constructed as to please every individual, by exactly according with every shade of his religious views. Such a pretension would be sheer folly, since no institution can do this, and no honest society would pretend to do it.

What this Institution does profess to do is, to exclude no man from her pale because of his religion; to make no invidious distinction between men of different religious sentiments. If she compelled a Jew to offer up a prayer, in the name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, or compelled a Christian to pray differently from the mode of his faith, then there would be oppression. If a Jew prays at all, she

leaves him to pray as he thinks most proper; and the liberty which she allows to a *Jew* she allows to a *Christian*. To permit a *Jew* to pray as he pleases, and to compel the *Christian* to pray as the *Jew* does, would be wrong and oppressive. An *Israelite* believes that he should pray to the Most High alone; the *Christian* believes, as sincerely, that he should offer up his prayers in the name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and he cannot conscientiously pray in any other way. The *Jewish* Brother says, I cannot be compelled to pray in a way which is contrary to my conscientious belief. Very well;—in this Institution, nobody requires him to do so. But he is not satisfied with this degree of liberty. He demands that the *Christian* shall pray as he does, or else not pray at all. The *Christian* replies, that it is as much against his conscience to neglect to pray in the name of Christ, as it is against the conscience of the *Jew* to pray in His name.

If the Grand Lodge should pass an edict, requiring all prayers to be in the *Jewish* form, and in no other, then it would be guilty of violating the assurance which the candidate receives at his initiation. It would be making a distinction, which would be oppressive. The true and just course is the one which this Grand Lodge has ever pursued, and that is, to leave this matter entirely without legislation. The *Jew* and the *Christian*, of whatever creed, is allowed to offer prayer in the form which he deems the most acceptable to the Most High. No one can be, in this matter, aggrieved, who is neither required to pray in a particular form, nor required to pray at all, unless he is disposed to do so. Any absolute prescription of a form, on the other hand, by the Grand Lodge, would be an infraction of the principles of the Order.

A compliancè therefore on the part of this Grand Lodge, with the request of the petitioners, to instruct the Lodges under its jurisdiction to permit only such prayers as will not conflict with any person's religious opinions, "provided he has Faith in God, Hope in immortality, and Charity with all men,"—would be to make Freemasonry proscriptive and sectarian, which is the very thing against which our *Hebrew* brethren profess to petition.

Furthermore, if this petition were to be granted, and the changes made which are desired, where is this change to stop? Can we have only *Jewish* prayers, and yet have a *Christian Bible* upon our altar? Will not consistency require, that we should have no longer the great light of Masonry, as it has shone ever since its benign ray struck upon this continent, but only *one part* of it, viz, the old testament, and that in the *Hebrew* tongue?

Again, if this request be complied with, how can we refuse to receive and grant the petitions of others, who are neither *Jews* nor *Christians*, who believe in God, but who do not believe in the immortality of the soul? Must we not change our lectures and charges? Must we not fling away the sprig of acacia? Can we keep that precious emblem of immortality, when it becomes offensive to the religious notions of one who believes in God, but does not believe in the immortality of the soul?

Where, we ask, is this to end? If we should commence the work of change, that we might adapt our Order to the conflicting opinions of all who may enter its pale, it requires no great sagacity to see, that the result would be a complete annihilation of this Institution.

Thus far, we have considered simply the *expediency* of making some of the

changes asked for by the petitioners. We come now to the question, whether this Grand Lodge has the power or the right to make these proposed alterations? On this point your committee cannot hesitate, for a single moment, to answer this question, most decidedly in the negative.

We have received Freemasonry with its landmarks, with all its landmarks, from England. Among these is the "dedication to the holy Saints John." We have so received it, and we have so imparted it. Our Jewish brethren ask us to change this dedication, and to make such other alterations "as are consistent with their religious belief."

This Grand Lodge can do many things, but there are some things which it cannot do, and to remove an "ancient landmark" is one of the things that it cannot do. If it should pass a vote changing "the dedication," it would not only transcend its legitimate authority, but it would do an act, which the obligations of the subordinate Lodges would compel them to entirely discard. What they as Lodges and as individuals have received, they must impart, and that too in the way in which they have received it, and in no other way. Without further discussion, we might rest the case here, as clearly made out on the ground that the Grand Lodge have no authority whatever, to grant the request of the petitioners, and if they should do so, it would avail nothing, since the obligations of the members of the subordinate Lodges would impel them to resist any such ordinance of the Grand Lodge.

But for the satisfaction of our Jewish brethren, whose petition is couched in the most respectful terms, we are willing to go a step behind this position, and briefly refer to the historical aspect of this question.

In reply to what we have already said, our brethren might inquire, if we should deem it our duty to adhere to our practice, if it could be shown that we had not received the correct work and lectures? In answer, we have only to say, that we know no other Masonry, than that which we have received. And we have no reason to believe that what we received was any other than the true. So far as the subjects of the petition before us are particularly involved, we believe that the history of Masonry will clearly prove that our practice is strictly correct. The petitioners refer to the fact, that since 1813, when the Grand Lodges of Ancient York and England coalesced under the title of the "United Grand Lodge of England," the same practice which they petition for was adopted. With the present practice of the Grand Lodge of England, we have nothing to do. The question which mainly concerns us on this point is, what was the practice of those Grand Lodges from which we received Masonry, at the time that we received it.

In 1733, R. W. Henry Price, of Boston, received from England, the first charter ever received for any Lodge whatever, on this continent. This charter conferred Grand Lodge powers. In the year 1752, St. Andrew's Lodge received from Scotland a charter, which resulted in the establishment of another Grand Lodge, and so here we had two rival Grand Lodges. In the year 1792, they united and formed what is now our Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. These facts take us at once to England before 1733, and to Scotland before 1752. The practice which obtained at these periods, in those Grand Lodges was the practice which we received, and which of course should constitute the "landmarks," at this day. What were these landmarks touching the points referred to by the petitioners?

In answering this question, we are very much indebted to the Rev. Dr. Oliver, of England, from whose work entitled "A Mirror for the Johannite Masons," we have made liberal extracts.

Dr. Anderson writes, under the date 1679, that many of the fraternity's records of this and former reigns were burnt in the revolution; and many of them were too hastily burned in his own time, for a fear of making discoveries; so that there is not so ample an account as could be wished of the Grand Lodge. When in 1720, Dr. Anderson compiled a book of constitutions, by order of the Grand Lodge, he adds: "the Freemasons had always a book in manuscript, called the book of constitutions, containing not only their charges and regulations, but the history of architecture; but they had no book of constitutions in print until his Grace the present Duke of Montague, when Grand Master, ordered me to peruse the old manuscripts, and digest the constitutions with a just chronology."

Dr. Anderson, together with others who were constituted his associates, drew up a series of Lectures for the use of the Lodges. These were widely disseminated and constituted an authentic digest of the pure and legitimate doctrines of Masonry. These lectures formed the basis of all succeeding ones; and, says Dr. Oliver, throughout the whole series, the Saints John are named as the patrons of the Order. They accompanied all the warrants which were sent to foreign parts; and we accordingly find that at that early period, in every country of Europe, where Masonry was planted under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, the Lodges were called by the name of St. John.

When Masonry was revived in 1717, and these lectures were authorized by the Grand Lodge of England, we have no reason to doubt that the landmarks were then pure and unchanged; as an illustration of what was then held touching the subject under consideration, we quote the following question, which occurs in their lectures:

Q. "From whence came you?"

A. "From the holy Lodge of St. John." This is an unequivocal testimony of the first Grand Lodge, under the revised system, to the fact that Lodges were dedicated to St. John.

In a formula used a little later than the middle of the last century, which was called "the Old York Lecture," the two Saints John occupy a prominent situation; the following is an extract:—

Q. "To whom were they (Lodges) dedicated under the Christian dispensation?"

A. "From Solomon the patronage of Masonry passed to St. John the Baptist."

Q. "Why were the Lodges dedicated to St. John the Baptist?"

A. "Because he was the forerunner of our Saviour; and by preaching repentance and humiliation, drew the first parallel of the Gospel."

Q. "Had St. John the Baptist any equal?"

A. "He had; St. John the Evangelist."

Q. "Why is he said to be equal to the Baptist?"

A. "Because he finished by his learning what the other began by his zeal, and thus drew a second line parallel to the former; ever since which time, Freemason's Lodges in all Christian countries have been dedicated to the one or to the other, or both of these worthy and worshipful men."

Says Dr. Oliver:—"In the original lectures, compiled by Sayer, Payne and Desaguliers, and improved by Anderson, Desaguliers and Cowper; in the reviews of Dunckerley and Martin Clare, twice repeated; and in the extended rituals of Hutchinson, Preston and others, which were in use down to the re-union in 1813, and by some Lodges even to the present time, the Saints John occupy their place as the patrons of Masonry; no link in the chain of evidence is broken: for in no one ritual, whether *ancient* or *modern*, which was in use during the whole century, were they omitted."

It was a law of the English Grand Lodge, established in 1721, that the Lodges in and about London and Westminster should hold an annual communication on St. John the Baptist's day, or else on St. John the Evangelist's day.

But that this was no new custom, no innovation upon ancient usage, is evident from a historical fact. It is stated that Queen Elizabeth sent an armed force to break up the annual Grand Lodge at York, which was always held on *the day of St. John the Evangelist*; when Sir Thomas Sackville, the Grand Master, induced the officers to be initiated, and their report to the Queen was so satisfactory, that she gave them no further disturbance. Thus it appears that more than one hundred years before the revision of Masonry, by the Grand Lodge in 1717, the Grand Lodge of York observed the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.

This custom, it is said, has existed from time immemorial, in proof of which Dr. Oliver refers to a copy of the old Gothic constitutions, which was produced at a grand festival on St. John's day, in the year 1663, before Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Albans, Grand Master.

Thus much we have deemed it proper to say upon the historical point, involved in the matter under consideration, by which it appears, plainly enough, that the first we know, and all we know of English Freemasonry, up to the present century, recognizes the dedication of Lodges to God and to the holy Saints John, as a part of the usages of the Order, and the observance of the days set apart for the commemoration of these two persons as Masonic festivals.

But we said we received a part of our Masonry from Scotland. It will be proper to advert, for a moment, to the decision of the Grand Lodge of Scotland touching this subject. "It is evident," says Dr. Oliver, "that the substitution of the Saints John for Moses and Solomon was an article of belief amongst the first Masons who introduced the Craft into this island. The Kilwilling system, which may be traced back to the 12th century, is called '*St. John's Masonry*;' and in the present laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, this principle is unreservedly maintained in the provision respecting 'private Lodges, where all Lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland are strictly prohibited and discharged from holding any other meetings than those of the three Orders of Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, denominated *ST. JOHN'S MASONRY*.'"

We have shown that in our own Grand Lodge those parts of the work and lectures, which the petitioners desire to have expunged, were received from England and Scotland, and that these two Grand Lodges held to them at the time they transmitted the Institution to us, and they had been moreover held by their predecessors from time immemorial.

When Masonry was in the custody of the Jews, there is no doubt that Lodges were dedicated to Solomon. But after the destruction of the Temple at Jerusa-

lem, and dissolution of the Jewish polity, both civil and ecclesiastical, Masonry naturally fell into the hands of Christians. From that time to this our tradition is, that they were dedicated to the Saints John, and no historical facts have been or can be, adduced to show that tradition in this respect is erroneous.

We have no evidence that there have been any Lodges but *Christian Lodges* since the destruction of Jerusalem. The Jews have not been in a situation to hold Lodges. They have no country, no home, no nation, no government. They have been flying from one country to another, seeking to escape from the persecutions which everywhere pursued them. That they have maintained their existence as a race, dispersed as they have been over the earth, is a miracle, which proves, if nothing else did, that they are the ancient people of God, and that their condition for the last eighteen hundred years is a fulfillment of divine prophecy.

Freemasonry did for them what few if any other societies were willing to do. They were virtually outlawed in many countries, and in scarcely a single Christian nation were they permitted to the enjoyment of the full privileges of citizenship. Even in England at this very day, they are debarred from holding a seat in Parliament. In some of our own States, they are not eligible to hold any civil office, and yet no where upon the face of the earth do they enjoy so much of privilege, or are they as well treated as in England and in the United States. Under such circumstances, this institution, true to its principles as a cosmopolite society, opens its doors to them and permits them to enter its pale, if they desire to do so, with the assurance, if they do, that they shall be hailed and treated as brethren; that there shall be one spot which they may call home, where they may dwell in safety and in peace; where they shall enjoy all its immunities and privileges; eligible to any office, entitled to all the benefits which the fraternity have covenanted to extend to each other. This was a very great favor, and we have no doubt that our Israelitish brethren have esteemed it as such.

To the best of our information it was not until about the middle of the last century that the Jews were admitted into Freemasonry, with the exception of their connection with spurious Lodges on the continent,—as Masonry was then understood and practiced.

Up to about the year 1754, there was no authorized form of Masonic Prayer in use in the Lodges in England. The Prayer Book was then a text-book of the Lodge. The Master was left to his own discretion in this particular, although the general practice was to select an appropriate form from the Liturgy. About this time the Jews were first admitted into the English Lodges; they very naturally objected then as they object now, to the use of the forms of Christian worship. These objections, being yielded to by some of the Masters, led to irregularities in the devotional services of the Lodge room. But this did not meet the approbation of the old and eminent members of the Order, who were desirous of transmitting to their successors the forms and lessons of Masonry as they had learned them. In order to set this matter right by authority, Dr. Manningham, then Deputy Grand Master, in connection with Dr. Anderson, drew up the following prayer, to be used at the initiation of candidates, and laid it before the Grand Lodge at London for its sanction, by which it was immediately adopted. It was published in the "Freemasons' Pocket Companion," in 1754.

“Most High and Glorious Lord God, thou Architect of heaven and earth, who art the Giver of all good gifts and graces, and hath promised that where two or three are gathered together in thy name, thou wilt be in the midst of them; in thy name we assemble and meet together, most humbly beseeching thee to bless us in all our undertakings; to give us thy Holy Spirit, to enlighten our minds with wisdom and understanding; that we may know and serve thee aright, that all our doings may tend to thy glory and the salvation of our souls. And we beseech thee, O Lord God, to bless this thy undertaking, and to grant that this our brother may dedicate his life to thy service, and be a true and faithful brother amongst us. Endue him with Divine wisdom, that he may, with the secrets of Masonry, be able to unfold the mysteries of godliness and Christianity. This we humbly beg, in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.”

This historical incident clearly proves two important facts, that previous to the year 1754, the English Lodges had been accustomed to use prayers taken from a Christian Liturgy, and secondly, that the admission of Jews into the Fraternity caused a discussion of the propriety of such prayers, which resulted in a decision of the Grand Lodge, by which a Christian form of worship was adopted.

It is very evident, from what has been said, that all the Masonry which the world has known anything about, since the destruction of Jerusalem, up to about one hundred years ago, has been Christian Masonry; that is, Freemasonry in the hands of Christians, conducted by them after a manner which has recognized, in some form or other, the fact and authority of the Christian religion. Yet it does not exclude persons who are not Christians. It requires belief in God as an indispensable qualification. Professing that, if there be no objection to the candidate as wanting in other qualification, he is admitted. In this sense we have received no other kind of Masonry, and we can transmit no other. At the building of the Temple the society was mainly in the hands of Jews; now it is mainly in Christian hands, but open for Jews as well as Gentiles. It is confined to no sect and to no nation. We trust that this Grand Lodge will be the last to do anything to change the ancient landmarks of the Order; to circumscribe its influence, to restrict its usefulness, to render it national or sectarian, or to commence in any form or for any purpose, the mischievous work of innovation upon its well established principles. For these reasons, and for others which might be named, the committee recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

We have extracted somewhat copiously from the Massachusetts report, believing that the various matters copied are of importance, and that they will be read with interest by our brethren of this Grand Lodge.

MISSOURI.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Missouri was held in the city of Booneville, on the first Monday of May, 1852. From the excellent address of the Grand Master, we make the following interesting extracts:

No previous year, perhaps, since the organization of the Grand Lodge, has exhibited a healthier Masonic tone, a more cheerful conformity to Masonic law and usage, or more solid proofs of enlightened zeal and fidelity to our "time-honored Institution." While it is true, perhaps, that the subordinate Lodges of the State may not have increased their numbers so rapidly during the past year as in some others, still it is true, that "*good men and true*" have generally been admitted to the privileges of Masonry throughout our jurisdiction. New Lodges have sprung into being, in various portions of our growing State; and the welcome sound of the *gavel* is now heard where, but lately, the red man guided his venturesome canoe.

Under such circumstances, we cannot exercise too great solicitude and watchfulness in our annual deliberations; the respectability and perpetuity of our glorious Order depend, in no small degree, upon the careful supervision of the Craft, by those to whom this high and sacred duty has been confided. Our solicitude, amid the rapid augmentation of our numbers, ought to spring not merely from a sense of duty, but a deep and lasting regard for the future permanency of the Order. We should guard with sleepless vigilance, not only the entrance to our mystic temple, but every avenue by which it may be approached for injury. We should see to it, that no "rough ashler" is permitted to deform its beautiful proportions, or mar its harmony. We should shut out every symptom of innovation, no matter *how high* the assumed authority, or by whom introduced. No institution, merely human, is altogether free from the danger of innovation; although it is the boast of ours, that its ritual is essentially the same, and its purity has remained, in a great measure, *unviolated* during many ages that are past: yet it *must depend* on its own inherent excellence and a *steadfast adherence* to our "ancient landmarks," for its future respectability and permanency. The foundation of our Order, the aims and tendency of Masonry, require the practice of social and moral virtue. To be "good and true," are among the first great lessons it enforces—true to it, and true to the "ancient landmarks" and "usages" of the Order. If we were not bound by a cement such as this; if such were not the *materials* of which the edifice is composed, the pillars of our "mystic temple" long since would have tottered to their base, and the "time-honored fabric" crumbled to ruins. While other institutions have fallen beneath the malice of the one, and been carried to oblivion by the progress of the other, MASONRY alone has survived, and still spreads her glory over the earth; and if we are true to it, and true to ourselves, it will continue to last—continue to dispense its benefits and blessings, undimmed by age, unchilled by the havoc of Time.

In speaking of the Masonic College, the Grand Master says:

My brethren, as members of the wide spread family of Masons, we have a *great duty*, an *exalted mission* to perform: to educate, to clothe, to cherish and protect the widow and the orphan; to lift the heart-broken and disconsolate widow from beneath the dark cloud of despair, in which misfortune or the icy hand of death has placed her; to pillow her bruised and broken spirit on the unfailing charity of our mystic brotherhood; so that when the angel of death shall beckon her away to that "bourne" whose sands are marked by no returning foot-print—

when she, too, shall be called to the spirit land—she may turn her last, lingering look upon its massy columns, and be solaced with the reflection, die in the full assurance, that her desolate household, her orphan children shall be *educated* and *protected*, while the eternal charity of Masonry endures.

The following memorial, from Bloomington Lodge No. 102, was received :

The undersigned, under instruction of his Lodge, would respectfully represent, that at a stated communication of Bloomington Lodge, No. 102, held in August, 1851, the petition of the Rev. John G. Sweeny was presented, praying for initiation into the mysteries of Masonry. On the 19th of September he was initiated, and in the October following he was elected to the second degree—but before receiving said degree, he met with an accident which resulted in the amputation of the left leg, near to or above the knee joint. We respectfully ask of the Grand Lodge, if in accordance with the usages of the Order, permission to pass Bro. Sweeny to the degree of F. C., and in due time to raise him to the sublime degree of M. M.

This memorial was referred to a select committee, who subsequently presented the following report, which, strangely enough, was adopted by the Grand Lodge :

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial of Bloomington Lodge, No. 102, beg leave to report, that although the circumstances set forth in the memorial may be true, and do call forth the sympathies of this Grand Lodge ; yet, we believe, if the prayer of the memorialists were granted, it would be in violation of the ancient usage of Masonry, which this Grand Lodge has no power to do ; we therefore recommend that the prayer of the memorialists be rejected.

Thus it appears that the Grand Lodge of Missouri has decided, that although a worthy candidate may commence his walk through the mystic apartments of the Masonic Temple with "*entire limbs*," if after he has entered the portals of the building, he should chance to meet with an unavoidable accident, and lose one of those "*limbs*," before he reaches the middle chamber, he is to be thrust aside and refused further advancement. So it would seem that the *leg* of the candidate, and not his *heart*, is what our Missouri brethren deem the most important qualification.

In the course of the proceedings, we find the following entry :

The Grand Master requested all below the degree of Past Master to retire. After which a convocation of Past Masters were assembled, who proceeded to open a Lodge of P. M., and several brethren were introduced, and legally qualified to

preside over their respective Lodges, by having the Past Master's degree conferred upon them.

Your Committee deem this an appropriate place to reiterate the sentiment expressed in their former report, in relation to the Past Master's degree. It is well understood by all well informed Masons, that this degree was originally designed to be used as it has been used by the Grand Lodge of Missouri,—to be conferred on the Masters elect of subordinate Lodges, and on them only. But in this country it is claimed as a Chapter degree, to be conferred after the Mark degree, and the General Grand Chapter of the United States has enacted that it shall not be conferred without the payment of a *fee* of not less than four dollars. We are aware that if the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Missouri have advanced no further than to the degree of Master Mason, they violate no duty of allegiance to the General Grand Chapter; nor does any other Master Mason, as such, do violence to any Masonic obligation, by conferring the Past Master's degree on the Master elect of a Lodge. But whether any obligation is violated, or not, it is a well known fact, that every instance of the conferring of this degree out of a Royal Arch Chapter, or on a candidate who has not previously received the degree of Mark Master, is an invasion of the established jurisdiction of the General and State Grand Chapters and their subordinates. We are not arguing that the Past Master's degree ought not to be conferred on the Master elect of a Lodge; nor would we intimate that our Missouri brethren are any more culpable than others. Probably the degree is conferred in every State in the Union, without any reference to Chapters. And if the design of the degree is, as we are told and believe, to qualify the Master for a proper discharge of his duties in the government of his Lodge, surely every Master of a Lodge is entitled to it.

We do not believe the Past Master's degree has any business in a Royal Arch Chapter. It did not originally belong there, and it has been erroneously placed under the Royal Arch jurisdiction. In our report to the Grand Lodge in 1852, your committee cited high authority to sustain this position, and it is

unnecessary to repeat what was then said. We would be the last to recommend or countenance innovations upon the *ancient* regulations of Masonry. We have ever been anxious to preserve them in their original purity ; and that is what we now contend for. We have, on a former occasion, asserted and *proved*, that the Past Master's degree is not at present under its proper or original jurisdiction. And we again assert, without the fear of contradiction, that it originally belonged exclusively to Grand or subordinate Lodges ; that it has no possible connection with or bearing upon Royal Arch Masonry, or any of the degrees conferred in her Chapters ; but that, while in its present connection and jurisdiction, it cannot lawfully be conferred, except within the pale of a Royal Arch Chapter, and only on such persons as have previously received the degree of Mark Master.

We believe it to be the imperative duty of every Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter in this country, to use their influence with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, to induce that body to relinquish the control of the Past Master's degree, and place it under the jurisdiction of the several Grand Lodges ; and we confidently hope for the day when this will be done. When this shall have been accomplished, each branch of our beloved Order will be enabled to labor in its appropriate sphere of duty ; our worthy brethren of the several Grand and subordinate Lodges can then enjoy and confer all the rights and privileges to which they are justly entitled, without any violation of principle or obligation ; and harmony reign throughout the several departments of our time-honored institution.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was holden at Concord, on the 8th of June, 1852. The Grand Master, M. W. Horace Chase, in his annual address, says :

Our duties and obligations as Masons are not confined within the narrow limits of a Lodge room ; they continue through life, extend to all situations, and embrace all circumstances. We are to exemplify, practically, in our daily intercourse with each other and with the world, those great moral principles and cardinal virtues so forcibly inculcated and symbolically illustrated in the Lodge. We are to be in the constant exercise of brotherly love, not only towards our

brethren of the Order, but towards the whole family of man. To relieve the distressed, comfort the afflicted, and commiserate the unfortunate, is a duty expressly enjoined upon us. We are taught to practice no falsehood, hypocrisy or deceit, but to let truth, sincerity and plain dealing distinguish us; to restrain our affections, passions and appetites by temperance and sobriety; to maintain a steady and noble purpose of mind, with energy and fortitude; to regulate our lives and actions by prudence and discretion; to render strict justice to every man without distinction, and practice charity.

These are some of the more prominent virtues inculcated and enforced upon us, to which we yield a willing assent, and by which we profess to be governed; and while we make them the constant, habitual and governing principles of action in life, we show to the world that there is something in Freemasonry more than a mere useless, formal, unmeaning round of ceremonies. While Masons practice out of the Lodge the excellent precepts inculcated and enforced in it, they furnish a better commentary upon the principles of their Order, and do more towards abating prejudice, repelling calumny, and silencing the caviler, than can be effected by the most profound reasonings and elaborate arguments.

Let us, then, my brethren, be ever watchful and vigilant to exhibit in our lives a practical exemplification of those great moral principles of which we have been so often, so forcibly and so solemnly reminded, lest by any dereliction of duty we be the occasion of stumbling in others, and cast reproach upon our ancient and honorable institution.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented an excellent report. In their notice of our Grand Lodge, they speak with approbation of the proposition to erect a monument to the memory of our late distinguished Brother, Major General David Wooster. They add :

His biographer, Dr. Dwight, speaks of Gen. Wooster as a brave, generous minded man; respected for his understanding, and for his conduct, both in public and private life; ardent in his friendship and in his patriotism; diffusive in his charities, and steadfast in his principles. We rejoice that our Connecticut brethren have taken measures to perpetuate the memory of such a man. They do honor to themselves in honoring him.

The New Hampshire committee enter into an elaborate argument, to prove that physical perfection is absolutely necessary in a candidate for Masonic honors, which they close with this suggestion :

We recommend, for the government of our subordinate Lodges, that no candidate be initiated who is in any manner maimed, lame, or physically defective, except upon dispensation from the Grand Master, to be applied for on petition from the Master and Wardens of the subordinate Lodge, wherein the physical defect or condition of the candidate shall be clearly and specifically set forth.

We do not learn that the Grand Lodge acted on this recommendation of the committee, by a strict construction of which, a man afflicted with the rheumatism, or with an uncomfortable corn on his toe, would be refused admission to a Masonic Lodge. Our brethren who have so much to say in the way of insisting on a strict observance of the "ancient landmark," do not seem to be aware to what a ridiculous length they would be carried by a literal adherence to some of their own propositions.

At the suggestion of the committee, the Grand Lodge "recognize and approve the principle" that the "Master elect of a subordinate Lodge is entitled to the Past Master's degree, and that it may be conferred on him by Past Masters." We, too, approve of this "principle;" but we insist, as in a former part of this report, that before this principle can be *properly* put in practice, the jurisdiction of the Past Master's degree must be given to Grand Lodges, by consent of the Gen. Grand Chapter.

From the report of one of the District Deputy Grand Masters, Bro. Stephen Hoyt, now in his 83d year of age, we quote the following closing paragraph :

In my last year's report I was induced to believe it to be my last report to this Grand Lodge, on account of my scores of years. Yet, thanks to Omnipotence, I yet live in good health, which I attribute, (under God,) to the practice of operative and speculative Masonry; which during my Masonic life has been the rule and guide of my conduct. The drawings on our Tressel Board afford ample scope for labor and industry *I work diligently; eat and drink temperately.* These, and the numerous Masonic instrumental virtues, taught and recommended in a Lodge, I try to practice; believing the effects are to invigorate the functions of both body and mind, so necessary for a long life of peace, harmony and love.

NEW YORK.

We have from this Grand Lodge an abstract of proceedings at the Annual meeting, June 1, 1852, when the representatives of 174 subordinate Lodges were present, together with delegates from 22 Lodges under dispensation.

From the address of the Grand Master, M. W. Oscar Coles, we learn that the interests of Freemasonry are flourishing to an unusual degree in the Empire State, as well as in every other quarter of our country. The following is an extract from this address :

Brethren, such has been the increase of Masonry. Strong in its purity and faith, it has grown to manhood,—stretched itself over the breadth of our land, until it has reached the far off confines of the West, to where the gentle Pacific laves the golden shores of California. But we have had a deep struggle in this State, and you who have lived through half a century can well bear witness to it. Among us the poisoned shafts of political ambition have been leveled against the time worn walls of our old institution. Demagogues, who knew little of, and cared less for, the principles taught in our Lodges, for a time waged an unholy war against us, and greedily seizing upon a fancied crime, sought to array the whole world against us, and to level us in the dust. But like the oak upon the mountain top, which bends to the blast, but breaks not in the storm, Masonry yielded to the tide which had been turned against her by unscrupulous politicians. One by one, her citadels fell, but her guards were beaten, not conquered; they retired among her enemies, and patiently awaited the day, when the bright sun of toleration should dispel the dark clouds of prejudice which hovered over their beloved mistress. That day has come; and Masonry, from her lofty eminence, looks down upon the stream of time, carrying upon its resistless and impetuous current, those who raised the standard of persecution against her, and from the ashes of her former greatness, she has enkindled a flame which flashes from the great lakes of the West, lights up the mountain tops, and sinks calmly to rest upon the mighty ocean.

The magic words of Faith, Hope and Charity, are echoed and re-echoed over mountains and valleys, and Masonry binds in her adamant chains, the whole of this mighty country, from the distant regions of the North, to the stormy cape of the South—from the shores of the Atlantic, to the confines of the Pacific. Her course is onward; and as the rain which falls upon the Rocky Mountains is carried to swell the two mighty oceans which envelope the earth in their watery embrace,—so has Masonry, from the great western region of Central Asia, been borne throughout the world, until her banner floats where ever civilization has found a home.

From a correspondence published in the pamphlet before us, we are sorry to learn that the Grand Lodge of Hamburgh insists that she was right in chartering a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York. As every Grand Lodge on this continent and in Europe, so far as they have expressed an opinion, agree in condemning this act of the Grand Lodge of Hamburgh, may we not hope that she will be induced to withdraw the charter, and relinquish her claim to exercise jurisdiction out of her own proper sphere?

The New York Committee of Correspondence, as usual, presented an extended and elaborate report, in which they review the transactions of all the Grand Lodges in the world, so far as they were received. In commenting on the report of the Cor-

respondence Committee of the Grand Lodge of Indiana for 1851, our New York brethren say :

They object to the opinions of this committee, as expressed in our report for 1850, in reference to the inviolability of a Grand Master, while in office, and make a strong argument in support of their views, but we think not a conclusive one. They call it a "one man power," and think it repugnant to some other admitted principles, and prefer the decisions of majorities. Their view would admit of appeals from the decision of the chair.

Our opinion is, that he is not, while in office, subject to trial, or any form of censure; and that he is not so subject after leaving office, for any act or opinion declared while in office, except one involving moral delinquency. And this, because, he has at all times during his term, a right to preside in the Grand Lodge, and a right to close its session. And because no man should preside on his own trial, nor be tried where he has, until condemned, the right to preside, and the power of terminating the trial at his own pleasure. And because the dignity of each Grand Lodge should forbid its proceeding to censure, or try its presiding officer, while in his seat. And because neither the old constitutions or the modern ones, have provided any law or regulation, to govern such a case; presuming that from the high character of the men usually placed in that station, and their devotion to Masonry, no case would arise requiring it. It was by the exercise of the powers inherent in the office of Grand Master, alone, or which may be said to be incidental to it, that our Grand Lodge was preserved from dissolution in 1849. It was precisely because the rebellious could not overthrow that strong rock, that the Grand Lodge was not prostrated.

And we think no appeal lies from his decisions, because he is, in his official position, required, like the Master of his Lodge, to see that the constitutions and laws of Masonry are faithfully observed. He cannot do this, if his opinion or decision may be instantly set aside, by an appeal to that majority which is about to violate them. In such case also, he may close the Lodge, to prevent the violation. So that calm reason teaches us, that there is no other just rule in this matter, than that of the supremacy and inviolability of presiding officers. Besides, *Grand Lodges* have *acquired no power* to take away the *prerogatives of this office*, because they were *among the things* appertaining to the *old landmarks*, and *the body of Masonry* before 1717, and were not meddled with then, nor in 1721; but an express prohibition for all time, against doing so, was inserted by the four old Lodges, in the constitution framed at that time, as a condition of admitting new Lodges to be formed, and admitting their representatives to seats in the Grand Lodge. These are our views, candidly declared, but we have no desire to enter upon an argument of the case.

It would seem to your Committee, that in order to a right understanding of the powers and responsibilities of Grand Masters, it is only necessary to settle the question, Who makes the Grand Master? If this high functionary, by the exercise of any prerogative pertaining to his person or office, creates the

Grand Lodge, the reasoning of our brethren is undoubtedly correct. But if, as we believe is the case in every Masonic jurisdiction under the sun, the Grand Lodge elevates the Grand Master to his high position, then, in the opinion of your committee, it is equally clear, that he can exercise only such powers as are given him by the Grand Lodge. Otherwise, the thing created must be greater than the creator.

The New York Committee find occasion, while reviewing the transactions of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, to offer the following remarks in reference to the recommendation of a committee on returns and work of Lodges under dispensation :

We have objected to allowing Lodges U. D. to be represented, and so also have many other Grand Lodges, while several practice it. The palpable and plain reason is, that an overbearing, tyrannical or ambitious *presiding* officer, if that were the rule, might at any time create a batch of voters to aid on a close vote in expectancy, and thus introduce misrule and dissension. There has never happened to arise such a *Grand Master*, but the same cannot be correctly said as to *Deputy Grand Master*. Our own experience, and that of several other Grand Lodges proves this. It has been, therefore, to guard the fraternity against the improper acts of such a Deputy, chiefly, that the rule has been preserved in those Grand Lodges which have adhered to it. And it is to be regretted that any have departed from it.

But the instance before us has a different aspect. The *Charters* of these Lodges had been *granted* by the *Grand Lodge*; and the only objection that could be urged against their taking seats, is the question whether by the ancient usages of the Order, they could legally be permitted to do so until *after their installation*. We think they could not.

We must be permitted to dissent from the opinion expressed in the last quoted above. In the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, when the Master of a subordinate Lodge presents his credentials as a representative of his Lodge, we never heard the question asked, whether he had been installed. It is the practice in this State, in cases where there is no objection offered, to grant charters at the opening of the Grand Lodge, to such Lodges as have been created by dispensation during the recess, and to admit their officers as members of the Grand Lodge.

In concluding their notice of the Grand Lodge of California, the New York committee say :

Thus, it will be perceived, that Masonry, sound to the core, is prospering in California. Destined to cover the whole earth with its benefits, it has within the

past three years extended itself from its central localities to "the Golden Horn" in the East, (Turkey,) and "the Golden Gate" in the West, (California,) to Oregon in the West; and Shonghal in the East, to New South Wales in the South, and Finland on the North; amongst the Choctaws in the interior of America, (Arkansas;) and the civilized and independent free blacks at Liberia, in Africa, are earnestly petitioning for it,—the petition being headed by the President of the Liberian State. Let it go on triumphing, conquering the stubborn will, and modifying and restraining the sinful disposition of man in a state of nature; improving his condition; informing, instructing, and schooling him for the peaceful and better part on life's stage;—bringing men to a perfect knowledge of the one only true God, and to the truths of the Bible, as his revealed will; and thus "preparing the way of the Lord, and making his paths straight before him." This is her mission; and this she is accomplishing. So mote it be: Amen.

From the address of the Grand Master of Florida, the Committee quote the following language in reference to the importance of a Masonic Library which has recently been established by the joint appropriations of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of that State:

He says, "to go through the forms and ceremonies of receiving the several degrees in a Lodge, and the having his name enrolled on the list of members, no more makes a man a Mason, than going through the ceremonies of admission into a Christian Church and having his name enrolled on the list of members, makes him a Christian." That Masonry is not mere idle ceremony, but a thing of the heart and understanding. He therefore recommends the careful study of these books, as not only valuable to the Mason, but to the antiquarian and scholar. And he adds, "the great mistake of the present day is, that we technically call *the work* of Masonry, Masonry itself. This is a serious error, and should be at once corrected; for it is lowering the importance and dignity of Masonry, and degrading as well her character as her mission."

Our brethren of the New York Committee conclude their review as follows:

We have to report to the Grand Lodge, that Masonry continues prosperous, and to extend itself, in all lands. It has received a large increase the past year, in numbers, strength and character, in the United States of America, embracing a large increase of Lodges and charity funds, and one independent Grand Lodge, that of Oregon. It has also received a decided advance in Europe and Asia, by the increased patronage of the Royal Houses of Denmark and Sweden, at the North; of Prussia and Bavaria in the center; of France in the South; of Sardinia and Lombardy, and of the Sultan of Turkey, in the East; all of them permitting and encouraging the spread of the institution among their people, and in some instances, actually presiding in it, and giving it the sanction of their personal example and favor.

It has also extended considerably, under the patronage of the Grand Lodges of

England and Scotland; in the Southern and Eastern portions of Asia; on the Continent of New Holland, and in the islands of the sea. A Provincial Grand Lodge has been established at New South Wales, and entered into correspondence with the Grand Lodge of California; so that, the chain, brightened in every link, has in the years of 1850, '51 and '52, extended itself around the whole earth. Among so many Lodges, the sun ever shines upon the brotherhood, in some part of the world, and the gentle light of the moon, or that of the stars, constantly smiles radiantly upon the work in the Lodges, in some of these many countries. There, in each of them, upon the altar, lays the Bible, and there God is acknowledged. There the Square teaches its lesson, and the Compasses circumscribe desire. At the foot of those altars, kneel the penitent worshipers; and by them stands the representatives of Truth—the Divine attribute, which is the foundation of every virtue—teaching the cardinal rules of life—our duty to the Supreme Grand Master, our fellow-men, and ourselves—and pointing to the Great Revelation which lays open before him, as the Chart of our duty to God and man. Thus may it long—thus may it ever be.

From New York we also have an account of the Grand Lodge celebration of the centennial anniversary of the initiation of Washington into the mysteries of Masonry, together with the address delivered on that occasion by the Rev. Bro. Stephen H. Tyng, D. D. In the account of the ceremonies on that occasion, occurs the following paragraph :

Next followed a Committee from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, with that venerable and precious relic, the *Bible*, (now the property of that ancient and respectable Lodge,) on which the great WASHINGTON was inaugurated as first President of the United States. The Bible was accompanied by a guard of honor from the Continental Corps in uniform.

The address of Rev. Bro. Tyng is an eloquent production, every line of which is replete with interest. It would afford your committee much satisfaction to lay the whole of it before our brethren of the Grand Lodge; but want of space admonishes us that this cannot be. We must therefore be content with the following brief extract :

A remarkable illustration of the extensive veneration in which the name of Washington is regarded among the Masonic fraternity in foreign lands, has lately fallen under my notice in an account of a celebration held in the City of Manchester, in England, on the 16th of March, 1852, although the ceremony itself originated in some strange mistakes. The recorded facts of Washington's Masonic history are in the register of the Fredericksburg Lodge, in the State of Virginia. He was there initiated as an apprentice on the 4th of Nov. 1752, a few months before he attained his full age of 21. On the 3d of March, 1753, nine

days after he was of age, he was advanced to the second degree of Fellow-craft. And on the fourth of August, 1753, he was exalted to the full degree of a Master Mason. This is the indubitable record of his entrance into the full standing of the Order. And yet I find it declared in an English publication, (*The Freemason's Quarterly Review*, for July, 1834,) that he was initiated into Masonry, in a Lodge in the 46th Regiment of the British Army, during the services of that Regiment in America. It is asserted that the very copy of the Holy Scriptures, upon which his obligation was taken, belonging to that Lodge, is now in the possession of a Capt. CHILD, an officer of that Regiment. On the 16th of March last, this Bible was brought, under a military escort, to the Lodge of Virtue, in the city of Manchester, as an object of very peculiar interest and veneration. Three times the procession of the brethren moved in solemn order round the Lodge, the Bible carried by the oldest member of the Lodge. And then they all united to sing in harmony, that beautiful hymn,

“ Holy Bible, book divine—

Precious treasure! thou art mine.”

The lecturer on the occasion says: “ We were privileged to handle in our own hands, and to behold with our own eyes, and to seal with our own lips, that copy of the Sacred Law upon which the great WASHINGTON was obligated, before his admission into the mysteries of our ancient and divine order. Was there a heart which did not throb with joy, when we joined in procession round the Lodge? Was there a voice which did not join in chorus whilst singing that beautiful hymn which was selected for this occasion? Dear brethren, we enjoyed a great privilege, and it must not be permitted to become of a transitory character.”

We receive with great delight this token of foreign reverence for our great American, and the evidence which it gives us of the extending influence of his name, and history, and opinions, over the people in other lands. But in this instance it arises out of a total error in the facts of history, which it is our right and duty to correct. Gen. BRADDOCK, under whom WASHINGTON had his first connection with the British army, did not arrive in Virginia till the 20th of February, 1755—two years after Washington had become a Mason. Nor was Washington introduced to the British officers until April, 1755. Nor had he any personal connection with any regiment of English troops till after that time. Though it is very likely, therefore, that he maintained his Masonic connection with them in the subsequent campaign, if there really were a military Lodge in the army of Gen. Braddock, it is not the fact that he was by them initiated into Masonry. No. Washington's entrance into Masonry was as truly American as the whole residue of his noble career. No foreign soldiers taught him its sublime principles. They gave him, indeed, ample scope to exercise and display those principles, in the many provocations of that early campaign, and in the long and faithful probation of his character, which their bitter and varied hostilities brought out in the subsequent Revolutionary war. But he owed nothing directly to their teaching. Of that army under Braddock, he says, in a letter to his mother after their defeat: “ The dastardly behavior of the regular troops, (so called,) exposed all others who were inclined to do their duty to almost certain death, and, at last, in despite of all the efforts of the officers to the contrary, they ran as sheep pursued by dogs, and it was impossible to rally them.” Of his own unfortunate

battle of that day, he says; By the all powerful dispensations of Providence,"— Ah, beautiful illustration of the way in which, from the very beginning of his glorious career, he was accustomed to acknowledge and reverence the Divine presence, and the Providence of God! "By the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation. I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet escaped unburnt, although death was leveling my companions on every side of me." Of him, then but 23 years old, the Rev. SAMUEL DAVIES, afterwards President of Princeton College, says, in a sermon delivered on the 17th of August, 1755, but a month after the battle, "as a remarkable instance of patriotic spirit and military ardor, I may point out to the public that heroic youth Colonel Washington, whom I cannot but hope Providence has hitherto preserved in so single a manner for some important service to his country." How wonderfully prophetic was this passage! We may now add in its actual accomplishment, important service not to his country only, but to the honor, dignity and happiness of the whole human race.

OREGON.

We hail with delight the organization of a Grand Lodge in the far-off Territory of Oregon, which took place in September, 1851. We have before us two pamphlets from this Grand Lodge, the first of which gives the proceedings of a Convention which was holden at Oregon City on the 16th of August, 1851, and by adjournment on the 13th and 15th of September. At this last meeting, the organization of the Grand Lodge was completed. M. W. Berryman Jennings, of Oregon City, was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Benjamin Stark, of Portland, Grand Secretary.

The Constitution of this new Grand Lodge provides that the fees for the three degrees of Masonry shall not be less than fifty dollars, each degree to be paid for invariably in advance; that no more than one degree shall be conferred on the same candidate at one and the same meeting, nor shall degrees be conferred on more than five candidates at one meeting; and the Past Masters of Lodges shall be members of the Grand Lodge.

The first annual meeting of the Grand Lodge was held at Oregon City, on the 14th day of June, 1852, when all the Lodges in the Territory, (four in number,) were represented. The Grand Master, in his address, recommends the subject of education to the attention of the Grand Lodge; and a commit-

tee was appointed to report, at the next annual communication, a plan for carrying out the suggestion of the Grand Master.

The Committee on Correspondence submitted a brief report, having received only the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of California and Vermont.

We cordially extend the right hand of fellowship to this youngest sister of the great family of American Grand Lodges, and invoke for her a long and successful career of usefulness.

PENNSYLVANIA.

This Grand Lodge held an annual communication in the city of Philadelphia, on the 27th of December, 1851. As this is a quarter from which we seldom hear, it affords us much pleasure to learn from the address of the Grand Master, M. W. Anthony Bournonville, that the interests of Masonry are in a healthy condition in the Key Stone jurisdiction. He says :

I think I can truly say, that at no former period of the history of our Order in this State, has our institution been in so prosperous and flourishing a condition as we find it at the present time. Numerous applications have been made for the revival of old warrants as well as for granting new ones in various sections of our State. The recent public procession which took place in this city, and which was highly creditable to the Order, it is believed, has given an additional impetus to Masonry, and no doubt will be the means of producing an additional desire in the minds of hundreds, if not thousands, to be initiated into our mysteries, and become members of our subordinate Lodges. In my last address to you, one year since, I then recommended that the Lodges could not be too cautious, or guard too rigidly their portals, as to whom they admitted among them. I may be permitted again to repeat this caution.

The qualifications of every applicant cannot be too rigidly examined, and none should be admitted who do not possess, to the fullest extent, all the qualifications requisite to make them useful and valuable members of our Order. The greater number of members a Lodge can obtain does not, of necessity, make her the most useful, or, of necessity, add to her prosperity. I cannot but think that there is, even at this time, more danger of some of our Lodges breaking down from having too many, than from too small a number of members.

The Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge amounted to \$4.512. The Grand Master says, in reference to this fund :

It has been the settled policy of this Grand Lodge, during the past few years, that the income from this fund should be specially set apart for the relief of such of the widows and orphans of deceased Masons as may stand in need, and be

found worthy of participating from its benefits. Much good has already been done, and more, I trust, will be done hereafter, by granting proper aid to the objects I have already referred to; for who can be more worthy to claim our aid and sympathy than the widow and orphan, when he, to whom they would most naturally look for sustenance and comfort, has received his final summons, and has been laid in the cold gloom of his grave.

We have also from Pennsylvania, the proceedings at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, Dec. 27, 1852. The Grand Lodge has a fund bequeathed by the late Bro. Stephen Girard, which amounted, in 1852, to \$35,000. Of this fund, the Grand Master informs us, the Steward has distributed to "poor and respectable brethren," according to the will of the donor, the sum of \$1,994.58; of which amount, \$504.48 was given to 36 applicants hailing from foreign jurisdictions, and \$1,490.83 to brethren hailing under the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Of the charity fund proper, \$250 was distributed to 40 applicants, widows of deceased Masons. Thus it will be seen that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, although she does not make much noise in the world, is silently carrying out one of the most beautiful and sublime principles of Masonry.

RHODE ISLAND.

From this Grand Lodge, we have abstracts of proceedings of her annual communications, June 24th, 1850 and 1851, as also at various quarterly and special meetings. The first of these annual meetings partook somewhat of the character of a celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist.

A procession was formed which proceeded to the Baptist meeting house, where an excellent address was delivered by Bro. C. B. Farnsworth, replete with ancient Masonic lore.

The address was listened to with intense interest, and when finished, notwithstanding the sanctity of the place, the brethren could not withhold the plaudits of approbation. The services throughout were of deep interest, and the music by the choir was *old fashioned, heartfelt and excellent*. The services being concluded, the procession returned in the same order to the Fair House, accompanied by a large number of the fairest portion of creation, who were escorted by the St. John's and Holy Sepulchre Encampments.

A Rhode Island clam-bake and chowder, with suitable "fixings," were provided, and about two hundred ladies and brethren participated in such a substantial manner, as to convince the most incredulous that the (clam) banks of Rhode

Island can meet all drafts made upon them on any emergency. After an hour agreeably spent at table, the Grand Lodge returned to the Hall and resumed business.

In the proceedings of the annual meeting in 1851, we find the following entry :

W. Bro. C. B. Manchester, G. Marshal, asked to be instructed relative to forming processions, as some dissatisfaction had been manifested by his placing members of the ineffable degrees on the right of the procession.

After a very few remarks by several members, the whole subject was referred to the next Quarterly Communication.

The committee reported at the next quarterly meeting. The conclusion of their report is as follows :

Your committee will only add, that as we are York Masons, and as those degrees called Ineffable, given in what is called a Supreme Grand Council, and some others, are no part of York Masonry, but are wholly of modern invention, they should not be recognized at all by us in public processions, and those who hold these degrees should occupy no position except the one to which they are entitled by their standing in York Masonry.

The report on correspondence was presented at a quarterly meeting, May 31st, 1852. It is a brief document—the committee saying that in their last report they had discussed nearly every subject of importance, and that they have not, on further reflection, or from any new light, seen cause for changing or modifying, in a single instance, the views formerly expressed. They say :

In our last report we made some remarks on the prosperity and unity of our Order. And we are now most happy to be able to state that those still continue and have increased. There never has been a period since the building of King Solomon's Temple, in which Masonry has so rapidly extended its triumphs over ignorance, superstition, and prejudice, and has enlisted so many of the wise, great and good in its favor and support, as during the last few years. And as its principles are coincident with all its correct human knowledge, and all the principles of liberty and freedom, we have every reason to believe that Masonry will continue to advance as the human mind becomes more enlightened, and as our race becomes more and more freed from the thralldom of ignorance and despotism.

On the subject of a Masonic Library, the Committee say :

We find remarks in several addresses of Grand Masters and reports of Correspondence Committees in regard to the importance of Masonic Libraries. With these remarks we fully coincide; and will take this opportunity to congratulate

this Grand Lodge on the formation, since its last report was published, of a library containing all the standard Masonic works, both American and Foreign, which could be obtained. These books, we doubt not, will prove a great help to the officers of this body, in the discharge of their duties; and also the means of disseminating important Masonic knowledge among the fraternity throughout this jurisdiction. In fact, if the Masons of this State do not now become well informed on subjects appertaining to our Order, it will be their own fault, as ample means of information are placed within their power.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The pamphlet from this Grand Lodge gives an abstract of proceedings at the various special and quarterly meetings, from Feb. 14th to Dec. 2d, 1851, and of the annual communication on the festival of St. John the Evangelist in the same year.

The Grand Treasurer reported that he had received through Bro. William Williams, of Cincinnati, Ohio, \$200 from an unknown English brother, \$150 of which to be applied to the charity fund of the most needy Lodges, and the balance as the Grand Lodge may direct. This balance of \$50 was appropriated, by a vote of the Grand Lodge, "to assist in defraying the expenses of the education of the orphan daughter of a Master Mason, who is now receiving her education at the expense of the Craft in this State."

From the report of the Grand Secretary, which seems to take somewhat the form of a report on Foreign Correspondence, we extract the following brief paragraphs :

I had supposed that the question of establishing a General Grand Lodge of the United States had died a natural death, by the condemnation of an overwhelming majority of the Grand Lodges, but the subject has been renewed by the Grand Lodge of Maine, which at its last annual communication, directed its Grand Secretary to urge upon the several Grand Lodges of the Union, the necessity of taking the preparatory steps for forming such a body. I have, however, received no further official communication on this subject, and presume that the attempt to organize a General or Supreme Grand Lodge may be considered as one of those abortive efforts which will not again be renewed in many years to come.

In our own jurisdiction, the present year has been marked with an unprecedented state of prosperity in the craft. The old Lodges have been greatly augmented in numbers, and many new ones have been constituted. The report of the M. W. Grand Master has shown the prosperous condition of the Lodges in this city. Having during the two preceding years visited nearly every Lodge in the State, I have during the past twelve months made fewer visitations than usual.

But, wherever I have been, I have been gratified with the sight of prosperous Lodges, zealous, active and intelligent Masters, and with the general desire of all the brotherhood, but with very rare exceptions, to increase by careful study and preserving application, their amount of Masonic knowledge. I know of no greater change in public sentiment than that which is now shown by the fraternity in the view that they are beginning to take of the true design and object of Freemasonry. They no longer consider it, as their fathers once did, as a simply social and convivial, or at least, charitable society, but as a great scientific and religious institution, whose intention is to improve the head and purify the heart. They now begin fully and truly to appreciate that noble definition, that "Freemasonry is a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." At the termination of a life, many years of which have been spent in the arduous investigation of Masonic science, I could ask no higher reward than the consciousness that my humble teachings to the fraternity of this State have been in the slightest degree instrumental in advancing these elevated views of the nature, the design and the ultimate object of our beloved institution.

The Grand Master, in his address, says :

Our institution has been greatly blessed during the past year—if we consider the diffusion of its *light* a blessing—if we feel that by our zeal in its behalf we are endeavoring to improve the condition of men in their social relations, and are aiding to bind together in peace, love and harmony, the children of Adam.

He also recommends "the establishment of a school, or seminary of learning, for orphan children," and after alluding to similar institutions in Missouri, Florida and Kentucky, he adds :

Within our State there are more than a thousand worthy brothers who will aid in giving a helping hand to such an institution as I propose. Let it be determined on and it is done! Our sister Grand Lodges in North Carolina and Virginia are moving in this matter, so that it has become one of the onward movements of the day. Let us not remain groveling below, but mount to the highest pinnacle of our ancient order. Give charity to Orphans!

TENNESSEE.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was holden at Nashville, on the 4th day of October, 1852. The Grand Master, M. W. Charles A. Fuller, delivered an excellent address, from which we make the following brief extract :

Many of the Lodges are actively engaged in making more extended provision for the education and moral training of those helpless objects of a Mason's sympathetic charity—the destitute orphan children of our brethren. Primary schools and colleges are being erected for their benefit, and receiving more liberal patronage than heretofore. Without designing to call into invidious notice particular institutions, I mention the names of Jackson College, under the patronage of the

brethren of Maury County, Clarksville College, the Female Colleges of Maryville and Macon, as Institutions of which any one may well be proud to acknowledge as having been erected by the fraternity, and are peculiarly Masonic in their government and character. In no way, in my opinion, can Masons better carry into practical effect the benign impulses of a generous heart, than in fostering institutions of learning; and I trust the day is not far distant when every Lodge in our jurisdiction will have schools of similar kinds established under their patronage; and if they cannot at once create a College in their immediate vicinity, it is no reason why they should not participate, though in a more humble degree, in the advantages to be derived from primary schools. There are hundreds of intelligent sons and daughters of our less favored brethren in worldly advantages, whose sole dependence for education rests upon the interest now manifested by the brotherhood upon this subject.

The Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. John S. Dashiell, in his report, stated that his situation in life rendered it necessary for him to retire from the responsible office which he had held since 1840. He says :

When I entered upon the discharge of the duties of the office, no more than eight Lodges were represented in this body, and yet this little handful of pilgrims were wending their way for several succeeding years to our beloved Temple, to lay their offerings upon the altar of charity and good will towards their fellow men. Unwearied in their exertions, they have gone on until that little band has gathered strength, and now numbers an army of One Hundred and Sixty Lodges. This certainly must be gratifying to every representative present, and forcibly reminds us that by patience and perseverance all things may be accomplished.

The report on Correspondence is an able paper, from the pen of Grand Master Fuller. It is a calm review of the proceedings of sister Grand Lodges; and although the writer says, in his introductory paragraph, that he has taken but few occasions to express his own sentiments, "for the reason he would not appear as unnecessarily critical in scrutinizing the acts and doings of our sister Grand Lodges;" yet we are glad to see that when he does express an opinion, it is generally a correct one; and those who read his report are not at a loss to know what he thinks on many important subjects. In noticing the opinions of the Correspondence Committee of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in reference to the powers of Grand Masters, &c., he remarks :

We cannot agree with the committee, and many other brethren, that no appeal can be taken from the decision of a Grand Master, or Master, to the body over

which he presides. We regard the assertion of this power as entirely of modern origin, not warranted by the old constitutions of Masonry. In the case of a Master of a Lodge, its advocates contend that as he alone is responsible to the Grand Lodge for the manner in which the affairs of his Lodge are conducted, therefore his decisions must be final and conclusive, and if an appeal be taken, it must be to the Grand Lodge. To some extent, at least so far as the mere Masonic work of a Lodge is concerned, we readily admit that there may be some plausibility in the argument; but to contend that *no appeal* on *any* decision whatever, whether business or otherwise, can be taken to the body of the Lodge, we regard as an assumption of power altogether too great to repose in the hands of any one individual.

But what body is competent to correct the decisions of a Grand Master, if it be not the body over which he may preside? A Grand Lodge is a representative body, and the Grand Master is simply the official organ through which it may carry into effect the laws and regulations from time to time adopted, and while in session it is his duty to preserve order and conduct the business in the best manner his judgment may dictate. But the simple fact of his being elevated to office by his brethren does not thereby invest him with prerogatives above the common frailties of his associates. All men are liable to error, both in judgment and action, and none less so perhaps than the Grand Master of a Grand Lodge; and it is the part of wisdom to defer to the decisions of the Grand Lodge itself, rather than those of the presiding officer. During the recess of the Grand Lodge, the decisions of the Grand Master, when given officially, are binding until the same can be revised or annulled by subsequent action of the Grand Lodge when constitutionally convened.

VIRGINIA.

We have from this Grand Lodge an abstract of proceedings at the annual communication, Dec. 13, 1852. The Grand Master, M. W. James Evans, says, in his address:

At no period of our history has the Craft in Virginia been more prosperous and more harmonious. Scarcely a whisper of discontent or strife is now heard, while the busy hum of active industry is audible throughout our widely extended jurisdiction. In addition, there will be found a renewed spirit of emulation among the Lodges and brethren, an earnest desire and inquiry how best to understand and exemplify the true principles of Masonry. Thus will it always be if we rigidly adhere to our ancient charges; frown down all change and innovation, and follow in the footsteps of those enlightened Craftsmen whose wisdom and councils have stood the test of generations.

After alluding in appropriate terms to the late centennial celebration of the initiation of Washington, and the recent death of our exalted brother, Henry Clay, the Grand Master, adds:

The examples of these great men are worthy of our warmest admiration, and it should be our study to try and emulate their many virtues. True, we may not be able to attain to the high and distinguished positions they occupied, and our sphere of action may not be so extended, but no man, however humble and circumscribed his sphere, but possesses more or less influence for good or for evil; as men and Masons, it is our duty to "apply ourselves to the attainment of useful knowledge," and to apply that knowledge to the welfare of mankind. Let us see to it, my brethren, that we are not idle and that in *our* lives and conduct we justly appreciate our high vocation, and use our best energies to effect something of good for Masonry and the world, in this our day and generation.

Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, have issued a circular, asking the attention of the Grand Lodge to their efforts to erect in that town a Monumental Masonic Temple to the memory of Washington. In presenting the circular to the Grand Lodge, Bro. Morrison also deposited on the altar the Bible used at the initiation of Washington, together with the Record of Fredericksburg Lodge, showing the various dates of his Initiation, Passing and Raising.

The Committee to whom was referred the circular of Fredericksburg Lodge, reported a series of resolutions, which were adopted by the Grand Lodge, one of which is as follows :

Resolved, That our sister Grand Lodges on the continent of America, be affectionately invited to participate in this great work, by contributions to aid in erecting the Temple and Statue to the memory of our Bro. Washington, and that they forward their contributions to Bro. J. J. Young, Chairman of the Monumental Committee, Fredericksburg; and, also, that they be requested by Circular, to call the attention of their subordinates to this subject.

From the address of the Grand Master, M. W. Abram D. Smith, we quote the following on the subject of Masons who have fled from the persecutions of tyranny in the old World, and taken refuge in our own free land :

Since the revolutions in Europe in 1848, many political refugees from those countries have sought an asylum in the United States, and found protection under our government. Some of these refugees are Masons, hailing from Lodges under the Grand Lodges of the continent of Europe. I have been informed, that in some instances, those Grand Lodges have pronounced sentence of expulsion upon Masons, for no other cause than a participation in those political strifes, and I have asked from time to time, whether such sentence of expulsion shall be regarded by the Lodges in this State ?

The charge given to every candidate on his initiation, is, that he is not to be concerned in conspiracies against his government, but patiently to submit to the

decisions of the supreme legislature. Where may be the dividing line between conspiracies or insurrection, and revolution, the right of which must be recognized, as an ulterior remedy, may be difficult to determine. And whether we may go behind the sentence of a regular Grand Lodge, and inquire into its justice, or the regularity of the proceedings of the body pronouncing it, may be important to determine. It is hoped the Grand Lodge will take this matter under advisement, and pass such judgment as will instruct our Lodges how to act in contingencies of this nature.

The case here presented is a hard one, though in the opinion of your Committee the duty of American Masons is clear. However much we may sympathize with the victims of European despotism, and cordially as we may as citizens welcome them to our shores and to a participation in the benefits of our free and enlightened political institutions ; we cannot, as Masons, recognize those who have been expelled from the rights and privileges of Masonry by any Grand Lodge which we acknowledge as such. The Grand Lodge of Connecticut has no right to disregard a sentence of expulsion pronounced by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin against a Mason within her jurisdiction ; nor have we a right to inquire what was the cause of expulsion. It is enough for us to know the fact, and we are bound to acquiesce. No more has the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, or any other State, a right to disregard an expulsion inflicted by an European Grand Lodge, let it be for whatever cause it may. The case of those who constituted the late St. John's Grand Lodge, in New York, is in point. They were expelled by the regular Grand Lodge of that State ; and although the great body of Masons throughout the United States were fully convinced that that this wholesale expulsion proceeded from the arbitrary and oppressive exercise of power on the part of certain brethren in the Grand Lodge of New York, no Grand Lodge in this country hesitated, for a moment, to prohibit Masonic intercourse with those who had been thus expelled. Were it otherwise, there would be an end to that harmony which so happily exists between the several members of the great Masonic family throughout the world, and the jurisdictional lines of State and National Grand Lodges would dissolve at once into invisibility.

The Correspondence Committee submitted an able report, from

which we make a few brief extracts. On the subject of balloting for the several degrees, the Committee say :

We agree with the Vermont Committee that a single negative vote is sufficient to debar a candidate from receiving the honors of Masonry, and we hold that any brother having reasons satisfactory to himself, may cast a negative vote and thus exclude a candidate, and that he is not bound under any circumstances to disclose the reasons which influence his action. It is believed to be the general practice in this State and many others, to take but a single ballot (and that in the Master's degree) for initiation in all the degrees, and not to ballot for each degree separately, and when the candidate has passed the ordeal of such ballot, he is initiated into the three degrees at the proper time. If however, after the election of a candidate and his initiation, facts should come to the knowledge of a brother which satisfy him that the initiate should not be advanced, it is not only his privilege but his duty to object to his advancement. If the candidate is balloted for in each degree he may do this by his negative ballot, and if the other practice is pursued he should make his objections to the Master, and in either case the objection, if not withdrawn, presents an insuperable bar to the further advancement of the candidate. The objecting brother cannot be required to explain to the Lodge the reasons for his objections, nor is it in the power of the Lodge, if possessed of the facts, to judge of them and overrule the brother by its vote.

In noticing the proceedings of our Grand Lodge for 1850, the Committee say :

The Grand Master stated in his address that although the Constitution of that Grand Lodge did not *prohibit* the Grand Master from granting dispensations for new Lodges, to remain in force until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, yet it contained no provision granting such power to the Grand Master, and therefore he had felt obliged to refuse to grant a dispensation for a new Lodge. We had supposed that the power to grant dispensations for the formation of new Lodges was inherent in a Grand Master, and derived from the Ancient Constitutions of Freemasonry, and that no written legislation was required to confer it upon that officer or to authorize him to exercise it, and such we believe to be the acknowledged doctrine upon this subject. The Grand Master may exercise this power without reference to the written Constitution of his Grand Lodge; and most certainly may he do so if the Constitution of his Grand Lodge contains no express prohibition of its exercise.

The views of our Wisconsin brethren are undoubtedly correct, and such is now the practice in this State.

CANADA WEST.

Your Committee are in possession of the printed proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, at several half-yearly and special communications, from June 11th, 1851, to

Oct. 21st, 1852. We are pleased to learn that the interests of Masonry are healthy and prosperous under this jurisdiction. At one of these meetings, the M. W. Grand Master for Montreal and William Henry were present, and by request "was pleased to work through the first degrees of Masonry, for the information of the Grand Lodge; the same being the work as practiced in Lower Canada, and sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of England."

At a regular communication on the 21st of October, 1852, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved,—1. That this Grand Lodge entertains towards the Grand Lodge of England feelings of the highest respect and esteem; that it is our most ardent desire to cultivate those feelings, to advance the interest, and to establish upon a firmer basis the character of Masonry in this Province.

2. That with a view of carrying out one of the primary objects of our time-honored Institution, viz, that of being more useful to our fellow-creatures, it is necessary that all the funds accruing from the operations of the craft in this Province be retained by this Grand Lodge.

3. That it is absolutely necessary for the welfare of Masonry, that a separate Grand Lodge be established, with full power to control the working and operations of the craft in this quarter of the globe, to secure which, a committee be appointed to draft a petition to the Grand Lodge of England, based on the foregoing resolutions, praying for permission to establish a Grand Lodge in that part of the Province of Canada, formerly constituting Upper Canada, with full power and authority to manage and control all matters connected with such Grand Lodge, and all Lodges now working under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, and that the said committee be fully empowered to carry on all correspondence with the Grand Lodge of England, for the purpose of securing the absolute independence of such Grand Lodge.

Your Committee have thus accomplished the work assigned them by the Grand Lodge. They have perused the documents received from sister Grand Lodges, and brought to the notice of their brethren in this jurisdiction such matters as have appeared to them of particular interest. We are happy in being able to congratulate the Grand Lodge on the high degree of prosperity vouchsafed to our ancient institution during the past year, not only in our own State, but throughout the several States of our Union and the world. Let us be thankful to the Great Source of Light, for so over-ruling the events of His Providence as to insure the advancement of the interests of our beloved institu-

tion. Let us renew our vows of adherence to the sublime principles of Masonry, and strenuously emulate each other in honest efforts to see "who shall best work and best agree."

Your Committee deem it a duty incumbent on them, again to ask the attention of the Grand Lodge to the subject of the Past Master's degree. The experience and reading of another year has more and more confirmed us in the opinion, that the jurisdiction of this degree is not now where it should be; that it of right belongs to the Grand Lodge, and not to Royal Arch Chapters. In this opinion, we are happy to know, we are sustained by many of the most intelligent Masons in this and other States. We entertain a sanguine belief, that if this Grand Lodge will but express a wish to that effect, the General Grand Chapter will readily see the propriety of relinquishing all claim to the jurisdiction of the degree, and that it may be restored to the authority to which it originally and exclusively belonged. With these views, we again respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the jurisdiction of the Past Master's degree ought, in the fitness of things, to be vested in the several Grand Lodges, and not in Chapters of Royal Arch Masons.

Resolved, That a respectful representation be made to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Connecticut, requesting that M. E. body to use its influence at the next triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, to induce that exalted body, and its subordinates, to relinquish the control of the Past Master's Degree, so that it may be assumed by the several Grand Lodges of the United States.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WM. STORER,

Chairman of Committee.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION,
For Completing the Wooster Monument.

At a special communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, held in the hall of Union Lodge, No. 40, Danbury, April 27, A. L. 5854,

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT :

- M. W. DAVID CLARK, Grand Master.
 R. W. THEODORE SPENCER, Deputy G. Master.
 WILLIAM L. BREWER, Senior Grand Warden.
 GEORGE F. DASKAM, Junior Grand Warden.
 HORACE GOODWIN, Grand Treasurer.
 ELIPHALET G. STORER, Grand Secretary.
 JOHN W. LEEDS, Senior Grand Deacon.
 HOWARD B. ENSIGN, Junior Grand Deacon.
 LLOYD E. BALDWIN, Grand Marshal, p. t.
 NOAH H. BYINGTON, Grand Sentinel.
 Rev. JUNIUS M. WILLEY, Grand Chaplain.
 HARMON TERRY, Grand Steward, p. t.
 ASA SMITH, Assistant Grand Steward.
 EBENEZER ALLEN, Grand Tyler.
 ISAAC TUTTLE, Assistant Grand Tyler.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT :

- M. W. WILLIAM H. ELLIS, Past Grand Master, and
 Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.
 M. W. BENONI A. SHEPHERD, Past Grand Master,
 and Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.
 R. W. JAMES WARD, Past Deputy Grand Master, and
 Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT :

- M. W. DANIEL B. BRINSMADE, Past Grand Master.
 M. W. ANER BRADLEY, Past Grand Master.
 M. W. AVERY C. BABCOCK, Past Grand Master.
 M. W. WILLIAM E. SANFORD, Past Grand Master.
 R. W. JOHN C. BLACKMAN, Past Sen. Grand Warden.
 R. W. M. S. MITCHELL, Past Junior Grand Warden.

VISITING GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT :

- M. W. REUBEN H. WALWORTH, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York.
 M. W. WILLIAM FIELD, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, and Gen. G. Standard Bearer of the General Grand Encampment of the United States.
 R. W. EZRA S. BARNUM, Past Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of New York, and Gen. G. Captain Gen. of the Gen. Grand Encampment of the United States.
 R. W. JAMES M. AUSTIN, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York.
 R. W. WILLIAM F. BAKER, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island.
 R. W. CHARLES L. CHURCH, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of New York.
 M. E. ROBERT MACOY, Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of New York.
 R. W. CORNELIUS MOORE, Editor of the Masonic Review, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 R. W. PLATT BENEDICT, of Norwalk, Ohio.

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM, at 4 o'clock, P. M., with prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master announced, in a brief verbal address, that the Grand Lodge was called together at this time, for the purpose of witnessing and assisting in the interesting ceremony of completing the MONUMENT to the memory of our distinguished Brother, Major General DAVID WOOSTER, the first Master of the first Lodge chartered in Connecticut, who

lost his life in defending his country against her enemies, in the War of the American Revolution, and died in Danbury, on the 27th of April, 1777.

A committee on credentials was appointed by the M. W. G. Master, who reported that the following subordinate Lodges were represented, viz :—

No. 1, Hiram, New Haven,	No. 42, Harmony, Waterbury,
No. 2, St. John's Middletown,	No. 44, Eastern Star, Windham,
No. 3, St. John's, Bridgeport,	No. 46, Putnam, Pomfret,
No. 4, St. John's, Hartford,	No. 47, Morning Star, Seymour,
No. 5, Union, Stamford,	No. 49, Jerusalem, Ridgefield,
No. 6, St. John's, Norwalk,	No. 50, Warren, Andover,
No. 7, King Solomon's, Woodbury,	No. 51, Warren, Portland,
No. 8, St. John's, Stratford,	No. 56, Franklin, Bristol,
No. 9, Compass, Wallingford,	No. 57, Asylum, Stonington,
No. 10, Wooster, Colchester,	No. 58, Northern Star, New Hartford,
No. 11, St. Paul's, Litchfield,	No. 59, Apollo, Suffield,
No. 12, King Hiram, Derby,	No. 60, Wolcott, Stafford,
No. 20, Harmony, New Britain,	No. 62, Orient, East Hartford,
No. 25, Columbia, South Glastenbury,	No. 63, Adelphi, Fair Haven,
No. 28, Morning Star, Warehouse Point,	No. 64, St. Andrews, Winsted,
No. 29, Village, Collinsville,	No. 68, Charity, Mystic,
No. 31, Union, New London,	No. 73, Manchester, Manchester,
No. 33, Friendship, Southington,	No. 77, Meridian, Meriden,
No. 34, Somerset, Norwich,	No. 78, Shepherd, Naugatuck,
No. 38, St. Alban's, Guilford,	No. 79, Wooster, New Haven,
No. 40, Union, Danbury,	No. 80, Berlin, Berlin.

On motion, the report was accepted and the committee discharged.

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

UNION LODGE ROOM, DANBURY, }
Thursday, April 27. }

The Grand Lodge convened at eight o'clock, A. M., and was called from refreshment to labor:—Present the M. W. Grand Master, and other Grand Officers and Representatives, as reported last evening, with a great increase of visiting brethren from abroad, and members of subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction, whose names, on account of the crowded state of the Hall, it was found impracticable to obtain.

The M. W. Grand Master then invited the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, visiting brethren from other Grand

Lodges, and all members of the Masonic Fraternity present, to join in a public procession, to be formed under the direction of the Grand Marshal, agreeable to the following

PROGRAMME.

Grand Marshal, W. Bro. Gen. Lloyd E. Baldwin.

Two G. Tylers, W. Bro. Ebenezer Allen and Bro. Isaac Tuttle, with drawn swords.

Two Stewards, Bro. James C. Cook and Bro. S. W. Kellogg, with white rods.

Officers and members of subordinate Lodges in this State.

Officers and members of Lodges from other States.

Officers and members of Royal Arch Chapters.

Councils of Royal and Select Masters.

Officers and members of Grand and subordinate Encampments.

Two Stewards, Bro. W. H. Burchard and Bro. R. Weston, with white rods.

Past Master, Bro. Isaac Quintard, bearing Golden Pitcher with Corn.

Three Past Masters Bro. R. W. Fowler, Bro. Wm. H. Higby, and Bro. A. Caswell, bearing Square, Level and Plumb.

Two Past Masters, W. Bro. N. Dikeman, Jr. and W. Bro. A. Hamilton, bearing Silver Pitchers of Wine and Oil.

Grand Treasurer, R. W. Bro. H. Goodwin, and Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. E. G. Storer.

Two Past Masters, Bro. Ira Twiss and H. W. Hubbard, bearing the Orders of Tuscan and Composite.

Three Past Masters, R. W. Bro. M. S. Mitchell, W. Bro. John H. Dart, and W. Bro. N. H. Wildman, bearing the Orders of Doric, Ionic and Corinthian.

Large Light, borne by Past Master, R. W. J. C. Blackman.

Holy Bible, Square and Compasses, borne by Bro. Hezekiah Scott, W. Master of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 49.

Two G. Stewards, W. Bro. H. Terry and W. Bro. L. Dudley, with white rods.

Two Lights, borne by two Past Grand Masters, M. W. Aner Bradley and M. W. A. C. Babcock.

Grand Chaplain, Rev. Bro. J. M. Willey

Officiating Clergymen—Rev. Bro. Ambrose Todd, D. D. and Rev. Bro. Wm. C. Mead, D. D.

Orator of the Day, Hon. Bro. H. C. Deming.

Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

Present and Past Officers of other Grand Lodges.

Representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges.

Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Theodore Spencer.

Ancient Book of Constitutions, borne by W. Bro. H. B. Ensign, Master of Hiram Lodge, No. 1.

Senior Grand Deacon, W. Bro. John W. Leeds, and Junior Grand Deacon, W. Bro. Charles Ball, with black rods.

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, M. W. David Clark.

Two G. Stewards, Bro David B. Booth and Bro. R. Averill, with white rods.
 Grand Sword Bearer, W. Bro. N. H. Byington.
 W. Bro. S. A. Hurlbut and Bro. J. B. Shultas, Assistant Grand Marshals.

At 10 o'clock, the procession was formed in the above order, and proceeded from the Hall into Main street, where it was joined by a large military and civic procession, arranged as follows :

Military Escort, under command of Col. Richard H. White, of Bridgeport, comprising the following Companies :

Hartford Light Guard, New Haven Blues, Stamford Light Infantry, Washington Guards, and two other Companies from Bridgeport, accompanied by the Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport Brass Bands.

Col. F. S. Lockwood and Col. H. K. Scott, Assistant Marshals ;
 Major General Thomas Guyer and Staff ;
 Brigadier Gen. Elihu Geer and Staff ;
 Brigadier General N. S. Hallenbeck and Staff ;
 Col. Samuel A. Cooley and Col. John Arnold and Staff ;
 Col. James Ward, Commissary General ;
 His Excellency Charles H. Pond, Governor of the State, and Suite ;
 State Officers and members of Assembly ;
 Revolutionary Officers and Soldiers, in carriages ;
 Bridgeport, Norwalk, and Danbury Fire Companies ;
 Lodges of Odd Fellows ;
 Sons of Temperance ;
 Resident Citizens and Strangers.

The procession passed through the principal streets, which were thronged with spectators from all parts of the country ; and on arriving at Mount Moriah, the site of the WOOSTER MONUMENT, the Grand Lodge formed around the stone, when the following ceremonies were performed in presence of the assembled multitude.

1.

ODE,

BY L. F. ROBINSON, ESQ.

I.

With funeral marches and pageantry solemn,
 To the grave of the mighty by thousands we throng ;
 Though he needs not the rite, or the tablet or column,
 The praises of genius or magic of song.
 For it was not that Fame from his ashes might blossom,
 That he rushed to the battle, and perished in strife ;
 Nay ! in dying he asked but to rest on the bosom
 Of that country whose freedom was dearer than life.

II.

Yet we pause not ; but hasten the emblem of glory
 To raise o'er his sepulchre—NAMELESS NO MORE!
 In the heart of the stone carve his name and his story,
 From its crest bid the eagle of victory soar.
 For though long was the sleep of his mouldering members,
 In the patriot's lowly, untableted grave,
 Yet the heart of the world was the urn of his ember,
 And Heaven watched over the dust of the brave.

III.

Unfurl the broad banner!—its stars' keenest lustre
 Should blaze o'er the place of the patriot's rest!
 Unfurl the broad banner!—amid the bright cluster
 CONNECTICUT'S star shines as clear as the best.
 Uprear the fair pile! Let CONNECTICUT rear it!
 Lo! proudly she weeps as she traces his name;
 And the rock from her mountains forever shall bear it,
 The symbol, the record, the shrine of his fame!

2. Prayer, by Rev. Bro. Willey, Grand Chaplain.

3. The R. W. Grand Treasurer, by direction of the M. W. Grand Master, deposited in a copper box provided for that purpose, various gold, silver, and copper coins, public documents, proceedings of Grand Lodge and other high Masonic bodies, the papers, and periodicals of the day, a daguerreotype likeness of Gen. WOOSTER, the identical bullet with which he was killed, a fragment of his vest, with many other interesting relics ; which box, having been securely sealed, was by the R. W. Grand Secretary placed in the appropriate cavity of the stone.

4. Letting down the top stone of the Monument, during which ceremony was sung the following

ODE TO MASONRY.

I.

Let Masonry from pole to pole
 Her sacred laws expand,
 Far as the mighty waters roll,
 To wash remotest land ;
 That virtue has not left mankind,
 Her social maxims prove,
 For stamped upon the Mason's mind
 Is UNITY and LOVE.

II.

Ascending to her native sky,
 Let Masonry increase ;
 A glorious Pillar raised on high,
 INTEGRITY its base.
 Peace adds to Olive boughs, entwined,
 An EMBLEMATIC DOVE,
 As stamped upon the Mason's mind,
 Is UNITY and LOVE.

5. The Working Tools were received by the Grand Master from the Chief Architect, and applied to the stone according to ancient form.

6. Corn, Wine, and Oil were poured upon the stone, from the gold and silver pitchers ; after which the usual blessing was invoked by the M. W. Grand Master.

7. The stone was then struck three times with the Gavel, and responded to by all the brethren present, with the Grand Honors, three times three.

8. His Excellency the Governor was now informed that the Chief Stone of the Wooster Monument had been laid agreeably to his directions, and awaited his inspection. Whereupon His Excellency proceeded to examine the Stone, and having pronounced it "well laid and true," he was addressed by the M. W. Grand Master as follows.

9. ADDRESS OF GRAND MASTER CLARK.

GOVERNOR POND,—

In obedience to your invitation, which to us of the "mystic tie" is understood to be a command, the Masonic fraternity have come here to act their part in the interesting ceremonies of this day. Under your direction, Sir, and in conformity with the high duty imposed upon the Craft, to be good, loyal, and obedient citizens of the State, we have assembled to render our profound homage to the shining virtues of the honored dead. This pleasing duty has now been performed—the chief stone has been laid in its appropriate place—and before the sun, which now shines so brightly upon us, sinks behind those western hills, we hope to see this Monument completed, and the Eagle, bearing the chaplet of victory in her beak, crown this beautiful structure.

Although our National Legislature may have been remiss in their duty to pay proper homage to him who rendered important service in our revolutionary struggle,—although our fathers may have neglected their duty,—yet sure it is, merit cannot, yea, will not go unrewarded. For some good purpose it was left for us, the sons of the heroes of the revolution, to erection this Monument to the sacred

memory of Gen. DAVID WOOSTER, who early, yet gloriously, fell a martyr to the cause of Liberty and Independence.

Sir, there is another reason why we have come here to day, to participate in the erection of this Monument, not only to commemorate the military deeds of Gen. Wooster, but to commemorate his Masonic virtues. It may with truth be said, he was the father of Freemasonry in Connecticut. At an early age he was initiated into the sublime mysteries of the Order, and in 1750 he procured a charter from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and established the first Lodge in this State, of which he was elected the first Worshipful Master.

Well did such noble spirits as Wooster, Washington, Putnam, and many others of their character, know the beneficial effect of the principles of Freemasonry upon mankind; and for the purpose of extending its benign influence upon those composing their armies, their tents became Lodges, and the sublime mysteries were conferred upon those who were found worthy.

Gen. Wooster was a man of keen foresight. Learning, from observation and reflection, the benevolent ends our institution designed to accomplish, he determined to become one of the brotherhood. An honest advocate of the equal and inalienable rights of man, he became satisfied that Masonry had at all times, and under the severest trials, been the unfaltering supporter of just and free principles; and under all circumstances, he found Masonry, as we now find it, true and steadfast in advancing the moral and intellectual improvements of the masses, and the elevation of man to the condition of equality and happiness, that now blesses more than twenty five millions of American Freemen. Yes, on this hallowed spot,—hallowed henceforth, forever, to the name of Brother DAVID WOOSTER,—may I well say, and in truth declare, that Masonry has done, and is doing as much, nay, possibly *more*,—than *all other associations*, for the establishment of the *just and equal rights of man*. Broad, comprehensive, and never yielding in its ends, it has steadily resisted *wrong* and *oppression* in every form. It has defied and overcome alike the the demands of despotism and the tortures of the Inquisition. It has triumphed over the seductions of power and the temptations to render servile obedience to the most powerful monarchs of the world. It has sheathed the sword of contending armies, and caused those in deadly strife to *hail* each other as brethren. It has nipped treason in the bud, and hushed disloyalty and rebellion in our land. It has caused the upraised tomahawk and scalping-knife to fall harmless to the earth; and has scattered to the four winds of heaven the lighted faggot prepared for its victim. *Charity* and *hospitality* being the grand characteristics of our Order, it succors the needy, feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, visits the sick, and binds up the wounds of the afflicted. In fine, at all times it has proved itself true and devoted to the principles of morality, charity, and brotherly affection. Why, then, O why, should not the name of WOOSTER be most intimately associated with such an institution.

We, my brethren, have reason to be proud that we are members of an Order which has done, and is doing, so much good for mankind. We have reason, also, to rejoice, that such a man as Brother DAVID WOOSTER was the *founder* of Freemasonry in this State. But it is not my purpose to dwell upon the character and virtues of WOOSTER, either as a military hero, or as a bright and shining light in Masonry. That duty is assigned to our distinguished brother, the Orator of the

day, who has in store a rich banquet to spread before you, upon which I am sure we shall feast with great delight.

And now, my brethren, let us see to it that we hand down the principles of Freemasonry, to those who are to come after us, as *pure* and *spotless* as they came down to us. Let us dwell in our thoughts upon the characters and virtues of Wooster, Washington, Putnam, Lafayette, and other worthy members of our beloved Order, that we may be stimulated to emulate their noble example.

Brethren, let us occasionally make a pilgrimage to this consecrated spot, that our minds may be more deeply impressed with the high duties and responsibilities which we have taken upon ourselves by becoming the guardians of our blessed, yea, *thrice* blessed institution.

GOVERNOR POND,—If what I have now said, and the duties which we, as Free and Accepted Masons, have performed, meets your approval, and that of the citizens of our State, which you so honorably represent, our highest object has been attained.

His Excellency the Governor responded to the M. W. Grand Master's Address, as follows :

10. ADDRESS OF GOVERNOR POND.

RESPECTED FRIENDS,—

With the sky for a house, and this countless multitude for an audience, no human voice can reach but a portion of those whose presence honors this interesting occasion. The Grand Master has pronounced a deserved and glowing eulogy on the military and Masonic virtues of General WOOSTER. It is highly proper that the virtues of the honored dead should be kept in grateful remembrance, and held up to view to stimulate the living to praise-worthy actions. The living owe it to themselves, as well as to the memory of departed patriots, to raise monumental structures, and especially to the memory of a patriot who spilt his life's blood in contending for the Independence of his country.

The aims and good works of Freemasonry, in its associated character and relations, have also been eloquently portrayed. And although I have not the honor to belong to that ancient and honorable association, yet I am sure that it must gratify every benevolent heart to hear, from a reliable source, that "Masonry has at all times proved true and devoted to the principles of morality, charity and brotherly affection;" and exerted its powerful influence "to establish the just and equal rights of man." An association governed by such benevolent motives, is very naturally found actively engaged in acting out its principles, by rendering due honors to the "Father of Freemasonry in Connecticut." Such filial honors are suitable returns for blessings enjoyed.

The chief-stone of the WOOSTER MONUMENT has been well laid, in its appropriate place, with due Masonic ceremonies, and God's blessing has been invoked. The work is rising nobly; and how pleasing will be the fulfilment of the hope expressed, that "before the bright sun sinks behind those western hills, the Eagle bearing the wreath of victory in its beak, will crown this beautiful structure."

This Monument is the joint product of the General Assembly, the Masonic fraternity, and the people of Danbury. Although Congress, duly impressed with

its importance, made an appropriation for the same object which has convened this vast concourse, yet it has remained for this generation to complete what Congress proposed. The General Assembly made the introductory movement, the Masonic Brotherhood promptly seconded the motion, and the people of Danbury contributed liberally towards the noble enterprise.

Three quarters of a century ago, Gen. Wooster fell a martyr to Liberty, while battling for our Independence. Among heroes, he was a hero in the American Revolution,—a Revolution which was both “the wonder and the blessing of the world.” This Monument is designed to perpetuate a due regard for the actors and the principles of that Revolution, which not only secured our Independence, but was followed by the formation of the freest government on earth, under whose benign influence the people have ever enjoyed unparalleled prosperity. The results of our Revolution have not been confined to America,—they have extended to the whole civilized world. Our success stimulates the people of other countries to follow in our footsteps, and to struggle for the enjoyment of their inalienable rights, and for the blessings of self government. As truth spreads, these struggles will increase, until popular sovereignty will sway the destinies of the people of every land where human rights are properly appreciated. In such a cause, Gen. Wooster fell a martyr.

What changes have taken place since our honored hero laid down his life in the cause of Liberty! The “Old Thirteen” have increased to thirty-one States. The three millions have become more than than twenty-five millions of people. Our ships visit every sea. Labor and skill are well rewarded. Our government is supported almost without taxation. The great West is filling up with cities and villages, with which we have daily intercourse by rail roads and magic wires. And how changed this reigon, since the 27th of April, 1777! Now, no hostile feet tread our soil. No flames ascend from burning dwellings. No wounded and dying are seen in the streets. No enemy's cannon are heard. Anxious days and sleepless nights are ended. The invaders have retreated. Peace and plenty are enjoyed. Churches and school-houses abound. The lands are tilled and owned by independent farmers. The hills and vales are stocked with herds and flocks. On all sides are factories, and they are yet increasing. Thrift, comfort, and prosperity, are seen in all directions. Such are the results of the Revolution in which Wooster fell.

This generation build the Monument which was earned years ago. The duty is nobly discharged, and well attested by this grand Military, Masonic, and Civic celebration. The citizen-soldiers pay merited honors to the martyred General, and thus give earnest of like patriotism which urged him to the battle field. Your display shows your readiness to obey your country's call. The Free and Accepted Masons have promptly aided towards building a Monument to commemorate the virtues of the “Founder of their Order in this State.” Citizens of all classes and occupations,—socially and individually,—in untold numbers, and from various States, have gathered to witness the imposing scene. The fair, friends of every praise-worthy object,—ever partial to the brave,—true to their generous impulses, promptly bestow their sympathetic approval of the “tardy love, but true,” which is here rendered to the memory of the heroic dead.

The citizens of New Haven would gladly have built a Monument over the re-

mains of their lamented townsman, who left his home to expel the invaders of our country. In grateful remembrance of his character and heroic exploits,—many years ago,—they laid out the “Wooster Park,” which would be an ornament to any city in the Union. But their patriotic aspirations could not be further gratified, for the dwellers in the land where the patriot’s breast received the fatal ball, and whence his soul ascended to Heaven, insisted upon rearing his monument. Such generous and grateful competition for the privilege of honoring the brave is truly commendable. In his native County stands Wooster’s Monument, a grand and massive structure, not gaudy, yet beautifully ornamented. See how naturally and mournfully the wounded hero is falling from his war horse. How skillfully wrought are those Masonic emblems. How illuminating those emblematic stars. How exact the State coat of arms. How complete those warlike insignia. How characteristic the American Eagle, bearing in its beak the olive branch of peace, while sitting upon the globe. How appropriate that his native State, which drank his blood, should supply the free-stone for his Monument. Favored State! what heroes, artists, and monuments!

There stands the WOOSTER MONUMENT, containing the lesson which all have read in school books. “*My life has been devoted to my country from my youth up, though never before in a cause like this, a cause for which I would most cheerfully risk,—nay lay down my life.*” Yes, there stands the Wooster Monument, occupying a noble eminence, but a far nobler moral and Masonic eminence. It is ready to hail the first rays of the rising sun, and to detain his setting rays about its summit. Not only the people of our State will visit it with pride and delight, but the traveler will halt on his journey, and visit “Wooster Cemetery,” to admire this attractive memorial. It will teach children the object of its erection; it will nerve the middle aged; and the aged,—venerable friends, welcome, welcome!—you have come down from a former generation: you were actors and witnesses of the perils, and you have been kindly spared by a merciful Providence to behold the day when monumental honors are paid to General WOOSTER, who laid down his life for his country.

11. At the close of the Governor’s address, the M. W. Grand Master delivered to the Chief Operative Artist, Mr. J. G. Batterson, the Working Tools, with the following charge:

MR. ARCHITECT,

To you is intrusted the superintendence of the completion of this Monument. I therefore place in your hands these implements of Architecture. By a frequent application of the SQUARE, LEVEL and PLUMB, and closely following the RULES which they indicate, you will be enabled to discharge your duty with fidelity to the Committee who have empowered you to execute the high trust confided to them by the Legislature of this State.

The ceremonies at the cemetery being concluded, the procession was again formed, and proceeded to the Presbyterian Church, where the following exercises were performed:

1. Voluntary on the Organ.

2. ODE, BY H. B. WILDMAN, ESQ. DANBURY.

- I.

Awake, freemen wake, lo! the bright star of glory
 Is melting the shades of oblivion's gloom;
 The fame of our WOOSTER, so matchless in story,
 Is bidding us rouse, like a voice from the tomb.
 His spirit has gone, and his soul has ascended,
 His form now lies low in the dust of the plain;
 He sleeps his last sleep, and his battles are ended,
 No sound can awake him to glory again.
 No sound can awake him to glory again.

II.

Oh! spirit immortal, how brave was thy daring!
 No Tyrant could bind thee,—no slave could defy;
 With the spirit of Washington, never despairing,
 Thy voice was for *freedom*:—to conquer or die.
 But never again will the loud cannon's rattle
 Awake thee, to guard us from tyranny's chain;
 Thou sleep'st thy last sleep, thou hast fought thy last battle,
 No sound, &c.

III.

Thou hast left us a name in a chivalric nation,
 Which freedom forever will guard in her might;
 A star in the midst of a bright constellation,
 Which Empires in infancy, hail with delight.
 Thou hast gone to thy rest, and thy fame hath ascended,
 No slave can oppress thee with tyranny's reign;
 Thou sleep'st thy last sleep, all thy battles are ended,
 No sound, &c.

3. Invocation by Rev. Samuel G. Coe, of Danbury.

4. HYMN.

COMPOSED FOR THE OCCASION BY MRS. L. H. SIGOURNEY.

I.

Rest, Soldier rest! thy country comes
 With tardy love, but true,
 At length to deck thy honor'd bed,
 Her banner o'er thy dust to spread,
 And on thy monument to shed
 Fond memory's sacred dew.

II.

Mid all her need in days of yore,
 Unswerving and sublime

Thy dauntless foot through dangers trod,
 Thy life-blood fed the encrimson'd sod,
 Thy prayer invok'd the avenging God
 To guard thy native clime.

III.

Rest, Patriot rest!—yet cast behind
 Thy mantle from the sky;
 The pure, unselfish, glorious aim,
 Unbrib'd by gold, unbought by fame,
 Content for freedom's spotless name
 To toil, and dare, and die.

IV.

Yes, leave it for our rising race,—
 Soldier, and patriot brave;
 That in the hour of strife or wrong,
 They to their country's ark may throng,
 And in Jehovah's armor strong,
 Her life and Union save.

5. Reading of the Scriptures by Rev. Bro. W. C. Mead, D. D.
6. Prayer by Rev. Frederick Hinckley, of Hartford.
7. ORATION on the Life and Services of Gen. Wooster, by Hon. Bro. Henry C. Deming.
8. Anthem by the Choir.

9. HYMN.—Tune Old Hundred.

I.

From all that dwell below the skies,
 Let the Creator's praise arise;
 Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
 Through every land, by every tongue.

IV.

Eternal are thy mercies Lord,
 Eternal truth attends thy word;
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
 Till suns shall rise and set no more.

10. Benediction, by Rev. Ambrose Todd, D. D.
11. Voluntary on the Organ.

At the conclusion of the exercises in the Church, a collection was taken up for the benefit of the charity fund of Union Lodge, after which the Grand Lodge and their invited guests proceeded to the Wooster House, where they sat down to a sumptuous banquet provided for the occasion. Supper being ended, the cloth was removed, when many patriotic and Masonic

sentiments were proposed, and received by the company, with hearty cheers, eliciting speeches from several distinguished gentlemen present, among whom were His Excellency the Governor, the Grand Masters and other Grand Officers of Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Ohio, &c.

The brethren then returned to the Masonic Hall, when the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the Hon. Henry C. Deming, for the able manner in which he has delineated the character and services of our distinguished Brother the late General David Wooster, in his eloquent and highly interesting Oration, delivered this day, and that a committee be appointed to request a copy for publication.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the Trustees of the Congregational Church, for the use of their meeting-house for the public services of this day, and also to the Clergy and the Choir for the satisfactory manner in which they performed their several parts in said services.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to Union Lodge, No. 40, for the use of their beautiful Hall on this occasion, and for the courteous and fraternal kindness extended to us during this interesting communication.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. David B. Booth, Charles Ball, and E. G. Storer, on the committee to request a copy of Bro. Deming's oration for publication.

Resolved, That the committee on the publication of Bro. Deming's Oration, be and are hereby instructed to request the M. W. Grand Master and His Excellency Gov. Pond to furnish the copy of their Addresses for the press.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and hereby is directed to have one thousand copies of the proceedings of this special communication of the Grand Lodge printed, together with the services and ceremonies performed at the completion and dedication of the Wooster Monument, and the several addresses delivered on the occasion.

The R. W. Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge several communications from abroad, consisting of congratulations, sentiments, apologies for non-attendance, &c. ; which were read and ordered to be published with the proceedings of this day.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

E. G. STORER, *Grand Secretary*.

CORRESPONDENCE

In reply to Invitations from the Committee of the Grand Lodge.

Columbus, Ohio, April 17, 1854.

To M. W. David Clark, and R. W. E. G. Storer.

DEAR BRETHREN,—I am in receipt of your circular, inviting me to be present on the 27th inst., to witness the ceremony of laying the chief stone of a monument, erected at Danbury, in honor of our distinguished brother, Major General David Wooster.

You know me too well to require any assurance at my hands, that it would give me unalloyed pleasure to be present on that imposing and august occasion, and to partake, in common with my brethren there to be assembled from various parts of our common country, of the hospitalities and friendly courtesies of the resident Craft—known to be “good men and true”—of the land of my fathers and forefathers, *Old Connecticut*. God bless her and her children! and a double blessing to those of them who belong to our ancient and venerated institution. I sincerely regret that I cannot be present on that worthy occasion of testifying, by your enduring monument, to the distinguishd virtues of that celebrated Patriot, Christian and Mason. May his example, in life and in death, be a Masonic pattern for all the present and succeeding generations of Freemasons.

With my kind regards to you and the Brotherhood,

I am yours fraternally,

WILLIAM B. HUBBARD.

Burlington, Vt., April 18, 1854.

BRETHREN,—Your polite invitation to meet the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Connecticut, at Danbury, on the 27th inst., to witness the ceremony of completing the Monument then and there to be erected to Major General David Wooster “the first Worshipful Master of the first Lodge established in Connecticut,” I have duly received; and I assure you it would be highly gratifying to meet you and the numerous brethren that will assemble on that interesting occasion, but ill health I fear may deprive me of so great a privilege. Should this be the case, I beg to return you thanks, and a wish to be fraternally remembered to our brethren when assembled.

Your Monument of “*forty cubits high*,” though not adorned, like the ancient pillars, with wreaths of “*lily-work, net-work, and pomegranates*,” will typify and transmit to future generations, the valorous deeds of the patriot-saint resting beneath, whose “*silver cord*” was severed by one of those “*random shots*” he spoke so lightly of, while urging on his comrades to victory. He who, while in the Provincial army, contributed to the reduction of Louisburg, was promoted to

a captaincy in the British army, and became a favorite at Court, resigned that commission and half-pay for life, to enter the American army and defend his native land; uniting with the *Green Mountain Boys* in 1775, under the command of the intrepid Ethan Allen, the Fort of Ticonderoga was surrendered. The remembrance of that event, with reminiscences connected with Gen. Wooster, will stand forth in history, when monuments of granite, brass and marble, shall have crumbled into dust.

Very respectfully and fraternally yours,

NATHAN B. HASWELL.

To David Clark, G. Master, and E. G. Storer, G. Secretary, G. L. Conn.

Troy, N. Y., April 7, 1854.

DEAR BROTHERS,—It will give me very great pleasure, if in my power, to accept the invitation with which I have been honored, to be present with the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, to witness the ceremony of laying the "chief stone" of the Monument to that distinguished Patriot and Mason, Gen. David Wooster. The state of my health, however, is such as to render my attendance quite uncertain.

With sentiments of high esteem, I remain,

Very respectfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN D. WILLARD.

M. W. David Clark, and R. W. E. G. Storer.

Office "Masonic Union," Port Byron, N. Y., March 31, 1854.

R. W. SIR, AND DEAR BROTHER,—

I avail myself of the earliest moment practicable, to acknowledge the receipt of, and to thank you for, your kind favor of the 20th inst., inviting me "to meet the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, at Danbury, on the 27th of April, to witness the ceremony of laying the chief stone of a Monument, then and there to be erected in honor of our distinguished brother, the late Major General David Wooster."

There are many reasons, dear brother, why I would gladly avail myself of your polite invitation to join in the ceremonies of that interesting occasion. The Grand Lodge of Connecticut, whose presence will add dignity and interest to the auspicious event, is composed of Masons whose intelligence, fraternal courtesy, and Masonic worth, have won the respect and confidence of the Grand Lodges of the Union, and have endeared them to the Fraternity wherever dispersed. Their fidelity to the great principles upon which the institution is based, and their uniform and unflinching support of the regularly established organizations of Masonry, rebuking, in fraternal though firm and unmistakeable language, those efforts of disorganization with which the integrity and stability of the fabric have been occasionally threatened, have won for them golden opinions wherever the laws of the Masonic Order are respected; and while I live I cannot forget to pay them the gratitude that is due them for the manifestation of these noble qualities.

In commemorating the virtues and in perpetuating the memory of the brave General Wooster, as the pioneer of Masonry in the Province of Connecticut, it is meet and proper that his Masonic descendants should erect the beautiful and imperishable Monument your letter describes; and the orderly and attractive ceremonies of laying its "chief stone," to be performed by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, on the site where the venerable form of this patriot brother fell, while fighting for those rights and to secure those blessings of liberty which we as a people now enjoy, present the strongest inducements for me to witness the ceremonies; yet I have very reluctantly to say, that the nature of my engagements,—professional, editorial and official,—are such that I am forbidden to hope that I shall be enabled to be present.

Please to convey to the Grand Lodge the assurance of my highest regard, and believe me to be,

Most truly and fraternally yours,

FINLAY M. KING.

R. W. Eliphalet G. Storer, G. Secretary.

*M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi. }
Grand Secretary's Office, Natches, April 20, 1854. }*

R. W. BROTHER,—Your circular of the 20th ult. is before me. The time between this and the 27th inst. is too short to allow the fraternity of Mississippi to avail themselves of your polite invitation to attend the laying of the chief stone of the Monument to be erected at Danbury, in honor of our distinguished brother, Major General David Wooster, by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut. Nevertheless, not only for myself, but on behalf of the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, I beg leave to return thanks for the invitation, and to congratulate the fraternity of Connecticut on the happy termination of their labors, in the erection of that monument. It will be a matter of regret to many of our brethren, that the distance and season of the year will preclude them from participation in the labors and festivities to which they are invited.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Yours fraternally,

WM. P. MELLEEN,

Grand Secretary.

E. G. Storer, Esq., R. W. G. Secretary G. L. Conn.

Lynchburg, Va., April 24, 1854.

Bro. E. G. Storer, Grand Secretary.

DEAR SIR,—I am, from pressing engagements, debarred the pleasure it would afford me to accept of your kind invitation to be present at Danbury on the 27th inst., and participate in the ceremonies of that day. Be pleased to accept my acknowledgments, and the assurance, that though absent in person, I cordially unite in spirit and feelings in rendering due homage to the illustrious dead. I fervently hope that the means you use to perpetuate the memory of Bro. David

Wooster, may also serve as a beacon light to direct succeeding generations to imitate his noble example as a Patriot and a Mason.

I would esteem it as a particular favor, if you will furnish me with a copy of the proceedings and addresses of that occasion.

Truly and fraternally yours,

JOHN R. McDANIEL, G. H. P

Grand Chapter of Virginia.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

*Grand Lodge Hall, corner of Perdido and }
St. Charles streets, New Orleans, April 22, 1854. }*

R. W. E. G. Storer, G. Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your communication of the 20th ult. is at hand, and I am sorry that circumstances will prevent my attendance at the “ceremony of laying the chief stone of a monument” to the honor of so noble a name in the Masonic catalogue as that of Major General David Wooster. It unfortunately occurs too early in the year, or many of our brethren, who annually visit the North, would doubtless avail themselves of your kind invitation. But, though absent in person, our spirits are with you, and join in the fervent hope that your assembly may be one of joy, peace and harmony, and that the Monument may stand during all time, as an evidence that Masons are not unmindful of the honored dead.

Hoping you will transmit me an early copy of your proceedings, I am yours, fraternally,

SAMUEL G. RISK, *Grand Secretary.*

*Masonic Hall, South Third street, }
Philadelphia, April 22, 1854. }*

E. G. Storer, Esq.

R. W. SIR AND BROTHER,—The kind invitation from your M. W. Grand Lodge, to our Grand Lodge, to be present and participate in the ceremonies of erecting a Monument to Bro. David Wooster, came duly to hand, and was read in the Grand Lodge at a special communication held April 3d, 1854, and on motion was referred to the Grand Officers.

The Grand Officers held a meeting last evening, and adopted the following resolutions, to wit:

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be requested to communicate with the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and inform them, that while the officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania regret that they cannot be personally present at the interesting ceremony of laying the stone of the Monument to be erected to the memory of Bro. David Wooster, at Danbury, Connecticut, on the 27th inst., they cherish with feelings of gratitude and fraternal love, the memory of the honored brother, whose services in the cause of American Liberty are so well known and universally acknowledged.

“*Resolved*, That the members of this Grand Lodge, appreciating the fame and

memory of Bro. David Wooster as the common property of American Masons, are gratified and proud that the Masonic brethren of his own State have determined to erect a suitable public permanent Monument to his honor."

Hoping you may have good weather, and a prosperous time, I remain yours, fraternally,

WM. H. ADAMS, *Grand Secretary.*

New York, April 5, 1854.

R. W. E. G. Storer, *Grand Secretary.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your circular of invitation to the ceremonies of the 27th inst. at Danbury, has this moment reached me. Feeling an American as well as a Masonic pride in the object about to be consummated, I shall (God willing) be with you on that interesting occasion, together with a fair delegation of the Sir Knights of my Encampment.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN W. SIMONS, *G. Com.*

Morton Encampment, No. 4.

Masonic Hall, Kingston, Canada, April 10, 1854.

R. W. E. G. Storer, *G. Secretary G. Lodge of Conn.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The communication from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, inviting this Lodge to assist in the ceremonies connected with the completion and erection of the Monument in honor of our distinguished brother, Gen. David Wooster, was this day laid before the Saint John's Lodge, No. 491; and while the Worshipful Master, Wardens and brethren regret that the great distance of the State of Connecticut and the shortness of the invitation will prevent their attendance, yet willingly bear testimony to this fact, that every zealous and distinguished Mason desires well of his brethren in all ages.

I have the honor to remain yours fraternally,

H. BATES, *Secretary.*

ORATION

UPON THE LIFE AND SERVICES OF

GEN. DAVID WOOSTER:

DELIVERED AT DANBURY, APRIL 27, 1854,

WHEN A MONUMENT WAS ERECTED TO HIS MEMORY.

BY BRO.: HENRY CHAMPION DEMING.

I RISE to encounter no forbidding glances, to discern in no hostile or averted look the bias of sect or the bigotry of party. Divided sentiments and conflicting opinions are not to be harmonized here. One in gratitude, we are one in thought and feeling. In unreserved fellowship, every mind, heart and hand, have united in placing a stone upon the spot, where for more than three quarters of a century, courage and patriotism have slept unhonored.

The grave of WOOSTER is no longer unmarked. No longer do his ashes slumber among a thankless people. The State to its child, its bulwark and martyr, Masonry to the master-builder of its oldest temple, and Danbury to its self-sacrificing avenger, have at length yielded the slow tribute of a monument. High in its commanding position, it now overlooks the commonwealth he served and the field on which he fell; it proclaims to the South his devotion as a patriot, to the East his fidelity as a brother: the arms of the State with its God-trusting motto, and the emblems of military heroism, appropriately honor and embellish it: it stretches far up toward that heaven to which his faith aspired, and it is fittingly surmounted by the glorious bird which he helped to make the symbol of victory, and the invincible standard-bearer of the Republic.

“Long in its shade shall children’s children come,
And earth’s poor traveler find a welcome home;
Long shall it stand and every blast defy,
Till heaven’s last whirlwind rends the sky.”

Amidst war and havoc, through these streets that were then only marked by the blackened and still smoking ruins of what once were dwellings, while most of the inhabitants of this village were homeless wanderers upon the surrounding hills, a few weeping followers slowly and silently bore the ashes of WOOSTER to their obscure rest. We stand where our afflicted fathers stood, but graceful habitations have risen from the ruins, happiness and prosperity smile upon this scene of their desolation, peace has revisited the land, and with none to molest or make us afraid, beneath a benignant sky, and with every auspicious omen, we are here to re-celebrate the funeral and restore the grave. Soldiers! let the escort, the dirge and the volley be such as are due to the chiefest among you. Grand Master! accord your amplest honors; for seventy-seven years not even a sprig of cassia has marked the silent mound where rested the ashes of your eldest brother. Citizens! welcome

the day that wipes a stain from the character of the State; our chief magistrate attends to invest all that is mortal, of Washington's companion and Trumbull's friend, with the distinctions of the tomb. Recalled as we are to-day, after such long forgetfulness, to the heroic devotion of one, who though bowed with the infirmities of age, wooed death in his country's cause with more than youthful daring, I should be false to the occasion, to the living and the dead, if even for a moment, I beguiled your thoughts from any other theme, than the character and career of Gen. DAVID WOOSTER. Let the hours of this day—let, certainly, the flying moments of the present hour, be sacred to his memory alone!

When we look for the origin of his military services to the commonwealth, we must go back to the period when an infant colony, not yet "hardened into the bone of manhood," against a rugged soil, a rude climate, and civilized and savage foes, was struggling for existence; when Crown Point and Williamstown and Schenectady were the frontiers of civilization, and only Indian pathways traversed the scene of warlike operations; when cultivation had, as it were, only dotted the wilderness, and provisions were to be brought from widely separated fields, and munitions of war from beyond the seas, and time and space, as yet unvanquished by electricity and steam, had both to be conquered by the soldier and the commissary, ere the enemy could be reached. We must go back to the period when flying artillery, revolvers and repeating rifles were unknown, and the cumbersome queen's arm, almost as fatal at the breech as at the muzzle, was the most efficient weapon of the soldier.

In following up these military services we must accompany him for nearly forty years, through four wars, with Spain, with France, with France again, and finally with England. We shall see, incidentally, as we pass along, a part of the grand procession of causes which heralded Freedom and Independence to this Western World; the habit of co-operation taught by the early colonial wars; the military education of our fathers; the conquest of Canada; the expulsion of the French, and the insane revenue policy of the parent state. In the Revolutionary struggle, WOOSTER'S path, unfortunately, only penetrated the clouds and darkness of the opening night; it ends just as the morning of victory broke in auroral splendor. If he had been permitted to live one half year longer, if he had been more thoughtful for himself and less faithful to you, the great heart which was then moldering in yonder grave-yard, would have leaped in exultation, at the surrender of Burgoyne.

DAVID WOOSTER was born at Stratford, on the second of March, 1710-11, old style, the son of Abraham and Mary Wooster, and the youngest of six children. Reared in the Puritan principles and training of that era, the discipline of his early years was severe and sober. He graduated at Yale College in 1738. He had but just reached his twenty-seventh year, when England, in violation of treaty, and for the shameful purpose of monopolizing the slave trade to the Spanish colonies, declared war against Spain. Innumerable pirates and smugglers had been invited to the American seas, by the protection which the British flag extended to an infamous traffic. Disturbed, however, in their adventures, by the unexpected war, and by the vigilance of the numerous Spanish cruisers employed in the preventive service, these reckless sea-robbers did not hesitate to levy contributions along the whole American coast, and on a people under whose flag they professed to sail. To provide against a descent upon our exposed seaports, not only by the Spanish coast-guards, but by the buccaneering enemies of the human race, the General Assembly of Connecticut, at its May session in 1740, ordered a sloop of war to be built and equipped. Within the year the sloop was launched at Middletown, and appropriately named the Defense. Here, in the first war-vessel ever built by his native colony, we first meet DAVID WOOSTER; here was the commencement of his long career of public service. Of the sloop Defense he was appointed lieutenant, and afterward captain. In this vessel we find him from 1741 to 1743, young, ambitious, and (if we may trust his portrait) handsome, cruising between Cape Cod and the capes of Virginia, (for such were the limits assigned by the resolution of the General Assembly,) taking the inner passage through the Sound; as he passes the rock-bound shores of old Connecticut, running into New London for stores and supplies from the ship's commissary, Gurdon Saltonstall; running into New Haven on

a stolen visit to Mary, who was yet to be his bride; looking into the bays of Long Island, and the inlets of the Jerseys, in search of pirates, and then standing away for the capes of Virginia. He hopes all the time that some Spanish argosy with doubloons, from Havana to Cadiz, would be driven so far northward of her course. He searches the horizon for some Spanish cruiser, not more than double the Defense in metal and men, and when, without any adventure, the headlands of Virginia heave in sight, he changes his course and returns to New London, to discharge his crew, or to drill and discipline them, as the General Assembly shall order. During this alarm, so faithfully did he execute the duties of guardian of the coast, that although neighboring colonies were frequently ravaged, the shores of Connecticut were unpolluted by any piratical invasion.

While WOOSTER was employed in this humble service, the war that originated in a mere question of colonial commerce, and which at the outset, was confined to these distant colonies, grew into a general struggle of Europe, involving all the principles on which her states are founded, and desolating the four quarters of the globe. The Pragmatic Sanction, which settled the throne of Austria on Maria Theresa, was solemnly guaranteed by all the principal sovereigns of Europe. But the crown was hardly placed on her brow, before Frederick of Prussia and Louis of France conspired to despoil of her hereditary dominions, one whose sex, youth and beauty presented the strongest claims to their protection, even if they had not been bound to her, by the sanctity of treaties, and the oaths of kings. England remained true to the house of Hapsburg. Both hemispheres are plunged in war. And as one of the direct results of royal perjury, thousands in the remote valleys of Connecticut, who would have otherwise descended in green old age to where

“The rude forefathers of the Hamlet sleep,”

shed their young life-blood on battle fields from Detroit to Louisburg, and found early graves in the snows of Canada, and the tropical sands of the West Indies.

On this side of the Atlantic the lightning struck before the thunder was heard. Louisburg, on the island of Cape Breton, was the camp and arsenal of French dominion in America, and the scourge of the English. From it issued the French and Canadians, on their errands of massacre and pillage; from it sped those cruisers that swept our coasters from the seas, and annihilated our fisheries; from it now burst the war-storm upon one of our frontier settlements. At this time, Massachusetts was governed by the resolute and adventurous Shirley. He conceived the bold idea of striking a blow at this terror and wonder of our primitive forefathers, of uniting the seven northern colonies in an expedition that should drive the plowshare over the strongest fortress north of the Gulf of Mexico. It was an enterprise more formidable then, and more unequal to the comparative resources of the two periods, than would be now, an armament from the same states for the capture of Gibraltar, or the emancipation of Hungary. The colonies embraced this plan with unexampled unanimity and zeal. It even assumed the character of an Anti-Catholic crusade. Louisburg was not only the head-quarters of a hostile race, but of a hated religion. A Romish priest had marshaled and led her Indians against our Protestant brethren on the frontiers. The celebrated Whitfield, then on his third tour through New England, blew these sparks into a flame. He inscribed on a banner, “*Nil desperandum Christo duce,*” and presented it to a New Hampshire regiment. One of the chaplains carried a hatchet, which he had consecrated to the purpose of hewing down the images in the enemy's churches. Under such powerful stimulants, the colonists taxed their strength to the utmost, and exhausted their resources. New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey contributed lavishly, money and munitions of war; New England as lavishly, men. Connecticut, never backward in such emergencies, sent an entire regiment to Louisburg, under the command of Roger Wolcott, one of those massive characters hewn out by nature for the foundation of states, a man who without one day's schooling rose from a weaver's shuttle, to the highest civil, military and judicial honors.

Into this scheme, having for its object the present and permanent safety of all the Northern colonies, WOOSTER entered with all the affluent zeal of an ardent and

unselfish nature. He was among the first to volunteer in the cause; he was among the first to receive a captain's commission. He was the first to recruit and arm his company, and report it ready for service. The month which immediately preceded his departure upon this expedition, was perhaps the one of all others to which his mind reverted with the tenderest emotion, while he lay here at the gates of death, in the fatal Spring of 1777. For on the 6th of March, 1745, he was married to Mary, the daughter of the Rev. Thomas Clap, President of Yale College, a wife who from the date of her nuptials till she followed him to the grave, clove to his fortunes with all a woman's unfaltering constancy and devotion. About the same period also, he purchased the old homestead in New Haven, on the street which now bears his honored name, and there established his household gods for the remainder of his days.

The Connecticut troops sailed from New London on the 11th of April, 1745, in eight transports, under the convoy of the colony's sloop of war *Defense*, and on the last day of the same month the united armament of the Northern colonies, consisting of one hundred vessels, rounded the point of Chapeaurouge Bay, and anchored in sight of Louisburg. They were here, most fortunately, joined by his majesty's squadron, under Admiral Warren. William Pepperell, of Maine, an opulent merchant, but with no aptitude for martial exploits, save uniform good luck, was the commander-in-chief of the combined forces. Roger Wolcott, of Connecticut, was second in command. Neither officers nor soldiers were at all skilled in that splendid science of modern times which has blotted out the word "impregnable" from our tongue, and reduced the capture of the strongest fortresses to a mere question of time. But if Pepperell could not rely upon military art, he had a tower of strength in the courage and hardihood of his troops. His artillery was dragged by human strength, over morasses and up rocky hills, impassable to wheels. Shanties of bush and turf were the only tents of the men; the earth their only bed, and disease was more fatal than the enemy's fire. The royal battery on shore was abandoned at the approach of the New Hampshire regiment. Five unsuccessful attempts were made to carry an island battery, which, far in advance of the main defenses, held the squadron at bay. It still frowned defiance at the fleet, while back of it the cannon thundered from the shore, and back of all, surrounded by its mote of twenty yards, towered forty feet high, the walls of the stronghold, all enfiladed by the guns of the bastions. Hope was rapidly yielding to despair. Fortunately the garrison was feeble and mutinous, provisions scarce, and the only ship relied upon for supplies, had been captured by Warren, and more than all, Duchambau, its governor, was weak, irresolute, cowardly. While the colonists were at the very point of hazarding the fate of the expedition on the desperate chance of carrying these formidable works by storm, the French governor, more desponding than the besiegers, sent out a flag of truce with an offer to surrender. The terms proposed were speedily accepted. On the 19th of June, the forty-eighth day of the siege, the fortress and city capitulated; and the next Sunday, a Puritan chaplain (it might have been the very one that bore the hatchet) preached against the real presence, before the high altar of a Catholic cathedral. The heart of Roger Wolcott sunk within him as he entered the stronghold and viewed the "great guns, the moat and the batteries." "Why speak of men?" says he, in a strain of pious gratitude; "it is God that has done it, and the praise belongs to him alone; God, hearing the prayers of his people, by many signal instances of mercy, has led us on, from step to step to victory."

I cannot pass from this siege without calling your attention to the auspicious coincidence that this citadel of the French surrendered to a league of the colonies on the 17th of June, and that on the same day, just thirty years after, was fought the battle of Bunker's Hill. Col. Gridley, who planted the mortar, which on the third trial dropped a shell into the citadel of Louisburg, marked out the lines of the famous redoubt on Bunker's Hill. Seth Pomeroy, the oldest brigadier in the Continental service, who walked over Charlestown Neck, through the cross fire of the enemy's ships and floating batteries, to the same blood-stained heights, and Col. Fry, afterward a brigadier in the same service, who plunged into the fight cheered by this omen, were both at Louisburg. WOOSTER and Whiting, from

Connecticut, were there. So early was Providence marshaling the causes and forging the thunderbolts of the Revolution.

WOOSTER seems to have won all the laurels at this famous siege, which could be plucked from such a demoralized and panic-stricken foe. No subaltern was more conspicuous for courage, resolution and martial bearing, while the following incident secured him an unequalled reputation for spirit and chivalry. A British captain had ventured to apply his rifle quite freely to the shoulders of one of Captain WOOSTER'S men, a respectable freeholder and church-member from Connecticut. WOOSTER remonstrated with the regular for so grossly abusing official superiority. The Briton resented this advice in unmeasured terms, and finally drew his sword to chastise the adviser upon the spot. WOOSTER successfully parried his thrusts and speedily disarmed him. Applying his own sword to his adversary's breast, he told him that the life he had justly forfeited could only be redeemed by asking pardon, and promising that he would never again disgrace with a blow, any soldier in the service. The terms were accepted without a parley. The jeers of his companions soon drove the officer from the army, while WOOSTER won the title of the soldier's protector and friend.

In consideration of the gallantry and gentlemanly deportment of Capt. WOOSTER, he was intrusted with the command of a cartel ship that was to convey the trophies and prisoners to England. The year had been a disastrous one to the British arms. The fall of Louisburg was the only event which redeemed its misfortunes. The ministry were amazingly in want of victories and heroes. Capt. WOOSTER was received in London with extraordinary exultation. His portrait adorned the walls of the coffee houses, and the pages of the magazines. He was followed, *feted*, presented to court, and gladdened with the sunshine of the royal smile. He was more substantially rewarded. A captain's commission in his majesty's service was graciously given to the future commander-in-chief of the Connecticut rebels. With the exception of the author and the lieutenant-general of the expedition, he was the only individual engaged in it that received any marks of ministerial condescension.

WOOSTER returned to this country by packet to Boston. Impressed while abroad with the necessity of some tie that should unite mankind in a universal brotherhood, he procured from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, a charter, which first introduced into this colony that LIGHT which has since warmed so many widows' hearts, and illumined so many orphans' pathway. Under this charter, Hiram Lodge was organized at New Haven in 1750, and WOOSTER appointed its first master.

The fourth intercolonial war, generally called the French and Indian War, now approached—the war which, by finally sweeping the French from this continent, removed the first great barrier to the independence of the States. It grew out of the hollow peace patched up at Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1748. The boundaries defined by that treaty were so uncertain and equivocal, that they only served as pretexts and provocations to fresh hostilities. Each party encroached upon territory which, under its provisions, the other claimed. The settlements thus planted by Saxon and Gaul, were backed up by both with military force. Hard words, blows, bloodshed, followed. The parent countries were dragged into the conflict, and thus all-seeing Destiny opened the school in which Wasington, Gates, Putnam, Stark, WOOSTER, Prescott, Montgomery, Lee, Mercer, and a host of others, were educated and disciplined for the fiery ordeal of the Revolution. During the seven years of this final and decisive struggle with France, our feeble colony—Lacedæmon of the West—in various expeditions, sent forth upward of 13,000 men, more than one-tenth of her entire population, more than one-fifth of her male adults. When I reflect that to every call from the crown in this war, Connecticut responded with more than her quota in money and men; when I reflect that she again decimated her population, and exhausted her means and her credit, in the Revolutionary conflict; I am proud to feel that she has fairly earned the discriminating commendation of Mr. Bancroft, when he says, "No state in the world has such motives for publishing its historical records; partly because none in the world has run a fairer or happier or more unsullied career than Connecticut, partly because

the modesty of those who have gone before you has left unclaimed much of the glory due to her, and partly that it is only in the past that you find the Connecticut people an undivided whole; since then, her increase in numbers has been so disproportioned to her original territory, that her citizens, or their descendants, are scattered all the way from Wyoming to the mouth of the Oregon."

The first expedition under Gen. Lyman, of Suffield, commanding provincials, and provincials only, from Connecticut and Massachusetts, on the 8th of September, 1755, near the transparent waters of the Horicon, fought one of the bloodiest and most hardly contested battles of the whole war, in which Dieskau, the flower of French chivalry, was cut to pieces with his entire army. I regret exceedingly that I can not place WOOSTER'S name on this splendid page of our colonial history. I can not discover that he served in this campaign; and can only account for it on the supposition that he was upon active duty elsewhere, with Col. Pepperell's regiment, to which the captain's commission from the king attached him. But after the most careful research into cotemporary chronicles, I have been unable to verify the hypothesis.

In 1756, as colonel of the third regiment of Connecticut, WOOSTER joined at Albany ten thousand regulars and provincials—the finest army yet seen in America—designed, under the guidance of the Earl of Loudon, to capture Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and drive the French beyond the St. Lawrence. But at Albany, from early spring until August, the Connecticut troops waited for their sluggish commander, who was loitering away in New York, the precious moments of action; waited idle, half-starved and decimated by the small-pox, until his lordship arrived, too late in the season for a northern campaign. Nothing remained but for such of our men as disease had spared to return to their homes.

The next year a third levy of five thousand troops was drawn from Connecticut for the reduction of the same posts, which the inefficiency of the British generals had spared in the preceding campaign. Col. WOOSTER again marched his regiment from New Haven to the head-waters of the Hudson. Abercrombie, whom they afterward described as "one a child could outwit, and a popgun terrify," was the imbecile dispatched by the ministry to conduct this campaign. Reckless of everything but his own personal safety, without waiting for his artillery, he pushed forward the flower of his troops, over brushwood, stumps of trees, and all sorts of rubbish, to storm a breastwork of logs, bristling with swivels, and flanked by cannon behind which Montcalm, the bravest of the brave, lay, with thirty-six hundred French and Canadians. The result can be readily foreseen; swivels and small arms mowed down officers and men. Courage and intrepidity only rendered the carnage more terrible. WOOSTER led his regiment into the thickest of this storm. They stood up to the butchery with unflinching pluck, and his own escape was one of the miracles of the battle-field. After this prodigal sacrifice of life to his incompetency, Abercrombie emerged from a saw-mill, two miles from the field, where he had been safely ensconced during the action, and in the extremest fright and consternation, hurried his army back to the foot of Lake George. With an abundant force at his disposal, to accomplish all the objects of the campaign, he merely wearied his troops there with laborious idleness, until the approach of winter permitted WOOSTER to return from the battle-field and the barracks, to where, in the mellow light of an October sun, curled the blue smoke of the old homestead; to the fields where his children gambled; to the pious wife who daily and nightly in the church and the closet, had wrestled with Israel's God for his safe return.

Before the next campaign opened, fortunately for the English dominion in America, and for the great interests of human freedom, the ministry which had sent ignorance and cowardice to lead our armies, was hurled from power, and a man placed at the helm so born to command that he breathed into every servant of the state, the might of his own thoughts and the enthusiasm of his soul. William Pitt now made himself the heart of the British empire, and through her stagnant and decaying veins, sent in a vitalizing current, health, strength and energy. Under his auspices, the aspect of affairs upon this continent, was speedily changed. In the month of May, 1759, Col. WOOSTER led his regiment to Fort George, to join the memorable expedition under Gen. Amherst, which completed the conquest of Canada.

I have before me a sermon which was preached to Col. WOOSTER and his regiment, in the North Church of New Haven, just prior to their departure. The "drum ecclesiastic," in those days, played the same inspiring airs which had kindled the enthusiasm of Scottish Covenanters, and led from victory to victory the old Ironsides of Cromwell. In these early colonial struggles, no company marched from a Connecticut village, without the holiest benedictions of the Church. They were conjured to fight bravely for church and altar. They were told that God himself hated the coward; that while "they were engaged in the field, many would repair to the closet, many to the sanctuary; that the faithful of every name would employ that prayer which has power with God; that the feeble hands which were unequal to any other weapon, would grasp the sword of the spirit, and that from myriads of humble, contrite hearts, the voice of intercession, supplication and weeping would mingle in its ascent to heaven, with the shout of battle and the shock of arms."

Upon the advance of Gen. Amherst's forces, Ticonderoga and Crown Point, the objects of so many fruitless campaigns, were abandoned by their garrisons. But to guard against every contingency, this over-cautious commander detained his troops to repair and strengthen these important conquests. Meantime Wolfe fell in the arms of victory on the heights of Abraham. The meteor flag streamed from the battlements of Quebec. Montreal was the last foothold of the French in the Canadas. Early in the spring, Gen. Amherst, dividing his forces into two columns, directed them by different routes, against this distant post. Gen. Haviland led five thousand men by the way of Lake Champlain and the river Sorel, but the main army, ten thousand strong, to which Col. WOOSTER'S regiment was attached, went by one of the longest and most laborious marches recorded in our military annals. The state of New York, between Schenectady and the waters of Ontario, swarming now with millions of people, the great track of commerce, and the home of industry, was then a wilderness, unbroken save by one military post. Over this immense stretch of forest and marsh, Col. WOOSTER and his regiment toiled along from June till August, by such roads as are now known in the heart of Nebraska and Oregon. Arrived at Oswego, the army crossed Ontario in open galleys, to the point where the waters of our great inland seas first find an outlet to the ocean. From thence they thread their way, doubtful as to the channel, through those thousand islands, where for many a league the Naiad of the stream and the Dryad of the woods flow on together in joyful honeymoon. The troops capture and garrison all the military posts; they attack and take a French vessel of war; they lose men and batteaux and artillery in descending the great falls; but on, on, they go, whirling through the rapids, and plunging down the cascades of this magnificent river, to the last retreat of the vanquished Gaul. Gen. Amherst arrived at Montreal early in September. Haviland's column soon reached it by Lake Champlain. Murray had ascended with the English army from Quebec. Twenty thousand Britons were concentrated before a town unprotected by either walls or fortifications. Resistance would have been a wanton waste of life; without a battle Montreal capitulated, and the French, with the exception of a small and feeble settlement at the mouth of the Mississippi, were driven from the continent of North America.

So confident was Choiseul, the keen-eyed premier of Louis XV., that the conquest of Canada would result in the speedy emancipation of these colonies, that after signing the treaty, surrendering New France to the English, he exclaimed exultingly, "We have caught them at last."

The twelve years which followed the peace of 1763, embrace the longest period in his life, that WOOSTER was permitted to enjoy the happiness and the repose of the fireside. At this time he was rich. His family were afterward poor. Upon his return to New Haven from Canada, he had engaged in mercantile pursuits, which yielded quick returns and large profits. He had himself inherited an ample patrimony, and his bride, in addition to her other claims upon his admiration, possessed also those solid charms, which were not entirely despised even in the heroic age of our ancestors. A salary was attached to the office of collector, which he then held, and he continued to draw his half-pay as captain in his majesty's service. From

these various sources he derived an income which enabled him to surround himself with all the comforts and luxuries of wealth. A nature amiable, affable, kindly, rejoicing in the sweets of friendship and the prattle of children, found now some recompense for the privations and dangers of a seven years' war. His style of living was in the highest elegance of the olden time. He spread a bountiful table, kept his horses, his phaeton, and a troop of black domestics. The old family mansion in Wooster street, then fairly isolated in the country, with an unobstructed prospect of the Sound, opened wide its doors in genuine hospitality. It was the resort of the learning, the talent, and the polish of that era—the dawn of the Revolution. In the winter, the grateful heat of hickory blazed in its ample fire-places. In the summer, the gentle breezes from the Sound fanned the feverish brow, and at all seasons, the long side-board, loaded with the emblems of cheer and good fellowship, welcomed every guest. Madam Wooster was herself a heroine of the Revolutionary type, strong in mind, bold and earnest in character, and with a presence and manners so dignified and imposing as to awe into reverence the drunken Tories, who subsequently sacked her dwelling. The only drawback upon her felicity during the earlier years of her marriage, seems to have been that she could not personally share her husband's dangers in the field, and having now recovered him, safe from war's alarms, she exerted her rare accomplishments to enhance the charms of peace. An only daughter, just budding into womanhood, warmed the father's heart by her filial devotion, and lighted his dwelling with the social radiance which youth and beauty dispense. An only son, not yet faithless to the virtues of his sire, was comfortably settled in life, and promised fair to gratify paternal pride, and transmit an unblemished name. A retinue of faithful dependents, sailors who had cruised with him in the Defense, orderlies who had been attached to his person in some of his numerous expeditions, old soldiers who had followed him to the wars, surround him in his moments of leisure, appeal to him in their embarrassments, feed at his lavish board, and adore him as their benefactor and friend.

From these tranquil enjoyments, he was now summoned to that final struggle, of which the previous wars had been the faint and feeble harbinger. When the blood that was spilled in the streets of Lexington, closed forever the door of reconciliation, he turned his back upon this domestic Eden, abandoned the prospect of commanding opulence, abjured his income from the crown, and accepted in their stead, toil, persecution, danger, and as the event proved, death. He even spurned the temptation of a high commission in the British army, which was earnestly pressed upon his acceptance, and to a feeble colony, with hardly cash enough in its treasury to equip him for the war, to a penniless Congress, which must issue bills of credit ere it could set a battalion in the field, gratuitously proffered his services, to encounter the disciplined hosts and the exhaustless resources of a mighty empire. When it became apparent that war was inevitable, he did not even wait for official position. He was one of that party of private Connecticut gentlemen, who, without committing the Legislature to any open act of hostility, planned the seizure of Fort Ticonderoga, and pledged their own personal securities to the state treasury, for the loan which defrayed the expenses of the expedition. He thus participated in the first aggressive act against the crown.

It was not till its May session in 1775, that our General Assembly threw off the guarded and equivocal language in which they had hitherto masked their warlike preparations, and in plain terms ordered one-fourth part of our militia to be armed and equipped for immediate service. The force thus organized, was divided into six regiments, and DAVID WOOSTER appointed major-general and commander-in-chief, with Joseph Spencer and Israel Putnam as his brigadiers. Active service immediately followed this appointment. At the solicitation of the Committee of Safety of New York, WOOSTER was ordered, with the troops under his command, to defend its metropolis against a threatened demonstration from the enemy.

He was now sixty-five years of age. He was not unprepared for the casualties of battle. He had not postponed till this advanced period of life, the settlement of those momentous questions which the soul's immortality suggests. But in early youth, before the mind is distracted with the cares and vexations of manhood, he

had brought his reason and faith to accord the inspired claims of divine revelation. He accepted the Holy Scriptures as the only safe rule in this life, and the only sure guide to the next. He reposed his hope for a happy eternity upon the merits of an atoning Emmanuel. In 1732, when but twenty-two years of age, in the church of his birthplace, by a profession of Christianity, he publicly assumed its vows and acknowledged its hopes. I have alluded to the religious phase of Gen. WOOSTER'S character, not only because a portraiture of him would be imperfect without it, but as an appropriate introduction to the following incident. It reveals most significantly, whose blessing he invoked when he first unsheathed his sword in a civil war; upon whose arm he leaned, and whose guidance he implored, when about to breast the dark and portentous cloud that lowered before him. It is from the lips of an eye-witness, a venerable citizen of New Haven, now no more, himself an officer of the Revolution. "The last time I saw Gen. WOOSTER was in June, 1755. He was at the head of his regiment, which was then embodied on the Green, in front of where the Center Church now stands. They were ready for a march, with their arms glistening, and their knapsacks on their backs. Col. WOOSTER had already dispatched a messenger for his minister, the Rev. Jonathan Edwards, with a request that he would meet the regiment and pray with them before their departure. He then conducted his men in military order into the meeting-house, and seated himself in his own pew, awaiting the return of the messenger. He was speedily informed that the clergyman was absent from home. Col. WOOSTER immediately stepped into the deacon's seat, in front of the pulpit, and calling his men to attend to prayers, offered up a humble petition for his beloved country, for himself, the men under his immediate command, and for the success of the cause in which they were engaged. His prayers were offered with the fervent zeal of an apostle, and in such pathetic language that it drew tears from many an eye and affected many a heart. When he had closed, he left the house with his men, in the same order they had entered it, and the regiment took up its line of march for New York. With such a prayer on his lips he entered the Revolution.

We now find WOOSTER, during July and August of 1755, encamped at Harlem. The threatened attack upon New York had not yet been executed, but the summer, notwithstanding, was a busy one for him. The British blockaded in Boston, and distressed for provisions, laid under contribution Long Island and the islands in the Sound, contiguous thereto. Upon WOOSTER devolved the hard task, of guarding these exposed positions from the enemy's cruisers, and of assisting the defenceless inhabitants, to remove their cattle and crops, to a place of security. He is at Brooklyn, or Oyster Ponds, at Montauk, at Plumb Island, everywhere, hovering over the whole coast with his protecting wings.

While engaged in these useful but inglorious employments, his enthusiasm met with an unexpected rebuff. The regiments which the States had separately raised, were now received into the pay, and adopted as the army of the United Colonies. Under this new organization, Connecticut was entitled to one major-general, and to this grade, Gen. Putnam, WOOSTER'S inferior in the colonial service, was promoted, while the commander-in-chief of the Connecticut troops, was merely raised to the subordinate rank of brigadier. The slight was the more marked, because WOOSTER was the only colonial officer, thus overslaughed by the continental commissions,

The blow was a severe one. It was the first wound to a soldier's keen sensibility to honor, that he had received in a military career of more than a quarter of a century. I have been so fortunate as to find the precise language, in which he expressed, the first bitterness of disappointed ambition—the earliest grief of unrequited patriotism. Roger Sherman, at that time our delegate to Congress, had communicated this information to him in a letter, which contained the following paragraph: "I am sensible that according to your colonial rank, you were entitled to the place of major-general; and as one was to be appointed from Connecticut, I heartily recommended you to Congress. I informed them of the arrangements made by our Assembly, which I thought would be satisfactory to have them continue in the same order. But as Gen. Putnam's fame was spread abroad, and especially his successful enterprise at Noddle's Island, the account of which had just arrived, it gave him a preference in the opinion of the delegates in general, so that

his appointment was unanimous among the colonies; but from your known ability and firm attachment to the American cause, we were very desirous of your continuance in the army, and hope you will accept the appointment made by Congress." To which Gen. WOOSTER thus replied: "No man feels more sensibly for his distressed country, nor would more readily exert his utmost effort for its defense than myself. My life has ever been devoted to her service, from my youth up, though never before in a cause like this, a cause for which I would most cheerfully risk, nay, lay down my life, Thirty years I have served as a soldier; my character was never impeached, nor called in question before. The Congress have seen fit, for what reason I know not, to point me out as the only officer among all that have been commissioned in the different colonies, who is unfit for the post assigned him. The subject is a very delicate one."

His misgivings, however, were but momentary; he did not look back to the home he had left, position he had abandoned, to the British commission he had scorned. With true magnanimity he overlooked the personal affront, and forgot himself for his country. In the month of October, in this same year, we find WOOSTER, (having accepted the Continental commission,) with the troops of the Connecticut line at Ticonderoga, as a part of the ill-fated expedition against the Canadas. And we here enter upon the most painful and trying period of his whole history. To command an army in a hostile country, demoralized by defeat, ill-armed, ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-paid, ill-disciplined, entirely unequal to the enterprise in hand: to be the one individual to whom its prayers and complaints are ultimately addressed, with no power to answer and relieve—the one too, upon whom an anxious and excited nation, imposes the odium of every misfortune and failure—are all that kind of trial, which stretches to its extremest tension every emotion of the soul. And this was WOOSTER'S position for eighteen months. The disasters and suffering of that memorable campaign, the disappointment of the high-raised expectations of the country, the blow that the cause of independence received through its most decisive miscarriage, would singly have been sufficient to break down the strongest spirit. But in addition to his manifold anxieties as commander of the invading army, and his full proportion of the general sorrow, upon WOOSTER was heaped another burthen, more difficult for a high-spirited and generous nature to bear; the thanklessness, the arrogance and the insolence of his superior officer, Gen. Schuyler—the commander of the Northern department—indignities which could not be adequately resented, without jeopardizing the great interests which depended on their cordial co-operation.

Upon his arrival at Ticonderoga, WOOSTER found that he had provoked the decided enmity of his immediate chief. Upon his march thither, he had permitted a few of his men to return home on furlough, and when he reached Fort George, he had ordered a general court-martial for the trial of all offenses that had occurred during the advance of the brigade. These two acts were regarded by Gen. Schuyler as flagrant violations of his prerogative, and he addressed a letter to WOOSTER, couched in the sharp language of rebuke. "In spite of my earnest persuasions," was WOOSTER'S conclusive reply, "the troops under my command have refused to sign the continental articles of war, and if governed at all, they must be governed by the law martial of Connecticut, under which they were raised. If there has been any infringement upon etiquette, it was forced upon me by the imperious exigencies of the case, without intentional disrespect." But no answer could be satisfactory to Schuyler. He would neither forget nor forgive this fancied affront, but professed to see in it conclusive proof of a design on WOOSTER'S part, by virtue of his colonial commission, to supersede Montgomery, who was his senior brigadier in the continental line. He even ventured peremptorily to demand of WOOSTER, as a condition precedent to his further advance, that he should give a direct answer to the question, whether he considered himself above or below Gen. Montgomery, in rank? "I have the cause of my country too much at heart," was Gen. WOOSTER'S patriotic and unruffled reply, "to attempt to make any difficulties and uneasiness in the army, upon which an enterprise of almost infinite importance is now depending. I shall consider my rank in the army, what my commission from the Continental Congress makes it, and shall not attempt to dispute the command with

Gen. Montgomery." He was now graciously permitted to proceed, but he had hardly arrived at St. John's, before Schuyler followed him with the following extraordinary note:

"TICONDEROGA, Oct. 23d, 1775.

"SIR: Being well informed that you have declared on your way to this place, that if you were at St. John's, you would march into the fort at the head of your regiment, and as it is just that you should have an opportunity of showing your prowess and that of your regiment, I have desired Gen. Montgomery to give you leave to make the attempt if you choose. I do not wish, however, that you should be too lavish of your men's lives, unless you have a prospect of gaining the fortress.

I am sir, your most humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER."

No notice was taken of this surly and offensive missive, until some months afterward, when Gen. Schuyler had foolishly complained to Congress of the unbecoming language which WOOSTER used in his dispatches. Provoked at such a charge, from such a source, WOOSTER then says: "You will remember your letter to me while I was at St. John's, founded in falsehood, and which you could have no other motive in writing but to insult me. I thought it at the time, not worth answering, and shall at present take no further notice of it."

As if effectually to belie the ungenerous suspicions of Gen. Schuyler, harmony, which had left the army, was recalled to it when WOOSTER joined. He coöperated heartily with Montgomery in the execution of all his plans. To their joint exertions, the capitulation of St. John's was due; they jointly attacked and dispersed the force under Sir Guy Carlton, which was hastening to its relief; they were joined in the resolution of Congress, which thanked them for these meritorious achievements. Together they marched upon Montreal. WOOSTER was left in command of its garrison, while Montgomery advanced upon Quebec, and fell, never to rise again, in the desperate assault of the 31st of December.

The death of his superior in the field, left WOOSTER in command of a defeated, dispirited, impoverished army. With two thousand men he was called upon to achieve all the impossibilities demanded by the nation. He was to hold in subjection all the Canadas that had been overrun. With nothing but uncurrent continental bills, he was to clothe and equip his troops. He was to extort supplies from a people he was also directed to conciliate; and without an artillery company, a battering train, a mortar, or an engineer, he was to reduce the strongest fortified city upon the globe. Eight hundred men were all that could be spared for the operations against Quebec, and the madness of attempting to storm it with such a feeble remnant, did not require the failure of the recent experiment to demonstrate. For the approaches of a regular siege, the number, the character, and the equipments of the troops, were entirely inadequate. Nothing remained, but the third alternative, so distasteful and odious to every soldier, in which neither honor nor applause, nothing but reproaches, odium and misrepresentation were to be won: the slow, inglorious, wearying process of a blockade. In the fruitless attempt to starve out the garrison, before supplies could reach them, the tedious months of that long winter finally wore away.

WOOSTER had hardly entered upon the command before the ulcer in Schuyler's bosom opened afresh, and the fire in the rear re-commenced. Remaining himself safely at Albany, and sluggishly forwarding the supplies and provisions at his disposal, he pursued the officer who commanded in the enemy's country, with angry complaints, imperious mandates and insulting letters. He issued orders, and then, in a most peremptory tone, commanded WOOSTER to obey them, as if every previous order had been disregarded. He interfered with the internal regulation of the army and the police administration of the captured towns, and in other matters which exclusively pertain to the general in the field. Because WOOSTER intimated that some of the prisoners taken at St. John's, who had been permitted to return, by permits from the commander of the northern army, were guilty of open acts of

hostility to the American cause, Schuyler, with a total blindness to his own infirmity, accused him to Congress of writing "subacid" letters. Throughout the whole correspondence, in courtesy, in forbearance, in generosity, in patriotism, in everything becoming the gentleman and the officer, WOOSTER leaves his assailant immeasurably behind. Uniformly temperate and conciliatory in his language, when goaded to a point where forbearance ceases to be a virtue, he contents himself with informing his superior that "he too claims the right to be treated with the respect due to a gentleman, and an officer of the thirteen colonies." He challenges him to mention a command which has not been cheerfully obeyed; an order which has not been promptly fulfilled; to specify wherein he has failed to pay all proper respect to superior rank, or to exert every faculty for union, harmony, and the success of the cause. "No personal ill-treatment," says he, "will ever prevent my steadily and invariably pursuing those measures most conducive to the public good." The controversy had now reached such a point, that the two officers could no longer continue in their relative positions without serious detriment to the public service. Both united in referring their grievances to Congress; a committee was raised, and to the great joy of WOOSTER, he was recalled from a field where valor, self-denial and resolution, were only repaid with ingratitude and odium. Within one month from his departure, the American army were driven out of Canada, not only defeated but disgraced. WOOSTER immediately repaired to Philadelphia, and addressed to the President of Congress a letter to the following purport: "The unjust severity, and unmerited abuse, with which I have been assailed in the colonies, by those who would remove every obstacle to their own advancement, and the harsh treatment I have received from some members of the body over which you preside, renders it necessary that I should vindicate my administration of the army in Canada. The honor of a soldier being the first thing he should defend, and his honesty the last he should give up, his character is always entitled to the protection of the virtuous and the good. I have therefore to request, that a committee may be appointed to examine thoroughly into my conduct in Canada, that I may be acquitted or condemned, on just grounds, and sufficient proof." A committee was accordingly raised, and it is unnecessary to say that the result of a most thorough investigation, was an unconditional acquittal of all blame. Impartial history has ratified the verdict, and charged our misfortunes in Canada, not to the officers in command, but to the absolute and entire inadequacy of the means placed at their disposal. WOOSTER returned to Connecticut, with the undiminished respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and as the Assembly had recently raised six brigades for home defense, he was again appointed by it major-general and commander-in-chief. With zeal unchilled either by age or misfortune, he again entered the service of our commonwealth. Madam Wooster was frequently heard to repeat, that when her husband was called upon to lead the Connecticut troops against the enemy, he would say, "I cannot go with these men without money," and would draw from his own funds, and pay both officers and men, taking their receipts for the same. The papers and vouchers for these disbursements were all destroyed when the British pillaged her house, in 1779, and this venerable and accomplished woman was, in her declining years, actually imprisoned for debt, and the key of the jail turned upon her, from the impossibility of recovering the money her husband had advanced to his suffering country.

On the morning of the 25th of April, 1777, twenty-six vessels with the cross of St. George at their respective peaks, were seen under full headway steering up the Sound. By noon they are standing in toward Norwalk islands, and by four o'clock they had dropped anchor in what is now known as the harbor of Westport. Two thousand men, infantry, cavalry and artillery, were immediately landed on Cedar Point, the eastern jaw of the Saugatuck's mouth. As the different companies land, they rendezvous on the beautiful hill that overlooks the Sound. Having here formed into close column, they pass through the little hamlet called Compo, until they reach the old county road, and follow it to the east, until it meets the road to this place, when they wheel off towards the north, guided by two imps, Stephen Jarvis and Eli Benedict, by name, born in Danbury, under a malignant star. The enemy establish their quarters for the night about eight miles from their landing

place, within the limits of the town of Weston. When it was known that William Tryon commanded the expedition, its destinations and objects were readily divined. He was the tory governor of New York, and having a natural genius for such pursuits, was armed by his masters, with a firebrand instead of a sword, and employed as an incendiary general, in a predatory war. Connecticut was the chosen field of his glory. In 1777, he burnt Danbury; in 1778, Fairfield and Norwalk, and used the torch freely in a piratical inroad against New Haven, in 1779. We had fairly earned this enviable distinction. It was not from his own colony, but from Connecticut rebels, that the repose of his administration was most disquieted. Before his own constituents had spirit enough to drive him from the government, WOOSTER marched our militia into his capital and flaunted "*Qui transtulit sustinet*," in his face. From aboard the *Asia*, to which he finally fled, he could see the "Sons of Liberty," from Connecticut, that broke up the infamous press of his favorite Rivington, and for the first time inoculated New York with patriotism. He threatened a bombardment of the city if the troops from Fairfield county, under Gen. David Waterbury, that went down to welcome Lord Howe, upon his flight from Boston, were permitted to enter, and the lukewarm provincial Congress of New York, echoed the threat. It was these timely visits that first introduced to his Excellency our humble State, and drew upon us afterward, such frequent tokens of his remembrance. His present advent was the first return visit with which he had honored us, and was the more marked, because it was the first time that a foreign invader had trod upon our soil.

On the morning of the 26th, the quiet denizens of Reading on the Ridge, open their eyes in wild astonishment, at the unusual spectacle of red-coats filing through their streets, saluting the church as they pass, with a volley of canister and grape, from musketry and cannon. Tryon meets with no serious opposition thus far. The grisly visages of age, and woman's frightened face, are all that gaze from the windows, as his proud array passes along. Every fencible man had early taken the old queen's arm, from the pegs on which it hung, and hastened away to where a more formal reception was in preparation. But as Tryon ascends Hoyt's Hill, a few miles from hence, a serious obstacle presents itself in his path. A solitary horseman appears upon the brow, directly in the line of march, and waving his sword, and turning his head, as if backed up by a mighty army, exclaims in a voice of thunder, "Halt, the whole Universe! wheel into kingdoms!" The British come to a stand; flanking parties are sent out to investigate the precise position into which the "kingdoms have wheeled;" the two pieces of artillery are brought to bear upon "the Universe," when the solitary horseman, outflanked by these manoeuvres, slowly turns about and disappears. It was now about two o'clock in the afternoon; the enemy had passed through Bethel's peaceful hamlet, and were now entering the South end of Danbury, when the solemnity of the occasion was disturbed by another incident, serving to show, that the comic and the tragic thread, are wove together in all human experience. A man by the name of Hamilton, had on deposit at a clothier's, in the lower part of the village, a piece of cloth, which he was determined at all hazards to rescue from sequestration. He accordingly rode to the shop, and having secured one end of the cloth to the pommel of his saddle, galloped rapidly away. But he was seen by the enemy's light-horsemen, who followed hard upon him, exclaiming, "We'll have you, old daddy; we'll have you." "Not yet," said Hamilton, as he redoubled his speed. The troops gain upon their intended victim; the nearest one raises his sabre to strike, when fortunately the cloth unrolls, and fluttering like a streamer, far behind, so frightens the pursuing horses that they can not be brought within striking distance of the pursued. The chase continues through the whole extent of the village, to the bridge, where, finally, the old gentleman and the cloth made good their escape. Tryon established his head-quarters with a tory by the name of Dibble, whose residence was at the south end of Main Street, and in close proximity to the public stores. As the light troops were escorting Erskine and Agnew, the brigadiers of the commanding general, to a house near the bridge, at the upper end of this street, four young men fired upon them, from the dwelling of Major Starr, situated about forty rods above the present court-house. The British pursued, slew them and a peaceable

negro who was in their company, threw their bodies into the house and set it on fire. The destruction of the public stores now commenced. The Episcopal church was filled to the galleries with barrels of beef, pork, rice, wine and rum. In order to save the building, these were removed into the street and consumed, and a white cross conspicuously marked upon the church, to protect it against the general conflagration, which Tryon had already foreordained. The gutters run with the melting pork. The air is thick with the fumes of burning beef. The liquids are only spared from the flames, to be appropriated by the soldiers, to their own immediate refreshment. The commissioner of the army had, against his will, placed part of the provisions in the barn of Dibble, the tory. These are also carefully removed to the street, the safety of the building insured by a cross, and the provisions spared, probably to be transferred to the loyalist, as rent for the forced occupation of his premises. But short work is made of another barn, used for the same purpose, but owned by a patriot. It was immediately set on fire and consumed, with all that it contained. The soldiers now begin to feel the effects of their free indulgence in rebel rum. They lurch as they walk, they lie sprawling in the streets and the door-yards; but three hundred are fit for duty, as the curtain of night falls upon the indecencies of a general debauch. The firebrand had not yet been generally used, but the white cross, now seen distinctly on every tory's dwelling, indicates clearly enough that those unprotected by it, are already doomed. These faithful allies had intimated to Tryon, that the foe is gathering in the neighborhood. His sleep is far from tranquil. Early on the Sabbath morning, while it was yet dark, the signal is given, and on a sudden, a lurid and unnatural glare chases night from the sky. The torch is carried from house to house, and from store to store. From the sacred recesses of home, from the roofs that guard the hard-earned savings of this frugal people, the fire breaks upon the surrounding darkness, and joins in the general havoc of the element. The aspiring tongues of flame climb and curl round the spire of the Congregational church, until it totters and falls into the burning mass. The sun, as it rises, looks only upon the flickering embers of a once smiling village, save where here and there, a solitary house stood unscathed, but branded with the indelible stigma of harboring only traitors to freedom. By the cold light of early dawn, is seen, not the stealthy savage, but the disciplined army of a Christian king, stealing away from the desolation they had caused, and from the avenger on their heels, while the aged and the young, the sick, the helpless, and the infirm, gather round the smoldering ashes, for that warmth, which is all that is left of the comforts of home.

The intelligence of the enemy's landing was communicated to WOOSTER, at New-Haven, on the morning of the 26th. Arnold was fortunately there on furlough, who, though finally a Judas, was, in mere bravery, second to no man in whom the breath of life was ever breathed. Both generals immediately proceed to the scene of operations. At Fairfield, they learn that Gen. Silliman had ordered all the militia that could be raised, to rendezvous at Reading. They follow on, spreading the alarm as they go, and soon arrived at Silliman's head-quarters. With the forces there assembled, they pursue the enemy as far as Bethel, which they reach at eleven o'clock at night. Seven hundred undisciplined militia constitute their entire force. On the morning of the 27th, Arnold and Silliman are directed to take five hundred men and intercept Tryon in front, while WOOSTER, with the two hundred left, follows the enemy's track to worry and harass the rear. He soon comes up with them, and aided by the broken and hilly ground, falls upon one of their regiments, and captures forty prisoners. He again attacks them a few miles from Ridgefield. The British rear-guard, supported by two field-pieces, wheel to receive him. A sharp encounter ensues. WOOSTER'S troops deliver and receive several volleys, but the undisciplined handful, soon stagger and fall back, before the grape-shot that the enemy's artillery scatter. The old veteran, more familiar with this iron hail, infuses his own steadfastness into his untried band, and as he is inciting them to a renewed onset, with the cheering words, "Come on, my boys, never mind such random shots," a ball deliberately fired, as it is said, by a malignant tory who recognized his person, struck him obliquely in the back, breaking the bone as it passed, and burying itself in his body. He falls fainting from his horse. He is

carried from the field on the sash, which he wore in the battle. When the surgeon examined the wound, he did not disguise from WOOSTER that there was no hope for him this side of the grave. The tidings are received with the serene composure of one who had so recently shown, by a signal contempt for this life, how confidently he expected one more blessed and glorious. He is removed to this place with the tenderest care. His wife, who had been summoned, arrives, but not until the inflammation had extended through the spinal column to the brain, and he could only look on the face he knew the best, and loved the most, with the wild, unrecognizing glare of delirium. Her tearful and impassioned appeals can extort no sign of welcome. For three days he lies here in extreme agony, aggravated by the fruitless search of the surgeon's probe, for the fatal bullet. On the morning of the first of May, the sudden cessation of pain indicates the commencement of that frightful process, which destroys sensation while life still lingers—the unmistakable precursor of death. It was noted by her, who, faithful to the last, unremittingly watches his pillow, that during this and the following day, (as is frequently the case, in the closing scene of an active life,) his mind was busied in exciting reminiscence. By the feeble light of flickering reason, he was tracing the long and weary pilgrimages, the cruises, sieges, battles, marches, through which he had passed, only to reach the grave. The home of his childhood, the cabin of his ship, the old mansion by the Sound, pass in a blended image before his fading vision. The dash of waves, the rattle of musketry, the roar of cannon, ring confusedly in his deafened ear. His hand cannot respond to the gentle pressure of affection. His breathing grows shorter and shorter, while the icy chill advances nearer and nearer to the heart. As his wife wipes the death damps from his brow, his eyes, hitherto closed, open once more, and in their clear depths, for one glad moment, she discovers the dear, the old, the familiar expression of returned consciousness; his lips gasp in vain to utter one precious word of final adieu, and the last effort of his departing soul, is to throw on her, one farewell glance of unutterable tenderness and love. Thus on the 2d of May, 1777, in the service of the State to which his youth, his manhood and his age had been devoted, DAVID WOOSTER died. Of the thirteen thousand sons which Connecticut gave to the French war, and of the thirty-one thousand which she gave to the Revolution, he was among the foremost. Equal to any in courage, in patriotism, in generosity, in zeal for liberty, in that true magnanimity which can forget all personal slights and affronts in her great cause; second to Putnam, and to Putnam alone, in the length, variety and hardship of his martial labors; superior even to him, in the glory of his final exit, and the obscurity of his grave. Exhausting his means in the public service, he only bequeathed poverty to his family, and oblivion to his remains. Unrewarded, unrequited in life, in death he received a monument that was never built, and an inscription that was never engraved.

We can not follow such a career, we can not stand by such a grave, without renewing our consecration vows to freedom. By what a long century of conflict; by what death struggles with earth's master-races, the Celt, the Gaul and the Saxon; by what weariness of spirit, what agony of soul, what squandering of blood, has her fair inheritance been purchased!

“Freedom, thy brow

Glorious in beauty though it be, is scarred
 With tokens of old wars; thy massive limbs
 Are strong with struggling. Power at thee
 Has launched his bolts, and with his lightnings smitten thee:
 They could not quench the light thou hast from heaven.

Oh! not yet

May'st thou unbrace thy corselet, nor lay by
 Thy sword; nor yet, O Freedom, close thy lids
 In slumber, for thine enemy never sleeps,
 And thou must watch and combat till the day
 Of the new earth and heaven.”

If in the dangers that threaten her for the future, aught for her welfare is intrusted to us; if upon our council she ever relies, in those moments that mold her destiny, upon us to defend any of those solemn compacts that secure to her an illimitable domain for the immeasurable future; if upon our arm she is to lean in the impending crisis of her decisive battle, let us repair to the graves of those who have shielded her in the past, as to altars ever lighted with the sacred fire of heroism. Let us there implore wisdom, self-denial, patience, courage, strength; let us there forget all pride of opinion, ambition, selfishness, the bubbles we crave, the vanities we pursue, everything but self-immolating devotion to her holy cause. We need not wander to poetry or fable, to other times, to other lands, or to sister states, for the past renown which nurtures this heroic element of character. We have it nearer home, in our own neighborhood, beneath our own feet. We tread on soil ransomed by blood; the young flowers our children sow, may take their root in the holy clay of unknown martyrs. If we but turn to the silent halls of death, we can find in almost every graveyard of Connecticut, immortal examples of patriotic virtue, imperishable models of every exalted worth; while no chronicle of wild romance, breathes such inspiriting strains to deeds of sacrifice and daring, as the story of Connecticut's struggle for liberty and religion. The living seed of future heroes and patriots is in our fathers' dust. We will treasure up every council which they meditated in perplexity, every stirring word they uttered in peril and despair, all that they achieved for liberty, with the halter round their necks, and the scaffold before them. We will sacredly guard the graves, that hold such precious inspiration for the future; we will mark them with memorials that shall endure, to the last syllable of recorded time. We will lead the first thoughts of aspiring youth, and the last of desponding age, to the monumental shafts, which tell how Hale, and Ledyard and WOOSTER died. Glorious martyr! over whose ashes we have this day performed the last solemn rites of gratitude, touch our hearts with a spark from that flame which burned in thine own; inspire us with thy unflinching love for country; teach us nobly to suffer, bravely to die!

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