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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

M. W. Grand Lodge

OF

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

VOL. I.

1820-1847.

and
REPRINTED FROM THE RECORDS.
and



PORTLAND:

STEPHEN BERRY, PRINTER.

1872.

Grand Lodge of Maine.

CONVENTION OF DELEGATES.

C O P Y

of a Circular Letter issued by Portland Lodge to the
several Lodges in the District of Maine.

To the Rt. Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of ——— Lodge.

BRETHREN :

As this portion of the State will soon assume an independent rank in the Union, the attention of the Masonic Fraternity is naturally and almost universally directed to a similar separation of the Lodges in Maine from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. If the political tie which connects the two great divisions of the State is to be severed, there appears a fitness, independent of other considerations, that the masonic connection should at the same time be dissolved. And as a convention of delegates from the several towns in this district is soon to assemble at Portland, to act on civil and political concerns, the same time and place seem obviously most convenient for the discussion of our masonic interests and relations. Under these impressions, the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Portland Lodge, in regular Lodge assembled, have directed us in their behalf to invite the several Lodges in Maine to appoint one or more delegates each, to meet in convention at Masons' Hall in Portland, on the evening of Thursday, the 14th day of October next, to consider whether it is expedient at this time to adopt any measures relative to a separation of the Lodges in Maine from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts ; and if so, take such measures as may be considered most proper to carry such design into effect. It is desirable, on so momentous an occasion, that every Lodge be represented. Should it unfortunately so happen that no delegate can attend from your Lodge, we hope that some com.

munication expressive of your sentiments on the principal question will be forwarded to the Convention.

We pray you to accept the assurance of our respect and masonic affection.

Signed by SIMON GREENLEAF, }
 SAMUEL BAKER, } Committee of
 ARTHUR SHIRLEY, } Portland Lodge.

Portland, August 13th, 1819.

Agreeably to the foregoing circular, a large and respectable delegation from the respective Lodges in said District convened at Masons' Hall on the evening of October 14th, A. D. 1819.

The meeting was called to order by Rt. W. Samuel Baker, Master of Portland Lodge; when Rt. W. Simon Greenleaf, Esq., P. D. D. G. M., was unanimously chosen President of the Convention, and W. Bro. John P. Boyd Secretary.

Before proceeding to business, the assistance of the Great Architect of the Universe was invoked by Rev. Bro. John H. Ingraham, of Thomaston.

DELEGATES PRESENT.

Portland Lodge.—Rt. W. Simon Greenleaf, Esq., Rt. W. Samuel Baker, W. Nelson Racklyft.

Kennebec Lodge.—W. Peleg Sprague, Esq.

United Lodge.—Rt. W. Jonathan Page, Esq., Rt. W. Nathaniel Greene, Esq.

Saco Lodge.—Rt. W. Daniel Granger, Esq., W. George Thacher Jr., Esq.,
Rt. W. Josiah Calef.

Cumberland Lodge.—Rt. W. Jos. E. Foxcroft, and Bro. Josiah Dunn Jr., Esqs.

Oriental Lodge.—W. James Emerson.

Solar Lodge.—Rt. W. P. M. Nath'l Coffin, Esq., and Bro. Benj. Ames, Esq.

Ancient Land-mark Lodge.—Rt. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, W. Eleazer Wyer,
W. John P. Boyd.

York Lodge.—Bro. Joseph Thomas, Esq.

Oriental Star Lodge.—Rt. W. Cornelius Holland, W. Benjamin Bradford, W. Thomas Chase.

Maine Lodge.—Rt. W. Nathan Cutler, Esq., and Bro. Ebenezer Eaton.

Freeport Lodge.—Rt. W. Rob't R. Kendall, and Rt. W. Solomon Dennison, Esq.

Temple Lodge.—Rt. W. Daniel Campbell, Esq., W. Alexander Belcher, Esq.

Village Lodge.—Rt. W. Ebenezer Herrick, Esq.

Adoniram Lodge.—Bros. Marshall Spring and True Bradbury, Esquires.

Northern Star Lodge.—W. James Collins, Esq.

Blazing Star Lodge.—Rt. W. Cornelius Holland.

Hancock Lodge.—Bro. Moses S. Judkins.

Lincoln Lodge.—Rt. W. P. M. Abial Wood, Esq., Bro. Warren Rice, Esq.

Amity Lodge.—Bro. Samuel A. Whitney, Esq.

Rising Virtue Lodge.—Bros. Joseph Treat and John Wilkins, Esquires.

Orient Lodge.—Rev. Bro. John H. Ingraham, Bro. John Spear.

St. George Lodge.—Rt. W. John Miller.

Felicity Lodge.—Rt. W. Samuel Little, Esq.

Belfast Lodge.—Bro. Alfred Johnson Jr., Esq.

On motion,

Voted, That the same rules which regulate other masonic assemblies shall govern the proceedings of this Convention.

Voted, That when a ballot is taken on any question, it shall be taken by Lodges, if desired by any delegate.

Voted, That Rt. W. William Swan, Esq., D. D. G. M. of the Ninth Masonic District, be invited to attend this Convention: also, that Rt. W. Joseph M. Gerrish be a committee to invite him;

which was done, and he attended accordingly.

The following Resolves, submitted by Rt. W. P. M. Nathaniel Coffin, Esq., of Wiscasset, and seconded by W. Brother George Thacher Jr., Esq., of Saco, passed by an unanimous vote.

First, That in the opinion of the Lodges present, the good of Masonry will be greatly promoted by constituting a Grand Lodge in Maine, and that it is expedient that suitable measures be taken to effect that object.

Second, That a committee be appointed to consider and report a method of carrying the foregoing resolution into effect, so that the object may be obtained in the manner most consistent with our duty to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and best calculated to promote the prosperity of the Craft.

In conformity to the last resolution,

Voted, That the committee consist of five, and report at the adjournment.

The following Brethren were accordingly chosen, viz: Rt. W. Simon Greenleaf, Esq., Rt. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Esq., Rt. W. Daniel Granger, Esq., Rt. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, and W. George Thacher Jr., Esq.

On motion,

Voted, That no visitors be hereafter admitted in this Convention.

The Convention was then adjourned, to assemble at this place on Tuesday evening next, at seven o'clock.

JOHN P. BOYD, *Secretary*.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, October 19, A. D. 1819.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Voted, That Rt. W. William Swan, Esq., D. D. G. M. of this District, be invited to attend the Convention this evening—and that W. Bro. George Thatcher Jr., Esq., invite him accordingly: which was done.

Bro. John Dickinson, Esq., appeared as a delegate from Warren Lodge.

The committee appointed at the last meeting now reported the following resolutions, viz:—

First, That a memorial be addressed to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts expressing the views and wishes of this Convention on the subject of the separation of the Lodges in Maine from the Grand Lodge, and that the same be signed by all the delegates present.

Second, That a committee of five be chosen to present said memorial to the Grand Lodge, with power to agree upon and arrange in behalf of the Lodges here represented, all things proper to be done as to the terms of separation and the formation of a Grand Lodge of Maine.

Third, That the expenses of said committee be paid by the Grand Lodge of Maine when duly erected, or equally apportioned among the Lodges represented in this Convention, and such others as may accede to these transactions.

Fourth, That the Lodges not represented in this Convention be particularly addressed by said committee, and invited to authorize them to act in their behalf in the same manner as if they had been here represented by their delegates.

Which resolutions were read and unanimously adopted. The committee further reported the following memorial to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, agreeably to the first resolution, which was read, accepted and signed by all the delegates present, and afterwards by others duly authorized, as follows:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts:

The undersigned, delegates of Lodges in Maine, regularly assembled in Convention at Portland, respectfully represent,—That the District of Maine being separated from Massachusetts and about to be erected into an independent State, their attention has been directed to the question whether it is expedient that they should continue under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. They perceive that at various periods, this and other Grand Lodges have recognized the expediency of erecting a separate Grand Lodge in every independent government where a sufficient number of Lodges exist.

This principle was first settled by the late "Massachusetts Grand Lodge" during the war of the revolution. It was adopted by the same Grand Lodge in the year 5780, when it was determined that all charters granted without the limits of this State shall be understood to remain in force until a Grand Lodge is formed in the government where such Lodges are held. And it has since been expressly sanctioned by the resolutions of Jan. 3, 5783, and admitted in practice in the subsequent erection of Grand Lodges in other States composed of Lodges originally holding their charters under this Grand Lodge or its predecessors. And there is good reason for this practice. For as every mason owes allegiance to the civil authority under which he lives, as well as submission to the Grand Lodge, if the members of the latter were not amenable to the same laws with himself, a most injurious opposition might arise between his duties as a citizen and a mason. But your memorialists also believe that no practical benefit can result from a continuance of our masonic connection, however long and happily it has hitherto subsisted. The distance of every Lodge in Maine from the Grand Lodge is so great as hitherto to render the attendance of District Deputy Grand Masters and officers of Lodges very inconvenient and of course very seldom. Political intercourse being terminated these inconveniences will be greater; Lodges if represented at all, must be represented for the most part by proxies wholly unknown to them, and strangers to their views and feelings. The charity fund, from its distance, and the infrequency of masonic intercourse can yield no real advantage to the fraternity in Maine. And the Lodges here cannot participate in any of the benefits which the immediate presence of the Grand Lodge, the seat and fountain of masonic light and intelligence never fails to impart. Impressed with these considerations, the under-named Lodges in Maine, by their delegates in Convention assembled, respectfully request that their connection with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts may be dissolved; that all measures proper for the Grand Lodge to adopt may be adopted preparatory to the formation of a Grand Lodge of Maine, and that such Grand Lodge, when duly constituted, may receive its just proportion of the moneys and other masonic property owned by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

[For] *Portland Lodge*.—Simon Greenleaf, Samuel Baker, Nelson Racklyft.

Kennebec.—Peleg Sprague.

United.—Jona. Page, Nathaniel Green, Robert P. Dunlap.

Saco.—Daniel Granger, George Thacher, Jr., Josiah Calef.

Cumberland.—Joseph E. Foxcroft, Josiah Dunn, Jr.

Pythagorean.—Judah Dana.

Oxford.—Albion K. Parris.

Oriental.—James Emerson.

Solar.—Nathaniel Coffin, Benjamin Ames, Wm. King.

Ancient Land Mark.—Joseph M. Gerrish, Eleazer Wyer, John P. Boyd.

York.—Joseph Thomas.

Oriental Star.—Cornelius Holland, Benjamin Bradford, Thomas Chase.

Maine.—Nathan Cutler, Ebenezer Eaton.
Freeport.—Robert R. Kendall, Solomon Dennison.
Temple.—Daniel Campbell, Alexander Belcher.
Village.—Ebenezer Herrick.
Adoniram.—Marshall Spring, True Bradbury.
Northern Star.—James Collins.
Blazing Star.—Cornelius Holland.
Hancock.—Moses S. Judkins.
Lincoln.—Abial Wood, Warren Rice.
Amity.—Samuel A. Whitney.
Rising Virtue.—Joseph Treat, John Wilkins.
Orient.—John Spear.
St. George.—John Miller.
Felicity.—Samuel Little.
Belfast.—Alfred Johnson.
Warren.—John Dickinson.
Tranquil.—Jacob Hill.

Voted, That the committee mentioned in the second resolution consist of R. W. Bros. Simon Greenleaf, Esq., of Portland, Nathaniel Coffin, Esq., of Wiscasset, Josiah Calef, of Saco, John Dickinson, Esq., of Machias, and Nathan Cutler, Esq., of Farmington.

Voted, That each Lodge be requested to furnish the Secretary of the Convention with a certificate of the appointment of its delegates under the seal of the Lodge, attested by the Secretary.

Voted, That a fair record of the transactions of this Convention be made, and signed by all the delegates; to be kept in Portland Lodge till it can be received and laid up in the archives of the new Grand Lodge.

Voted, That thanks be presented to Portland and Ancient Land Mark Lodges, for their attention to the accommodation and comfort of the members of this Convention.

Adjourned to meet at this place in January next at seven o'clock, on the evening of the day following the next meeting of the Political Convention now sitting in this town.

JOHN P. BOYD, *Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, Portland, Jan. 6th, A. D., 1820.

The Masonic Convention met according to adjournment, and the following business was attended to, viz.: R. W. Bro. Simon Greenleaf, Esq., President, took the chair. W. Bro. John P. Boyd, Esq., former Secretary, being absent, chose Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish, Secretary *pro tem*.

Voted, To suspend a former vote of this Convention relative to the admission of visitors during this evening.

The report of the committee which was appointed to attend the Grand Lodge at their last communication, &c., was then read, and accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That two be added to the above committee.

Bros. Joseph M. Gerrish and Samuel Baker were chosen.

On motion,

Voted, To choose a Treasurer for this Convention.

Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish was chosen.

Voted, That the Treasurer be authorized to procure a loan, and to furnish the committee with such funds as they may want to carry the design of their appointment into effect, for the refunding of which with interest the faith of this Convention is pledged.

On motion,

Voted, That a committee be appointed to examine the accounts of the committee aforesaid appointed to visit the Grand Lodge, &c., and report at the adjournment.

W. Bro. George Thacher Jr., W. Eleazer Wyer, and W. Nelson Racklyft were chosen.

Voted, To adjourn this meeting to the last Wednesday of May next, to meet at this place at seven o'clock P. M.

JOSEPH M. GERRISH, *Secretary pro tem*.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, May 31, A. D. 1820.

The Convention met according to adjournment. The final report of the committee was read, with the accompanying documents relative to the separation ; whereupon,

Voted, That they be entered on the records of the Convention as follows :—

In Convention at Masons' Hall, Portland, May 31, A. D., 1820.

The committee appointed by the Masonic Convention at Portland, October 14, 1819, to present a memorial to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, praying for a separation of the Lodges in Maine from the parent Grand Lodge, and for a just proportion of its funds, have the honor to offer the following Report :—

In execution of their commission the committee presented to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, at its annual communication in December last, the memorial of this Convention, and advocated its object before a committee of the Grand Lodge, to whom the memorial was referred. Your committee were happy to observe among the members of the Grand Lodge, prevalence of feelings the most friendly and generous towards the fraternity in Maine ; and a disposition, not only to yield to our wishes on the general question of separation, but to grant us our just proportion of the funds. These dispositions appear in the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge, made at their communication in March last, a copy of which is herewith submitted ; and by the unanimous acceptance of which, the Grand Lodge has in a manner highly honorable to itself, granted all which this Convention sought to obtain. This object being effected, your committee addressed letters to the several Lodges in Maine inviting them to meet at this place on Thursday, the first day of June, A. D. 1820, at three o'clock in the afternoon, by their Masters and Wardens, or proxies, for the purpose of organizing the Grand Lodge of Maine, and transacting such other business as may regularly come before them. A copy of this letter is submitted herewith. Your committee have also contracted for a suitable set of jewels for the use of the new Grand Lodge. In conclusion, the committee congratulate the Convention on the happy accomplishment of the great purposes of their first assembling, and humbly invoke on the fraternity in Maine the continued blessing of the Grand Master of us all.

SIMON GREENLEAF, *per order*.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Your committee to whom was referred the memorial subscribed by sundry freemasons, delegates from Lodges in the District of Maine, requesting that their connexion with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts may be dissolved,

have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave respectfully to report. A meeting of delegates from all the Lodges in Maine, except from Eastern Lodge at Eastport, was holden in Convention at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the evening of the 14th day of October, 5819, and continued by adjournment to the evening of the 19th day of the same month, when it was voted that a respectful memorial be addressed to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, expressing the views and wishes of the Convention on the subject of the separation of the Lodges in Maine from the Grand Lodge, and that the same be signed by all the delegates present; that a committee of five be chosen to present said memorial to the Grand Lodge, with power to agree upon and arrange in behalf of the Lodges there represented all things proper to be done as to the terms of separation and the formation of a Grand Lodge of Maine: in pursuance of said votes, the memorial referred to your committee was subscribed by all the delegates in Convention assembled, and R. W. Brother Simon Greenleaf, Nathaniel Coffin, Josiah Calef, John Dickinson and Nathan Cutler were duly appointed a committee to present said memorial, and to conclude with the Grand Lodge the terms of separation. After this the members of Eastern Lodge addressed a communication to R. W. Bro. Greenleaf, chairman of said committee, expressive of their approbation of the doings of said Convention, and uniting with them in the object of said memorial. This memorial and communication were presented to this Grand Lodge at the quarterly communication in December last, by R. W. Brothers Simon Greenleaf, Nathaniel Coffin and Josiah Calef. Your committee would here observe that the language and sentiments contained in this memorial are highly respectful to the honor and dignity of this Grand Lodge, and characteristic of the honorable and high minded gentlemen who subscribed it.

Your committee had no authority to conclude with the committee from Maine upon terms of separation, only to hear their wishes and proposals, and to report the whole subject matter. It was the wish of that committee that the Grand Lodge should give the Lodges in Maine its approbation to be formed into a separate Grand Lodge as soon as Maine should become a separate State, and that when the Grand Lodge of Maine should be duly organized, the Grand Lodge should transfer to it a portion of the charity fund and other property. Your committee find this Grand Lodge have acknowledged the necessity of creating separate Grand Lodges in every independent State Government where a sufficient number of Lodges have rendered it expedient. This principle is a correct one. Masons are bound to submit to the laws and authority of the Government under which they live. If amenable to a Grand Lodge existing under a separate and independent republic, they might be compelled to violate the laws of the civil government or some of their most solemn masonic obligations. Your committee believe the District of Maine will soon become a separate and independent State; and when that event takes place it is proper and expedient that this Grand Lodge consent that the Lodges in Maine form

themselves into a separate and independent Grand Lodge and receive a portion of its property. Although it may be desirable that the District of Maine should become a separate State, and the Lodges there constituted an independent Grand Lodge, still it is to be lamented that the happy connection which has so long subsisted between Maine and Massachusetts should be broken; that cords which have so long united them in one common interest should be severed; that the fountain of charity which they have mutually contributed to fill, should be diminished; still, however, it is the duty of Masons to yield their private feelings and interests to disinterested benevolence. The private benefits the Grand Lodge derives from a connection with the Lodges in Maine, it is bound to surrender to the more extensive advantages they will derive from being a Grand Lodge. Your committee are of opinion that the Lodges in Maine are well skilled in the principles of Free-masonry, zealously engaged to preserve and promote the honor and respectability of this ancient institution, and sufficiently extensive in numbers to compose a separate Grand Lodge; and from the exalted statesmen and exemplary Christians who will adorn the counsels of that Grand Lodge, they believe it will maintain an elevated standing among its neighboring Lodges, and reflect light and intelligence to all around.

Your committee would therefore recommend the following resolves to be passed by this Grand Lodge:

1st. *Resolved*, That as soon as the Congress of the United States shall declare the District of Maine a separate and independent State, and it shall be organized as such, the Lodges there shall have the approbation and authority of this Grand Lodge to form a Grand Lodge, and when duly organized it shall be recognized as such.

2d. *Resolved*, As the Lodges in Maine have contributed to the charity fund, as soon as a Grand Lodge is formed and its officers duly installed, it shall be entitled to receive the sum of *Ten Hundred Dollars* from said charity fund, to form a permanent charity fund for the Grand Lodge of Maine, to be appropriated to the same objects as the charity fund now is, and to no other.

3d. *Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to pay to the Grand Lodge of Maine, or to any mason or masons it shall appoint, the sum of ten hundred dollars out of the charity fund, to be appropriated in the manner aforesaid; and also, that he transfer and assign to said Grand Lodge, or to any such mason or masons, all notes of hand and securities for money which this Grand Lodge now have or hold against the past District Deputy Grand Masters in Maine, and each of them, with power to collect the same to its own use.

4th. *Resolved*, That when and as soon as the Grand Lodge of Maine shall be duly organized, and its officers legally installed, said G. Lodge be and the same is hereby empowered to collect of the D. D. G. Masters in Maine, and each of them, their predecessors in office and each of them, all such sums of money as

now are or shall then appear to be remaining in their hands, due to this Grand Lodge; and also, from the respective Lodges there all such sums of money as shall then appear to be due from them; and on payment thereof, the said D. D. G. Masters and their predecessors in office, and each of them, shall be discharged from any liability to pay the same to this Grand Lodge, and all such sums of money as the Grand Lodge of Maine shall so receive, it shall have a right to appropriate to its own use without any manner of account thereof to be given to this Grand Lodge. Provided, the Lodges in Maine pay this Grand Lodge for all Diplomas they shall hereafter receive.

5th. *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary and Treasurer be directed to furnish the Grand Lodge of Maine with copies of all such papers and records as shall be necessary and useful for said Lodge, and not inconsistent with the interest of this Grand Lodge. All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

ELIJAH MORSE, *per order*.

Boston, March 8, 5820.

Committee to whom the memorial from a Convention of the Lodges in Maine was referred, were R. W. Elijah Morse, Andrew Sigourney, Joseph Baker, Henry Parkitt and Robert Lash.

Attest:

JOHN SOLEY, Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS, March 8, 5820.

The original of the foregoing Report having been read and fully considered, was unanimously adopted.

Copy of Record, attest: JOHN SOLEY, *Grand Secretary*.

The Committee of Finance report in part verbally, viz.: that they have examined the accounts of R. W. Bros. Simon Greenleaf and Nathaniel Coffin, whereupon,

Voted, That the Treasurer be authorized to pay the amount of their bills as exhibited against the Convention to said committee; also, that the same committee be authorized in behalf of this Convention to examine and allow any other bills which may be exhibited to them, and that the Treasurer be directed to pay them; provided, said Committee of Finance certify the same.

Also,

Voted, That the same committee be directed to examine, allow and certify the accounts of the Treasurer to the new Grand Lodge.

The object for which this Convention was convened being now accomplished, it was dissolved.

JOHN P. BOYD, *Secretary*.

ORGANIZATION.

PORTLAND, JUNE 1, A. D. 1820.

Agreeably to an invitation given by the Committee of the Masonic Convention, assembled at Portland, October, 1819, to the several Lodges in Maine to meet at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the first day of June, 1820, for the purpose of organizing a Grand Lodge for the State of Maine, the following Masters, Wardens and proxies of Lodges appeared:

LODGES.

Portland.—R. W. Samuel Baker, Master; W. Nelson Racklyft and Seth Clark, Wardens.

United.—R. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Proxy.

Cumberland.—R. W. Pelatiah Smith, Master.

Kennebec.—R. W. Peleg Sprague, Master; W. Benjamin Adams, S. W.

Saco.—R. W. Edward S. Moulton, Master; W. George Thacher Jr., S. W.

Oriental.—Bro. James Emerson, Proxy.

Solar.—R. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Proxy; W. Nathaniel Cross, J. W.

Ancient Land-Mark.—R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, Master; W. Eleazer Wyer and John P. Boyd, Wardens.

York.—W. Joseph Thomas and Enoch Hardy, Wardens.

Oriental Star.—W. Samuel Small, Proxy; Thomas Chase, S. W.

Maine.—Bro. John Reed, Proxy.

Freeport.—R. W. Robert R. Kendall, Master; W. Joseph Lufkin Jr., S. W.

Temple.—R. W. Simon Greenleaf, Proxy.

Village.—R. W. Ebenezer Herrick, Proxy.

Adoniram.—R. W. Moses C. Buswell, Master; Bro. James McArthur, Proxy.

Northern Star.—R. W. William Haskell, Proxy.

Blazing Star.—R. W. Henry Farwell, Proxy.

Amity.—Bro. Jonas Wheeler, Proxy.

Orient.—Bro. Joel Miller, Proxy.

St. George.—R. W. John Miller, Master.

Felicity.—R. W. Samuel Little, Proxy.

Belfast.—Bro. Joseph Williamson, Proxy.

Eastern.—R. W. Daniel Garland, Master.

Tranquil.—R. W. Oliver Pollard, Master; W. Alden Blossom, S. W.

The R. W. Simon Greenleaf, Esq., was elected Chairman of the meeting, and W. John P. Boyd, Esq., Secretary.

Voted, That in forming the Grand Lodge of Maine, each of the Lodges in Maine be entitled to a representation according to the regulations of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Voted, As the sense of this meeting, that Lodges of Past Masters holden under the jurisdiction of any Grand Royal Arch Chapter, are to be considered regular Lodges within the meaning of the 10th Section, 8d Chapter of the regulations of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Voted, That we now proceed to the organization of the Grand Lodge of Maine, by the election of such officers and in such manner as is required by the regulations of our late parent Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Whereupon, the following R. W. Brethren were elected to the respective offices following, viz.:

Hon. WILLIAM KING, Governor of the State, Grand Master.

R. W. SIMON GREENLEAF, Esq., of Portland, Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, Esq., of Wiscasset, Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, of Portland, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. WILLIAM LORD, of Portland, Recording Grand Secretary.

Voted, That R. W. Brothers Nathaniel Coffin, George Thacher Jr., Peleg Sprague, Samuel Baker and Samuel Small be a committee to notify the Hon. William King of his election to the office of Grand Master,

Who was pleased to return for answer that he would meet the Grand Lodge to-morrow evening in person and signify his acceptance of the office.

Voted, That R. W. Nathaniel Coffin, George Thacher Jr., Robert P. Dunlap and Joseph M. Gerrish be a committee to prepare and present a Petition to the Legislature for an act of incorporation of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

Voted, That R. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Peleg Sprague and Samuel Small be a committee to prepare such resolutions as may be proper to adopt to-morrow evening.

Adjourned to to-morrow evening at seven o'clock.

JOHN P. BOYD, *Secretary*.

MASONS' HALL, Friday, June 2d, A. D. 1820.

The Grand Lodge met according to adjournment. Present as last evening, with the addition of Pythagorean Lodge, represented by James W. Ripley, Esq., Master.

Voted, That R. W. Peleg Sprague, Samuel Small, Robert P. Dunlap, John P. Boyd and James L. Child be a committee to wait on the M. W. Grand Master, and inform him that the Grand Lodge is open and ready to receive him.

After which the M. W. Grand Master entered, accompanied by W. John Chandler, Esq., President of the Senate, W. Benjamin Ames, Esq., Speaker of the House of Representatives, and several other brethren of distinction, and, on taking the chair, addressed the Grand Lodge as follows :

R. W. and Worshipful Officers and Members of this Grand Lodge :

In the circumstances under which I have appeared before you, to enter upon the office to which you have been pleased to elevate me, I can do little more at this time than express my acceptance of the trust, and say to you that according to the best of my ability I will endeavor to discharge its duties.

It would have been much more agreeable to me, at least for the present, to have appeared in the Lodge only as a private brother ; but as Masonry teaches us to regard the duties we owe to God and the Community as paramount to all others, I will endeavor to perform them by attending to the wishes of my brethren, rather than by gratifying my own.

Voted, That R. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Joseph M. Gerrish and Eleazer Wyer be a committee to procure a seal with proper device, and also the necessary Regalia for this Grand Lodge as soon as may be, and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to advance them such sum as may be necessary therefor, they to be accountable for the expenditure of the same.

Voted, That R. W. Simon Greenleaf, Robert P. Dunlap, George Thacher Jr., Samuel Little and Joel Miller be a committee to prepare and report a code of By-Laws for this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge shall be consecrated and its officers installed on the ensuing festival of St. John the Baptist at Portland.

Voted, That a communication be made to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, acquainting them that the Grand Lodge of Maine is now organized by the unanimous election of the M. W. William King, the Governor of the State, as their Grand Master, and by the election and appointment of masonic brethren to fill the other various offices of the same; that they have appointed Portland, the 24th day of June inst., as the place and time for the consecration of the Grand Lodge and installation of its officers, and request the assistance of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in these important and interesting services. Also, that a similar communication be made to the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, inviting them to attend upon the occasion.

Voted, That the account of expenses of the Masonic Convention in Maine, as liquidated by them, and advanced and paid by their Treasurer, amounting to the sum of *two hundred dollars and 75-100ths*, be assumed by this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the same, and charge it in his account.

Voted, That all the Lodges under this jurisdiction be requested to forward, as soon as may be to the Grand Treasurer, a statement of their dues to the Grand Lodge up to the first day of March last, and to pay to him, either directly or through their D. D. G. Masters, the sums appearing to be due as soon as may be; also, that all the District Deputy Grand Masters having sums in their hands due to this Grand Lodge pay over the same immediately.

Voted, That R. W. Samuel Baker, Joseph M. Gerrish, John P. Boyd, Seth Clark and William Lord, be a committee of arrangements and ceremonies to make all necessary preparations for the 24th of June.

Voted, That R. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Robert P. Dunlap and Benjamin Adams, be a committee to select some brother to deliver an address before the fraternity at the consecration of this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to borrow on the credit of the Grand Lodge such sums as may be necessary for its use under the votes already passed.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary be a committee on the subject of Diplomas for this Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master then addressed the Grand Lodge as follows :

BRETHREN : As it will be impossible for me to attend personally at many of your meetings during the year, you will permit me to avail myself now of the privilege of my office to announce to you the appointment of a Deputy Grand Master, who will discharge the duties of the chair in my absence. I have selected for this office, and do now appoint to be Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Worshipful Brother Simon Greenleaf, Esq., of Portland.

The R. W. Simon Greenleaf thereupon accepted the office of Deputy Grand Master, and resigned his office of Senior Grand Warden.

The M. W. Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, viz.:

R. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Esq., of Brunswick, Corresponding Gr. Sec'y.

R. W. and Rev. GIDEON W. OLNEY, of Gardiner, Grand Chaplain.

R. W. JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT, Esq., of New Gloucester, Grand Marshal.

R. W. GEORGE THACHER Jr., Esq., of Saco, Grand Sword Bearer.

R. W. HENRY W. FULLER, Esq., of Augusta, Senior Grand Deacon.

R. W. JOSIAH CALEF, of Saco, Junior Grand Deacon.

R. W. WILLIAM TORRY, of Bath, 1st Grand Steward.

R. W. JESSE ROBINSON, of Hallowell, 2d Grand Steward.

R. W. ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, 3d Grand Steward.

R. W. NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, 4th Grand Steward.

R. W. SETH CLARK, of Portland, 1st Grand Pursuivant.

R. W. JOHN P. BOYD, Esq., of Portland, 2d Grand Pursuivant.

Brother WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland, Grand Tyler.

Voted, That we now proceed to the choice of Senior Grand Warden.

On sorting and counting the ballots it appeared that R. W. William Swan, Esq., was elected Senior Grand Warden for the ensuing year.

A Petition from a number of brethren in Gardiner, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge there by the name of Hermon Lodge, was read, and committed to R. W. Brothers Peleg Sprague, Robert P. Dunlap and William Haskell.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary notify the officers of the Grand Lodge of their appointments by the M. W. Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to meet at this place on the 23d day of June inst., at seven o'clock P. M.

Attest:

WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary*.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, June 9th, A. D. 1820.

Present—R. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	Deputy Grand Master ;
“ WILLIAM SWAN,	Senior Grand Warden ;
“ JOSIAH CALEF,	Junior Grand Warden, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	Grand Treasurer ;
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Grand Secretary ;
“ GEO. THACHER, JR.,	Grand Sword Bearer ;
“ JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	Grand Marshal ;
“ ELEAZER WYER,	Grand Steward ;
“ SETH CLARK,	Grand Pursuivant ;
“ JOHN P. BOYD,	“
Bro. WILLIAM STEVENS,	Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Orient,
Saco,	St. George,
Ancient Land-Mark,	Felicity,
Oriental Star,	Lincoln,
Freeport,	Temple.
Rising Virtue,	

Voted, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized and requested to divide the State of Maine into such Masonic Districts from time to time as he may judge proper, and to appoint District Deputy Grand Masters in and over the same.

A petition from several brethren in Waterville praying for a new Lodge, by the name of Waterville Lodge, was read and committed to the same committee who have under consideration the petition from Gardiner, viz: R. W. Peleg Sprague, Robert P. Dunlap and Wm. Haskell.

Voted, That R. W. George Thacher, Jr., be excused from serving on the committee for petitioning for an act of incorporation, and that R. W. William Swan, Senior Grand Warden, be added to that committee.

Voted, That R. W. William Swan and R. W. Samuel Baker be a committee to examine and audit accounts.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to the twenty-third day of June, inst., then to meet at this place at seven o'clock in the evening.

Attest : WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary*.

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, June 10, 1820.

Agreeably to the vote and request of the Grand Lodge at the Communication of June 9, 1820, the State is hereby divided into the following Masonic Districts, viz :

First District—to be composed of the following Lodges :

Portland, Portland ;	York, Kennebunk ;
Saco, Saco ;	Freeport, Freeport ;
Cumberland, New Gloucester ;	Adoniram, Limington ;
Ancient Land-Mark, Portland ;	Tranquil, Minot.

Second District—to be composed of the following Lodges :

Pythagorean, Fryeburg ;	Oriental Star, Livermore ;
Oriental, Bridgton ;	Blazing Star, Rumford.
Oxford, Paris ;	

Third District—to be composed of the following Lodges :

Kennebec, Hallowell ;	Northern Star, Anson ;
Maine, Farmington ;	Temple, Winthrop.
Village, Bowdoinham ;	

Fourth District—to be composed of the following Lodges :

Solar, Bath ;	Amity, Camden ;
United, Brunswick ;	Orient, Thomaston ;
Lincoln, Wiscasset ;	St. George, Warren.

Fifth District—to be composed of the following Lodges :

Hancock, Castine ;	Felicity, Bucksport ;
Rising Virtue, Hampden ;	Belfast, Belfast.

Sixth District—to be composed of the following Lodges :

Warren, Machias ;	Eastern, Eastport.
Tuscan, Columbia ;	

And the following Rt. Worshipful Brethren are appointed to the office of District Deputy Grand Master in their respective Districts for the present year :

First District—Rt. W. Josiah W. Mitchell, Esq., of Freeport.

Second District—Rt. W. Judah Dana, Esq., of Fryeburg.

Third District—Rt. W. Ebenezer T. Warren, Esq., of Hallowell.

Fourth District—Rt. W. Abial Wood, Esq., of Wiscasset.

Fifth District—Rt. W. Manly Hardy, Esq., of Bucksport.

Sixth District—Rt. W. Jonathan D. Weston, Esq., of Eastport.

WILLIAM KING, *Grand Master.*

A true copy of the original on file.

Attest: WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary.*



ADJOURNED COMMUNICATION.

A Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, June 23, 1820, according to adjournment.

Present—R. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	Deputy Grand Master ;
“ NATHANIEL COFFIN,	Senior Grand Warden, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ JOSIAH CALEF,	Junior Grand Warden, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	Grand Treasurer ;
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Grand Secretary ;
“ J. W. MITCHELL,	District Deputy Grand Master ;
“ JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	Grand Marshal ;
“ GEORGE THACHER, JR.,	Grand Standard Bearer ;
“ WILLIAM TORRY,	Senior Grand Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ OLIVER POLLARD,	Junior Grand Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ ELEAZER WYER,	Grand Steward ;
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	“
“ SETH CLARK,	Grand Pursuivant ;
Bro. WILLIAM STEVENS,	Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Temple,	Felicity,
Saco,	Tranquil,	Warren,
Cumberland,	Kennebec,	Eastern,
Ancient Land-Mark,	Solar,	Rising Virtue.

Voted, That the prayer of the petition of Gideon W. Olney and others for a new Lodge to be established at Gardiner, by the name of Hermon Lodge, be granted.

A letter from the Corresponding Grand Secretary of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in answer to one addressed to them from this Grand Lodge, was read.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge exceedingly regrets that any misapprehension should have prevented the attendance of our parent Grand Lodge, from the hands of whose Grand Master it would have afforded us so much satisfaction to receive the Jewels which their liberal and truly masonic resolutions have enabled us to wear.

It was announced from the chair that the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Hampshire had accepted the invitation of this Grand Lodge to assist in the Consecration and Installation of its officers, &c., and had arrived in town.

Voted, That R. W. Brothers Nathaniel Coffin, Josiah Calef and George Thacher, Jr., be a committee to wait upon the M. W. Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, and in the name of this Grand Lodge and all the Fraternity under its jurisdiction, bid them a cordial welcome to the State of Maine.

Grand Lodge closed to meet again to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

Attest:

WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary*.



CONSECRATION.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, June 24th, A. D. 1820.

The Grand Lodge of Maine assembled this morning for the purposes of its Consecration and Installation of its officers.

Present—M. W. WILLIAM KING,	Grand Master;
R. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	Deputy Grand Master;
“ CHARLES FOX,	Senior Grand Warden, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ NATHANIEL COFFIN,	Junior Grand Warden;
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	Grand Treasurer;
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Grand Secretary;
“ ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	C. Grand Secretary;
“ J. H. SHEPPARD,	Orator;
Rev. N. TILTON,	Grand Chaplain, <i>p. t.</i> ;
R. W. J. W. MITCHELL,	D. Deputy Grand Master;
“ ABIEL WOOD,	“
“ WOODBURY STORER,	Past D. D. Grand Master;
“ J. D. HOPKINS,	“
“ OLIVER BRAY,	“
“ GEORGE ULMER,	“
“ JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	Grand Marshal;
“ GEORGE THACHER, JR.,	Grand Sword Bearer;
“ HENRY W. FULLER,	Senior Grand Deacon;
“ JOSIAH CALEF,	Junior Grand Deacon;
“ WILLIAM TORRY,	Grand Steward;
“ ELEAZER WYER,	“
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	“
“ SAMUEL BAKER,	“
“ SETH CLARK,	Grand Pursuivant;
“ JOHN P. BOYD,	“
Bro. WILLIAM STEVENS,	Grand Tyler.

In addition to the above about three hundred of the Fraternity attended as visitors on this occasion.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Hancock,	Freeport,
Saco,	York,	Blazing Star,
Cumberland,	Temple,	Kennebec,
Ancient Land-Mark,	Tranquil,	Felicity,
Solar,	Rising Virtue,	Eastern,
Warren,	Amity,	United.
Adoniram,	Lincoln,	

Official information was communicated that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire were now assembled and opened in ample form at the hall provided for their accommodation, and were now ready to make their intended visit to the Grand Lodge of Maine. Whereupon the Grand Marshal accompanied by the Grand Stewards were directed to wait upon and conduct them to this hall. At 11 o'clock their approach was announced, and they were accordingly received and welcomed into the Grand Lodge of Maine in ample and ancient form. The official documents of the new Grand Lodge being produced to show its regular Constitution and Organization, and the M. W. Grand Master of New Hampshire having signified his readiness with the aid of his Grand Lodge to assist in its consecration and the installation of its officers, at 12 o'clock a procession was formed of the new Grand Lodge and about three hundred of the Fraternity, which escorted the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire to the Rev. Mr. Payson's meeting house. On entering, the Grand Master of New Hampshire took the chair, having the officers of his Grand Lodge seated on the right and the Grand Master elect and other officers of the new Grand Lodge on its left. The introductory prayer was offered by the Rev. President of Bowdoin College, and an elegant and instructive oration delivered by J. H. Sheppard Esq. of Wiscasset, on the connection between learning and religion, and the influence of masonry in preserving and extending them both.

ADDRESS.

The Masonic Institution is ever an interesting subject of contemplation. Its antiquity carries us back to primeval ages ; its origin is traced among a peculiar people, who are now an astonishment and a by-word among all nations ;

its mysteries have never been divulged to the world; and its strength and beauty are undiminished, while all other societies have flourished for a season, and then disappeared. There is no art, nor science, nor knowledge it does not embrace; there is no virtue nor charm of character it does not claim; and its foundation is laid in the pure worship of the true God and in the preservation of his name and word. Though the sceptre is departed from Judah and the banner of Mahomet waves its green shade on the mountains of Israel, though the minarets of the Turk tower among the ruins of Jerusalem, and all is sad and desolate in the land of the East, from whence our ancient brethren traveled into other countries, yet the Masonic family still survives. The Bible still remains a monument of their glory and the guide of their faith and conduct. The dark ages could not extinguish this great Light of the world, and we now view it shedding its hallowed beams over Christendom and revisiting the oriental regions with renewed lustre.

The sacred ceremony, which has this day brought together so many of the Fraternity, and which has excited much interest among a large assembly in the metropolis of Maine, is calculated to awaken no ordinary feelings in the speaker, and may raise some expectation in the audience, that he would at least amuse them with the novelty of his remarks. But he is a stranger to the fascinating powers of eloquence; and his only aim will be to offer a few plain truths, which may reach the heart by their unassuming merit.

We live, indeed, in a wonderful age. The late eventful scenes in Europe, and the storms of war that have recently passed over the earth and left a troubled calm behind them, have had their influence on Masonry no less than on the moral condition of our race. We have seen the fame and prosperity of our country unexampled, and almost every year another star added to the national banner. The time has arrived, when this part of the Union, lately an immense wilderness, has become cultivated and peopled; and with its masonic, literary and religious institutions, with our most distinguished fellow-citizen and mason at its head, and a Legislature in its capital, is now recognized as an independent State. The hand of Providence seems to have guided every event and produced this harmonious change; and the polar light he has placed in the heavens appears already to *direct* our course, while it attracts every eye toward the Northern Regions. When such reflections press on the attention, a small sketch of Maine from its settlement to this important period might be pleasing; but when the prospect of futurity presents itself to the view, and the number of flourishing Lodges in this and our sister States are recalled to memory, local and individual feelings give way to a contemplation which regards all countries and all times, and whose tendency is beyond the pomp and splendor of this world. Suffer me, then, to touch on the union of Literature and Religion, one the ornament—the other, the guide of a Mason.

"Knowledge," says Lord Bacon, "is power." It cannot be acquired without study, nor preserved without discipline. It qualifies the mind for discharg-

ing the various duties and offices of life, and in proportion to its degrees, it raises man in the scale of existence and exalts him above the animal and vegetable beings around him. He, who cultivates all the faculties of his soul to their utmost extent, and devotes his time to the improvement of the intellect, is a valuable blessing to his friends and country. He moves in a superior sphere. His influence may be felt where he is not seen, and when possessed of extraordinary genius his conduct may affect the age in which he lives. In every occupation—in every profession—in every station under government, knowledge is necessary and important; and the more it is increased, the more it honors these respective situations. Could we confide in the mechanic who is unskilled in the accomplishments of his trade? Could we submit our body laboring under disease to the quackery of an empiric? Could we trust a cause of any magnitude, to an advocate who has read but one book, and that a manual of forms? We fly, almost instinctively, to those who are best qualified to administer to our necessities. The advantages of knowledge are not limited to any particular vocation; separate from its utility to others, it is attended with its own reward. It increases the resources of happiness within us; for the mind is a thinking substance and requires constant employment, or its thoughts are troublesome and sometimes fatal to the frame they actuate. But there is no exercise of the muscular powers alone which will always occupy the attention. Therefore, there must be something to fill the intervals of weariness from labor, or the mind languishes from its own vacancy. This gave origin to poetry and to painting, and the untutored Indians have their war-songs and the wildest barbarians their hieroglyphics to amuse the hopeless hours of inaction. What boundless resources are found in learning at such a time. He, who can read, has a perpetual feast before him; and while the fruits of reading may render him more useful to his neighborhood, the pleasures are permanent and delightful to himself. The time was in Britain, when a criminal frequently owed his life to a knowledge of the alphabet, under an ancient law, which too often rescued the guilty and condemned the innocent in its operation.

Learning, however, is not acquired by intuition. The rudiments must be taught by an instructor, and usually at an early period of life; and perhaps no system of education more practical and more efficacious has ever been devised than our public schools and seminaries, where every class of society is enabled to lay the foundation of future usefulness. Whatever some may think of the apparent indolence of men of learning, and the small benefit the community seems to derive from their manner of life, whatever objections may be raised against academical establishments, yet experience will convince every candid observer, that such characters and such institutions are infinitely important in the support of a republican government.

If the elements are so valuable, so is the perfection of knowledge; and the arguments against the higher seminaries will apply against all kinds of schools,

and compel him who reviles men of letters to be an enemy to all knowledge, and indeed a friend to ignorance; and it may be added, a friend of ignorance is a foe to his country. It is worthy of remark, that the most fatal blow that tyranny ever aimed, was that which fell on the means of education; for in proportion as people are enlightened, they *will* be free. When Greece was the admiration of the world—when Rome was in her highest glory, the number of learned men was the greatest; and many of their celebrated commanders excelled in oratory and were accomplished in the fine arts.

To no order in society is the encouragement of schools and the advancement of knowledge more valuable than to the Fraternity. Free-Masonry may be considered as one of the ancient founders of schools. The liberal arts and sciences were formerly taught in Lodges, and brethren imparted instruction to their children and others with more attention than was found in any except masonic families. Many of the craft were remarkable for the uncommon pains they took in training the young mind, and the schools of Pythagoras and Euclid are of distinguished memory. "The Druidical Academies," says the author of a brief inquiry into the origin and principles of Free-Masonry, "were very much crowded with students." A more general system of education in civilized countries has superseded the necessity of masonic schools, while it evinces at the same time how firmly the mysteries of the Art are connected with the improvement of the mind.

The value of learning may appear to an enlightened audience, too plain to require remark; but homely truths are not always useless to repeat, however common. In this part of the old Commonwealth, the means of acquiring knowledge have been experienced in a degree that will ever be an honor to our parent State; and may they be perpetuated in the manhood of our political existence as the dearest inheritance we possess. Could fancy be permitted to stray for a moment to the retreats of taste and science, it would be pleasing to pause either on the heights of Portland, among the academic shades of Brunswick, or at retired spots on the banks of the Kennebec.

This section of New England, however, has been frequently regarded by those afar off, as the Athenians viewed the land of Bœotia; as though it were a province where ignorance was cherished and the civilities of life neglected; where savage manners and barbarous customs made the inhabitants but little higher than the wandering tribes of the wilderness. Such ideas of the "cold regions of the North" have been too fashionable, and their influence among strangers to a new country cannot excite surprise. Those, who have visited Maine, have returned with very different impressions. The picturesque scenery of mountains, rivers and glens—of majestic forests and cultivated plains—and of fine sheets of water and pleasing villages in their vicinity has charmed the lover of landscapes, while a view of the industry, cheerfulness and mental energy of the people has convinced the intelligent traveller, that the climate and soil as well as the citizens of the North have been misrepresented.

sented. * Though such ungenerous opinions scarcely deserve notice, yet they may produce one valuable effect—that of rousing a deep interest in the character of the State and its future rank. By patronizing merit—by promoting the circulation of knowledge, and by the encouragement of literary institutions, a lasting and elevated tone may be given to our reputation abroad, and it may stand high in all that renders a community respectable and happy. Native talents were not excluded from Bæotia, nor are they, we trust, bounded in New England by the Piscataqua. They will flourish every where when protected, no where when neglected; and the character of Maine must rest not on its natural advantages, but on the virtues and abilities of those individuals who lead her destinies.

Uncommon attainments in literature, perhaps, confer as much distinction in the annals of greatness as any kind of celebrity. The warrior and the poet, the statesman and the historian, are often mutually dependent on each other for durable fame. Had Homer never lived, a host of heroes would have died forgotten!

Vixere fortes ante Agamemnona
Multi; sed omnes illachrymabiles
Urgentur, ignotique, longa
Nocte, carent quia vate sacro.

Without the historic pencil of Herodotus, where would have been the vivid picture of the battle of Marathon or the Straits of Thermopylæ? Julius Cæsar felt and acknowledged the power of mental excellence, when with the unlimited command of victorious legions, he listened to the voice of one man who pleaded for an unfortunate Roman citizen, whom the remembrance of Pharsalia made him determined to destroy. It was Cicero who stood before him, and as the orator proceeded in his story, the conqueror of the world turned pale—his papers dropped from his hand, and Ligarius was pardoned! That same Cæsar was often seen in his camp at the eve of battle, profoundly fixed in the study of astronomy. So many instances might be adduced of the eminence acquired by literature, that your patience would be exhausted with the fertility of the subject. All history is adorned with them. Indeed, man appears not to the imagination in a more splendid point of view, on an imperial throne or at the head of a triumphant army, gazed at by crowds and surrounded by acclamations, than in a lonely cell, enriched by study, inspired by genius, and musing over the mysteries of the earth and of the heavens, to extend the realms of the intellectual world. The living figures of material form are not in his presence; no voice of noisy admiration falls on his ear—but the illustrious dead seem standing around him—the beings of other places and other times are conversing with him—the beams of eternal fame are collecting on his brow, and the warrior and the monarch visit him that their names may not perish in the grave of oblivion! Need I point to examples? The one is Alexander the Great of Macedon—the other is Plutarch of Bæotia.

Masonic tradition has handed down to us the character of many of the fraternity, whose learning and talents were the charm of their own and all succeeding times. She delights to call so many philosophers, scholars and statesmen of unfading renown her sons and pupils, and she opens her treasures and unveils her mysteries to men of letters, whenever they seek her temple, with delight. Every thing in the Masonic Hall is calculated to subdue the passions and exalt the intellect. The language of the Lectures is pure and graceful, elegant without affectation, and sublime without obscurity. Our emblems are perpetual memorials of some useful precept. The furniture, the ornaments and the jewels of a Lodge, all convey moral lessons. They are not idle pictures selected by caprice, and arranged to make a show, but they are instruments of the mind to retain knowledge and communicate it to others, and rendered more dear by the remembrance of those who applied them with such force to fit themselves for ornaments of society.

Such are the charms of literature, so valuable in every situation and so useful to the masonic character. But what are the advantages of education—the delights of knowledge—or a profound skill in the arts and sciences—or the loftiest attainments of intellect, without religion, the alone support and comfort of man who is destined to die? What is the possession of unrivaled genius, without a heart devoted to its Creator? The *importance* of learning has been considered, the *necessity* of religion is still more striking.

The brevity of human life, and the frailty of human enjoyments have been the theme of the moralizing pen in every age. Mysterious is the origin of our existence. We came into this world in tears, as though instinctive nature prepared her pupils for discipline in the school of adversity. This little pupil weeps not long without knowing the cause of his sorrow; too soon is grief brought home to his own bosom; too soon is he called away from juvenile sports by the groan of affliction, and the procession of mourners that follow some friend to the silent mansions of the tomb. Here he may peep over the narrow cell, where the hearse has made its deposit, catch a last glimpse of what lies beneath, and then view the spade ready to mingle the cold clod with its kindred earth. Here he may cast an inquiring eye around and then go back unanswered and unconsolated. As he grows up in knowledge, he discovers that in every bosom there are jarring passions and frequent struggles between vice and virtue—in every family, griefs and vexations—in every city, crimes and misery—and in every kingdom, wars and revolutions. So true it is that through much tribulation we must seek another and a better country. In this state of being, every thing reminds us of a perishable world. The planet we inhabit is often disfigured by convulsions. It has already been inundated by a deluge, and the fire, we are told, will one day pass over the high hills and shady groves and towering cities, and all will vanish away as a dream. There is nothing permanent; neither wealth, nor beauty, nor power. We are the children of vicissitude, and every object we look at, contains a

memento of mortality. The very garments soon wax old about our persons—the habitations soon moulder over our heads—and the places of our residence are continually changing their inhabitants by the loss of one, and the coming of another. Time itself is so evanescent, that we can hardly be said to have a present moment; for ere we can realize it, it is gone. We live only in the past and in the future, for the thoughts of the mind, and the atoms of the body are every instant undergoing a change. What is pleasure? Disappointed in the vanity of its fruition, we become restless and dissatisfied, and the absence of pain is almost all it can boast. What is wealth? Her lofty ships make but a few voyages, and the owner disappears. What is ambition, whose meteor so often lures us from the paths of virtue? Her diadem is a crown of thorns; her hand is a lump of clay! Could we stand on the summit of human glory to-day, to-morrow our feet may slide from their hold, and we are dashed into nothingness in a moment. History itself seems to the imagination, but a vast church-yard of empires, where epitaphs are recorded on the tombs of kingdoms, and elegies written on the urns of individuals! Though the Masonic art may erect the stately edifice and embellish it with gold and costly stones, and teach its proud spire to ascend to heaven, it cannot perpetuate one single impression of the mallet, nor ornament of the chisel. The aged Hebrews, who had seen the beautiful temple of King Solomon, and remembered the days of its magnificence, wept bitterly;—it was changed, and the walks on Mount Moriah were desolate!

The works of the hands, however, when they perish, can be renewed for a season;—but when this fine temple of the human body—this majestic mansion of the soul—this most wonderful of the works of an Almighty Architect once falls, it falls forever! The spirit that was within flies, and who can recall it from the unknown world? Contemplating its flight we stand on the boundaries of the earth, and immensity and eternity lie before us. We anxiously ask where is it gone, what is the form thereof, what is its condition? If we cast our eyes on the ruins of the fair frame it once inhabited, the picture is too gloomy to behold. *Touch but the hand, it slips.* Where now is the commanding figure of the chieftain—the animating eye of the statesman—the thoughtful visage of the scholar—the amiable smile of the friend? Where are the flowing ringlets of beauty, or the melting voice of music? And

Oh! 'tis an awful thing to stand and gaze

At Death's fix'd look, and agonizing air,

And think of one who watch'd o'er childhood days,

And feel—a parent's lifeless form is there.

Thought rushes from such gloomy scenes to the citadel of natural reason for comfort and security. Reason is silent and motionless as the grave it broods upon. Like the fabled ghosts of Tartarus, it sighs for the waters of oblivion, that the pleasures of life, and the companions of gaiety, may be again revisited. But there is no liquid anodyne, no earthly medicine to heal the sorrows

of a troubled bosom. We may steep the senses in the cup, but the dregs of despair are at the bottom, and in the delirium of disturbed fancy, the dreams will be frightful. The moment of wakefulness must return, and it renews doubts that have no solution and redoubles the pangs of separation. Such is natural reason, till rendered callous by a habit of suffering. Such is the picture of the vicissitudes of this world—such is the state of man, without the hope that is revealed to him from above !

Wretched then would be our situation—miserable this remnant of a fugitive existence, did not Religion descend from Heaven to cheer the dark confines of the soul, and like a ministering angel, point out the celestial worlds, where life and immortality are brought to light. Here then we stand on the real foundation of Masonry ; and the union of literature and religion, show their indissoluble connection. Masonry is not merely a *moral* edifice. Every degree throws more light on the nature and attributes of the true God. The preservation of his name is its greatest honor—the promulgation of his truth, its greatest glory. It claims but one book out of all the libraries of the world—that book is the Holy Bible. This will remove wonder, that a society, whose secrets, neither papal tortures, nor a Spanish Inquisition, nor despotic power, nor riches, nor eloquence, could ever penetrate, has been preserved so many centuries, and is perpetually increasing. This reflection is solemn to a thoughtful mind. Mysterious characters are traced in the inner chamber, and the light of day shines upon them, and they are the name of God, in whom we live, move and have our being.

When we consider the connection between literature and religion, a question naturally occurs, which is interesting to all good men. Do the accomplishments of the mind survive hereafter ? Do we carry any remembrance of human knowledge to the world of spirits ? Must the treasures of a long life, spent in intellectual pursuits perish in the grave, and leave no trace on the memory ? Our hopes seem to teach us, that the soul is progressive in its improvements through endless ages. This view of the subject enforces the importance of knowledge here, and at the same time discovers the necessity of religion, that it may not be the source of wretchedness hereafter. But this is no time for speculative inquiries. The happiness of the blessed will be complete, whatever may be its peculiar nature ; *for eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive the things that God hath prepared for them that love him.*

By inculcating the worship of the only true God, and making the Holy Bible the guide of faith, Masonry interferes with no doctrinal points, nor discussions of parties or sects in religion—all are permitted to form their own creed, taking this sacred book as their directory. Venerable from its antiquity it seeks no proselytes, and is therefore a powerful institution to unite pious men of different persuasions for the common good.

In ancient times, Masonry was the greatest and at some periods the only

opposer of idolatry. For many ages it held the keys of knowledge, while barbarians were desolating all that was fair and beautiful in society; and it is probably destined to be one of the mighty instruments in the hand of Providence, to spread the Sacred Word among all nations who know not God, and whose ignorance has a claim on the children of humanity. Under the blessings of a free government, and beneath the broad light of Christianity, we little know the sufferings of a large portion of our race in remote countries. The funeral fire, that consumes some widowed mourner, still burns on the banks of the Ganges; the unhallowed Turk still pollutes the holy land of Palestine; the dark African still looks up to Heaven in the agony of despair, while writhing under the lash of the oppressor; and there are multitudes who live in wretchedness, without comfort here or hope hereafter, while the great masonic family are bound to diffuse that light which cheers all that see it and carries gladness in every ray. Are not these subjects worthy of some consideration at a time when the prosperity of our country—the flourishing state of the fraternity—the rapid increase of their members—their rich resources and extensive influence all unite to render them the most powerful institution, that ever was on earth, to promote this end? Are these things visionary? Whatever opinions may be entertained on the subject of evangelizing the multitudinous nations of Asia, and of circulating the Sacred Word through their wide and sorrowful dominions, whatever may be thought of those innumerable societies actuated as by a divine impulse in this grand and holy object, yet ought not masons to take a deep interest in the restoration of that ancient realm of our Hebrew brethren, whence all our light first dawned, to peace, and to comfort, and to joy? The mountains of Lebanon where the stones were hewn, squared and numbered—the heights of Joppa where the materials for the building were conveyed—the Mount of Moriah where the Temple of Solomon was erected—the garden of Gethsemane, where lay the sepulchre of our Lord and Master—the villages of Bethlehem, Nazareth and Bethany—the sea of Galilee and the river of Jordan—all those spots are still existing, rendered dear to the mason by a thousand associations; and the lovely land of Palestine is still beautiful as ever; but where are the generations who were once there, beholding the Star in the East, and receiving the glad tidings from above, and listening to the voice of our Sainted Brother, whose festival we now celebrate? The ruins of Jerusalem will answer! Deep darkness overshadows their posterity. A sorrowful people are waiting the hour of deliverance. Though the time when Jehovah will gather together the scattered Israelites we know not, though the prophecies are unsearchable, and can only be understood in their fulfillment, yet the melioration of their lot, who cling to the beloved fields of Palestine, may be effected by a diffusion of light and knowledge, once more among them. And is it unreasonable to suppose that Masonry might again cheer up the heart of sorrow in that unhappy region, to which the Eastern realm of a new world now owes this joyous day!

M. W. Grand Master—R. W. Officers and W. Brethren :

In the consecration of a Grand Lodge in Maine, we behold a striking picture of our local prosperity, and of the increase of the Masonic family. The union of Literature and Religion has been offered to your consideration with much diffidence, by one to whom you have assigned the honor of an Address. The influence of these principles, when well directed, may make the light of Masonry a blessing to all around us; for there is no condition of life so obscure, that it may not produce instruments, which, under the guidance of Heaven, may bring about great events; and there is no village so deserted, that the *mind* may not *there* lay up immense treasures. Every human being is a part of a vast system, created by an Almighty hand; and in whatever sphere he moves, some kindred eyes may watch his conduct, and some congenial heart be affected with his character; but important is the conduct and responsible is the character of those, who are placed in the high and lofty stations of directing the affairs of their country; and in no way do the Masonic regulations appear to more advantage, than in requiring respect for our Officers and regard for subordination of rank. We elect those who rule over us, and when elected we resign to them all power our Constitution can bestow, and evince all the affection the principles of a dignified Order can inspire; and our rulers are under solemn obligation to promote the happiness of the whole. This institution is therefore admirably fitted to form the excellent magistrate and the faithful citizen of a free country.

To those respected Grand Officers who have visited us on this interesting occasion we offer a sincere welcome, and when they leave us, a kind farewell and cordial wish for their prosperity. The ceremony we witness is flattering to our feelings and elevating to our hopes; and though it reminds us that our *filial* connection with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is dissolved, yet it convinces us that the *fraternal* ties are only rendered more powerful. We congratulate our Grand Officers who are now to be invested with the jewels of a high station. To our most worshipful Grand Master we present the testimony of respect, happy that the first Chief Magistrate of the State should also be the first to fill the chair of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

BRETHREN—The consecration of a Grand Lodge this day is attended with peculiar circumstances; the Festival reminds us of the Holy Lodge of St. John at Jerusalem—the Grand Lodge from New Hampshire have honored us with their attendance—an unusual number of brethren from various Lodges in Maine are here assembled—the Legislature of the State evince their respect for the occasion, and a large assembly of spectators is now collected. We may never witness again a Masonic spectacle so interesting; for the years of human life are few and short—they roll rapidly along; and the most splendid scenes, and the most august ceremonies that can ever call us together in this world, may serve to convince us, that we may soon be summoned to that Grand Lodge in the Heavens, where an assembled Universe will surround us and the Lord himself appear in glory, a celestial light to the faithful!

After the oration, the Grand Master having stated the object of the meeting, announced the presence of Grand Officers of New Hampshire to assist in the interesting ceremonies; the Jewels were collected by the Grand Marshal and deposited on the table; the prayer of consecration was then offered by the Rev. Mr. Tilton of Scarborough, Grand Chaplain pro tempore; and the Grand Master of Maine having first signified his assent to the ancient Constitutions and Charges of the Craft, was duly invested with the insignia of his office and presented with the regalia of his Grand Lodge. After this he proceeded to invest his Deputy Grand Master and the following officers of the Grand Lodge of Maine, (viz.)

- R. W. CHARLES FOX, as proxy to Rt. W. William Swan, Senior Grand Warden.
- R. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, Junior Grand Warden.
- R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. WILLIAM LORD, Recording Grand Secretary.
- R. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Corresponding Grand Secretary.
- R. W. HENRY W. FULLER, Senior Grand Deacon.
- R. W. JOSIAH CALEF, Junior Grand Deacon.
- R. W. WILLIAM TORRY, Grand Steward.
- R. W. S. BAKER, as proxy to R. W. Jesse Robinson, Grand Steward.
- R. W. ELEAZER WYER, Grand Steward.
- R. W. NELSON RACKLYFT, Grand Steward.
- Brother WILLIAM STEVENS, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Master then returned thanks to the Grand Master of New Hampshire and his officers for their presence and assistance, and requested that if all the ceremonies were duly performed and approved, proclamation thereof might be made. Whereupon the Grand Master of New Hampshire expressed his congratulations on the occasion; and by his command, the Grand Marshal of New Hampshire proclaimed the Grand Lodge of Maine to be duly constituted and consecrated, and its officers installed in ample and ancient form.

The services were then closed with a Benediction, pronounced by the officiating Chaplain of New Hampshire.

The Brethren returned to Mason's Hall, and partook of a rich repast, provided for the occasion by Mr. Dexter Dana.

The following votes were passed :—

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the Second Religious Society and Parish, for the accommodation afforded by the use of their Meeting House on this occasion.

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the Beethoven Society, for the several pieces of music performed with so much skill and taste on this occasion.

Voted, That R. W. Brothers Charles Fox, Nathaniel Coffin and Joseph E. Foxcroft be a committee to wait upon R. W. Brother J. H. Sheppard, Esq. and offer him the thanks of this Grand Lodge, for his truly Masonic address this day delivered before the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire and Maine, and to request a copy for the press.

Adjourned to Tuesday evening, June 27.

WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary.*



SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Mason's Hall in Portland, June 27, 1820, according to adjournment.

PRESENT—R. W. SIMON GREENLEAF, Deputy Grand Master.
 “ NATHANIEL COFFIN, Senior Grand Warden, *p. t.*
 “ ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Junior Grand Warden, *p. t.*
 “ JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Grand Treasurer.
 “ WILLIAM LORD, Grand Secretary.
 “ ELEAZER WYER, Senior Grand Deacon. *p. t.*
 “ NELSON RACKLYFT, Junior Grand Deacon. *p. t.*
 “ GEORGE THACHER, Jr. Grand Sword Bearer.
 “ SETH CLARK, Grand Steward, *p. t.*
 Bro. WILLIAM STEVENS, Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented.

Portland,	Ancient Land-Mark,	Solar,
United,	Lincoln,	Felicity,
Saco,	Kennebec.	

Voted, That the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts be adopted as the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, so far as they are applicable, until a new code be reported and accepted.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be requested to obtain a list of all the Past Masters in the State of Maine, and the dates of the Charters of the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and that the District Deputy Grand Masters be requested to assist him.

Voted, That the Committee who have under consideration the Constitution and By-Laws for this Grand Lodge, be requested to report at our next meeting

R. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, Esq. of Wiscasset, submitted the following resolutions:

Resolved, As the sense of this Grand Lodge, that the translation of the Holy Bible into the various languages of the Earth, and distributing the same without note or comment, is a truly Masonic work, and claims the co-operation of every friend of the human race.

Resolved, That we accordingly recommend to all the fraternity, under this Masonic jurisdiction, to give heed personally to this great light, and to use their efforts for diffusing its cheering beams over the world.

Resolved, That as an expression of our gratitude to the Father of Lights for his most merciful care of us hitherto, and for the unexampled prosperity at this time attending the fraternity in Maine, we do hereby dedicate to this great work of diffusing the knowledge of His most Holy Word, one tenth of all moneys hereafter to be received for charters to subordinate Lodges, and for candidates initiated into the mysteries of our order; *Provided however*, That the expenses of the Grand Lodge already incurred for its consecration, shall be first paid, before any appropriation from our income be made to any other object whatever.

A petition from a number of Brethren in Norridgewock, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge there, was read; but, as it had not the approbation of the two nearest Lodges,

Voted, That it lie over to the next meeting of this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary notify the petitioners of the same.

Voted, That Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be authorized to procure all the blanks that may be necessary for the Grand Lodge.

The Committee of arrangements for the 24th of June, made a report, in which there appeared to be a balance of about one hundred dollars wanting to pay the bills: thereupon,

Voted, That the Chairman of said Committee be authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for any sum that may be wanted, not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Voted, That the prayer of the petition of Bro. Thomas B. Stinchfield and others, for a Lodge to be established at Waterville, by the name of Waterville Lodge, be granted.

The Committee appointed to procure a Seal with a proper device, made the following report, which was accepted:

The form, a circle, surrounded by the words, "Incorporated by the State June 10th, consecrated June 25th, A. L. 5820." Within this circle the words GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, upholding on its three pillars the Bible, Square, and Compasses, supported on the right by a Scythe, and on the left by

an Anchor, (part of the arms of the State) having within the compasses, REGIT, (the Bible rules and directs us) irradiated by the polar Star, (the emblem of Maine,) and having above the whole the All-seeing Eye.

The following are some of the reasons which have led to this form and device.

We are incorporated by the State, and by placing the polar star, which is the emblem of Maine upon our Seal, casting its rays upon the Bible, Square and Compasses, which in this represent the masonic family, we acknowledge our allegiance to the State. By placing the Scythe and Anchor as our supporters, they being also part of the Arms of the State, we acknowledge our obligations for the support afforded us, not only by granting us an incorporation without a dissenting vote, but by other public acts expressive of their regard for the Institution. Above the whole we place the All-seeing Eye, to remind us, that all our actions, of a political as well as of a masonic nature, are under divine inspection. These emblems being surrounded with the indented Tessel, resting upon a tessellated pavement, remind us of that variety of blessings with which we are surrounded by Divine Providence while passing through the chequered scenes of life. And as the whole rests upon pillars having their foundation in the Grand Lodge, the device reminds us that the State and the Fraternity should always find a steady support in the patriotic and benevolent principles and labors of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

NATHANIEL COFFIN, *Chairman*.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to procure suitable books for himself, and for the District Deputy Grand Masters.

Voted, That the Recording Grand Secretary be directed to procure a suitable book for the records of the Grand Lodge, and that he cause an abstract of the records of the Convention including the whole of the final report of the committee to agree on the terms of separation with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to be transcribed into the same.

Voted, That R. W. Simon Greenleaf, D. G. Master, be a committee to prepare the abstract above mentioned, and also to prepare the first communication of the Grand Lodge to be printed and distributed among the several Lodges under this jurisdiction.

Voted, That R. W. Simon Greenleaf, D. G. Master, be a committee to superintend the printing the oration delivered by J. H. Sheppard Esq., and procure a suitable number for the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That all the accounts of the Grand Lodge be settled so as to appear in their first communication.

Voted, That R. W. Brothers Robert P. Dunlap, Nathaniel Coffin, and Samuel Little be a committee to agree with Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges or either of them for suitable rooms for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the Corresponding Grand Secretary be requested to provide a suitable book and record his correspondence therein.

Voted, That the resolutions offered by R. W. Nathaniel Coffin, J. G. Warden, be put over to our meeting in January next, and that one hundred copies be printed and the Grand Secretary send a copy to the Master and Secretary of each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the first printed communication of this Grand Lodge be sent to all the Grand Lodges in America and Europe, with an official note by the Corresponding Grand Secretary, announcing the regular organizing of this Grand Lodge and requesting their fraternal recognition and correspondence.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to the 4th Thursday in August next, 24th day.

WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary*.



STATE OF MAINE.



In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE MASTER, WARDENS AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MAINE.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled.* That William King, Simon Greenleaf, William Swan, Nathaniel Coffin and their associates and successors, be and they hereby are incorporated into a body politic by the name of the Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Maine; with power to sue and be sued, to have a common seal and to change the same, to make any By-Laws for the management of their affairs, not repugnant to the laws of this State, nor to ancient masonic usages. To take and hold for charitable and benevolent uses, any real estate to the value of twenty thousand dollars, and any personal estate to the value of sixty thousand dollars; and to give and grant, or bargain and sell the same; and with all the privileges usually granted to other societies instituted for purposes of charity and beneficence.

SECTION 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the first meeting of said corporation shall be holden at such time and place, and be notified in such manner as the majority of the persons herein named may direct.

SECTION 3. *Be it further enacted,* That the powers granted by this act may be enlarged, restrained or repealed, at the pleasure of the Legislature.

In the House of Representatives, June 15, 1820.

This bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

BENJ. AMES, *Speaker.*

In Senate, June 16, 1820.

This bill having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

JOHN CHANDLER, *President.*

June 16, 1820.

Approved,

WILLIAM KING.

Copy from original.

Att :

ASHUR WARE, *Secretary of State.*

To WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maine.*

You are hereby authorized and requested to notify and warn a meeting of the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Maine, to be holden at Mason's Hall in Portland, on Thursday, the 24th day of August next, at 7 o'clock p. m., by advertisement three successive weeks in both the Portland newspapers, for the purpose of adopting any measures which may be thought necessary for the more perfect organization of the said Grand Lodge under the late act of incorporation, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before them.

Given under our hands, July 5th, 1820.

WILLIAM KING,
SIMON GREENLEAF,
WILLIAM SWAN.

Pursuant to the foregoing order, I have notified and warned the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Maine, to meet at the time and place, and for the purposes aforesaid.

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

Portland, August 1, 1820.



SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

Pursuant to an order from M. W. William King, R. W. Simon Greenleaf, and R. W. William Swan, of which due notice was given, a communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, August 24th, A. D. 1820.

PRESENT—R. W.	SIMON GREENLEAF,	Deputy Grand Master.
“	WILLIAM SWAN,	Senior Grand Warden.
“	ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	Junior Grand Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	Grand Treasurer.
“	WILLIAM LORD,	Grand Secretary.
R. W. & Rev.	GIDEON W. OLNEY,	Grand Chaplain.
R. W.	JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	Grand Marshal.
“	ELEAZER WYER,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“	NELSON RACKLYFT,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“	SETH CLARK,	Grand Pursuivant.
Bro.	WILLIAM STEVENS,	Grand Tyler.

Visitors—R. W. Bro. PURKETT, R. W. Bro. TAPPIN.

Lodges represented:

Portland,	Cumberland,	Ancient Land-Mark,
Adoniram,	Tranquil,	Oriental,
Temple,	United,	Blazing Star.

Voted, That the resolutions offered by R. W. Nathaniel Coffin at our last meeting be committed to R. W. Simon Greenleaf, Robert P. Dunlap and Rev. Gideon W. Olney, to report at our next communication.

The committee appointed to report a code of By-Laws for the Grand Lodge of Maine, made their report, which was read, and

ordered to be printed and sent to every member of the Grand Lodge—number to be printed not to exceed one hundred and fifty.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to get the By-Laws printed, and send them to the members of this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That R. W. Robert P. Dunlap (one of the committee appointed to procure suitable accommodations for the meetings of the Grand Lodge) be authorized to close the bargain with Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges for this Hall, at forty dollars per year.

Voted, That the past transactions of the Grand Lodge of Maine, as they stand recorded on the Grand Secretary's books, be, and they hereby are, confirmed and held valid and binding on the Corporation of the Master, Wardens and members of the Grand Lodge of Maine, to all purposes whatever.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to receive from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts the money and all other property granted by them to this Grand Lodge and mentioned in the third Resolution reported by their committee on this subject at their communication, March 8, 1820.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to invest the Thousand Dollars he receives from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the Charity Fund, in such stock or securities as he may think most safe and productive.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the several bills reported by the committee on Accounts, and that he obtain funds for that purpose agreeable to a former vote of this Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Accounts made a Report, which was read, accepted and put on file.

Voted, That the committee on Diplomas be discharged at their request.

Voted, That R. W. William Swan, Robert P. Dunlap and Eleazer Wyer be a committee to report a suitable design for diplomas, and on what terms they can be furnished, as soon as may be.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it will adjourn to the last Wednesday in September next, 27th day.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be requested to communicate to the several Lodges on the importance of their being represented in the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to the last Wednesday in September next, 27th day.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden according to adjournment at Mason's Hall in Portland, on Wednesday evening, Sept. 27, A. D. 1820.

PRESENT—R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ELEAZER WYER,	Senior Grand Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	Junior Grand Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ SETH CLARK,	Senior Grand Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ SAMUEL BAKER,	Junior Grand Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOS. M. GERRISH,	Grand Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Grand Secretary.
Bro. WILLIAM STEVENS,	Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Ancient Land-Mark,	Temple,
Solar,	Adoniram.	

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the resolutions offered by R. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Esq., Junior Grand Warden, made the following report :

TO THE MOST WORSHIPFUL THE GRAND LODGE OF MAINE.

The Committee to whom was referred certain resolutions proposed for the adoption of the Grand Lodge, respecting the appropriation of a stated portion of the funds of the Grand Lodge to the translation, printing and distribution of the Holy Bible, without note or comment, among the various nations of the earth, have attended to that subject, and ask leave to submit the following report :—

The opinions expressed by all classes of Masons, leave no room to doubt their readiness cheerfully to appropriate some portion of the funds of the

institution to the purposes contemplated by the resolves submitted to the Grand Lodge, provided it can be done without violating any fundamental principle of our ancient order.

It becomes necessary, therefore, to advert to the original principles and design of Masonry, in order to solve correctly the interesting and momentous questions now presented to the Grand Lodge.

Without entering into all the arguments which have been advanced at different times, by writers on this subject, it is sufficient in this place to remark that all approved writers on Masonry, and all histories of the order which are received as authentic by the fraternity, concur in referring the origin of Masonry to the patriarchal ages, and in regarding its great object as the cultivation of pure religion. Its features have been satisfactorily traced in the religious mysteries of the Egyptians, Greeks and Druids, and the same characters, combined with the cultivation of the arts, are perceived in our traditionary accounts of its existence among the Jews. It is by the same authors supposed to have languished after the conversion of the Druids to Christianity, and to have been revived in renewed splendor, in the early part of the tenth century, at the formation of the Grand Lodge of York.

If these historical accounts are deserving of credit, (and we have never yet heard their correctness questioned) there is no probability that Masonry owes its origin to any combination of builders, or that it was anciently devoted to the cultivation of one branch of learning more than another. We are rather impelled to the belief that the wide and elevated views of our ancient brethren, extended to the preservation and advancement of all good learning, and of every branch of useful science, ever regarding that to be most worthy of attention which leads to right conceptions of the character of that Being whom all enlightened men profess to seek and to adore.

Upon this ground it is easy to account for, and to reconcile all parts of our ancient mysteries. Even the implements of architecture, found among our emblems, form no objection, since it is universally agreed to have been the custom of the ancients to convey moral instruction by visible symbols; and none are more happily adapted to the purpose for which they are now used, than the working tools of Masons.

But upon any other supposition, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to afford any rational explanation of any part of our ritual. If Masonry was not originally a religious and moral institution, it must have been merely a fraternity of architects, associated for the cultivation of their art, and for the relief of each other when in poverty and distress. But it may safely be affirmed that such a fraternity would not have adopted any symbols or ceremonies not relating to their particular profession. And it may be asked what professional benefit a company of mere architects could derive from the anchor of hope, the emblems of the sun, moon and stars, the pot of incense, the mystic numbers, the All-seeing eye, the sword and heart, the sciences of

music, grammar, rhetoric, logic and astronomy, or from definitions of the senses of tasting and smelling? Or why secrecy should so often be enjoined by such a society, under such solemn sanctions? Yet in the mysteries of the ancients, teaching, as they did, a system of religion directly opposite to the idolatrous superstitions of the populace, we clearly see sufficient reasons for secrecy, and the utility of imparting the knowledge of true religion by slow degrees, and by symbolical instruction.

Often indeed are we reminded that operative Masons make use of certain implements for the purposes of their art, but that *we* use them for purposes "more noble and glorious;" and that Masonry is "an holy institution."

Those views of the nature and design of Masonry are in no wise peculiar to the fraternity in this quarter of America, nor to the present generation. They are distinctly stated in Hutchinson's spirit of Masonry, published about forty years since, with the express approbation of the Grand Lodge of England, as well as in other books deserving of great credit, both before and since that time. And to those writings the committee refer for more extensive elucidations than can be given in the compass of this report.

It is evident, then, that the great objects of Masonry originally were the advancement of literature, science, and true religion.

That the Lodges in Europe have never supposed their funds to be consecrated *exclusively* to the relief of poverty and personal distress, is manifest from the manner in which they have expended them.

In Germany, Denmark and Sweden, *charity schools* were erected by the Lodges more than half a century ago, for educating the children of Masons "*in the principles of science and the doctrines of christianity.*" In the year 1773, the united Lodges of Dresden, Leipsic and Gorlitz, erected at Frederickstadt, a seminary of learning for children of *every* denomination in the electorate of Saxony. And to use the words of a well known Masonic Historian, "it deserves to be remarked that the founders of these institutions, amid their anxiety for the public prosperity, never neglected the *spiritual interests* of the children." The same liberal and just view of the objects and uses of Masonry were entertained by our English brethren, who, in the year 1778, instituted a free school "to train up children in the knowledge of *virtue and religion.*"

It may be deemed superfluous to cite any illustrations of the same principles among the Lodges, *grand* and subordinate, in America, known, as they must be to all well informed Masons. But the views of the Committee are so justly expressed by the late M. W. Grand Master of the State of New Hampshire, in his annual address in the year 1818, to the Lodges of that jurisdiction, that they cannot forbear to quote his own words. After adverting to some local and peculiar causes which had diminished the annual revenues of the Grand Lodge, and suggesting the propriety of making donations from the funds of each subordinate Lodge, to the Grand Lodge, for certain specified purposes, he observes that "*The gratuitous distribution of the Holy Scriptures; assistance to indigent young men of our fraternity in completing an education which will qualify*

them for public usefulness; also, encouragement to those pious Masons who have gone, or may go as Missionaries among the Heathen, are certainly subjects which deserve the attentive consideration of our charitable order. Contributions for these, or the like purposes, would reflect honor on the Masonic institution, would serve to allay prejudices, and conciliate the esteem of those that are without; and might prove the means, under Providence, of essential benefit to mankind." It deserves to be further remarked that the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont, in the same liberal and truly Masonic spirit, have made donations to the Bible Societies of that state and of the United States, and at their communication in October, A. D. 1819, they passed an official and Masonic approbation of "the translating, printing, and distributing of the Holy Scripture, without note or comment."

If it should be objected that no instance is to be found in Europe of the application of Masonic funds to the distribution of the Bible, it may be replied that the existence of *any* Bible Society is of no earlier date than the year 1804; and doubtless but few of the streams have yet begun to flow, which will finally swell that grand river of beneficence to mankind. Nor can we admit it as a just objection against a legitimate and laudable exertion of our powers, that other Lodges have not yet directed theirs to the same object; since the same argument will apply with equal force against the commencement of every virtuous undertaking.

It has been objected that to apply the funds of Lodges of christian Masons to this object, would destroy the *universality* of Masonry; and would justify our Jewish brethren in "disseminating the writings of Moses only, or the Mahometan Masons in multiplying copies of the Alcoran."

But it should be observed that our Jewish brethren receive, as Holy Writ, not "the writings of Moses only," but the whole of the Old Testament: and as the distribution is made "without note or comment," we perceive no good reason against their sending out that part of the Bible alone, since christians have found great advantages to result from the translation and publication, among idolatrous nations, of detached portions at a time, as well of the Old Testament as of the New. It has been thought most advisable, in many cases, to adopt this gradual method of instruction—And should our Jewish brethren be induced thus to co-operate with us in this great object, the consequence would only be, a more extensive diffusion of light.

Respecting the "Mahometan Masons," who form so strong a part of this objection, we have not yet found the proofs of their existence: and the known indifference of the Turks, both to science and to social intercourse, as well as the vigilance of their despotic government, its extreme jealousy of all secret assemblies, and its prompt and often indiscriminate application of the bow-string, all forbid us to believe the fact, unless upon direct testimony. We have heard of a few instances of Mahometans and Pagans being initiated into our mysteries; but these instances, according to the best evidence we can obtain, occurred in

Lodges of christian Masons, either on the European shores of the Mediterranean, or in the English possessions in India. We have as yet found no evidence that there is such a society as a Turkish or a Pagan Lodge in the world; and we have strong circumstantial proof that there is no Lodge in existence which does not use the Holy Bible as it is used among us, nor in which the initiate does not receive it as "the rule and guide of his faith and practice."

If then these Mahometan Masons thus engaged to adopt the Bible as *their* rule and guide, which they must have done, if initiated, as it seems in Lodges of christian Masons; it may be asked what just ground of complaint they can have, if we publish that "rule and guide" to others; or with what reason they can claim, on *Masonic* grounds, to distribute the Koran?

If we receive the Bible at all, we receive it as a *sacred* book,—a revelation from Heaven,—as the *great Light* by which our steps are to be directed. And if so, what part of it are we to reject, out of courtesy to the faith of Masons of another religion, if any such there be? To gratify one class we must exclude the New Testament; and another would require us to reject them both.

But if the principles of our order were promulgated in the tents of Shem,—spread in Europe by the descendents of Gomer,—and disseminated by Abraham among the nations of Asia,—what is there, we may ask, in the subsequent revelations of God to man, as *we* receive them, which is inconsistent with these first principles? Is the religion of the Patriarchs *one* thing, and the religion of Jesus Christ *another*? Were not both from the same Deity,—and is the latter in any opposition to the former? Are not both in perfect harmony,—the one the foundation, the other the capstone? And can this be affirmed of any other religion on the earth?

The answer to these enquiries leads us to this result,—that the *universality* of Masonry consists in its embracing in the arms of its charity the whole brotherhood of man, and in its endeavors that *all* should be "children of the light"—that *all* should come to the knowledge of *the truth*, and that the truth should make them *free*.

It has been farther objected that the distribution of the Bible by the aid of Masonry "is unauthorized by the customs of time immemorial,"—that "not a single precedent can be found of a similar procedure in ancient records."

The answer to this objection may be found in the preceding observations, and especially by adverting to the very recent date of the origin of the first Bible Society in the world, instituted upon the present system. But it may be added, that whatever may have been the customs of ancient times in this respect, we have no "records" whatever which show the ordinary operations of the society much, if any, beyond the last century. There are, it is true, some documents of an older date; but none which shew any specific application of Masonic funds. The purposes to which such funds were more anciently applied, are rather to be ascertained by inference from other facts, and from

the general principles of the institution. If our order existed in the Grecian mysteries, its funds must have been expended in the maintenance of religious rites. If it was known and supported by the Druids, the great object of their mysteries, as we have good reason to believe, was the preservation of a worship more pure than that of the populace:—in addition to which they cultivated every branch of human learning:—neither of which, it is fair to presume, could have been effected without revenues. And if Masonry, as no Mason will deny, existed in the court of Solomon,—if it was honored with the charge of erecting the first temple, and its “children of the captivity” restored the second, unquestionably its means were not restricted to the mere giving of alms. It would seem absurd to say that Masonry may lawfully build a temple for the regular worship of the true God, but must not furnish it with a single copy of “the law and the prophets.” What else, it may be asked, was the building of Solomon’s Temple, which makes so prominent a figure in the foreground of our traditions, but an exclusive appropriation of the whole energies of Masonry to extend the knowledge of Jehovah, and to promote his worship, as he had prescribed it, and to but one nation at that time in the world? We constantly affirm that this was done by ancient Masons not merely as the servants of King Solomon, and with his wealth, but in their Masonic character, and with the means which, as Masons, they could command. The institution was completely identified with the great work it was engaged in conducting; and we can perceive no difference in principle between building a temple to the Most High, in one age, and furnishing it with a copy of his Holy Word, in another:—nor between the furnishing of a Bible, out of which the truth may be taught on Sundays to the congregation, and the gratuitous bestowing of copies to the destitute, in which they may read it for themselves.

The question now before the Grand Lodge, we believe, was never directly presented to our ancient brethren. Not that we suppose they never discussed the subject of enlightening the world, or doubted the lawfulness of appropriating their means to that end. On the contrary we suppose the diffusion of the light of truth to have been a great object of Masonry in all ages. But amidst all the means which have been devised for the attainment of this object, the discovery of the liberal and catholic method of sending forth the Bible in its native simplicity—of appealing, as it were, directly to the Deity, to maintain the commanding majesty of his own Revelation, has been reserved to the present age. It originated in a spirit of enlightened philanthropy; and it has rapidly and widely extended the prevalence of those feelings which gave it birth. It is the tessellated pavement on which brethren of every sect may walk and not stumble. It is, if we may be permitted the expression, the Masonry of religion, and the religion of Masonry.

It has been urged, as a farther objection, that the proposed appropriation “would change the main object of our ancient institution from *temporal* to *spiritual* charity.”

But it is incumbent on those who advance this objection, to show that *temporal* charity was ever regarded as the *main* object of our institution. If the view we have taken of ancient Masonry be correct, however extensive the temporal charities of the craft may heretofore have been, they were far from being regarded as the great purpose of Masonry. Nor is it a very easy matter to make so careful a discrimination among the objects of charity as this objection would seem to require. We do not believe that any Mason is prepared to say, that while our order permits us to relieve the wants and sufferings of the body, it steadily refuses any relief to the wounded and troubled mind;—or that while it directs us to administer to the personal wants of Masons' orphans, when they occur, it forbids us to prevent the existence of want, by affording such orphans seasonable moral and religious instruction. If we may feed the hungry and clothe the naked, it would seem to be a part of the same duty also to reclaim the wandering and instruct the ignorant. We perceive no difference of principle between supporting the poor out of our own funds, and teaching them to support themselves, unless it be a difference in favor of the latter: and an important part of this instruction consists in enforcing the moral duty of diligence and virtue from the high sanctions of religion. And where can such knowledge be so well obtained as from the Bible? In this view the bestowment of a Bible on the destitute orphan of a deceased Mason, may prove one of the greatest of all "*temporal charities.*" We can never believe that while Masonry enjoins on us the relief of poverty and distress, even though occasioned by error from the ways of virtue and religion, it at the same time forbids us to prevent that poverty and distress by opening to the eyes of the young and ignorant the sacred pages of Revelation: nor that while we may administer to the relief of a sick wayfaring brother, and afford him the means of pursuing his way, yet that Masonry will prohibit us to cheer his journey with the divine consolations of our holy religion.

We have considered some other objections of an inferior character, but do not consider it necessary now to examine them in detail; since the preceding observations, if well founded, afford a satisfactory answer to them all. Indeed the objection arising from the insufficiency of our revenues, and any supposed pledge of them to the exclusive relief of bodily suffering, can come only from a willing objector. There is no Lodge but what can, at times, spare from its income a small sum for the diffusion of light and knowledge. And however its *present* funds may be limited in their application by by-laws and regulations, the same power which enacted such laws can change them, at least so far as future income may be concerned.

It should be distinctly remembered that the object of the resolutions under consideration, is, not to convert our institution into a mere missionary or Bible Society—not to propagate sectarian dogmas or notions—not to introduce any innovation into Masonry—nor to obstruct any of its ancient channels or divert any of its accustomed streams of beneficence:—but rather to rekindle

the fire of an ancient altar—to open an obstructed fountain, the streams whereof will make glad the hearts of our brethren and kin—to prove our title to be called children of the light, by imitating the example of our Masonic fathers.

These opinions are corroborated by a consideration of the nature and character of our mysteries and of our public professions.

From the first introduction of a candidate into the mysteries of Masonry, to the termination of his travels, he is continually taught the great principles of piety and good morals; and these instructions are conveyed with a progressive frequency and force, under deeper and more imposing solemnities, in every succeeding degree. On his becoming a Mason he expressly receives the Holy Bible as “the rule and guide of his faith and practice,” and solemnly engages ever to walk by its unerring precepts. It is always open in every Lodge of Masons, and is reverently carried abroad in all our public processions. We profess ourselves to be “children of the light,”—and we represent our institution as the depository of all that is valuable in art or science, lovely in morality and virtue, or true and liberal in religion. We profess the highest veneration for King Solomon “the beloved of the Lord,”—celebrated for his piety and his learning, and for his zeal in extending the knowledge of the true God, and advancing the cause of science among men. We adopt, as our peculiar patron, the venerable harbinger of Jesus Christ,—of a dispensation more pure and exalted than any which had preceded it; a patron, devoted, with unshaken constancy, to the spread of religion and knowledge among men, and who persisted, even unto death, in that glorious cause.

And with what consistency, we ask, can these professions be held out to the world, if, at the same time, we coldly turn away from the noblest work which ever engaged the powers of man?

Every view we have been able to take of Masonry, shews it to be an institution founded on the broad basis of *universal beneficence*.

We conceive therefore, that to restrict the operations of our order to the mere relief of bodily want, does in no wise answer its original constitution and design, nor do justice to its high character and professions. It was doubtless, in early ages, a most powerful instrument to subdue the ferocity of untutored man, to break the chains of ignorance and superstition, and to discipline the minds and hearts of youth to habits of virtue. Hence we find ancient Masonry not only dispensing alms to the destitute, opening the door of hospitality to the stranger, and watching, with unwearied kindness, at the couch of disease and pain,—but also presiding in schools and seminaries of learning, handling the implements of art, and ministering at the holy altar.

These duties seem to be still generally incumbent on the craft, though the state of society may at times render the practice of some of them less necessary than that of others. In a country favored as ours is, with the abundant and gratuitous means of ordinary instruction, both civil and religious, it becomes not so necessary for Lodges of Masons to attend to these objects among

ourselves ; and our funds, being relieved from this demand, are applicable in a greater degree to the purpose of instructing the benighted and ignorant of other nations in the arts of civilization and of peace,—in the means of increasing their happiness in this life, and in teaching them to hope for a more perfect state of existence hereafter—instructing our brethren how to live and how to die.

It is by the prevalence of Masonic principles that wars lose their character of ferocity, and at length will lose their existence,—that habits of industry and sobriety are created and cherished,—that good will and harmony prevail among men—and peace, and justice and benevolence will pervade the world. And it belongs to our order, by disseminating these principles where they are now unknown, to produce such beneficial results. The object is worthy our attention, is within our reach, and its achievement must exalt the character of our venerable institution.

This view of Masonry has led the Committee to the conclusions contained in the following resolves, which they respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge, for their adoption.

Resolved, That the funds belonging to the Masonic institution in general, are not necessarily limited to the relief of bodily suffering ; but are lawfully applicable to other purposes of beneficence.

Resolved, That the gratuitous distribution of the Holy Scriptures,—the assistance of the children of indigent Masons to acquire an education which may qualify them for public usefulness,—and the assistance of pious Masons who may have gone as instructors among the heathen of foreign lands or the aborigines of our own country,—are objects of a Masonic character, and deserve the attention and encouragement of our charitable institution.

Resolved, That such permanent appropriation shall be made from the funds of the Grand Lodge, as may from time to time be expedient, regard being had to the state of said funds and the various claims on the same, for the translation, printing and distribution of the Holy Scriptures, without note or comment, among the various nations of the earth.

SIMON GREENLEAF, Per Order.

The report was read, and the further consideration thereof postponed till January next ; and it was ordered to be printed and sent to the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That one hundred and fifty copies of the above Report be printed.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to get the foregoing report printed and sent to the several Lodges.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it will adjourn to the second Wednesday of January next.

Voted, That the powers of the committee appointed on Diplomas be enlarged, and that said committee be authorized to fix on a design, and get the same engraved as soon as may be.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to the second Wednesday of January next, then to meet at this place at 6 o'clock P. M.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

A Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden according to adjournment at Mason's Hall, in Portland, Wednesday evening, January 10th, 1821.

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. M. <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. E. T. WARREN,	D. D. G. Master.
“ WILLIAM SWAN,	S. G. Warden.
“ JOSIAH MITCHELL,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
“ Rev. GIDEON W. OLNEY,	G. Chaplain.
“ JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	G. Marshal.
“ GEORGE THACHER, JR.,	S. G. Deacon.
“ ELEAZER WYER,	J. G. Deacon.
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
“ SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
Bro. WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented:

Portland,	Solar,	Amity,
Kennebec,	Ancient Land-mark,	Rising Virtue,
United,	Oriental Star,	Felicity,
Saco,	York,	Warren,
Pythagorean,	Freeport,	Eastern,
Cumberland,	Temple,	Union,
Oriental,	Adoniram,	Waterville.
Village,	Tranquil,	

Voted, That Bro. ——— Bourn, a member of United Lodge, be admitted to a seat in this Grand Lodge as Proxy to United Lodge, although he has not been chosen as their proxy by said Lodge.

On motion of R. W. John Merrill, the foregoing vote was reconsidered.

Voted, That the consideration of the petition for a charter to hold a Lodge in Norridgewock be postponed for the present.

Voted, That inasmuch as Oriental Lodge has regularly appointed two proxies to represent them in this Grand Lodge, the Brother last appointed by said Lodge be considered their proxy for the ensuing year.

Voted, That we now proceed to the consideration of the By-Laws as reported by the committee.

After some progress being made, the Grand Lodge adjourned to to-morrow evening, January 11th, A. D. 1821, at half-past five o'clock, then to meet at this place.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

MASON'S HALL, January 11th, A. D. 1821.

The Grand Lodge of Maine met according to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. EBEN'R T. WARREN,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" GEORGE THACHER, JR.,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
" REV. G. W. OLNEY,	G. Chaplain.
" JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	G. Marshal.
" ELEAZER WYER,	J. G. Deacon.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
Bro. WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Ancient Land-mark,	Amity,
Kennebec,	Oriental Star,	Rising Virtue,
United,	York,	Felicity,
Saco,	Freeport,	Warren,
Cumberland,	Temple,	Eastern,
Village,	Adoniram,	Orient,
Solar,	Maine,	Waterville.
Pythagorean,	Tranquil,	

The Grand Lodge then resumed the consideration of the By-Laws as reported by the committee; and after some amendments, the By-Laws were unanimously adopted.

The petition of certain brethren for a charter to hold a Lodge at Norridgewock was now considered; and it appearing to be approved by Maine Lodge, and by the R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of the Third District,—and it further appearing that the approbation of Northern Star Lodge to said petition was unreasonably withheld, it was

Voted, That a charter be now granted to the petitioners to hold a Lodge at Norridgewock, by the name of Somerset Lodge,—and said charter was issued accordingly.

Voted, That the further consideration of the report of the committee on the Resolutions offered by R. W. Bro. Nathaniel Coffin, be postponed until Thursday, the eighth day of February, A. D. 1821.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to the second Thursday of February next, then to meet at this place, at 6 o'clock P. M.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

A Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden according to adjournment, at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, February 8th, A. D. 1821.

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. ABIEL WOOD,	D. D. G. Master.
" WILLIAM SWAN,	S. G. Warden.
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,	J. G. Warden.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	C. G. Secretary,
" GIDEON W. OLNEY,	G. Chaplain.
" JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	G. Marshal.
" GEORGE THACHER, JR.,	G. Sword Bearer.
" JOSIAH CALEF,	S. G. Deacon.
" WILLIAM TORREY,	J. G. Deacon.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" JOHN P. BOYD,	"
Bro. WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented:

Portland,	Oxford,	Orient,
Kennebec,	Oriental Star,	St. George,
United,	York,	Felicity,
Saco,	Freeport,	Warren,
Pythagorean,	Adoniram,	Eastern,
Cumberland,	Tranquil,	Union,
Village,	Hancock,	Hermon,
Solar,	Amity,	Waterville.
Ancient Land-mark,	Rising Virtue.	

The report of the committee on the subject of the resolutions submitted by R. W. Brother Nathaniel Coffin, J. G. Warden, was taken up and debated, and the same was committed, together with all the resolutions connected therewith, to R. W. Brothers William Swan, Nathaniel Coffin, Charles Fox, Peleg Sprague, and John Miller, who reported as a substitute the following Preamble and Resolutions, which were accepted, 33 votes in favor and 2 votes against.

Whereas the Holy Bible is the chief corner stone on which the superstructure of Freemasonry is erected, and has always been esteemed as one of its great lights; we therefore reverence its great Author, and implore his divine assistance, that we may be governed and influenced by its doctrines and precepts, which will make us free indeed. Therefore

Resolved, That we highly appreciate and cordially approve the laudable and zealous exertions making to enlighten the benighted regions of the world, by the translation and diffusion of its divine truths, and earnestly pray that those exertions may be crowned with success. Yet, as the funds of this Grand Lodge are devoted to other objects of charity—to supply the temporal wants of the needy, and smooth the rugged path of their weary pilgrimage through life—no part of those funds can therefore now be applied in aid of this great and glorious work. Yet this Grand Lodge do earnestly recommend to all Masons to co-operate and assist in sending the glad tidings of Salvation to all nations.

Voted, That the By-Laws as adopted by the Grand Lodge be printed, and that the act of incorporation be printed therewith.

Voted, That R. W. Brothers William Swan, Joseph M. Gerrish and William Lord be a committee to get the by-laws printed; the number not to exceed five hundred copies.

Voted, That one copy of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be sent to each Grand Lodge in America.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the bill for printing the By-Laws.

The Grand Lodge then closed to meet in future agreeably to the provisions in the By-Laws.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary.*

At a Stated Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, held at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, April 12, A. D. 1821.

PRESENT—R. W.	WILLIAM SWAN,	G. M. <i>p. t.</i>
“	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	S. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
“	JOHN P. BOYD,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
“	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	G. Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“	WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
“	ELEAZER WYER,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“	CHARLES B. SMITH,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“	JOHN HULL,	G. Stewards.
“	ASA BARTON,	
Bro.	WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

United,	Amity,	Blazing Star.
Oxford,	Ancient Landmark,	

The committee appointed to get the By-Laws printed reported verbally, that they had got four hundred copies printed, that the Grand Secretary had received them, and had sent copies to the Officers of the Grand Lodge, and to the District Deputy Grand Masters a sufficient number for the several Lodges in the State.

Voted, That R. W. William Swan, R. W. Robert P. Dunlap, and R. W. Eleazer Wyer be a committee to get two engravings of the Seal of the Grand Lodge of a reduced size for the use of the printers, and the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay for the same.

Voted, That the committee appointed to procure a plate for Diplomas, be authorized to get two hundred copies struck off as soon as the plate is finished, one half to be on parchment and one half on paper.

Grand Lodge closed in due form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, July 12, A. D. 1821.

PRESENT—R. W.	SIMON GREENLEAF,	D. G. M.
"	WILLIAM SWAN,	S. G. W.
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
"	SETH CLARK,	G. Treas. <i>p. t.</i>
"	WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
"	ISAAC ADAMS,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
"	JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	G. Marshal.
"	ELEAZER WYER,	} G. Stewards.
"	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	
Bro.	WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Amity,	Adoniram,
United,	Village,	Blazing Star.
Oriental,	Ancient Land-mark,	

A petition from a number of Brethren in Augusta, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in that place by the name of Bethlehem Lodge, was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read, and committed to R. W. William Swan, R. W. Isaac Adams and R. W. Charles Fox.

Voted, That R. W. Charles Fox be added to the committee to examine and audit accounts, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of our R. W. Brother Samuel Baker.

Voted, To proceed to the choice of six Brethren this evening to complete the organization of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund.

The committee appointed to consider the application of Bro. Daniel Cony and others for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Augusta, County of Kennebec, reported that the prayer of the petitioners ought to be granted.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted.

The committee on Diplomas made a report, which was accepted and put on file.

Voted, That a Committee of Finance be chosen this evening.

Voted, That the powers of the committee on Diplomas be enlarged, and that said committee be authorized to make such further compensation to the artist who furnished the plate as they think proper, not however to exceed thirty dollars.

Voted, That the aforesaid committee be further authorized to procure an additional number of one hundred Diplomas, on parchment instead of paper.

Voted, That we now proceed to the choice of a Committee of Finance; whereupon R. W. William Swan, R. W. Charles Fox and R. W. Eleazer Wyer were chosen.

Voted, That R. W. William Swan, R. W. Joseph E. Foxcroft and R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish be a committee to nominate six Brethren to be chosen by the Grand Lodge to fill the vacancy in the Board of Trustees.

The Grand Lodge then made choice of Albion K. Parris Esq., Charles Fox Esq., Daniel Granger Esq., Peleg Chandler Esq., Nathan Weston Esq., and Jedediah Herriek Esq., to complete the organization of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund.

Grand Lodge closed.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, October 11, A. D. 1821.

PRESENT—R. W.	WILLIAM SWAN,	G. M. <i>p. t.</i>
"	CHARLES FOX,	S. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
"	CHARLES B. SMITH,	G. Treas. <i>p. t.</i>
"	WILLIAM LORD,	G. Sec'y.
"	SETH CLARK,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
"	AMOS NICHOLS,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
"	JAMES McARTHUR, }	G. Stewards <i>p. t.</i>
"	JOHN HULL, }	
Bro.	WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Village,	Amity,
United,	Adoniram,	Ancient Land-mark.

A petition from a number of Brethren in the town of North Yarmouth, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in that place by the name of Casco Lodge, was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and committed to R. W. Seth Clark, R. W. Charles Fox and R. W. Amos Nichols.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Calvin Stockbridge and others for a new Lodge to be held at North Yarmouth, in the County of Cumberland, to be called Casco Lodge, have attended to the duty assigned them; and having examined the papers accompanying said petition, and finding them conformable to the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, report, that the prayer of said petition be granted.

On motion,

Voted, That the foregoing Report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

A petition from Bro. Samuel Emerson was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and committed to R. W. Simon Greenleaf, Seth Clark, and Charles B. Smith.

Voted, That the committee on Diplomas be authorized to get two hundred diplomas on parchment, instead of one hundred as voted at our last communication.

R. W. William Swan laid before the Grand Lodge sundry papers from Lubec, which were read and ordered to be put on file.

Grand Lodge closed in due form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, January 10th, A. D. 1822.

PRESENT—R. W.	SIMON GREENLEAF,	D. G. M.
"	WILLIAM SWAN,	S. G. W.
"	GEORGE THACHER, Jr.	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treas.
"	WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
"	ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	Cor. G. Sec'y.
"	JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT,	G. Marshal.
"	HENRY W. FULLER,	S. G. D.
"	JESSE ROBINSON,	J. G. D.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	} G. Stewards.
"	ELEAZER WYER,	
"	SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
Bro.	WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.
D. D. G. Masters from the first and Fifth Districts.		

Lodges represented:

Portland,	Ancient Land-mark,	St. George,
Kennebec,	Oriental Star,	Felicity,
United,	Maine,	Lincoln,
Saco,	Freeport,	Warren,
Pythagorean,	Temple,	Eastern,
Cumberland,	Adoniram,	Union,
Oriental,	Blazing Star,	Hermon,
Village,	Hancock,	Waterville,
Solar,	Amity,	Casco.
	Rising Virtue,	

Voted, That R. W. Manly Hardy, R. W. Josiah W. Mitchell, and R. W. Charles Fox, be a committee to consider what regulations it is expedient to adopt respecting the admission of visitors to the Grand Lodge, and report as soon as may be.

Which committee reported, that visitors and petitioners may be admitted to seats in the Grand Lodge, on motion, and with permission of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee of Finance made their annual report, which was read, accepted, and put on the files of the Grand Lodge.

The committee appointed to procure two hundred Diplomas on parchment, made a report, which was read, accepted, and placed on the files of the Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish, Grand Treasurer, having requested the Grand Lodge to accept the sum of Twenty-five Dollars allowed him by the Committee of Finance, as a donation to the Charity Fund, it was

Voted, unanimously, That the donation made to the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge by R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, Grand Treasurer, be accepted, and that the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to him for the same.

A report of the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine was made by the Recording Grand Secretary. Read, and put on file.

Voted, That R. W. Peleg Sprague, Ebenezer Poor and Samuel Fessenden be a committee to receive, sort and count the votes.

The whole number of votes given in for Grand Master was 51. R. W. Simon Greenleaf had 50 votes, and is chosen.

The whole number of votes given in for Senior Grand Warden was 50. R. W. William Swan had 49 votes, and is chosen.

Whole number of votes given in for Junior Grand Warden was 45. R. W. Nathaniel Coffin had 32 votes, and is chosen.

Whole number of votes given in for Grand Treasurer was 44. R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish had 44 votes, and is chosen.

Whole number of votes given in for Recording Secretary was 43. R. W. William Lord had 43 votes, and is chosen.

Voted, That R. W. Brothers Trafton, Wheeler and Fox be a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for a Committee of Finance.

Whole number of votes given in was 34. R. W. William Swan, Charles Fox and Eleazer Wyr had 34 votes each, and were chosen a Committee of Finance for the ensuing year.

Voted, That R. W. Josiah W. Mitchell, Charles Fox and George Thacher, Jr., be a committee to examine the communications received from the several Grand Lodges in the United States of America, and report to this Grand Lodge.

The petition of Jabez Mowry and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Lubec, by the name of Washington Lodge, was read, and committed to R. W. Brothers Tuttle, Gilman and Crowell; which committee reported that it is expedient that the prayer of said petition be granted.

Voted, That the foregoing Report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

R. W. William Swan, S. G. Warden, offered the following Resolution, viz:

Resolved, That so much of the third section, Chapter first, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge as relates to the personal notification of each Officer of the Grand Lodge for all meetings thereof, be dispensed with; and that the Recording Grand Secretary be requested to notify the officers personally for special meetings only.

Which was read, and ordered to be communicated to the several Lodges under this jurisdiction; and was also committed to R. W. Brothers William Swan, George Thacher and Robert P. Dunlap, who were instructed to report thereon at the next quarterly communication.

The petition of Reuben Nason and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in Gorham, by the name of Union Lodge, was read, and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Ebenezer Poor and Nehemiah Cram; which committee reported, that it is expedient that the prayer of said petitioners be granted, except so far as relates to the name of the Lodge; but that they receive a charter by the name of Harmony Lodge.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

The petition of Larnard Pullen and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Garland, by the name of

Penobscot Lodge, was read, and committed to R. W. Brothers Trafton, Wheeler and Kendall; which committee reported, that it is expedient that the prayer of the petition be so far granted as to grant a charter to all the petitioners with the exception of Apollos Pond and Hozese Eastman, they not being vouched for as Master Masons.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

A petition from a number of Brethren for a Lodge to be held at Parsonsfield, was laid before the Grand Lodge and read; but not having the approbation of the two nearest Lodges, nor of the District Deputy Grand Master, the further consideration of it was postponed, that the D. D. G. Master might have time to investigate and deliberate on the facts respecting it.

Adjourned to Thursday evening next, January 17, 1822, at 6 o'clock.

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, January 17, A. D. 1822.

Grand Lodge met according to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W.	SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. M.
R. W.	WILLIAM SWAN,	S. G. W.
"	CHARLES FOX,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
"	WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
"	GEORGE THACHER,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
"	NEHEMIAH CRAM,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
"	JONAS WHEELER,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
"	NELSON RACKLYFT }	G. Stewards.
"	ELEAZER WYER, }	
"	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, }	G. Pursuivants.
"	CHARLES B. SMITH, }	
"	WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Solar,	Waterville,
United,	Ancient Land-mark,	Casco,
Saco,	Freeport,	Warren,
Oriental,	Adoniram,	St. George,
Eastern,	Blazing Star,	Hermon.
Village,	Amity,	

M. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq., declared his acceptance of the office of Grand Master, and was duly invested by R. W. William Swan, Senior Past Master present.

A communication was received from R. W. Nathaniel Coffin Esq., wherein he declined accepting the office of J. G. Warden, to which he had been elected.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint R. W. William Swan Deputy Grand Master, which he accepted, and resigned the office of S. G. Warden.

Voted, That we now proceed to the choice of Senior and Junior Grand Wardens.

Voted, That R. W. Isaac Adams, Amos Nichols and Joseph Adams be a committee to receive, sort and count the votes.

Whole number of votes given in for Senior Grand Warden was 22. R. W. Charles Fox had 21 votes and is chosen.

Whole number given in for Junior Grand Warden was 22. R. W. Josiah W. Mitchell had 21 votes, and is chosen.

The Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary were duly installed.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments, viz:

- R. W. PELEG SPRAGUE of Hallowell, Corresponding G. Sec.
- R. W. JOSEPH E. FOXCROFT of New Gloucester, Grand Marshal.
- Rev. GIDEON W. OLNEY, Grand Chaplain.
- JONATHAN GREENLEAF, "
- JOHN H. INGRAHAM, "
- R. W. JESSE ROBINSON of Hallowell, S. G. Deacon.
- R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN of New Gloucester, J. G. Deacon.
- R. W. ELEAZER WYER of Portland, 1st G. Steward.
- R. W. BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT of Bath, 2d G. Steward.

- R. W. NELSON RACKLYFT of Portland, 3d G. Steward.
 R. W. ISAAC LINCOLN of Brunswick, 4th G. Steward.
 R. W. SETH CLARK of Portland, 1st G. Pursuivant.
 R. W. OLIVER S. HARTSHORN of Portland, 2d G. Pursuivant.
 R. W. WILLIAM STEVENS of Portland, G. Tyler.
 R. W. GEORGE THACHER of Saco, Grand Sword Bearer.

and the above named officers were severally installed, either by themselves or proxies, by the M. W. Grand Master.

The following R. W. Brethren were appointed

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Daniel Granger Esq. of Saco.
Second District—R. W. Judah Dana Esq. of Fryeburg.
Third District—R. W. Henry W. Fuller Esq. of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. Robert P. Dunlap Esq. of Brunswick.
Fifth District—R. W. Manly Hardy Esq. of Bucksport.
Sixth District—R. W. Jona. D. Weston Esq. of Eastport.

The Committee of Finance made a report on the subject of Returns from the several D. D. G. Masters so far as they relate to the finances, which was read, accepted and put on file.

The Committee to whom was referred the communications received by the Grand Lodge of Maine, from the Grand Lodges in the United States, made the following Report:—

That while from these communications it is gratifying to perceive the advancement of masonry and the wide dissemination of its principles, it is with no ordinary feelings of satisfaction that they also find this Grand Lodge recognized by some of the oldest and most respectable Grand Lodges in the United States, and as intercourse of this kind leads to a more correct knowledge of the regulations adopted for the government of the craft, and conduces to the interest of the fraternity, they feel persuaded that it will be properly appreciated and cultivated by this Grand Lodge.

Your committee find the following resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodges of New York and Maryland, viz:—

Whereas a perfect acquaintance with the signatures of the Grand Officers of the several Grand Lodges holding correspondence with each other is of material importance in testing the authenticity of papers professedly issuing from under the hands and by the authority of any of them;—Therefore—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary, when communicating to the respective Grand Lodges with whom a correspondence is preserved, the result of any election of officers of this Grand Lodge, wherein a change may have been made, shall accompany the same with the signatures of the Grand Master,

Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, written with their own proper hand and duly authenticated under his hand and the seal of this Grand Lodge, together with a request to each and every such Grand Lodge, that they will forthwith, and as often as by any change of Grand Officers it may be rendered important, furnish to this Grand Lodge a similar document.

Which they recommend the adoption of by this Grand Lodge.

Your committee would also recommend that a list of all delinquent Lodges for dues to this Grand Lodge be published in each annual communication, that the Lodges to which they relate may seasonably be apprised of the same, and thereby avoid the penalty contained in the 5th Section of the 4th Chapter of the By-Laws.

Signed,

JOSIAH W. MITCHELL, *per order.*

Which was read, and a copy ordered to be furnished to each subordinate Lodge.

A petition from Solar Lodge at Bath was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and referred to the D. D. G. Master of the 4th District.

A petition from Freeport Lodge was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and referred to the D. D. G. Master of the 1st District.

A letter from York Lodge was read in Grand Lodge, and referred to the D. D. G. Master of the 1st District.

Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, April 11th, A. D. 1822.

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. M.
R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	D. G. M.
“ DANIEL GRANGER,	S. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
“ SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treas.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	G. Sec'y.
“ ELEAZER WYER,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>

Rev. JONATHAN GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
R. W. JOHN P. BOYD,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
" AMOS NICHOLS,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	"
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented:

Portland,	Ancient Land-mark,	St. George,
Saco,	Adoniram,	Hermion,
Village,	Blazing Star,	Casco.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was declared to be duly opened in ample form.

A letter from R. W. Reuel Washburn, Esq., of Livermore, Master of Oriental Star Lodge, was laid before the Grand Lodge, read and committed to R. W. Brothers William Swan, Samuel Fessenden and Joseph M. Gerrish, which committee made the following Report.

The Committee of the Grand Lodge to whom was referred a communication from the presiding officer of Oriental Star Lodge, respecting the mode of balloting, and the right of a presiding officer to demand reasons therefor, &c.—having attended to the duty assigned them—respectfully report:

That they consider the subject of primary importance to the Fraternity, and involving the exercise of one of the most important privileges.

Your committee have no difficulty in determining to their own satisfaction the questions arising from the communication before them; and are fully of opinion, that in all cases of balloting for candidates, either for initiation, passing, raising, or for membership, the ballot ought to be *unanimous* in favor, or the candidate not admitted.

Respecting the right of a presiding officer or member of a Lodge to *demand* the reasons that may influence a member in the exercise of the privilege of balloting—your committee are equally decided in opinion, *that no such right exists*; and that any measures expressly taken on the part of a Lodge, with a view to *force* or *extort* from a member thereof such reasons, or even to ascertain the *fact* respecting any ballot that may be given, can be viewed in no other light than as deviations from *ancient usages and privileges*, and the most useful and salutary regulations of the Fraternity.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, your committee are equally decided in the opinion, that there is no *constitutional objection* to such development by any

member of a Lodge, when and where it is *voluntarily made*, either in open Lodge, to the presiding officer personally, or to a committee specially appointed for the purpose.

Your committee recommend the following addition to the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, viz :

CHAPTER 4, SECTION 6.

"Nor shall any degree be conferred on a candidate, nor any Brother be admitted a member of any Lodge under this jurisdiction, without a previous unanimous ballot in his favor."

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed,)

WILLIAM SWAN, *per order*.

Which report was accepted, and

Voted, That the Grand Secretary send to each subordinate Lodge a copy of the amendment to the by-laws therein proposed.

The petition of James C. Fisk and others, of Ellsworth and Surry, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in Surry by the name of Lygonia Lodge, was read, and committed to R. W. Brothers Daniel Granger, John Spring and John Miller; which committee reported, that it is expedient that the prayer of said petitioners be granted.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

A communication was received from R. W. Joseph E. Foxcroft, of New Gloucester, declining accepting the office of Grand Marshal, to which he had been appointed.

A communication was received from R. W. Judah Dana Esq., of Fryeburg, wherein he declined accepting the office of District Deputy Grand Master of the second Masonic District.

Whereupon, the M. W. Grand Master made the following appointments:

R. W. GEORGE THACHER JR. of Saco, Grand Marshal,

R. W. CORNELIUS HOLLAND of Canton, District Deputy Grand Master for the second Masonic District.

A communication from Washington on the subject of forming a General Grand Lodge for the United States, was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and committed to R. W. Brothers Daniel Granger, William Swan, Charles Fox, Joseph M. Gerrish and John P. Boyd, to report at the next regular communication.

The Resolution offered by R. W. William Swan, at the meeting of the Grand Lodge January 10, 1822, (v. p. 62), was taken into consideration and adopted.

The report of the committee embracing the foreign correspondence, (v. p. 65), was taken into consideration and adopted.

The petition of R. W. Samuel Thacher, Edmund Buxton and John Miller, a committee of St. George Lodge, requesting permission to hold the meetings of said Lodge in alternate years in Warren and Waldoborough—and the petition of Payn Elwell and others for the same purpose, together with their articles of agreement concerning the same—and the whole having the approbation of all the neighboring Lodges and the D. D. Grand Master—was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and committed to R. W. Daniel Granger, Joseph M. Gerrish and John W. Mellen; which committee reported, that the prayer of the petitions be granted upon the conditions agreed upon by the petitioners.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine, April 8, 1822; likewise reported that one vacancy existed in said Board of Trustees, by the election of R. W. Charles Fox to the office of Senior Grand Warden.

Brother Robert Boyd was then chosen a member of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine to fill said vacancy.

Voted, That the foreign correspondence received since our last communication be committed to R. W. William Swan, Charles Fox and William Lord, to report to this Grand Lodge.

The petition of John Neal and others, of Litchfield, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in that place, by the name of Morning Star Lodge, was read, and committed to R. W. Daniel Granger, Charles Fox, Samuel Fessenden, Josiah W. Mitchell and Joseph M. Gerrish, to report at our next communication.

Voted, That the subject of Diplomas for Past Masters be committed to R. W. William Swan, Eleazer Wyer and Robert P. Dunlap.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, July 11, A. D. 1822.

PRESENT—R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	D. G. M. Presiding Officer.
“ CHARLES FOX,	S. G. W.
“ DANIEL GRANGER,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
“ ELEAZER WYER,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“ SETH CLARK,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Oxford,	Somerset.
Oriental,	Temple,	
Ancient Land-mark,	Blazing Star,	

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form.

The amendment to the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge recommended by a committee at our last communication was taken into consideration and unanimously adopted, as follows; viz:—

Chapter 4th, Sec. 6. Nor shall any degree be conferred on a candidate, nor any brother be admitted a member of any Lodge under this Jurisdiction, without a previous unanimous ballot in his favor.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary forward a copy of the foregoing amendment to each Lodge under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The following Resolution offered by R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish was taken into consideration and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be directed to make up their annual returns and pay up their dues to the first day of September in this and each succeeding year, and that the Rec. Grand Secretary furnish the several D. D. G. Masters with a copy of this Resolve and request them to communicate the same to the several Lodges within their districts.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of John Neal and others of Litchfield, praying for a Charter to hold a Lodge in that place, by the name of Morning Star Lodge, made the following report, viz:—

To the Most Worshipful Master and Grand Lodge of Maine in G. Lodge assembled this 11th July A. D. 5822.

Your Committee to whom was committed the Petition of Bro. John Neal and twenty other Brethren praying for a Charter to be granted them to convene a Lodge in the town of Litchfield, have, on the 8th of May last, met at Portland agreeably to previous notice, and having maturely considered the prayer of said Petition, the objections in the counter Petition or remonstrance from the R. W. Hermon Lodge, and all other Documents relative thereto to us submitted, now ask leave to report and do unanimously report:

That considering the apparent high respectability of the Petitioners, the Geographical situation in which they are placed compared with the adjacent country, the comparative distance they are from the surrounding Lodges, they are entitled to this privilege and the prayer of the Petition ought to be granted, and that the prosperity of the fraternity requires it—and that in the Charter which may be granted, the said Lodge to be named the Morning Star, shall be located at or near Litchfield South Corner, so called, and nowhere else without the previous consent of this Grand Lodge.

Signed,

D. GRANGER, Chairman,

per order of the Committee.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted and that a Charter be granted accordingly.

The Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine, July 8th, A. D. 1822.

Grand Lodge closed in due form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, Oct. 10th, A. D. 1822.

PRESENT—R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	D. G. M. Presiding Officer.
“ CHARLES FOX,	S. G. W.
“ DANIEL GRANGER,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
“ JOSEPH HARROD,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JONATHAN GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
“ JOHN SPRING,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“ ENOCH HARDY,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
“ SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Ancient Land-Mark,	Blazing Star,
Kennebec,	York,	Washington,
Saco,	Maine,	Harmony,
Oriental,	Tranquil,	Village.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was declared to be duly opened.

The Committee on Finance made a report communicating the settlement of accounts with R. W. Oliver Bray, as D. D. Grand Master under the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts—which Report was read, accepted and placed on the files of this Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Diplomas made a report which was read and accepted.

Voted, That the said Committee be discharged from further consideration of the subject committed to them.

The Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine, at their meeting, October 7, A. D. 1822.

Voted, That R. W. Robert P. Dunlap, John P. Boyd, and Eleazer Wyer, be a committee to consider the subject of Past Masters' Diplomas, and report thereon.

The Committee to whom was referred the proposal for forming a General Grand Lodge for the United States, made the following Report, viz :

TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF MAINE.

Your Committee to whom was referred the communication of the proceedings of a number of members of the Society of Freemasons from various parts of the United States, composed of Members of Congress and Strangers, assembled at the Capitol in the City of Washington, March 9th, 1822, recommending a General Grand Lodge of the United States, now make Report—

That they have duly considered the communication to them referred, and given it all the attention the great importance of its object and the highly respectable source from which it is derived would seem to require, and that is in the power of your Committee to bestow.

Although the subject is new to your committee, and probably to the infant Grand Lodge of Maine, yet it would seem not to be entirely so to some of the Grand Lodges of our Sister States ; the subject having been, as your committee understand, agitated in some way or other in some of the Grand Lodges, several times heretofore, and as often rejected by most of them which have taken the subject under consideration.

Your committee are unable to discover any material and essential benefit which can be derived to the craft generally, by the adoption of the measure proposed, but rather a disadvantage ; for if adopted, the Grand Lodges of the several States must become subordinate to the Supreme Grand Lodge of the Union, or become ciphers, or be abolished as bodies ; and this Supreme or General Grand Lodge cannot be supported but by drawing the funds from the several Subordinate Grand Lodges existing, and this probably must create a heavier draught upon the minor subordinate Lodges, many of which your committee verily believe have not any surplus funds beyond that which is required to pay their dues and for necessary charitable purposes within their immediate circles ; and if adopted, the connection and the communication of the minor subordinate Lodges cannot be very direct with the General Grand Lodge, located at so great a distance, and the unfrequency of their assembling must greatly retard that assistance which may be often required.

Your committee would cordially unite in and reiterate a part of the following sentiment contained in the communication under consideration, that the "art of printing and other causes have produced great changes in the condition of the world, and these causes have operated in their full proportion on the society of Freemasons ; the sphere of civilization is greatly enlarging its boundaries—intellectual attainments and the influence of moral opinions are taking the place of brutal force—known principles of law are recognized, and the advantages of cultivated reason are shared by an increased proportion of mankind," but that "under these circumstances masonry has been extended and its Lodges so multiplied as to make their proper conduct a subject of much inter-

est to the friends of the society." Your committee would ask, When has the proper conduct of the multiplied Lodges ceased to be a subject of much interest to the friends of the society, and especially in the several Grand Lodges? Can the conduct of the multiplied Lodges be regulated, and the interest of the Fraternity better subserved, than it has been by the exercise of the jurisdiction of the several Grand Lodges now established, and the fostering care which they are wont to preserve over their immediate subordinate Lodges? In the opinion of your committee, the establishing of a General Grand Lodge would create an entire new era in the regulation and government of the Fraternity throughout the United States, provided all the Grand Lodges should participate in the measure proposed, (of the probability of which your committee would not hazard an opinion); but should there only a part, say two-thirds of the Grand Lodges in the Union, then it would be but an approximation to the fulfilment of the object intended; and the exercise of such a partial jurisdiction would be attended with difficulties and embarrassments, and the minute (although necessary) affairs of the minor subordinate Lodges be unreasonably delayed or wholly neglected, which are under the present arrangement promptly and effectually attended to by their parent Grand Lodges, in which by their proximity of situation they may be always represented, prefer their wants, and obtain redress of grievances, without looking to a jurisdiction at so great a distance, where they can be but partially, if represented at all.

Your committee therefore, with due deference, offer the following Resolutions for consideration and adoption.

Resolved, That the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and the calling of a Masonic Convention for the purpose of organizing the same as proposed, is neither necessary nor expedient.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing report and resolutions to the several Grand Lodges in the United States, and one copy of the same to William W. Seaton, Esq., at the city of Washington—agreeably to the request contained in the communication referred to the above committee.

Signed,

DANIEL GRANGER,
WILLIAM SWAN,
CHARLES FOX,
JOS. M. GERRISH,
JOHN P. BOYD,

} *Committee.*

Which report and resolutions being read and fully discussed were unanimously adopted.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain the Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1823.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, January 9th, A. D. 1823.

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. M.
R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	D. G. M.
" CHARLES FOX,	S. G. W.
" DANIEL GRANGER,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec.
" GEORGE THACHER, JR.,	G. Marshal.
" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
" Rev. JOHN H. INGRAHAM,	"
" JESSE ROBINSON,	S. G. D.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	J. G. D.
" ELEAZER WYER,	G. Steward.
" BENJ. D. BARTLETT,	"
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	"
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	"
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	A. Land-Mark,	Northern Star,	Washington,
Kennebec,	Oxford,	Tranquil,	Harmony,
Saco,	Oriental Star,	Amity,	Morning Star.
Pythagorean,	York,	Orient,	
Oriental,	Maine,	Waterville,	
Village,	Temple,	Bethlehem,	
Solar,	Adoniram,	Casco,	

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayer was offered by the Senior Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Finance made their annual Report, which was read, accepted, and placed on file, as follows :

The account with the Grand Treasurer has been settled and his account submitted exhibits the amount received by him since the last annual settlement to be, - - - - - \$1655.66

There is now a balance in his hands and due the Grand Lodge, of 307.78

There is also in the hands of the Grand Treasurer and applicable to the increase of the Charity fund, - - - - - 322.14

In addition to which, the sum of \$153.89 being the one-half of the balance remaining in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, is to be added to said fund agreeable to the regulation in the By-Laws.

The aggregate of the Charity Fund is as follows :—

Ten Shares in the Bank of Portland, - - - - -	\$1,000.00
Balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, - - -	322.14
One-half the Balance of Account applicable by regulation in the By-Laws, - - - - -	153.89
	<hr/> 476.03
	\$1,476.03

The expenditures of the Grand Lodge for the past year have been as follows :
For Books, Stationery and Printing, - - - - - \$77.48

Fees to the Grand Secretary from the organization of the Grand

Lodge to Jan'y, 1822, as reported in last Annual Statement

and then approved, - - - - - 75.00

Paid the Grand Tyler for Services up to Jan'y 1822, - - - 13.00

Parchment for Diplomas and Printing same, - - - - - 75.90

Hall Rent up to January 1823, - - - - - 40.00

The Grand Stewards' Bills for Refreshments, Attendance, Furniture

and Candles, - - - - - 95.81

Sundry Postages, - - - - - 1.80

\$378.99

The Committee are not apprised of any outstanding demands against the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee have examined the Records of the Grand Secretary, and find that the duties of his important office have been faithfully and accurately performed, and recommend that the sum of Forty-five Dollars be allowed him for Services to this period. They also recommend the allowance of Twenty-five Dollars to the Grand Treasurer for Services the past year. And five dollars to the Grand Tyler, for his services the same period.

The Committee have great pleasure in being able to exhibit so favorable a

statement of the funds of the Grand Lodge. It is the best testimonial of the faithfulness and ability with which the duties of the Grand Treasurer, as well as those of the respective District Deputy Grand Masters (so far as relates to pecuniary concerns) have been performed.

Voted, That proxies of Lodges be allowed to vote in Grand Lodge when only two of the representatives of the Lodge from whom they received their proxies are present.

R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish, Grand Treasurer, having requested the Grand Lodge to accept the sum of twenty-five dollars, allowed him by the Committee of Finance, as a donation to the Charity Fund, it was voted unanimously that said donation be accepted, and that the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish, for the same.

A petition from Somerset Lodge, requesting permission to hold the meetings of said Lodge one-half the time at the Village at Skowhegan Falls, either in the towns of Bloomfield or Canaan, and the other half in the village of Norridgewock where now held, one year in each place alternately—was laid before the Grand Lodge, read and committed to R. W. Jesse Robinson, Isaac Adams and Philip Leach, which committee made the following Report, viz:

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of the Master, Wardens and members of Somerset Lodge, praying for liberty to hold their communications at Norridgewock and Bloomfield, alternately, ask leave to report, that in their opinion the prayer of said Petition ought to be so far granted, as that the Petitioners have liberty to hold their meetings in rotation, one year at Norridgewock and one year at Skowhegan Falls in Bloomfield, during the pleasure of the Grand Lodge, all which is respectfully submitted.

JESSE ROBINSON, per order.

Voted, That the foregoing Report be accepted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year.

Voted, That R. W. Samuel Emerson, Obed Wilson and David C. Burr, be a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for the several officers to be elected by ballot.

The whole number of votes given for Grand Master, was 47. M. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq. had 47 votes and is chosen.

The whole number of votes given for S. G. Warden was 47. R. W. Charles Fox had 47 votes and is chosen.

The whole number of votes given for J. G. Warden was 44. R. W. Josiah W. Mitchell Esq. had 43 votes and is chosen.

A communication was received from R. W. Josiah W. Mitchell Esq. wherein he declined accepting the office of J. Grand Warden for the ensuing year.

The whole number of votes given for J. Grand Warden was 44. R. W. Samuel Fessenden Esq. had 32 votes and is chosen.

The whole number of votes given for Grand Treasurer was 41. R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish had 41 votes and is chosen.

The whole number of votes given for Rec. Grand Sec. was 39. R. W. William Lord had 39 votes and is chosen.

M. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq. declared his acceptance of the office of Grand Master, and was duly invested by R. W. William Swan, Senior Past Master or Grand Officer present.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments, viz :—

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN of Portland, Deputy Grand Master.

" PELEG SPRAGUE, of Hallowell, Corresponding G. Secretary.

" GEORGE THACHER Jr. Esq. of Saco, Grand Marshal.

" Rev. GIDEON W. OLNEY, G. Chaplain.

" " JONA. GREENLEAF, "

" " JOHN H. INGRAHAM, "

" JESSE ROBINSON Esq. of Hallowell, S. G. Deacon.

" BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT of Bath, J. G. Deacon.

" ELEAZER WYER of Portland, 1st Grand Steward.

" NELSON RACKLYFT of Portland, 2d Grand Steward.

" ISAAC LINCOLN of Brunswick, 3d Grand Steward.

" AMOS NOURSE of Hallowell, 4th Grand Steward.

" SAMUEL STEPHENSON of Gorham, Grand Sword Bearer.

" SETH CLARK of Portland, 1st Grand Pursuivant.

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN of Portland, 2d Grand Pursuivant.

" WILLIAM STEVENS of Portland, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Daniel Granger Esq., of Saco.

Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland Esq. of Canton.

Third District—R. W. Henry W. Fuller Esq. of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Robert P. Dunlap Esq. of Brunswick.

Fifth District—R. W. Manly Hardy Esq. of Bucksport.

Sixth District—R. W. Jona. D. Weston Esq. of Eastport.

Such of the above named officers as were present were severally installed by the M. W. Grand Master, being all except Brothers P. Sprague, Rev. G. W. Olney, Isaac Lincoln, Samuel Stephenson, C. Holland, Manly Hardy, H. W. Fuller, and Jona. D. Weston.

Voted, That Brothers Oliver Griswold, Joseph Harrod and Nathaniel Mitchell, be a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for a Committee of Finance—which committee reported that R. W. William Swan, Charles Fox and Eleazer Wyer, were unanimously chosen that committee.

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Simon Greenleaf, Esq. G. M. *ex-officio*.

R. W. William Swan, D. G. M.

" Charles Fox, S. G. W.

" Samuel Fessenden, Esq. J. G. W.

" William Lord, G. S.

" Albion K. Parris, Esq.

" Daniel Granger, Esq.

" Peleg Chandler, Esq.

" Nathan Weston Jr., Esq.

" Jedediah Herrick, Esq.

" Robert Boyd, Esq.

Voted, That R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Jesse Robinson, and Alpheus Shaw, be a committee on applications for Charters, at this communication of the Grand Lodge.

A petition from a number of Brethren in the town of Parsonsfield, County of York, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in that place by the name of Freedom Lodge, was laid before the Grand Lodge, read and committed to the Committee on applications for Charters.

A Petition from a number of Brethren in the town of Alna, County of Lincoln, praying for a Charter to hold a Lodge in that place by the name of Alna Lodge, was laid before the Grand Lodge, read and committed to the Committee on applications for Charters.

Voted, That Brothers Joseph Harrod, Philip Leach and William Lord be a committee on unfinished business.

Voted, That Rev. G. W. Olney, George Thacher Jr. and Jonathan Greenleaf, be a committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Voted, That R. W. Charles Fox, George Thacher Jr. and John Spring be a committee to report on the ceremonies to be observed in subordinate Lodges on receiving official visits from District Deputy Grand Masters and other Grand Officers.

Voted, That Rev. Jona. Greenleaf, M. W. Simon Greenleaf, and Isaac Adams, be a committee to institute such inquiries as shall seem to them expedient in order to ascertain whether any vestiges of ancient Masonry can be discovered in Palestine, and the countries adjoining, and what is the present state of Masonry in those countries.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening, January 10, 1823, at 7 o'clock.

Attest,

*WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, January 10, A. D. 1823.

Grand Lodge of Maine met by adjournment from January 9, 1823.

PRESENT.—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF, Esq., G. M.

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	D. G. M.
" CHARLES FOX,	S. G. W.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	J. G. W.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" GEORGE THACHER, JR.,	G. Marshal.
" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
" ELEAZER WYER,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
" ALPHEUS SHAW,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" JAMES OSGOOD,	" "
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	"
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

D. D. G. Masters from the First and Fourth Districts.

Lodges represented.

Portland,	Oxford,	Amity,
Saco,	Maine,	Felicity,
Pythagorean,	Tranquil,	Hermon,
Ancient Land-M'k,	Blazing Star,	Morning Star.

The committee appointed to consider the subject of Past Master's Diplomas, reported progress, asked and obtained leave to sit again.

The committee appointed to report on the ceremonies to be observed in subordinate Lodges, on receiving official visits from District Deputy Grand Masters and other Grand Officers, made the following Report, viz:—

The committee to whom was referred the subject of considering the proper ceremony to be observed and paid by the Lodges to the District Deputy Grand Masters when they visit them, report—

The following order of ceremonies to be observed at the ordinary official visits of the District Deputy Grand Masters to the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, viz:

The District Deputy Grand Masters shall give previous reasonable notice of their intended visit, to the master of the Lodge, who shall summon the same, and provide one of the ante-rooms, or some other convenient place within the Lodge building, to which the D. D. G. Master will repair and inform the Lodge by their Marshal that he is in waiting. The Lodge being opened, the Master shall then direct the Marshal, accompanied by the Deacons and Stewards with their rods, to wait on the D. D. G. Master and inform him that the Lodge is ready to receive him, and conduct him to the door of the Lodge in the following order:

- 1st. Marshal.
- 2d. Stewards.
- 3d. Deacons.
- 4th. District Deputy Grand Master.

On arriving at the door of the Lodge the Marshal makes demand, and the door being opened, he announces "the District Deputy Grand Master," and they enter the Lodge; the Brethren arise, the Stewards and Deacons halt within and open to the right and left, crossing their rods, the District Deputy Grand Master enters between them, preceded by the Marshal; being entered the Brethren salute him in ancient form, the Marshal conducts him to the east and the Master offers him the chair. The visit being ended, and the D. D. G. Master signifying his intention to retire, he is conducted to his chamber in the same manner, the Stewards and Deacons halting as above at the door of his apartment only. And the substance of the above order will be observed

when the D. D. G. Master visits by deputation of a Past Master or Master of a Lodge, except that such Deputy will not take the chair, but sit uncovered at the right of the Master.

Signed,

CHARLES FOX,

GEORGE THACHER, JR.

Voted, That the foregoing Report be accepted.

The Committee on applications for Charters, reported that the prayer of the petition of John Lougee, Jr. and others, for a Lodge at Parsonsfield by the name of Freedom Lodge, be granted, and that these Brethren receive a Charter as prayed for.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and that a Charter be granted accordingly.

The Committee on applications for Charters, reported, that the prayer of the petition of John McLean and others for a Lodge at Alna by the name of Alna Lodge be granted.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted and that a Charter be granted accordingly.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, viz :

The Committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Lodge, having attended to that service, ask leave to report. It appears that communications have been received from the Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire for the year 1822, from Massachusetts for 1821, from Vermont for 1821, from New York for 1822, from New Jersey for 1821, from North Carolina for 1821, from Kentucky for 1822, from Alabama for 1821, and from Indiana for 1822; and that at the present time there are under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, 40 regular Lodges ; in Massachusetts 87, in Vermont 55, in New York 344, in New Jersey 45, in North Carolina 39, in Kentucky 55, in Alabama 12 chartered Lodges and two working under a dispensation, and in Indiana 21 Lodges, making in all 698 regularly chartered Lodges in those eight States.

The committee find in these communications evident tokens of the flourishing condition of Masonry in those states ; but beyond this, they do not perceive any thing of particular interest except the following transactions :

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky have censured as highly improper and unmasonic the conduct of any Lodge in receiving or acting upon a petition for initiation at a meeting specially called for that purpose.

In the new Grand Lodge for the State of Alabama, it was resolved that it is considered unmasonic to put candidates in nomination for any office in Masonry.

In the communication from North Carolina, we find a notice that a circular

from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana had been received there, on the subject of providing for a Masonic Hospital, which was read and committed.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. GREENLEAF,
GEO. THACHER, Jr.

Which report was unanimously accepted.

The District Deputy Grand Masters were requested to furnish diplomas to those Lodges that were entitled to them from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Robert P. Dunlap and John P. Boyd, Esquires, were appointed a committee to ascertain through the D. D. G. Masters, the number of Diplomas due the several Lodges in this state from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts at the time of our separation. Which committee was authorized to procure the number of Diplomas that shall be found wanting.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity fund of the Grand Lodge, at their meetings, January 6th and 10th, 1823.

The Recording Grand Secretary was directed to cause the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to be numbered according to seniority.

Prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, April 10, A. D. 1823.

PRESENT—R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,

D. G. M.

" CHARLES FOX,

S. G. W.

" ELEAZER WYER,

J. G. W. *p. t.*

" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,

G. Treasurer.

R. W. WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. D.
" SETH CLARK,	J. G. D.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	G. Steward.
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	"
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented:

Portland,	Ancient Land-mark,
Washington,	Hermon.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form.

The Committee on Past Master's Diplomas reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, held April 8, 1823.

Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

Attest, WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, July 10, A. D. 1823.

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF, Esq.,		G. M.
R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,		D. G. M.
" CHARLES FOX,		S. G. W.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN, Esq.,	J. G. W.	
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Esq.,	G. Treasurer.	
" WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.	
" GEORGE THACHER, Jr. Esq.	G. Marshal.	
" Rev. REUBEN NASON,	G. Chaplain, <i>p. t.</i>	
" ELEAZER WYER,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>	
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>	
" SETH CLARK,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>	
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Sword Bearer.	
" THOMAS TODD,	G. Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i>	
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.	

Lodges represented:

Portland,	Solar,	Somerset,
United,	Ancient Land Mark,	Washington,
Saco,	Blazing Star,	Harmony.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was declared to be opened in ample form.

A communication from Joseph Hall, Secretary of Amity Lodge, at Camden, was laid before the Grand Lodge, which was read and committed to R. W. William Swan, Charles Fox and Samuel Fessenden, who reported, that the facts of this case present no insuperable objection to the initiation of the candidate, which was accepted.

R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, John P. Boyd and Horace Seaver were appointed a committee to consider whether the Officers of subordinate Lodges ought to appear in Grand Lodge without the appropriate badges of their office.

The Grand Secretary reported the transactions at a stated meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, July 7, 1823.

The Communication from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, dated May 21, 1823, on the subject of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, was committed to M. W. Simon Greenleaf, R. W. William Swan and R. W. Samuel Fessenden.

On motion, R. W. Charles Fox, Samuel Fessenden and George Thacher, Jr., were appointed a Committee to consider whether a person who is conscientiously scrupulous against taking an oath, can be admitted to the benefits of Masonry by solemn affirmation.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a Special Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Maine, holden at the house of Captain Daniel Hunt in Gorham, on Friday, Sept. 5th, A. D. 1823, for the purpose of consecrating Harmony Lodge and installing its officers :

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. M.
R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	D. G. M.
“ CHARLES FOX,	S. G. W.
“ DANIEL GRANGER,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
“ GEORGE THACHER Jr.,	G. Marshal.
“ Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
“ SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Sword Bearer.
“ ELEAZER WYER,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“ JAMES OSGOOD,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ AMOS NICHOLS,	“ “ “
“ SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
“ OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	“ “
Rev. Bro. SAMUEL RAND, Bearer of the Holy Bible.	
Bro. JOHN McDONALD, Bearer of Constitutions.	
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.
“ JAMES McARTHUR,	} Stewards in the rear of the
“ BENNET PIKE,	
	Procession.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers offered by the Grand Chaplain.

Official information was communicated to the M. W. Grand Master, that Harmony Lodge were assembled and waited the direction of the Grand Lodge.

Whereupon a procession was immediately formed under the direction of the R. W. Grand Marshal, and accompanied by music, proceeded to the Hall where Harmony Lodge were assembled; when after the usual examinations by the M. W. Grand Master, and a report from the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, “that having duly examined the records of Harmony

Lodge, he found them correct, and the officers elect well skilled in the mysteries of the order, and recommended that their request for Consecration and Installation be granted"—

A procession was formed in due order agreeable to the Constitution, preceded by music, and a large number of visiting Brethren; thus marshaled, it proceeded to the Rev. Mr. Pomroy's meeting house, where after prayers by the Rev. Mr. Pomroy, and an appropriate oration by Bro. John L. Megquier, the ceremonies of consecration took place; the consecrating prayer was offered by Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, Grand Chaplain. The R. W. Master of Harmony Lodge having first signified his assent to the ancient Constitutions and Charges of the Craft, Harmony Lodge was then consecrated and its officers installed in ample form, after which an excellent and impressive address was delivered by the M. W. Grand Master to Harmony Lodge; the Grand Marshal then proclaimed Harmony Lodge to be duly constituted and consecrated, and its officers installed in ample and ancient form; —the services were closed with a benediction pronounced by the Grand Chaplain.

The Brethren having again marshaled in due order, returned to the Hall of Harmony Lodge, and partook of a rich repast provided for the occasion by Bro. Daniel Hunt. After feasting, and drinking to three public toasts given by the M. W. Grand Master, the Grand Lodge retired and marched in procession to the room where they first assembled; at the same time the Rev. Clergy, and others not of the fraternity, who had been invited to join the procession and dine with us, withdrew.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, October 9, A. D. 1823.

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. M.
R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	D. G. M.
“ CHARLES FOX,	S. G. W.
“ DANIEL GRANGER,	J. G. W. <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
“ SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“ OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	J. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
“ NEHEMIAH CRAM,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	G. Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented :

Portland,	Oriental,	Oxford,
United,	Solar,	Blazing Star,
Cumberland,	Ancient Land-mark,	Harmony.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject whether the officers of subordinate Lodges ought to appear in Grand Lodge without their appropriate Jewels, submitted the following Report :

That according to common Masonic usage and as practiced in the neighboring Grand Lodges, the officers of subordinate Lodges are not entitled to the privileges of members in Grand Lodge unless clothed with the proper Jewels and insignia of their respective offices—they therefore recommend that no officer of a subordinate Lodge be permitted to exercise the privileges of a member of this Grand Lodge, excepting those who appear clothed with the Jewels as before mentioned, without the previous consent of the Grand Master, or presiding Grand Officer.

Whereupon it was ordered, that it lie over to our next Communication, and that the Grand Secretary send a copy of the same to each subordinate Lodge.

The Committee on the subject of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, submitted the following Report:

The Committee to whom was referred a communication from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, dated May 6, 1823, inviting the respective Grand Lodges of the United States to appoint delegates to a general convention, with authority to adopt measures for the establishment of a general Grand Lodge for the United States, have given the subject of their appointment that consideration which its importance and the deep interest taken in it by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia seem to demand, and ask leave to report that in their opinion it is not expedient for the Grand Lodge of Maine to concur in the measure proposed.

The arguments in favor of the measure, are in substance these: that the erection of a national Grand Lodge will tend to open the channel of masonic intercourse both foreign and domestic—establish uniformity of work—correct abuses—give unity, strength and respectability to our order—concentrate and diffuse information—reconcile collisions among jarring jurisdictions—impose new or enforce old restraints on the admission of candidates—correct the abuse of unwarranted and unwarrantable publications—abolish the degrading and ruinous practices of unlicensed lectures—interdict the mercenary introduction of false degrees—and awaken a spirit of emulation in the whole fraternity.

We are unable to perceive any benefit here proposed, which may not be fully derived from the present system. This Grand Lodge, notwithstanding the disadvantages of its very recent establishment, and its remote frontier situation has happily succeeded in opening a regular correspondence with most of the Grand Lodges of the United States. If other Grand Lodges, in situations more favorable to direct and easy intercourse, have been less successful, we think it fair to conclude that the misfortune is to be referred to some other cause than the want of a general Grand Lodge—and we believe that the communications now received from the several Grand Lodges of the States are calculated to excite a more lively interest and to produce more lasting benefits than would be derived from the very general views which must be expected in a national communication.

Nor do we suppose it difficult for the Grand Lodge of any State to open and maintain a correspondence with foreign Grand Lodges; for we cannot believe that any Grand Lodge at home or abroad would decline to accept from a State jurisdiction the tokens of proffered friendship, or to interchange them when requested.

Respecting the uniformity of work which it is said to be desirable to establish, we are not aware that it does not already exist to as great a degree as could be effected by a national Grand Lodge; nor that different Grand Lodges, as such, have ever countenanced any essential diversities of operation. Slight discrepancies may sometimes be found in different Lodges, introduced probably from the affectation of greater purity of work, but these may always be cor-

The Committee on the subject of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, submitted the following Report :

The Committee to whom was referred a communication from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, dated May 6, 1823, inviting the respective Grand Lodges of the United States to appoint delegates to a general convention, with authority to adopt measures for the establishment of a general Grand Lodge for the United States, have given the subject of their appointment that consideration which its importance and the deep interest taken in it by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia seem to demand, and ask leave to report that in their opinion it is not expedient for the Grand Lodge of Maine to concur in the measure proposed.

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rected by the vigilance of the District Deputy Grand Masters, or other Grand Officers who may be appointed to visit and inspect the work of the subordinate Lodges—and if this salutary regulation were permanently adopted by all the Grand Lodges of the United States as it now is by a large portion of them, the mischiefs and disorders introduced by unlicensed lectures would soon cease to furnish a topic of complaint.

The argument in favor of the establishment of a national Grand Lodge, drawn from its usefulness as an umpire to reconcile differences among jarring jurisdictions, would be deserving of more consideration if such contentions had ever been known to exist to any serious extent. But as far as our information reaches, those differences have rarely been known to occur, and never but in a very slight degree; and the spirit of brotherly kindness and moderation which Masonry breathes has always been found a sufficient, and certain, and speedy remedy.

In the same light we regard the supposed abuse of unwarranted and unwarrantable publications. That weak and sometimes erroneous publications on masonic subjects have been issued from the press is unquestionably true. But many of them are of a character far beneath the notice of any Grand Lodge whatever, and those which may be found to contain something not altogether correct, are too few, and the errors too insignificant, to merit the attention proposed to be bestowed. Reason may safely be left to combat them. Our national habits will hardly tolerate any *previous* censorship of the press; and should any book be condemned *after* its publication, the condemning sentence would doubtless most effectually secure its rapid and extensive circulation.

Nor can we more favorably regard the proposed imposition of new restraints on the admission of candidates to our mysteries. This subject has always been regulated as far as it is capable of regulation by the different Grand Lodges, and we have never before heard any intimation that it might not beneficially be left in their hands. We have observed in our correspondence with them, that differences do exist in the terms of admission in different States; and comparing the lists of expulsions, which in some States we are grieved to find are *disgracefully numerous*, we are led to the conclusion that the standard of moral character, as well as the amount in money required of a candidate, is probably in some places quite too low; and that by conferring masonic honors on those only who have been *tried* and *found* worthy, this deplorable evil would soon be cured. The question is affected more by the strength of moral principle in the candidate, than by the money demanded of him; and this standard does not seem to be susceptible of coercive regulation. If the members of any State Grand Lodge have not discernment enough to perceive the existence of any evil of this sort, or want virtue to apply the proper corrective, we do not perceive in what manner it is to be reached by any higher jurisdiction.

The introduction of false degrees into Masonry is an innovation which we believe this Grand Lodge will always resolutely resist. Should it ever be found

within our jurisdiction, it would doubtless receive prompt attention from the immediate guardians of the Temple, and timely suppression by the Grand Lodge at its next ensuing communication. We see no reason why other Grand Lodges should not be considered equally vigilant to discern approaching danger, and prompt to meet and avert it. But if the speedy exertion of such energies is desirable, it would not seem to be much facilitated by the slow operations of a national assembly.

However the proposed establishment might increase the respectability of American Masonry in the eyes of foreign Grand Lodges, if its members could devote themselves to the great and serious subjects committed to their trust with the attention and time which those subjects would demand; yet from the experience we have had in the management of masonic affairs in our own Grand Lodge, and the information of our neighbors, we think it is not to be expected in practice that such men will be found. The annual communications of such a Grand Lodge might probably be attended by many whom public or private business might lead to the place of its assembling, but the effectual direction of its affairs would doubtless be left wholly to gentlemen resident near the spot, and receive about the same degree of attention which experience has shown is usually given to the affairs of a State Grand Lodge; which, though as much as can reasonably be expected from the gratuitous services of men actively engaged in the business of life, is obviously far less than the due government of so many masons, scattered over this wide and growing dominion, would imperiously require. We should, in effect, delegate the power of many States to what would in substance be only a State Grand Lodge. Besides this evil, we think the measure, so far from exciting emulation, would tend to destroy it. A salutary spirit of this sort is now believed to exist among the several Grand Lodges, as independent and sovereign jurisdictions. But if these were consolidated into one, as would in effect be the case, the proper aliment of this flame would be destroyed.

If these arguments are well founded, it cannot be necessary that we should advert to the abuses and dangers which might and probably would grow out of the desired establishment. If no evil now exists without its appropriate and effectual remedy, why should we venture on new experiments, which in the political and moral world ought rarely to be attempted—in Masonry, never? If we stand well, let us stand still. Let us not abandon our present tried and excellent systems, and in the vain search after an ideal good put in jeopardy the benefits we already enjoy—substituting an unwieldy institution, tedious in its operations, seldom assembling, slow and expensive in administering justice, either pressing as a dead weight on the vital circulations of the masonic body, or liable to the grossest abuses. Let us “remove not the ancient landmarks which our fathers have set.”

SIMON GREENLEAF,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
WILLIAM SWAN,		
SAMUEL FESSENDEN,		

Which report being read and fully discussed, was unanimously accepted.

Voted, that the foregoing Report be printed in our next annual communication.

A petition from Moses Greenleaf and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Sebec, County of Penobscot, by the name of Piscataquis Lodge, was laid before the Grand Lodge, read and committed to R. W. Charles Fox, Daniel Granger and Isaac Adams, which committee recommended that the prayer of said petition be granted.

The report was accepted and a charter granted accordingly.

The petition of John McDonald and others, for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Limerick, was committed to R. W. William Swan, Charles Fox, Isaac Adams, Joseph M. Gerrish and Samuel Stephenson, to consider whether the approbation of Adoniram Lodge and the District Deputy Grand Master are unreasonably withheld, and report at a future communication.

R. W. Daniel Granger, Esq., Samuel Fessenden, Esq. and John L. Megquier, Esq. were appointed a committee to examine the Foreign Correspondence for the past year, and report at the annual communication.

The Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge at a stated meeting Oct. 6, 1823.

The Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*



ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1824.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, January 8th, A. D. 1824.

PRESENT—M. W. SIMON GREENLEAF,	G. M.
R. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	D. G. M.
" CHARLES FOX,	S. G. W.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	J. G. W.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
" GEORGE THACHER, Jr.,	G. Marshal.
" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
" " JOHN H. INGRAHAM,	" "
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Sword Bearer.
" ELEAZER WYER,	S. G. D. <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. D. "
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	G. Steward. <i>p. t.</i>
" LUTHER RICHARDSON,	" " "
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	G. Pursuivant.
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

District Deputy Grand Masters from the First, Second, Third and Fifth Districts.

Lodges represented:

Portland,	No. 1	Oxford,	No. 18	Waterville,	No. 33
Kennebec,	" 5	Felicity,	" 19	Bethlehem,	" 35
Amity,	" 6	Oriental Star,	" 21	Casco,	" 36
United,	" 8	York,	" 22	Washington,	" 37
Saco,	" 9	Freeport,	" 23	Harmony,	" 38
Cumberland,	" 12	Village,	" 26	Lygonia,	" 40
Oriental,	" 13	Adoniram,	" 27	Morning Star,	" 41
St. George,	" 16	Blazing Star,	" 30	Freedom,	" 42
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Hermon,	" 32	Alna,	" 43

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Junior Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Finance submitted their annual Report as follows:—

There was a balance in the Treasury at the annual settlement in January 1823, of		\$307.78½
There has been paid into the Treasury by D. D. G. Masters since January 1823, as follows:		
By the D. D. G. Master of the First district,	308.70½	
“ “ “ “ “ Second “	72.75	
“ “ “ “ “ Third “	213.87	
“ “ “ “ “ Fourth “	180.87	
Of do. for arrearages from Solar and Amity Lodges,	36.87	
	217.74	
By D. D. G. Master of Fifth district,	185.20	
Of do. for arrearages in said district,	75.00	
	260.20	
By D. D. G. Master of the Sixth district,	104.12	
	1177.38½	
Received for two Charters granted since the last annual Communication,	160	
Deduct amount applied to Charity fund,	20	
	140.00	
	\$1625.17	

There has been paid by the Treasurer since the last annual communication, and for which satisfactory vouchers have been exhibited to the committee, the following sums, viz:

To the increase of the Charity Fund, being half of the balance in the Treasury on settlement Jan. 1823,	153.89
Amount of donation to the Charity Fund by the Treasurer, being the sum allowed him for his services for 1822,	25.00
Amount paid the Grand Recording Secretary, as allowed him for his services for 1822,	45.00
Amount paid Grand Tyler for his services for 1822,	5.00
Paid sundry bills presented and allowed to the Grand Stewards,	99.04
Cash paid for printing, stationery and postages,	52.12
Cash paid to D. D. G. Masters for actual expenses incurred in the discharge of their respective duties, viz:	
To D. D. G. Master of First District,	41.62
“ “ “ Second “	19.03
“ “ “ Third “	13.87
“ “ “ Fourth “	26.70
“ “ “ Fifth “ for 1821, '22 and '23,	96.75
“ “ “ Sixth “	31.12
	229.69

Cash paid for parchment for 400 Diplomas,	102.50
	<hr/>
	\$712.24
Leaving in the Treasury a balance of	912.93
which is carried to a new account.	<hr/>
	\$1,625.17

The committee have examined the books of the Grand Treasurer and settled his account—they have also examined the Records of the Grand Recording Secretary, and find that the important duties of both offices have been discharged with faithfulness and ability. They recommend an allowance of Fifty Dollars to the Grand Recording Secretary for his services to this period; and the sum of Thirty Dollars to the Grand Treasurer for his services the past year; and the sum of Six Dollars to the Grand Tyler for his services to this period.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WM. SWAN, } *Committee on*
CHARLES FOX, } *Finance.*

Portland, January 8, 1824.

The committee also submitted a statement of the Charity Fund, Jan. 8, 1824; the aggregate of which is as follows, viz:

Ten shares in the Bank of Portland,	-	-	-	\$1,000.00
Amount in promissory notes, satisfactorily secured,	-	-	-	500.00
Cash in the Treasury unapplied,	-	-	-	71.03
One half the balance of account applicable by regulation in the By-Laws,				456.46
				<hr/>
				\$2,027.49

Which report was accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish, for the donation of thirty dollars made to the Charity fund, being the amount allowed him by the committee on finance for his services as Grand Treasurer the past year.

The committee to whom was referred the question whether the Masonic degrees can be conferred on affirmation without oath, having attended to that subject, submit the following report:

Your Committee deem this a question of no little importance, as it bears on the interests of the Craft. On the one hand, if decided in the negative, there will necessarily be excluded from a participation of all the mysteries, and very many of the benefits and advantages of Masonry, a large class of men, among the most respectable of our fellow citizens on account of their integrity, their conscientious regard to all those great moral principles which dignify human nature, and certainly not among the most backward in deeds of mercy and charity. On the other hand, if decided in the affirmative, it would seem at least to sanction a departure from what, for ages, has been deemed a form of

sound words, and what has not hitherto failed to bind the consciences of otherwise the most hardened offenders.

It is impossible that your Committee should not examine, with mistrust, a principle which should shut out from the Masonic fraternity such men as Clarkson; and they cannot close their eyes to the bad effect which sanctioning such a principle must have on the moral sense of the community. Can any other inference fairly be deduced, than that a society, which excludes the best men because conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath, must entertain principles which will not bear the light; and that we must be more solicitous to secure the victim, than to promote the cause of virtue?

And your committee are also aware of the importance of preserving inviolate those ancient landmarks which have had so great influence in perpetuating an Institution, which has during so many centuries been producing benefits to mankind; leaving it to the silent, but certain effect of time, to prove its value.

We have been led to inquire whether the varying in this particular our masonic obligations would be removing any ancient landmark, or violating any principle of our venerable institution?—and with satisfaction your committee have come to the result, that this will not remove a stone from the masonic edifice, or mar any of its ornaments or beauty. The grand object of masonic obligations is to bind the conscience to the cause of virtue. No one can for a moment believe that this can depend on the forms of expression in which the promise is couched. As well might it be urged that the sanctity of an obligation depends on the character in which it might be written, or the language in which it might be delivered. The masonic edifice rests not on words, but on deeds. Where the substance is preserved, the precise form cannot be essential to the stability of the fabric.

It cannot be supposed that the wise founders of our institution, looking down the long vista of time, would not anticipate those slight verbal alterations which should adapt its principles to the language, genius and customs of the different nations of the earth,—as also to the consciences, or even innate prejudices of the mass of individuals who compose the great community, while they have so wonderfully fortified those principles themselves from violation. Indeed, it is apprehended, that the variation in the form of expression (for it amounts to nothing more) is not greater than would be found to arise from the idioms of different languages. Besides, who ever apprehended that a slight variation in the form of administering the obligations in different lodges, (and such variations exist), ever lessened the weight, or discharged from the sanctions of those obligations? Your committee think they might safely refer to ancient usage as a proof that an affirmation is as strong an obligation in form, as well as on the conscience, as an oath.

The penalties remain unaltered. The duties required are not lessened or less strongly inculcated and enforced. The negations are as strong; and the whole no less binding on the conscience, whether the form be that of an oath or

affirmation. What then is lost to masonry by the variation, except a mere verbal criticism, or play on words, which your committee cannot perceive have any place in the temple of masonry?

On the whole, your committee conceive that no masonic principle is violated in adapting the form of the obligations to consciences of men equally good and true, but, on the contrary, that serious hurt would grow to the Institution of Masonry, by an adherence to the technical form of words heretofore used for the purpose of securing that *fidelity* in the craftsmen, which has never yet been violated, even when all other principles have been wrecked in the vortex of unhallowed appetites, or the whirlpool of ungoverned passions.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CHARLES FOX, *per order*.

Which report was accepted.

The Report of the Committee on the subject whether the officers of subordinate Lodges ought to be admitted to seats in Grand Lodge without bearing their appropriate jewels—which was submitted to the Grand Lodge, Oct. 9, 1823—viz: that they be not admitted without the express permission of the presiding Grand Officers, was taken into consideration and unanimously adopted.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Brother John McDonald and others for a lodge in Limerick, reported, that at present it is inexpedient to establish a lodge in the town of Limerick, and consequently the approbation of Adoniram Lodge and the D. D. Grand Master of the First Masonic District to the petition for that purpose are *not unreasonably withheld*.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund at a stated meeting, January 5, 1824.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge made the following Report, viz:

Your Committee find, in the foreign correspondence, but little to which they deem it necessary to direct the attention of this Grand Lodge.

They remark with pleasure and satisfaction the growth and spread of the principles of our venerable institution in the United States, and the flourishing situation of most of the Grand Lodges in the Union. And they cannot but consider it as evidence that the sacred principles of integrity, kindness and charity are gaining ground and preparing the way for still greater blessings on the human family.

They remark with pleasure the similarity of views, as regards the grand

masonic edifice, which the correspondence exhibits, as existing among the different Grand Lodges; the beneficial effects of which must be realized in completing this moral superstructure.

The attention of your committee has been called to the reiterated wishes strongly expressed by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, that a General Grand Lodge for the United States may be formed; and they find by an examination of the communications of different Grand Lodges, made to this Grand Lodge, since its last annual meeting, that the subject has been fully discussed, and that a very large proportion of the several Grand Lodges, with which this Grand Lodge holds correspondence, have expressed a decided opinion, that the establishment of a General Grand Lodge is *inexpedient* and *unnecessary*. But the report of the Committee, made at the last quarterly meeting of this Grand Lodge, to whom the communication from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia was specially referred, renders it unnecessary for the Committee of Correspondence to remark particularly upon this subject.

In some of the Grand Lodges your Committee have noticed, that there is a regulation, which prohibits a subordinate lodge from a voice in the Grand Lodge, whose dues have not been paid. How far such a regulation in this Grand Lodge might be useful is left to the wisdom of the brethren.

All which is respectfully submitted,

D. GRANGER, *per order*.

Which report was accepted.

The time assigned agreeably to the By-Laws for the election of officers for the ensuing year having arrived, the Grand Lodge proceeded to that business.

Our Most Worshipful Brother SIMON GREENLEAF, Esq., Past Grand Master, declined being a candidate for reelection, and made the following valedictory Address to the Grand Lodge:—

BRETHREN:—The return of another anniversary naturally leads us to a review of the events of the past year, and to a consideration of the present state of our institution, and the means by which its benefits can best be imparted to our fellow men. The separation of the lodges in this State from the parent Grand Lodge, was an event of no small importance to the interests of the fraternity in Maine. Our distance from the place of its meetings, and the infrequency of our communications with it, naturally gave birth to some abuses, and our situation on many other accounts was not wholly favorable to the prosperity of Masonry. It was an enterprise, too, of some peril. The existing abuses were to be corrected—conflicting interests to be balanced and reconciled—the accounts of the lodges and D. D. G. Masters to be settled—arrears to be collected, and a new constitution and regulations to be framed and

adopted for the government of the Grand Lodge. But the most essential of these objects have been accomplished with a degree of success and harmony far exceeding our highest anticipations. Our By-Laws and permanent regulations, after three years of successful operation, are found to need no essential changes; the accounts of nearly all the lodges have been liquidated and closed, and a system adopted which must forever prevent the recurrence of that state of confusion into which these accounts had heretofore fallen. Most of the arrearages are paid up, and such measures have been taken that it is expected that no lodge will hereafter be guilty of the unmasonic practice of suffering its dues to remain a year unpaid. Our funds, too, are in a prosperous condition. In addition to the purchase of regalia, and other expenses incidental to the establishment of a Grand Lodge, we have been able to add \$571.03 to our permanent charity fund, besides what moneys have been dispensed in charities—so that our permanent fund, including the \$1000 received from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, now consists of \$1571.03, to which sum an addition of \$456.46 is now to be made from the floating fund. It is highly gratifying to know that in most of the lodges all unnecessary expenses are avoided, and a system of economy has been adopted which has put their funds into a flourishing condition; and for the purpose of preserving them, the Legislature, with a liberality much to their honor, have granted an act of incorporation to every lodge which has requested it. The principle, too, of contributing masonic services without reward, charging our funds, except in one or two cases which are necessarily excepted, with a bare reimbursement of moneys actually expended, which has been so long practiced upon in Massachusetts and some other States, has produced among us also the expected happy results. We have now under our jurisdiction 44 Lodges, divided into six districts, composed of 1586 acting members. In the past year they have initiated about 220 candidates into our mysteries, and paid \$1177.38 into the Grand Treasury.

With such an institution in our hands, so well organized, supported, as it is, by a large body of intelligent and virtuous citizens, and having at command a fund already respectable and rapidly increasing, besides the stock private Lodges themselves possess,—our responsibilities to God and the craft for the wise and beneficent appropriation of these ample means are deep and of serious import.

Without touching on topics which have heretofore been discussed and acted upon in the Grand Lodge, there are many designs of benevolence in which, I am persuaded, we all can heartily unite.

In the distribution of masonic funds we should never lose sight of the great principle that they are the property of the whole fraternity, and are to be expended in deeds of beneficence and charity. Of course the erection of splendid edifices, and the preparation of costly entertainments, can hardly be considered as within the legitimate appropriation of these funds. But the occasional relief of worthy masons, as their necessities may demand, is not the

only object to which they may lawfully be applied. In the more populous places benevolence itself would suggest the adoption of measures to reduce this relief to system and rule:—and hence in some cities, hospitals have been endowed, wholly, or in part, by the fraternity, for the reception and cure of sick and infirm masons. Our correspondence with other Grand Lodges has brought to our notice a proposition for an institution of this kind in New Orleans.

Our charities also may well be applied to aid the widows of poor masons; and to assist their children to obtain such an education as may qualify them for future usefulness. The latter has been a subject of peculiar interest to the fraternity for many years. In various parts of Europe and in one or more of the United States, schools for their instruction have been founded, and are still in successful operation; and the beneficial results to society from these charities must long be felt. We owe much to the orphans of worthy deceased brethren. They are a sacred trust committed to our care and oversight; and although the excellent public institutions of New England have rendered it unnecessary for Masonry to afford assistance in the acquisition of *common* learning, the public schools being free to *all*; yet the time is not far distant, when it may be expedient to make some appropriation for the endowment of one or more scholarships in some of our Academies, Lyceums, or Colleges, by which the sons of deceased masons, if found worthy and in want, may receive aid in the higher branches of learning, and thus become capable of more extensive usefulness. A single individual, thus saved from neglect and perhaps from ruin, separated as a rough stone, from the mass of ignorance, and fitted to support and adorn the fabric of social life, would reflect more true glory on our institution than monuments of brass or marble.

It is by works like these that we approach to what I conceive to be the true spirit of Masonry—for it is not to be forgotten or denied that our institution professes to diffuse *light and knowledge*—that its connection with the arts and sciences is brought into the foreground and to the threshold of its mysteries—that it is indeed “a holy institution”—that it inculcates a profound reverence and devotion to the Supreme Being, and requires every mason to square his life and faith by the precepts and instruction of his Holy Word.

Indeed masonry is only valuable as she is the hand-maid of religion. This life may be regarded as a school in which the character is formed for eternity. It is the period in which a mansion is erected for endless duration. Masonry furnishes its votaries with a large portion of the scaffolding and the working tools—but these also at last will become useless, and be laid aside. Let it then be our great endeavor and prayer that we may become the temples of the living God, and be consecrated, by his spirit, to his service forever.

The following R. W. Brethren were chosen a committee to sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, viz:—Daniel Granger,

Leonard Jarvis, and James L. Child. Which Committee reported the following Brethren to be duly elected, viz :

M. W. WILLIAM SWAN, Esq.,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Portland.
R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN, Esq.,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Portland.
" GEORGE THACHER, Jr., Esq.,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Saco*.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Esq.,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland.
" WILLIAM LORD,	<i>Rec. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.

R. W. Charles Fox, Samuel Fessenden and Eleazer Wyer, were chosen a committee on Finance.

M. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq., Albion K. Parris Esq., Daniel Granger Esq., Peleg Chandler Esq., Charles Fox and Robert Boyd, were chosen to constitute a permanent part of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, for three years ensuing.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening, January 9, at 6 o'clock.

MASON'S HALL, Friday Evening, Jan. 9, A. D. 1824.

The Grand Lodge met by adjournment, M. W. William Swan presiding, and was opened in ample form.

Prayers were offered by the Senior Grand Chaplain.

M. W. WILLIAM SWAN declared his acceptance of the office of Grand Master, and was duly invested by R. W. Charles Fox, Senior Past Master and Grand Officer present.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary.

The following appointments for the ensuing year were then made by the M. W. Grand Master, viz :—

R. W. CHARLES FOX Esq.,	of Portland,	Deputy Grand Master.
" PELEG SPRAGUE, Esq.,	of Hallowell,	Cor. Grand Secretary.
" JESSE ROBINSON, Esq.,	of Hallowell,	Grand Marshal.
" Rev. JONATHAN GREENLEAF,	of Wells,	Grand Chaplain.
" Rev. JOHN H. INGRAHAM,	of Thomaston,	" "
" Rev. GIDEON W. OLNEY,	of Gardiner,	" "

- R. W. Rev. SAMUEL RAND, of Portland, Grand Chaplain.
 " BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT, of Bath, Senior Grand Deacon.
 " JAMES L. CHILD, Esq., of Alna, Junior Grand Deacon.
 " ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, Grand Steward.
 " NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, " "
 " ISAAC LINCOLN, of Brunswick, " "
 " AMOS NOURSE, of Hallowell, " "
 " SAMUEL STEPHENSON, of Gorham, Grand Sword Bearer.
 " SETH CLARK, of Portland, Grand Pursuivant.
 " OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, "
 " WILLIAM STEVENS, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Daniel Granger, Esq., of Saco.

Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, Esq., of Canton.

Third District—R. W. Henry W. Fuller, Esq., of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Esq., of Brunswick.

Fifth District—R. W. Jacob McGaw, Esq., of Bangor.

Sixth District—R. W. Ichabod R. Chadbourne, Esq., of Eastport.

The foregoing officers were severally installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or by proxies.

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund:

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| M. W. William Swan, Grand Master, | <i>ex officio.</i> |
| R. W. Charles Fox, Deputy Grand Master, | " |
| " Samuel Fessenden, Esq., Senior Grand Warden, | " |
| " George Thacher, Jr., Esq., Junior Grand Warden, | " |
| " William Lord, Grand Secretary. | " |
| " Simon Greenleaf, Esq. | |
| " Albion K. Parris, Esq. | |
| " Daniel Granger, Esq. | |
| " Peleg Chandler, Esq. | |
| " Robert Boyd, Esq. | |

The report of the Committee on the subject of a lodge in the town of Limerick, made to the Grand Lodge last evening, was now resumed; which report was read and the further consideration postponed to our next annual communication.

R. W. Eleazer Wyer, Nelson Racklyft, and Joseph M. Gerrish were appointed a committee to make such additions to the regalia and furniture of the Grand Lodge as may be found necessary.

On motion,

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the Most Worshipful Simon Greenleaf, Esq., Past Grand Master, for his unremitted and faithful labors, in masonic duties, as connected with the interests of this Grand Lodge, and for the impartial, dignified and highly intelligent manner in which he has presided over the same—that he be pleased to accept the best wishes of all the members of this Grand Lodge, for his prosperity and happiness; and that he be requested to furnish this Grand Lodge with a copy of his address, delivered at this communication, and that the same be printed and circulated with the annual Communication.

The committee on Past Masters' Diplomas was fully authorized to procure a plate (or otherwise as they think proper), provided the expense does not exceed 150 dollars.

Prayers were offered by our Rev. Brother Asa Mead, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, April 8, A. D. 1824.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN, Esq.,	G. M.
R. W. CHARLES FOX, Esq.,	D. G. M.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN, Esq.,	S. G. W.
" ELEAZER WYER, .	as J. G. W.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	as G. Marshal.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	" S. G. D.
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	" J. G. D.
" DANIEL CLARK,	" G. Steward.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented, viz:—

Portland,	No. 1	Blazing Star,	No. 30
St. George,	" 16	Harmony,	" 38
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Alma,	" 43
Tranquil,	" 29		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The petition of Joel Wellington and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of China, county of Kennebec, by the name of *Central Lodge*, was laid before the Grand Lodge; read, and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Joseph M. Gerrish and Samuel Stephenson; which committee reported that the prayer of said petition be granted.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

The petition of Joseph Whitney and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Calais, by the name of *St. Croix Lodge*, was laid before the Grand Lodge; read, and committed to R. W. Charles Fox, Daniel Clark and Eleazer Wyer; which committee reported that the prayer of said petition be granted; but as it appears to the committee from official information that one of the petitioners, viz. Lorenzo Rockwood, has been expelled from a regular Lodge, and no information that he has been restored, they therefore recommend that his name may not be inserted in the charter, unless it shall appear to the Grand Lodge that he has been restored.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

A petition from Somerset Lodge praying for permission to hold their meetings in alternate years in Milburn, near Skowhegan falls, and in Norridgewock village, was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Joseph M. Gerrish and Seth Clark.

Which Committee reported, That

Referring to the original petition, we find that the approbation of the District Deputy Grand Master was obtained to the prayer thereof, which was, that the Lodge might be holden in alternate years in Norridgewock and Canaan or Bloomfield. We therefore consider his approbation as in fact accompanying the present petition; and inasmuch as your committee are satisfied that it would

be for the benefit of Somerset Lodge that it be holden alternately at Norridgewock and Milburn, instead of Bloomfield, would recommend that their request be granted, and that said Lodge hereafter and during the pleasure of the Grand Lodge, be holden at Norridgewock and Milburn alternately.

Which Report was accepted.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity fund of the Grand Lodge, at a stated meeting, April 5, 1824, and that one vacancy existed in said Board of Trustees.

A petition from Amity Lodge, praying for a remission of part of the balance due the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and by their assignment now due the Grand Lodge of Maine, was laid before the Grand Lodge; read, and committed to the Committee on Finance.

Voted, That our R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish, Treasurer of this Grand Lodge, be authorized to assign over and present to the widow of our late Bro. Oliver Bray, Esq., two notes due from him to this Grand Lodge, one for the sum of \$61.29, with interest, the other for \$239.74, with interest, that she may file them for her own benefit as a demand against the estate of her deceased husband.

R. W. Brother Woodbury Storer, Jr., Esq., was unanimously chosen a member of the Board of Trustees of the Charity fund, to fill the vacancy which existed in said Board.

The Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, July 8, A. D. 1824.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN, Esq., G. M.
R. W. CHARLES FOX, Esq., D. G. M.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN, Esq., S. G. W.

R. W.	GEORGE THACHER, Esq.,	J. G. W.
"	DANIEL GRANGER, Esq.,	G. Treasurer.
"	WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
"	SAMUEL STEPHENSON, as	G. Marshal.
"	ELEAZER WYER,	" S. G. Deacon.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" J. G. Deacon.
"	OLIVER GERRISH,	" G. Steward.
"	JOHN CHUTE, Jr.,	" "
"	SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
"	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
"	WILLIAM STEVENS,	Grand Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented, viz :—

Portland,	No. 1	Blazing Star,	No. 30
Saco,	" 9	Somerset,	" 34
Orient,	" 15	Casco,	" 36
A. Land-Mark,	" 17	Harmony,	" 38
Oxford,	" 18	Morning Star,	" 41

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

A remonstrance from Eastern Lodge at Eastport, was read and committed to R. W. Charles Fox, Samuel Fessenden and John Spring. Which Committee reported :

That the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters, is by the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge, exclusively placed under the control of the Most Worshipful Grand Master ; whose duty it is to appoint those officers. That it hence results that the subject matter of this remonstrance is not within any powers vested in the Grand Lodge as such. That such remonstrance should be addressed to the Grand Master, for which reasons the committee would recommend that the remonstrance be put on file, and the Secretary be directed to furnish Eastern Lodge with a copy of this report.

CHARLES FOX, *per order*.

Which report was read and accepted.

The Committee on Past Masters' Diplomas, reported, that they had completed the business assigned them by procuring a plate and having a sufficient number of Diplomas printed for present use. Which report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge at a stated meeting, July 5, 1824,—and that one vacancy existed in said Board of Trustees.

The following resolution was submitted by R. W. Daniel Granger, Esq.:

Resolved, That the 3d section of the 5th chapter of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, be so altered as to read thus: The Trustees of the Charity Fund shall meet at Portland, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the day of each Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge. The remainder of the section to stand as it now does.

Which was read, and the further consideration of it postponed to our next communication, and ordered to be communicated to the several Lodges under this jurisdiction.

R. W. Thomas Browne, of Portland, was chosen a member of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge, to fill a vacancy which existed in said Board.

M. W. William Swan, R. W. Samuel Fessenden and R. W. Charles Fox, were appointed a Committee to correspond with other Grand Lodges in the United States on the subject of erecting a Monument over the Tomb of Washington.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, October 14, A. D. 1824.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN, Esq.,	G. M.
R. W. CHARLES FOX, Esq.,	D. G. M.
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	as S. G. W.
" MOSES SPRING,	" J. G. W.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	as G. Marshal.
" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
" Rev. SAMUEL RAND,	" "
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	as S. G. D.

R. W. DANIEL CLARK,	as J. G. D.
" JAMES McARTHUR,	" G. Steward.
" JOHN CHUTE, JR.,	" " "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented, viz :—

Portland,	No. 1	Adoniram,	No. 27
Saco,	" 9	Hermon,	" 32
Orient,	" 15	Somerset,	" 34
St. George,	" 1	Casco,	" 36
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Morning Star,	" 41
York,	" 22		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayer was offered by Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, Senior Grand Chaplain.

The resolution submitted by R. W. Daniel Granger, Esq., at our last communication, proposing an amendment in the By-Laws, was taken into consideration and unanimously adopted.

On motion,

Voted, That blank proxies be printed and sent to the several Lodges under our jurisdiction.

R. W. Brother Samuel Emerson presented a petition from York Lodge, praying that this G. Lodge would assume their loss (recently sustained by fire) as a family misfortune. Which was read and committed to R. W. Charles Fox, Samuel Fessenden Esq., and Simon Greenleaf, Esq.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity fund of the Grand Lodge at a stated meeting, Oct. 11, A. D. 1824.

Prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1825.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Mason's Hall in Portland, on Thursday, January 13, 1825.

PRESENT—M. W.	WILLIAM SWAN, Esq.,	G. Master.
R. W.	CHARLES FOX, Esq.,	D. G. Master.
"	SAMUEL FESSENDEN, Esq.,	S. G. Warden.
"	GEORGE THACHER, Esq.,	J. G. Warden.
"	JOSEPH M. GERRISH, Esq.,	G. Treasurer.
"	WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
"	JAMES L. CHILD, Esq.,	as Cor. G. Secretary.
"	JESSE ROBINSON, Esq.,	G. Marshal.
"	Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
"	Rev. SAMUEL RAND,	"
"	ELEAZER WYER,	as S. G. Deacon.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	" J. G. Deacon.
"	BENJ. D. BARTLETT,	" G. Steward.
"	ABISHA BENSON,	" "
"	SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Sword Bearer.
"	SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
"	OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
"	WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

" SIMON GREENLEAF, Esq.

District Deputy Grand Masters, from the first, second, third, fourth and sixth Districts.

The following Lodges were represented, viz:—

Portland,	No. 1	Oriental,	No. 13	Union,	No. 31
Lincoln,	" 3	Orient,	" 15	Hermon,	" 32
Hancock,	" 4	St. George,	" 16	Somerset,	" 34
Kennebec,	" 5	A. Land-Mark,	" 17	Bethlehem,	" 35

Amity,	No. 6	Oxford,	No. 18	Casco,	No. 36
Eastern,	" 7	Oriental Star,	" 21	Washington,	" 37
United,	" 8	York,	" 22	Harmony,	" 38
Saco,	" 9	Belfast,	" 24	Freedom,	" 42
Rising Virtue,	" 10	Temple,	" 25	Alna,	" 43
Pythagorean,	" 11	Adoniram,	" 27	Central,	" 45
Cumberland,	" 12	Tranquil,	" 29		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayer was offered by Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, Senior Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Finance submitted their Annual Report, as follows:—

There was a balance in the Treasury at the annual settlement of the Treasurer's account, Jan. 1824, \$912.93

There has been paid into the Treasury since that period by the

D. D. G. Masters, as follows, viz :

By the D. D. G. Master of the 1st District,	\$249.91
" " " " 2d "	51.25
" " " " 3d "	201.12½
" " " " 4th "	146.12½
" " " " 5th "	73.61½
" " " " 6th "	16.25
	<hr/> \$738.27½

There has been received for two Charters granted since the last annual communication, \$160.00

Deduct amount applied to Charity Fund, 20.00

\$140.00

Received for a due bill of Mr. Buxton, 3.00

\$1794.20½

There has been paid by the Treasurer since the last annual settlement, and for which satisfactory vouchers have been produced to the committee for the following sums:—

To the increase of the Charity fund, being half the balance in the Treasury on settlement in 1824, conformable to the By-Laws, 456.46½

Amount of donation to the Charity Fund by the Treasurer, being the sum allowed him for services, 30.00

Amount paid the Recording Grand Secretary as allowed him for his services for 1823, 50.00

Amount paid Grand Tyler for his services for 1823, 6.00

" paid for Hall rent up to January 1, 1825, 80.00

" paid for Printing, Stationery and Postages, 47.63

" paid the G. Stewards' bills for furniture, &c., 78.15

" paid for Diplomas, 190.18

Amount paid to D. D. G. Masters for actual expenses incurred
in the discharge of their respective duties, viz:

To D. D. G. Master of First District,	\$21.49	
" " " Second "	10.00	
" " " Third "	23.33	
" " " Fourth "	24.62½	
" " " Fifth "	12.02½	
	<hr/>	\$91.53
		1029.90½
Balance remaining in the Treasury and carried to new account,		764.30
		<hr/>
		\$1794.20½

The committee have examined the books of the Grand Treasurer, and settled his account which is hereto annexed, by which there appears the above balance of \$764.30 due to the Grand Lodge; there is however a balance of \$211.50½ due to him on settlement of the accounts of the Charity Fund, leaving a net balance due the Grand Lodge of \$552.79½.

They cannot forbear to remark that the books and accounts of the Grand Treasurer have been kept with great correctness and neatness, and the duties of that office have been faithfully and ably performed; and they recommend an allowance of the sum of thirty dollars for his services for the past year.

They have also examined the records and books of the Grand Recording Secretary, and find them correctly and neatly kept, and do recommend an allowance of the sum of fifty dollars for his services the past year. And to the Grand Tyler an allowance of six dollars for his services for the same period.

Your Committee find the dues from all the Lodges in the first, second, fourth and sixth districts are all paid and the returns made. In the 3d district, there have been no returns or dues for the past year received from Temple Lodge at Monmouth, Northern Star at Anson, and Waterville Lodge at Waterville; there appears due from Northern Star Lodge for the year 1820, fifty dollars, and for 1821, thirty-two dollars, making the sum of eighty-two dollars, and from Temple Lodge for 1822, the sum of \$27.62. In the fifth district, there has been no returns or dues for the past year received from Lygonia Lodge at Surry, nor Penobscot Lodge at Garland.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CHARLES FOX,	} Committee on Finance.
SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	
ELEAZER WYER,	

Which report was accepted.

N. B. Temple Lodge has since the above report, made returns and paid up all their dues.

* A statement of the Charity Fund was also submitted, as follows, viz:

10 Shares in the Bank of Portland,	\$1000.00
10 " in the Casco Bank,	1000.00
Amount in promissory notes satisfactorily secured,	600.00
	<hr/>
	\$2600 00

One half of the \$764.24 balance of the Treasurer's account applicable by regulation in the By-Laws, to the increase of the Charity Fund, has been applied to pay the amount due for stock in Casco Bank.

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial of York Lodge, stating the loss of their furniture, &c. by fire, and praying that the Grand Lodge would, "*assume the loss as a family misfortune,*" having considered the subject, are of opinion, and respectfully report that it is not expedient that the prayer of the memorial be granted.

Among the reasons which have led the Committee to this conclusion, it has occurred to them that the furniture of subordinate Lodges, is in no case subject to the control of the Grand Lodge, either in its original purchase or subsequent disposition, except in case of suspension of the functions of the individual Lodge; that the funds of the Grand Lodge so far as they are applicable to charitable purposes, ought always to be applied to cases of real distress; but they cannot regard the present loss of York Lodge as a case calling for the aid of charity from the general fund; but rather as a calamity which the members of that Lodge are abundantly able to retrieve by their own resources: and that as the general funds of the Grand Lodge were not augmented by the purchase of the articles destroyed, they ought not to be diminished by replacing them.

The Committee, however, consider the present, as coming within that class of cases in which the Grand Lodge has sometimes remitted the dues of subordinate Lodges, and they accordingly respectfully recommend that the dues of York Lodge for the year 1824, be remitted.

Considering the facility with which property of every description may be insured against fire and the low rate of premium, the Committee feel it their duty to suggest the expediency of keeping the furniture of the Grand Lodge and of subordinate Lodges always protected by a sufficient policy.

Which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES FOX, *per order.*

Which report was read and accepted.

R. W. Simon Greenleaf, Esq., George Thacher, Esq., and Charles Fox, were chosen a Committee to consider and report on the Foreign Correspondence of the past year.

R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish presented the Grand Lodge

with the sum of thirty dollars, being the amount allowed him for his services as Grand Treasurer the past year, on condition that one half of said sum be given to our aged Brother William Stevens, Grand Tyler.

On motion,

Voted unanimously, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish for this renewed instance of his liberality.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers.

The following R. W. Brethren were chosen a Committee to sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, viz: Peleg Sprague, Isaac Lincoln, and Abisha Benson. Which Committee reported the following Brethren to be duly elected, viz:

M. W. WILLIAM SWAN Esq., of Portland, Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN Esq., of Portland, Senior Grand Warden.

" GEO. THACHER Esq., of Saco, Junior Grand Warden.

" JOS. M. GERRISH Esq., of Portland, Grand Treasurer.

" WILLIAM LORD, of Portland, Rec. Grand Secretary.

R. W. Charles Fox, Samuel Fessenden, and Eleazer Wyer, were chosen a Committee on Finance.

M. W. William Swan Esq., Grand Master elect, was duly invested by R. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq., Senior Past Master and Grand Officer present.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary.

R. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq., Charles Fox and Joseph M. Gerrish, were appointed a Committee to consider the subject of a contemplated Monument over the Tomb of WASHINGTON, and to report at the adjournment.

R. W. Peleg Sprague Esq., Simon Greenleaf Esq., James L. Child Esq., Samuel Fessenden Esq., and Abisha Benson, were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the expediency of taking some measures to welcome GENERAL LAFAYETTE, in his intended visit to this State the ensuing season.

The report of the Committee on the petition of John McDonald and others for a Lodge at Limerick, continued from last annual communication, was taken into consideration, and after being fully discussed, was accepted, and ordered to be put on file.

A petition from Somerset Lodge, praying for permission to hold said Lodge at Milburn during the year 1825, and afterwards to be holden alternately at Norridgewock and Milburn, as formerly, was read and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Moses Springer Jr. and Samuel Stephenson. Which Committee reported that the prayer of the petition be granted—which report was accepted.

Voted, That R. W. Cornelius Holland, Jesse Robinson and Robert P. Dunlap be a committee to take into consideration the expediency of discontinuing the custom of providing refreshments at the Communications of the Grand Lodge, and to report at the adjournment.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening, January 14, A. D. 1825, at six o'clock.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

MASON'S HALL, Portland, Jan. 14, A. D. 1825.

The Grand Lodge met, agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN Esq.,	G. Master.
R. W. CHARLES FOX Esq.,	D. G. Master.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN Esq.,	S. G. Warden.
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP Esq.,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH Esq.,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" JAMES L. CHILD Esq.,	Cor. G. Secretary.
" JESSE ROBINSON Esq.,	G. Marshal.
" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
" Rev. SAMUEL RAND,	"
" SAMUEL K. GILMAN,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" MOSES SPRINGER Jr.,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELEAZER WYER,	G. Steward.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	"
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Sword Bearer.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

District Deputy Grand Masters from the second, third and fourth Districts.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayer was offered by Rev. Asa Mead.

The M. W. Grand Master then made the following appointments for the ensuing year, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:—

R. W. CHARLES FOX Esq., of Portland, Deputy Grand Master.

" JAMES L. CHILD Esq., of Alna, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" JESSE ROBINSON Esq., of Hallowell, Grand Marshal.

" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF, of Wells, Grand Chaplain.

" Rev. SAMUEL RAND, of Portland, " "

" Rev. G. W. OLNEY, of Gardiner, " "

" BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT, of Bath, Senior Grand Deacon.

" ISAAC LINCOLN, of Brunswick, Junior Grand Deacon.

" ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, Grand Steward.

" NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, " "

" AMOS NOURSE, of Hallowell, " "

" OLIVER GRISWOLD, of Fryeburg, " "

" SAMUEL STEPHENSON, of Gorham, Grand Sword Bearer.

" SETH CLARK, of Portland, Grand Pursuivant.

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, "

" WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland, Grand Tyler.

The above named officers were severally installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Daniel Granger Esq., of Saco.

Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland Esq., of Canton.

Third District—R. W. Peleg Sprague, Esq., of Hallowell.

Fourth District—R. W. Robert P. Dunlap Esq., of Brunswick.

Fifth District—R. W. Jacob McGaw Esq., of Bangor.

Sixth District—R. W.

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund:

M. W. William Swan Esq., Grand Master, *ex officio*.

R. W. Charles Fox Esq., Deputy Grand Master, "

" Samuel Fessenden Esq., Senior Grand Warden, "

" George Thacher Esq., Junior Grand Warden, "

" William Lord, Grand Secretary, "

" Simon Greenleaf Esq.

" Albion K. Parris Esq.

" Daniel Granger Esq.

" Peleg Chandler Esq.

" Robert Boyd Esq.

" Thomas Browne Esq.

A petition from St. George Lodge at Warren, praying for remission of old dues, was read and committed to R. W. Charles Fox, Peleg Sprague and Cornelius Holland.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the foreign correspondence of the Grand Lodge for the past year, ask leave to report, That they find that communications have been received from the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, the District of Columbia, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, and from the British province of Nova Scotia.

They observe that the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire have voted to dispense with all refreshments at their annual and other meetings.

That the Grand Lodge of Vermont have opened a correspondence with Brother Fisk, now a missionary in Palestine, for the purpose of obtaining information on the subject of distributing the Holy Bible in that and other countries of Asia Minor.

That the Grand Lodge of Missouri have decided that a man maimed by the accidental loss of a right arm, or deformed in his limbs, though possessing every other qualification, cannot be admitted to the secrets of Masonry. It will be recollected that the Grand Lodge of Maine, in the case of one accidentally deprived of a limb, have given a different decision. The same Grand Lodge has appropriated funds "for the inclosing and improving a burying ground."

The committee observe in the other communications evident tokens of the growing prosperity of the Craft in all parts of the Union; but do not perceive any other transactions of general interest to present to the notice of this Grand Lodge, except such as have already been acted upon.

Which is respectfully submitted,

SIMON GREENLEAF, *for the Committee.*

Which report was accepted.

R. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq., Samuel Fessenden Esq., and Charles Fox Esq., were appointed a Committee to receive and examine the Foreign Correspondence for the ensuing year, and report at the next annual communication.

The Committee appointed to consider what measures it is expedient to adopt in reference to the contemplated visit to this State of our illustrious Brother General Lafayette, report,

That a committee of nine brethren be appointed, whose duty it shall be on the arrival of General Lafayette in Portland, to present to him an address ex-

pressive of the high sense entertained by this Grand Lodge of his great and disinterested services in the cause of humanity, of his pure and elevated character, and the deep feelings of reverence and fraternal affection which this Grand Lodge collectively and individually cherish for him.

PELEG SPRAGUE, *per order.*

Which report was accepted, and the following Brethren were appointed a Committee to carry the same into effect, viz: M. W. William Swan Esq., R. W. Samuel Fessenden Esq., Simon Greenleaf Esq., Peleg Sprague Esq., George Thacher Esq., Charles Fox Esq., Robert P. Dunlap Esq., Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, and James L. Child Esq.

The Committee aforesaid were authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur in the same.

The Committee appointed to consider the subject of a Monument over the Tomb of Washington, submitted the following resolve:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to correspond with other Grand Lodges, and also with members of the fraternity at Washington, on the subject of erecting a suitable monument over the remains of our illustrious Bro. GEORGE WASHINGTON, at Mount Vernon, and to assure them of the hearty co-operation of this Grand Lodge to carry it into effect, and that the sum of one thousand dollars may be calculated on from this State, if necessary; and that said committee correspond with the several subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, to recommend and invite them to contribute in aid thereof.

Which resolve was accepted, and the following Brethren were appointed a Committee of Correspondence, viz: M. W. William Swan Esq., R. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq., Charles Fox Esq., Samuel Fessenden Esq., and Robert P. Dunlap Esq.

A petition from the Committee of York Lodge, praying that this Grand Lodge would grant them such assistance and relief as they think proper, towards their loss recently sustained by fire, was read and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Samuel Stephenson, and Robert P. Dunlap.

The report of the Committee on the petition of Amity Lodge, was taken into consideration, and on motion it was

Voted, That Amity Lodge be exonerated from the payment of the balance of the claims or supposed claims against said Lodge, assigned by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Grand Treasurer was authorized and directed to have the regalia and furniture of the Grand Lodge insured against loss by fire.

R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Charles Fox, and Simon Greenleaf, were appointed a committee to consider the subject of a masonic lecturer for this State.

On motion, it was

Voted unanimously, That this Grand Lodge dispense with all refreshments except at the annual communications.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, at their meeting, January 13, 1825.

The Recording Grand Secretary was authorized to procure from time to time such number of Diplomas as may be wanted.

R. W. Daniel Granger Esq., having resigned the office of D. G. M. of the first District, R. W. Samuel Emerson Esq., of Kennebunk, was appointed to that office.

The Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, April 14, A. D. 1825.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN,

R. W. CHARLES FOX,

" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,

" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,

" NELSON RACKLYFT,

" WILLIAM LORD,

" ELEAZER WYER,

" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,

" SETH CLARK,

G. Master.

D. G. Master.

S. G. Warden.

J. G. Warden, *p. t.*

G. Treasurer, *p. t.*

Rec. G. Secretary.

G. Marshal, *p. t.*

G. Chaplain.

S. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

R. W. CHARLES B. SMITH,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN CHUTE Jr.,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELI MERRILL,	" " "
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	G. Pursuivant.
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	Felicity,	No. 19
Amity,	" 6	York,	" 22
Saco,	" 9	Village,	" 26
Orient,	" 15	Blazing Star,	" 30
St. George,	" 16	Hermon,	" 32
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Somerset,	" 34
Oxford,	" 18		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain.

R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, and John L. Megquier, were added to the Committee on the Petition of York Lodge.

The Report of a Committee of the Trustees of the Charity Fund, establishing rules and regulations for their government, was laid before the Grand Lodge. Which being read and duly considered, the same was approved; and the Rec. Grand Secretary was ordered to cause a sufficient number of copies to be printed and forwarded to the respective D. D. Grand Masters and to the Lodges under this jurisdiction.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, at their meeting held this day.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was laid before this Grand Lodge. Read and committed to a special Committee, consisting of R. W. Simon Greenleaf Esq., Samuel Fessenden Esq., Charles Fox Esq., Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf and Joseph M. Gerrish.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of York Lodge, submitted the following Report:

That they are satisfied that York Lodge by a visitation of Providence, has sustained a very considerable loss, and are thereby become destitute of funds, and have not wherewith to pay their just debts, without taking a small Charity

Fund, made by the voluntary donation of some of the brethren for that laudable and specific object, and which the Lodge have no right to appropriate. The Lodge is now in a great measure destitute of furniture, and for what they have are in debt. This misfortune which has fallen on them is not the consequence of misconduct, but one of those accidents, beyond the control of human providence. And they will probably be obliged to surrender the Charter unless some aid can be afforded.

They would therefore respectfully recommend, that their dues for the last year be repaid them, and their dues for the two succeeding years be remitted.

All which is respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL FESSENDEN, *per order.*

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted.

Prayers were offered by Rev. Bro. George W. Campbell, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, July 14, A. D. 1825.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN,

R. W. OLIVER GERRISH,

" ARTHUR SHIRLEY,

" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,

" WILLIAM LORD,

" NELSON RACKLYFT,

" EBENEZER SEAVER,

" DAVID BURBANK,

" JOHN CHUTE Jr.,

" ALPHEUS SHAW,

" SETH CLARK,

" WILLIAM STEVENS,

G. Master.

S. G. Warden, *p. t.*

J. G. Warden, *p. t.*

G. Treasurer.

Rec. G. Sec'y,

G. Marshal, *p. t.*

S. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

J. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

G. Steward, *p. t.*

" " "

G. Pursuivant.

G. Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented :

Portland,	No. 1	Blazing Star,	No. 30
Amity,	" 6	Waterville,	" 33
Oxford,	" 18	Somerset,	" 34
Adoniram,	" 27	Piscataquis,	" 44

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Committee appointed at the communication in January last to address Gen. Lafayette in behalf of this Grand Lodge, made a verbal report that they had attended to the duty assigned them, and laid before the Grand Lodge a copy of the address presented by them and the answer received. Whereupon,

Voted, That they be duly entered on the records, and placed on the files of the Grand Lodge.

ADDRESS.

GENERAL LAFAYETTE:

The Grand Lodge of the State of Maine cannot but avail themselves of the happy, auspicious and exhilarating occasion which your presence in this State presents, of uniting with the mass of our citizens to bid you welcome to our highly favored and beloved country; of mingling their thanksgivings to the Supreme Architect and Preserver of the Universe, that in his wisdom and goodness He has preserved your life and permitted you to revisit a land endeared to you by so many tender and interesting associations,—and whose glory, prosperity and happiness, you have given early, uniform and unequivocal evidence are near your heart; of expressing, in common with ten millions of free and independent human beings, their gratitude that we are permitted to embrace in the bosom of our nation one of the most powerful defenders of *those* rights and privileges and *that* freedom, cheered and cherished by which the United States of America have arisen to be a great, powerful and happy people—"the praise of the whole earth."

In addressing you as Masons by the endearing appellation of *Brother*, they are assured—from the dignity which your name enrolled with that of WASHINGTON in the Archives of the Fraternity has conferred on the institution, as well as the favor you have shown its members—that they shall not in your mind be charged with a want of due respect to the elevated station you hold in society. They feel that in addressing LAFAYETTE, they address him who does rightly appreciate the *delicacy* as well as *strength* of that tie which unites all the Fraternity, and which is felt to draw so closely in the bonds of affection, when expressed by the appellation of *Brother*. You, sir, know how feeble is the chain which binds man to man, of which the artificial distinctions of *rank* and *wealth* and *fame* are the links, compared with that which the moral sympathies of our nature—*honor*, *virtue*, *gratitude*, *charity* and *religion*—throw around the heart.

Accept then, illustrious Brother, the heartfelt congratulations which the Masons of this State proffer you, that through the abounding mercy of the Grand Master of heaven and earth you have been preserved through such numerous, complicated and imminent dangers and perils, political and moral; that your life has been *His* kind care in the *battle field* amidst "the confused noise of the warriors and among garments rolled in blood"—from the dagger

of the assassin, the noxious damps of the prison, the "pestilence which walketh in darkness and the destruction that wasteth at noon day"; for the health and vigor you are permitted to enjoy; and especially that you have been brought from the furnace "as gold seven times purified"—that the serenity which unsullied virtue and honor confer settles on the evening of your eventful life—and that you now see the tree of liberty in this country, which you so largely contributed to plant, extending its foliage in such exuberance and vigor as to afford fair promise that the time *will* come when all nations shall *rest under* its shade.

It is far from the spirit and genius of our institution to use the language of adulation. To you, illustrious Brother, it is believed it would be unacceptable.

To touch on all the interesting scenes and political convulsions in which you have borne a conspicuous, and always an *honorable* part, would require volumes.

It is perhaps sufficient to remark, that Americans have never been unconcerned spectators of the path you have trod. With intense anxiety for your safety, and honor, and glory—your course, always luminous, has been regarded by the friends of virtue and freedom,—and it is but just to add, their hopes have been *more than realized*.

It is impossible, however, not to recur more *emphatically* to the generous, disinterested, able and conspicuous part which you took in the struggle for our independence. In a contest hazardous and long doubtful, you nobly and perseveringly contended on the side of the oppressed; and with joy have we witnessed the spectacle of a united nation gratefully rendering to you tears and smiles of gratitude and thanksgiving, in return for the blood you so freely and gallantly shed for them.

As Masons, the members of the Grand Lodge of Maine cannot but feel grateful for the countenance and encouragement which you have afforded our ancient and honorable institution, and the dignity which an example so illustrious reflects upon it.

It is surely sufficient to secure respect and veneration to any institution, that it has numbered with its members a WASHINGTON and a LAFAYETTE. None can doubt, when such are enrolled among its patrons, that it is consecrated to virtue.

Accept, venerable Brother, from the Grand Lodge of Maine, and through them from all the Fraternity in this State, a *warm, a cordial, a joyous* welcome here. And be assured, that when you shall leave us to return to the "land of your Fathers' sepulchres", and the bosom of a beloved family, the benediction of the Brethren will attend you; and that it will be their prayer that your voyage across the ocean may be prosperous,—that the remainder of life's sea, which to you during a large part of your course has been *agitated* and tempestuous, may be calm and serene—and when you shall have passed the dark

valley of the shadow of death, may a louder and more joyous shout than you have heard in *this* land hail you welcome to the portals of Heaven.

(Signed)

WILLIAM SWAN,	} Committee of the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine.
S. FESSENDEN,	
CHARLES FOX,	
R. P. DUNLAP,	
G. W. OLNEY,	
JAMES L. CHILD,	
JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	
PETER H. GREEN,	
AMOS NICHOLS,	

Portland, June 25, 1825.

ANSWER RECEIVED.

To the deputation from the Grand Lodge of Maine, General LAFAYETTE offered his brotherly thanks for their kind Address. He particularly expressed the gratification he had derived in the series of his visits, from the sentiments of mutual and truly fraternal affection which happily unite the Grand and other Lodges of the American confederacy—a circumstance which he considered as equally gratifying to the members of the Fraternity, and useful to the general welfare.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund, at their meeting held this day.

The Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, October 13, A. D. 1825.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN,

R. W. CHARLES FOX,

" DANIEL GRANGER,

" CHARLES B. SMITH,

" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,

" WILLIAM LORD,

" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,

G. Master,

D. G. Master.

S. G. Warden, *p. t.*

J. G. Warden, *p. t.*

G. Treasurer.

Rec. G. Secretary.

G. Marshal, *p. t.*

R. W. Rev. SAMUEL RAND,	G. Chaplain.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" DAVID BURBANK,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELI MERRILL,	" " "
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	G. Pursuivant.
" SETH CLARK,	" " "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	York,	No. 22
Amity,	" 6	Village,	" 26
United,	" 8	Hermon,	" 32
Solar,	" 14	Somerset,	" 34
Orient,	" 15	Harmony,	" 38
A. Land Mark,	" 17		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

On motion,

Voted, That the Committee appointed in January last, to consider the subject of a Masonic Lecturer, under the approbation of this Grand Lodge, be authorized to examine such candidate or candidates as may apply for the office, and if they deem it expedient, they are authorized to give any Brother whom they approve, testimonials of approbation, and letters of recommendation to the several Lodges under this jurisdiction. All such Lodges as may think proper to employ the Brother so recommended, will do it at their own expense.

The subject of the petition of Village Lodge was referred to the determination of the M. W. Grand Master.

A communication from the presiding officer of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire was laid before the Grand Lodge; read, and committed to R. W. Charles Fox, John L. Megquier and Daniel Granger.

Which committee made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the Communication from the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in relation to the erection of a monument at Mount Vernon, over the remains of our venerated Brother George Washington, having considered the subject, *Report*, That as this Grand Lodge have taken the necessary preliminary steps to effect the object proposed, it is advisable that they now appoint three suitable persons as trustees to represent the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine at the Convention at Washington as proposed by said communication, with instructions to report their proceedings to this Grand Lodge.

CHARLES FOX, *per order*.

Which report was accepted, and General John Chandler of Monmouth, Hon. Peleg Sprague of Hallowell, and Hon. William Burleigh of South Berwick were appointed Trustees agreeable to the foregoing Report.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the charity fund at their meeting held this day.

The Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*



ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1826.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, January 12, A. D. 1826.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	G. Master.
R. W. CHARLES FOX,	D. G. Master.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	S. G. Warden.
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JAMES CODMAN,	G. Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" JAMES L. CHILD,	Cor. G. Secretary.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
" " SAMUEL RAND,	" "
" BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT,	S. G. Deacon.
" ELEAZER WYER,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
" AMOS NOURSE,	" "
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	G. Pursuivant.
" SETH CLARK,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. SIMON GREENLEAF Esq.

District Deputy Grand Masters from the first, second and fourth Districts.

The following Lodges were represented :

Portland,	No. 1	A. Land-Mark,	No. 17	Hermon,	No. 32
Lincoln,	" 3	Oxford,	" 18	Waterville,	" 33
Hancock,	" 4	York,	" 22	Somerset,	" 34
Amity,	" 6	Freeport,	" 23	Casco,	" 36
Eastern,	" 7	Belfast,	" 24	Washington,	" 37

United,	No. 8	Temple,	No. 25	Harmony,	No. 38
Saco,	" 9	Village,	" 26	Morning Star,	" 41
Rising Virtue,	" 10	Adoniram,	" 27	Freedom,	" 42
Cumberland,	" 12	Tranquil,	" 29	Piscataquis,	" 44
Orient,	" 15	Blazing Star,	" 30	Central,	" 45
St. George,	" 16	Union,	" 31		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Senior Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Finance submitted their annual Report, as follows :

There was a balance in the Treasury at the annual settlement of the Treasurer's account, January, 1825, \$764.30

There has been paid into the Treasury since that period by the

D. D. G. Masters, viz :

By the D. D. G. Master of the 1st District,	\$221.37½
" " " " 2d "	66.12½
" " " " 3d "	\$354.38

And for arrearages due from Temple Lodge

for the years 1822 and 1824,	52.12½
	<hr/> 406.50½

By the D. D. G. Master of the 4th District,	262.49½
" " " " 6th "	90.00
	<hr/> \$1046.50

Received for charter to Piscataquis Lodge,	80.00
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Deduct applied to Charity Fund,	10.00
	<hr/> 70.00
	<hr/> \$1880.80

There has been paid by the Treasurer since the last annual settlement, and for which satisfactory vouchers were produced, the following sums, viz :

To increase the Charity Fund, being half the amount of balance in the Treasury on settlement, January, 1825, in conformity to the By-Laws,	382.15
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Amount of donation to the Charity Fund by the Grand Treasurer, being the sum allowed him for services,	30.00
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Amount paid the Rec. Grand Secretary as allowed him for his services for 1824,	50.00
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Amount paid the Grand Tyler for services,	6.00
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" paid premium for Insurance on furniture &c.,	2.88
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" paid Hall rent up to January 1826,	40.00
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" paid for printing, stationery and postage,	65.14½
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" paid the Grand Stewards' bill for furniture &c.,	54.14
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" paid for parchment for Diplomas,	92.93
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Amount paid for printing Diplomas,	57.41
“ paid York Lodge dues for 1824 and 1825, remitted by vote of Grand Lodge in consequence of misfortune by fire,	37.50
“ paid accounts of D. D. G. Masters for actual expenses in the discharge of their official duties as follows :	
D. D. G. Master of First District,	25.96
“ “ “ Second “	6.00
“ “ “ Third “	17.27½
“ “ “ Fourth “	6.75
“ “ “ Sixth “	5.55
	<hr/> \$61.53½
Balance remaining in the Treasury Jan. 1826, and carried to new account,	1001.11
	<hr/> \$1880.80

The Charity Fund of Grand Lodge consists of	
10 shares in Bank of Portland,	1000.00
10 shares in Casco Bank,	1000.00
Sundry Notes of hand well secured on interest,	650.00
Balance unapplied in hands of Treasurer,	89.64
Interest accumulated on Notes and Bank Stock since last dividends to this period, estimated at	71.75
One half of bal. of Treasurer's account, conformable to the By-Laws,	500.55½
	<hr/> \$3311.94½

The Committee have settled the Grand Treasury Account, exhibiting the above balance due the Grand Lodge of \$1001.11. They have also examined the books of the Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary, and with pleasure state that they have been kept with great correctness and neatness, and the duties of these officers have been performed with fidelity and satisfaction to the Committee, who recommend as a compensation for their services the past year, to the Grand Treasurer the sum of thirty* dollars, and to the Recording Grand Secretary the sum of fifty dollars. They also recommend as a compensation to the Grand Tyler, the sum of eight dollars for his services during the same period.

Your Committee have no knowledge of any outstanding debts due by the Grand Lodge.

As it is the duty of the Committee to make a faithful report of the financial concerns of the Grand Lodge, it is with much pleasure that they observe a great degree of punctuality in many of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and the Lodges within their respective districts, in paying their dues and settling their accounts with the Grand Treasurer; it is at the same time with much regret that they observe and report a want of this punctuality in others. In the first, second, fourth and sixth districts, the returns have all been made

and the dues paid into the Treasury. In the third district the returns have been made and the dues paid in, except from the following Lodges :—*Northern Star*, at Anson, stands indebted on the books of the Treasurer for the year 1820, the sum of fifty dollars, and for the year 1821, the sum of thirty dollars. There has not been any returns or dues received from this Lodge for the years 1824 or 1825, nor has there been any returns or dues received from *Waterville Lodge* in this district for 1824. From the fifth district there has not been any returns or dues received for the year 1825. *Ligonia Lodge*, at Surry, and *Penobscot Lodge*, at Garland, in this district, did not make any returns or pay any dues for the year 1824.

It is the express duty of every Lodge to make their returns and pay their dues annually to the D. D. G. Masters, a part of whose duty it appears to be to receive those returns and make their remarks thereon. If this was more generally attended to, it might show to the Grand Lodge the prosperous or declining state of Masonry and the reasons why Lodges are in arrears. If Lodges have not the ability to pay their dues, they ought either to petition the Grand Lodge for a remission of such dues, or surrender their charters until they have the ability to pay them.

Your Committee would suggest the expediency of delinquent Lodges obtaining a loan from the funds of the Grand Lodge, and paying up their dues. By this means the pernicious custom of suffering arrearages to accumulate might be avoided, as also their liability of incurring the penalty contained in the 5th section of the 4th chapter of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee would further suggest for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, the propriety of amending the By-Laws so as to preclude any Lodge from being represented, or having a vote in Grand Lodge, until all dues are paid or canceled.

CHARLES FOX,	}	<i>Committee on Finance.</i>
SAMUEL FESSENDEN,		
ELEAZER WYER,		

Which Report was read and accepted.

That part of the Report of the Committee on Finance which suggests an amendment in the By-Laws, was committed to R. W. Amos Nourse, James L. Child and Robert Kendall.

The Committee on the petition of St. George Lodge was discharged.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers.

M. W. William Swan, at a previous communication of the Grand Lodge, declined being a candidate for re-election to the office of Grand Master.

The following R. W. Brethren were chosen a Committee to sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, viz: Samuel Emerson, Amos Nourse and Daniel Granger, which Committee reported the following Brethren to be duly elected, viz:

M. W. CHARLES FOX of Portland, Grand Master.

R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN of Portland, Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. GEORGE THACHER of Saco, Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH of Portland, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. WILLIAM LORD of Portland, Recording Grand Secretary.

R. W. William Swan, Samuel Fessenden and Eleazer Wyer, were chosen a Committee on Finance.

M. W. Charles Fox, Grand Master elect, was duly invested by R. W. William Swan, Past Grand Master.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint R. W. Samuel Fessenden to the office of Deputy Grand Master, and he was duly installed as such.

Voted, That we now proceed to the choice of a Senior Grand Warden, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the appointment of R. W. Samuel Fessenden to the office of Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. George Thacher declined, through R. W. Daniel Granger, accepting the office of Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. George Thacher was then chosen Senior Grand Warden.

Voted, That we now proceed to the choice of a Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. Robert P. Dunlap was elected to that office.

R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish presented the Grand Lodge with the sum of thirty dollars, being the amount allowed him for his services as Grand Treasurer the past year, and recommended that the same be given as a donation to our aged Brother William Stevens, Grand Tyler.

On motion,

Voted unanimously, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish, for this renewed instance of his liberality.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening next, January 13.

MASON'S HALL, Portland, Jan. 13, 1826.

The Grand Lodge met by adjournment from January 12, 1826.

PRESENT—M. W. CHARLES FOX Esq.,	G. Master.
R. W. JAMES L. CHILD Esq.,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP Esq.,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH Esq.,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" Rev. SAMUEL RAND,	G. Chaplain.
" ROBERT KENDALL,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELEAZER WYER,	G. Steward.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	"
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" JOHN LEACH,	G. Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

PAST GRAND OFFICER.

" WILLIAM SWAN Esq.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain.

The Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary were duly installed, either by themselves or proxies.

The M. W. Grand Master then made the following appointments for the ensuing year, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz :

- R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER of Portland, Cor. Grand Secretary.
- " SAMUEL K. GILMAN of Hallowell, Grand Marshal.
- " Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF, of Wells, Grand Chaplain.
- " Rev. SAMUEL RAND, of Portland, " "
- " Rev. ASA MEAD, of Brunswick, " "
- " BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT, of Bath, Senior Grand Deacon.
- " ISAAC LINCOLN, of Brunswick, Junior Grand Deacon.
- " ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, Grand Steward.
- " NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, " "
- " OLIVER GRISWOLD, of Fryeburg, " "
- " JOSEPH CHANDLER, of Augusta, " "
- " SAMUEL STEPHENSON, of Gorham, Grand Sword Bearer.

R. W. SETH CLARK, of Portland, Grand Pursuivant.

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, "

" WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland, Grand Tyler.

The above named officers were severally installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Rev. Reuben Nason, of Gorham.

Second District—R. W. Reuel Washburn Esq., of Livermore.

Third District—R. W. Amos Nourse Esq., of Hallowell.

Fourth District—R. W. John Miller Esq., of Warren.

Fifth District—R. W. David J. Bent Esq., of Bangor.

Sixth District—R. W. Libbeus Bailey Esq., of Eastport.

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Charles Fox Esq., Grand Master,	<i>ex officio.</i>
R. W. Samuel Fessenden Esq., Deputy Grand Master,	"
" George Thacher Esq., Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Robert P. Dunlap Esq., Junior Grand Warden,	"
" William Lord, Rec. Grand Secretary,	"
" Simon Greenleaf Esq.	
" Albion K. Parris Esq.	
" Daniel Granger Esq.	
" Peleg Chandler Esq.	
" Robert Boyd Esq.	
" Thomas Browne Esq.	

The committee appointed to consider the subject of a Grand Lecturer, submitted the following Report, viz :

To the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Committee on the subject of instruction in lectures and work, respectfully report, That they have examined Brother Samuel Kidder, and being satisfied that he was worthy, well qualified, and skilled to teach, they gave him a certificate of which a copy is herewith annexed.

SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	} Committee.
CHARLES FOX,	
SIMON GREENLEAF,	

We the undersigned, a committee of the Grand Lodge of Maine, appointed for this purpose, do hereby certify, that we have examined the lectures and work of Bro. Samuel Kidder, in the three first degrees of Masonry, and are satisfied with the same as correct ; and we recommend to the several Lodges under this jurisdiction to avail themselves of his instruction so far as they may

need the same, until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge in January ensuing, at which time it is understood that the subject may receive further attention.

Signed,

SIMON GREENLEAF,
CHARLES FOX.

Portland, October 25, 1825.

Which report was accepted.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted the following Report, viz:

The Committee to whom were referred the communications from other Grand Lodges, have examined those which the Grand Secretary has received during the past year; and are happy to announce to the Grand Lodge that they contain indications of the continued and increasing prosperity of Masonry on this side the Atlantic.

The Committee have seen nothing which calls for more particular notice, except in the report of the Committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

It will be recollected that in the printed report of our transactions of the last year a former decision of this Grand Lodge was very briefly adverted to, that a person "accidentally deprived of a limb," was not on that account an ineligible candidate for initiation into the mysteries of Masonry. It was not thought necessary at that time to name the particular limb of which the party in that case was deprived; but we observe with regret that the committee of the Grand Lodge of Georgia have understood our decision to be, that a man "maimed by the accidental loss of a right arm, or deformed in his limbs," was not, on those accounts, to be rejected. While your Committee are satisfied that a more strict attention to the language of the report of the last year would not have led to the inference above alluded to, they deem it proper to observe that the case upon which this Grand Lodge adjudicated was not that of a person deprived of an arm; but was a case where the party, while standing as a candidate on the books of the Lodge, was accidentally deprived of a limb, which, however, *did not* unfit him for any masonic labor whatever. Upon the general question respecting persons maimed or infirm, we understand the practice of this Grand Lodge and of all the Lodges under this jurisdiction to have been uniformly in exact accordance with the principle which is so clearly and vigorously expressed by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in their resolution of March 7, 1825, in these words:—"That no person can be initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, either by dispensation or otherwise, who is so far maimed or defective in his limbs or members, as to be incapable of gaining a livelihood for himself and family, or to perform all the work required of any individual member, within the body of a Lodge."

It was to guard Masonry on this side, as well as on every other, from

innovation, that this Grand Lodge, in the first section of our by-laws, recognized "all the ancient usages of Freemasonry," as "essential and unalterable principles."

SIMON GREENLEAF,
CHARLES FOX,
SAMUEL FESSENDEN, } Committee.

Which report was accepted.

The following Report was presented:

The committee to whom was referred the report of a committee of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania of March 21, 1825, and the Resolutions of that Grand Lodge thereupon, have attended the service assigned them, and ask leave to report by way of letter addressed to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which is herewith submitted.

SIMON GREENLEAF,
CHARLES FOX,
SAMUEL FESSENDEN,
JONATHAN GREENLEAF, } Committee.

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE.

Portland, Jan. 12, 1826.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

BRETHREN:—The Grand Lodge of Maine have received your communication of the 21st day of March last, and have given it that deliberate consideration which is due to such a document, from so respectable a source. In reply we will state our views of the subject with plainness and freedom, being desirous of being distinctly understood, and of preserving with you and every other Grand Lodge an interchange of the kindest feelings.

The annually printed journal of our proceedings is primarily and mainly designed for the Lodges under our jurisdiction, and not for foreign distribution; a single copy only being sent to the Grand Lodges with whom we are in correspondence. For this reason it is not to be expected that we should in that communication state our transactions so much at large as otherwise would be necessary, since they would be generally intelligible to our own Lodges, who are represented in Grand Lodge by their proxies, and have ready access to our records and files; and there are other reasons for this brevity on certain subjects, which will always present themselves to the mind of a Mason.

It was therefore with sincere sorrow, though without any feelings of resentment, that we found your respected Grand Lodge had proceeded to pass resolutions charging us as innovators, and refusing to recognize as Masons a certain class of persons who might be initiated among us; instead of first asking us for an explanation of the very brief notice of that part of our proceedings which seems to have given offence. We were not aware that in committing to writing as much as we did on that occasion we violated any

rule of masonry; since it is a matter of common notoriety that secrecy is enforced among us under certain obligations, which are directly alluded to in books published under the authority of various Grand Lodges—especially those of Maryland, South Carolina, and England.

We presume, from the tenor of your communication, that we were supposed to use the word "*affirmation*" in the sense it is used in the judicial proceedings of your State, and to dispense with all the solemn penal sanctions of our obligations. We beg leave to say that such was not the fact. The utmost latitude to which the practice of any of our Lodges has gone, as we believe, and the extent of our permission, has been to substitute the word "*affirm*" for the word "*swear*";—retaining every other word of the ritual. And the question before us was, whether, in cases where the party deemed it a violation of his religious principles to make use of the one word, in solemn transactions, the other might be lawfully substituted.

In discussing this subject, we examined the character of our ritual, to discern in what its attribute of immutability consisted, and what were its true "land-marks." We perceived at once that there was no immutability in the *language* of the *lectures*, since in *some* particulars almost every State and section of the Union has a phraseology of its own. Some lecturers are more concise in their illustrations, and all are not exactly agreed in the manner of distributing the subjects they teach. Neither have we been able to discover an unchangeable character in *every* part of the work. Examining and conversing with Masons from different parts of this country and of Europe, we have been made acquainted with some ceremonies used in private Lodges to which we were strangers, and which we should blush to acknowledge as legitimate parts of our mysteries. Others too of a less exceptionable character, we have found sanctioned by officers of some Grand Lodges, and rejected by others, according as they deemed the evidence of their antiquity to preponderate. In the endeavors of other Grand Lodges also to promote *uniformity* of work in the Lodges under their jurisdiction, we have found proofs of the existence of great diversities of practice.

We also considered that the language in which our formulæ were originally conceived is now either lost, or wholly unknown to masons; so that there exists no common standard to which, in matters of this sort, we can appeal. Neither can it be ascertained how many times they have been translated, nor through what languages they have come down to us.

But in the midst of all these diversities, resulting from causes to which we have adverted, it is happily certain, that in the great essentials all Masons are agreed.

And on this principle, we could perceive that however the language of different nations might vary, yet the signification of the word *swear* was the same in all those to which we had access—meaning "to obtest by some superior power"; and that an *oath* was nothing more nor less than any "*affirmation*, or

negation, or promise, corroborated by the attestation of the Divine Being." In other words, we conclude, that while the language of different nations must of course be various, and ours has no claim to be the vernacular tongue of masonry, it is highly probable, and indeed reasonably certain, that in translating out of a foreign language into our own, the word which is usually rendered *swear*, may with equal propriety be rendered by any other or others, importing solemnly and religiously to declare and affirm. The essence of the oath is, to bind the conscience of the party to the performance of his engagement, by a solemn and express appeal to the Supreme Being; and where this is obtained, we did not consider it material whether the word *swear* or *solemnly affirm* was used, provided every other part of the obligation was retained.

In this view of the subject, we thought it somewhat analogous to the translation of the Holy Scriptures into our own language; where no man would be regarded as heretical who in any instance should adopt the marginal reading in our common Bible, in preference to the received text.

There are many other arguments on this side of the question, which may be drawn from other parts of our mysteries, which being not proper to be written, these hints will call to your notice.

And now, permit us affectionately to ask you, our respected Brethren, whether we are indeed guilty of removing the Ancient Landmarks which our Fathers have set?—whether, in adopting another translation of a *single word*, retaining the whole force and meaning of the original, and binding the conscience of the party as firmly, by the same solemn sanctions as before, we merit the imputation of having proposed "a new mode in which the degrees of masonry can be conferred," or of introducing persons into our Order "in direct opposition to its landmarks"? For these landmarks we feel the same veneration which was expressed by your Convention on the 25th of February, 1823, and we shall be ever ready to unite with you in the adoption of all due measures for their preservation.

Trusting that this reply will remove the impressions you seem to have entertained relative to our proceedings, and will lead to a repeal of your resolutions thereon, we shall not take notice of this communication in our next printed report; but we request that you will do us the favor to make this our answer as extensively known as has been the report of your committee, and the resolutions of your Grand Lodge.

And we tender to you our most respectful and affectionate salutations.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

SIMON GREENLEAF,	} Committee.
CHARLES FOX,	
SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	
JONATHAN GREENLEAF,	
JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	

Which Report was accepted, and the same Committee were requested to sign said letter in behalf of this Grand Lodge, and cause the same to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The Committee who were instructed to inquire into the existing condition of masonry in Palestine and the adjacent countries, ask leave further to report in part, that they had received a letter from the Rev. Pliny Fisk, which is herewith submitted.

ISAAC ADAMS, *per order.*

Which report was accepted, and placed on the files of the Grand Lodge with the letter from the Rev. Pliny Fisk. And the committee were instructed to prosecute their inquiries.

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of the report of the Committee of Finance, so far as it relates to a proposed amendment of the By-Laws, have attended to that service, and recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That Section 5th, Chapter 4th of the By-Laws, be so amended as to provide that whenever any Lodge shall have failed for the space of one year to pay its dues to the Grand Lodge, such Lodge shall not be allowed a representation in the Grand Lodge until the said dues are paid or cancelled.

A. NOURSE, *per order.*

Read and put on file, and ordered to lie over to our next Quarterly Communication, and that a copy be forwarded to each subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction for their consideration.

A letter from Dr. James Bates respecting the loss of a package and money received by him from Northern Star Lodge, was laid before the Grand Lodge; read and committed to R. W. Amos Nourse, Peleg Sprague, and Joseph Chandler, with full powers to examine into this case and all others respecting said Lodge.

R. W. Eleazer Wyer, Arthur Shirley and Oliver Gerrish, were appointed a Committee to inquire into the expediency of procuring a new engraving of a Master Mason's Diploma, ascertain the expense, and report at the next Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge.

A Communication from the Grand Lodge of Missouri of Oct. 3, 1825, with the resolutions of that Grand Lodge, was read, and on motion,

Voted, That the committee which reported on the communication from the

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, on the same subject, be requested to prepare and sign a letter to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge of Missouri, similar to the one reported and forwarded to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.*

R. W. Amos Nourse, William Swan, and Peleg Sprague, were appointed a Committee to consider and report whether an officer of this Grand Lodge, or of any subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction, is entitled to act as such by virtue of election merely, or whether installation either by self or proxy, is also essential.

The petition of David Smith and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Buxton, County of York, by the name of Buxton Lodge, was read and committed to R. W. Horace Seaver, Robert Kendall and David J. Bent; which committee reported that it is expedient that the prayer of said petitioners be granted.

Voted, That the report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

The petition of Edward Fuller and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Readfield, County of Kennebec, by the name of Lafayette Lodge, was read and committed to the same committee as the foregoing; which committee reported that it is expedient that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

Voted, That said report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

A petition from Samuel B. Larkin and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Mount Vernon, was read and committed to the same Brethren; which committee reported that it is *not* expedient that the petition be granted, for good and sufficient reasons offered them by brethren present.

Voted, That the report of the committee be accepted.

Resolved, That R. W. William Swan, Simon Greenleaf, Joseph M. Gerrish, Samuel Fessenden, and James L. Child, be a committee to inquire into the expediency of employing a Grand Lecturer at the expense of this Grand Lodge, and if in their opinion it be expedient so to do, that they be authorized and directed to employ such lecturer forthwith, and that they report at the next Quarterly Communication.

* The letter sent to the Grand Lodge of Missouri being identical with that to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, except some slight variations in the language to adapt it to Missouri, it is not deemed necessary to publish it.

R. W. Simon Greenleaf, William Swan, and Samuel Fessenden, were appointed a committee to receive and examine the Foreign Correspondence for the ensuing year, and report at the Annual Communication.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, at their meeting, January 12, 1826.

The Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, April 13, A. D. 1826.

PRESENT—M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELEAZER WYER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" EBENEZER SEAVER,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" JEREMIAH HASKELL,	" " "
" OLIVER GERRISH,	G. Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICER,

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN.

The following Lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	Waterville,	No. 33
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Somerset,	" 34
Oriental Star,	" 21	Casco,	" 36
Village,	" 26	Harmony,	" 38
Blazing Star,	" 30	Buxton,	" 47
Heron,	" 32		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain.

A communication from Lincoln Lodge was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read and committed to Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, Charles B. Smith, and Joseph M. Gerrish.

A communication from R. W. Robert P. Dunlap Esq., Junior Grand Warden, was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read and committed to Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, Charles B. Smith, and Joseph M. Gerrish; which committee submitted the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred the letter from the R. W. Junior Grand Warden, having attended that service, beg leave to report.

Your Committee can see no reason why a person, coming from another State, may not receive any degree of masonry in a Lodge in this State, provided the Lodge to which he applies are satisfied with him in all other respects; believing that every subordinate Lodge will ever exercise the utmost caution in receiving candidates, especially when they come from any considerable distance; and should any person make application for the honors of masonry whose place of ordinary residence is in another State, and nearer to another Lodge than that to which he applies, the Lodge applied to ought not to proceed without satisfactory information respecting his character from those who know him better than they do themselves.

JONATHAN GREENLEAF, *per order.*

Which report was accepted.

The following Resolution which was submitted at the annual communication in Jan. 1826, a copy of which has been forwarded to each subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction, for their consideration :

Resolved, That section 5th, chap. 4th of the By-Laws be so amended as to provide that whenever any Lodge shall have failed for the space of one year to pay its dues to the Grand Lodge, such Lodge shall not be allowed a representation in the Grand Lodge until the said dues are paid or cancelled," was taken into consideration and unanimously adopted.

REPORT.

The Committee appointed "to inquire into the expediency of procuring a new engraving of a Master Mason's Diploma, ascertain the expense," and report at this communication of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to recommend the passage of the following order :—

Ordered, That two hundred dollars be appropriated for the purpose of procuring the execution of an elegant plate for master mason's Lodges under

this jurisdiction, and that a Committee be appointed to agree with an eminent artist to execute a plate, and that said committee be authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the sum hereby appropriated.

ELEAZER WYER, }
 ARTHUR SHIRLEY, } *Committee.*
 OLIVER GERRISH, }

Which report was accepted, and R. W. Eleazer Wyer, Arthur Shirley and Oliver Gerrish were appointed a committee to carry the same into effect.

The Committee to inquire into the state of Masonry in Palestine, reported verbally.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund, at their meeting held this day.

Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, July 13, A. D. 1826.

PRESENT—M. W. CHARLES FOX,

R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,

" Rev. REUBEN NASON,

" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,

" WILLIAM LORD,

" NELSON RACKLYFT,

" SETH CLARK,

" JEREMIAH HASKELL,

" GEORGE L. DARLING,

" CHARLES B. SMITH,

" OLIVER GERRISH,

" ARTHUR SHIRLEY,

" WILLIAM STEVENS,

G. Master.

S. G. Warden, *p. t.*

J. G. Warden, *p. t.*

G. Treasurer.

Rec. G. Secretary.

G. Marshal, *p. t.*

S. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

J. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

G. Steward, *p. t.*

" " "

G. Pursuivant, *p. t.*

" " "

G. Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	Blazing Star,	No. 30
Oriental,	" 13	Somerset,	" 34
Solar,	" 14	Harmony,	" 38
St. George,	" 16	Piscataquis,	" 44
A. Land Mark,	" 17		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayer was offered by Rev. Reuben Nason.

The petition of Joseph Lord and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Newport, county of Penobscot, by the name of Meridian Splendor Lodge, was read and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Horace Seaver and Joseph M. Gerrish; which committee reported that it is expedient that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read and committed to R. W. Simon Greenleaf, Samuel Fessenden and William Swan.

The petition of Stephen Barrows and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Thomaston, by the name of Aurora Lodge, was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read, and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Horace Seaver and Joseph M. Gerrish.

Which committee reported, that it is expedient that the prayer of the petition be granted, and the Brethren therein named have a charter in conformity to the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

Report on a communication from Lincoln Lodge.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from Lincoln Lodge relative to the jurisdiction of subordinate Lodges, have had the subject under consideration, and respectfully ask leave to report,

That by the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge it is provided chap. 4th, sec. 7th, that "no person residing in a town in which a Lodge is held, shall be accepted for initiation by a Lodge in any other town, without the approbation of the Master and Wardens of a Lodge in the town of his residence." This appears

to be the only article in our By-Laws, which relates exclusively to the jurisdiction of subordinate Lodges, but it does not meet the case proposed by Lincoln Lodge. The question by them submitted is, whether a subordinate Lodge has the right to receive candidates for initiation who have passed by the place where another Lodge is held—or, in other words, whether candidates should not be obliged in all cases to apply for initiation to the Lodge nearest to the place of their residence, whether holden in the same town or not. Upon this point your committee are clearly of opinion that it is unnecessary to make any further provision. The restriction already existing in our By-Laws, has been found from experience to be a salutary and judicious one, but we can readily conceive that, should the principle be changed so as to compel candidates to apply to the Lodge nearest to their residence, it would in many cases subject them to great inconvenience; and we are not impressed with the belief that Lodges would generally be thereby any better able to guard against the admission of unworthy candidates.

It is not always the case that a man is best known to the members of the Lodge nearest to the place of his residence; his business, his intercourse with society, with connections and friends, with various other circumstances may make him better known to a Lodge more remote. We are, however, satisfied that, all other things being equal, it is more proper for candidates to make their applications to the nearest Lodges.

With these views, the Committee are of the opinion that the subject of jurisdiction is sufficiently provided for in the article aforesaid; and that Lodges have, and ought to have the right to initiate candidates applying from any town in which no other Lodge is located.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CHARLES B. SMITH, *per order.*

Which report was accepted.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund at their meeting held this day.

Prayers were offered by Rev. Reuben Nason, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, October 12, A. D. 1826.

PRESENT—M. W. CHARLES FOX,	G. Master.
R. W. GEORGE THACHER,	S. G. Warden.
“ JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ SETH CLARK,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JEREMIAH HASKELL,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	G. Pursuivant.
“ OLIVER GERRISH,	“ “ <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

District Deputy Grand Master from the fourth District.

The following Lodges were represented :

Portland,	No. 1	Waterville,	No. 33
A. Land Mark,	“ 17	Casco,	“ 36
Oriental Star,	“ 21	Harmony,	“ 38
Blazing Star,	“ 30		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain.

The Committee appointed at the Annual Communication in January last, to inquire into the expediency of employing a Grand lecturer at the expense of this Grand Lodge, submitted their report, which was read, and the further consideration thereof referred to our next Communication.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund at their meeting held this day.

Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1827.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, January 11, A. D. 1827.

PRESENT—M. W. CHARLES FOX,	G. Master.
R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	D. G. Master.
“ GEORGE THACHER,	S. G. Warden.
“ ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	J. G. Warden.
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer,
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	Cor. G. Secretary.
“ ROBERT R. KENDALL,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
“ “ SAMUEL RAND,	“ “
“ HORACE SEAVER,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ DAVID BURBANK,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ELEAZER WYER,	G. Steward.
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	“ “
“ OLIVER GRISWOLD,	“ “
“ SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Sword Bearer.
“ SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
“ OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	“ “
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICER.

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN.

District Deputy Grand Masters from the first, second, third, fourth and fifth Districts.

The following Lodges were represented viz :

Portland,	No. 1	St. George.	No. 16	Somerset,	No. 34
Lincoln,	" 3	A. Land-Mark,	" 17	Washington,	" 37
Kennebec,	" 5	Oxford,	" 18	Harmony,	" 38
Amity,	" 6	Oriental Star,	" 21	Penobscot,	" 39
Eastern,	" 7	York,	" 22	Lygonia,	" 40
United,	" 8	Freeport,	" 23	Morning Star,	" 41
Saco,	" 9	Belfast,	" 24	Alna,	" 43
Pythagorean,	" 11	Village,	" 26	Piscataquis,	" 44
Cumberland,	" 12	Blazing Star,	" 30	Central,	" 45
Solar,	" 14	Union,	" 31	Buxton,	" 47
Orient,	" 15	Hermon,	" 32	Aurora,	" 50

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Senior Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Finance submitted their annual Report, as follows :

There was a balance in the Treasury on settlement
of the Treasurer's account, January, 1826, \$1001.11

There has been paid into the Treasury since that period by the
D. D. G. Masters of the several districts, as follows :

By the D. D. G. Master of the 1st District,	\$249.00
" " " " 2d "	57.00
" " " " 3d "	397.29
" " " " 4th "	234.00
" " " " 5th "	255.62
Received from R. W. J. McGaw, balance from fifth district,	90.00
By the D. D. G. Master of the 6th District,	87.00
	<hr/> 1369.91

There has also been paid to the G. Treasurer for four charters granted,	320.00
Deduct \$10 from each, applied to Charity Fund,	40.00
	<hr/> 280.00
	<hr/> \$2651.02

There has been paid by the G. Treasurer since the last annual settlement, and for which satisfactory vouchers have been produced, the following sums, viz :

To increase the Charity Fund, being one half the amount remaining in the Treasury on settlement, January, 1826, being in conformity to the By-Laws,	500.55
Donation to the Charity Fund by the Grand Treasurer, being the sum allowed him for his services up to Jan. 1826,	30.00

Amount paid the Rec. Grand Secretary for his services up to January 1826,	50.00
Amount paid the Grand Tyler for services to that period,	8.00
" paid Hall rent up to January, 1827,	40.00
" paid for Insurance on furniture against fire, printing, postage, stationery &c.,	59.77
" paid Stewards' bills,	53.00
" paid expenses of D. D. G. Masters, incurred in the discharge of their official duties, viz :	
D. D. G. Master of First District,	24.50
" " " Second "	15.00
" " " Third "	35.50
" " " Fourth "	19.12
" " " Fifth "	34.50
" " " Sixth "	14.50
	143.12
Bro. McGaw, expenses incurred in 1825,	3.87
Balance remaining in the Treasury Jan. 1827, and carried to new account,	1762.71
	\$2651.02
The Charity Fund of Grand Lodge consists of	
10 shares in Bank of Portland,	1000.00
10 shares in Casco Bank,	1000.00
Sundry Notes of hand well secured on interest,	1200.00
Interest on the above Notes and Bank Stock up to Jan. 1, 1827, estimated at	100.00
Balance unapplied in hands of the Treasurer,	90.19
	190.19
One half of bal. of Treasurer's account, conformable to the By-Laws,	881.35
	\$4271.54

Your Committee are not informed of any outstanding debts against the Grand Lodge. They have examined the Books of the Grand Treasurer and the Recording Grand Secretary, and find they have been kept with the neatness and correctness so often reported to this Grand Lodge; and all the duties of those officers have been performed with faithfulness and ability. The committee recommend an allowance of thirty dollars for the services of the Grand Treasurer the past year, and an allowance of fifty-five dollars to the Recording Grand Secretary, and of eight dollars to the Grand Tyler for their respective services the same period. It is with much pleasure the committee are able to report a settlement with all the D. D. Grand Masters, and that from all the Districts very full and satisfactory returns have been made, evincing the able and faithful discharge of their respective duties.

Your Committee are not aware of any particular circumstances respecting

the discharge of their duties, requiring more minute details, and close their Report with expressing their particular satisfaction in being able to present so favorable a view of the finances of the Grand Lodge.

WILLIAM SWAN, SAMUEL FESSENDEN, ELEAZER WYER,	}	<i>Committee on Finance.</i>
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Which Report was read and accepted.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund at their meeting held this day.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers. The following R. W. Brethren were chosen a Committee to sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, viz: William Swan, Amos Nourse and John Miller, who reported the following Brethren to be duly elected, viz:

M. W. CHARLES FOX of Portland, Grand Master.

R. W. GEORGE THACHER of Saco, Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP of Brunswick, Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH of Portland, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. WILLIAM LORD of Portland, Recording Grand Secretary.

R. W. William Swan, Eleazer Wyer, and Samuel Fessenden were chosen a Committee on Finance.

R. W. Albion K. Parris, Simon Greenleaf, Thomas Browne, William Swan, Daniel Granger and Nehemiah Cram, were chosen to constitute a permanent part of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, for three years ensuing.

M. W. Charles Fox, Grand Master elect, was duly invested by R. W. William Swan, Past Grand Master.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary.

A petition from Alna Lodge, praying for permission to hold their meetings in alternate years at Alna and New Castle, commencing at the latter place, was laid before the Grand Lodge by R. W. James L. Child; read and referred to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Joseph M. Gerrish and David J. Bent.

Which Committee reported that the prayer thereof be granted; whereupon on motion,

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted and the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

A petition from Union Lodge, praying for permission to hold their meetings in alternate years at Union and Hope, commencing at the latter place, was laid before the Grand Lodge; read and referred to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Joseph M. Gerrish and David J. Bent, which committee reported that the prayer thereof be granted; whereupon on motion,

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted and the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

The following Resolve was submitted by R. W. Jonathan Thayer:

Resolved, That Section 11, Chapter IV, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge be amended by substituting the word *two* instead of *three*, so that subordinate Lodges shall be required to pay to the Grand Lodge *two dollars* only for every candidate they may initiate. Also by striking out the following words, viz: "one eighth of a dollar for each member constituting said Lodge" &c.—so that no fee on membership shall be paid by subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge.

Read and committed to R. W. Jonathan Thayer, James L. Child and Robert P. Dunlap.

Petitions for new Lodges were laid before the Grand Lodge, as follows:

- Of Ezra Going and others, for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Sidney, by the name of Rural Lodge;
- Of William Frost and others, for a Lodge at Sangerville;
- Of Benjamin Green and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of South Berwick, county of York, by the name of St. John's Lodge.

The foregoing petitions were severally read, and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, John Miller and Jonathan Thayer; which committee reported, recommending that the prayer of the petitioners for St. John's Lodge be granted.

Voted, That the foregoing Report be accepted, and that a charter be granted accordingly.

R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish presented the Grand Lodge with the sum of thirty dollars, being the amount allowed him for

his services as Grand Treasurer the past year, and recommended that the same be given as a donation to the widow of David Brown, late of Portland.

On motion,

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish, for this renewed instance of his liberality.

The following report was presented :

The Committee to whom was referred a "letter from Dr. James Bates, respecting the loss of a package and money received by him from Northern Star Lodge, with full powers to examine into this case and all others respecting said Lodge," have attended to the service assigned them and report,

That, after a full examination into the subject matter of the letter above referred to, they find the facts to be as follows, viz : that on the 31st of Dec. 1824, Dr. Bates visited "Northern Star Lodge" in behalf and at the request of R. W. Peleg Sprague, then D. D. G. M. of that District, and received from them their return and dues for that year, amounting to \$21.13—which return with the money received, he folded up in an envelope, sealed it, and handed it to Bro. Blunt, Postmaster at Norridgewock, requesting him to forward it by some suitable private conveyance to the D. D. G. Master. This he did in preference to sending it by mail, because the package being somewhat bulky, the transmission of it in that manner would be expensive, while the mode selected was considered perfectly safe, and was generally adopted by the citizens of that town.

Some conversation afterwards took place between Bates and Blunt about the propriety of sending it by a certain individual then spoken of, but not now certainly recollected by either. Blunt *thinks* that Bates took the package from him in order to hand it to that other man, but is not certain. If not, he is sure that he forwarded it agreeably to Bates' direction. Bates recollects the conversation between him and Blunt on the subject of sending it, and is confident that he either gave it in charge to some individual to carry to Hallowell, or directed Blunt to do so—that the individual was well known to him, but as two months elapsed before it was known or suspected that the package had not been duly received, he has never since been able to recollect with certainty who it was.

Believing as your committee do, that the above statement of facts may be relied upon as strictly true, they are constrained to say that in their opinion no remissness or negligence in duty is chargeable upon Dr. Bates which would render it proper that he should bear the loss thus sustained. They therefore recommend for adoption the following resolution :

Resolved, That the sum of \$21.13 received by Dr. James Bates of Northern Star Lodge, as the amount of their dues to the Grand Lodge, for the year 1824, be and it hereby is remitted to the D. D. G. Master for that year.

Upon examining the books and papers of "Morning Star Lodge," your committee find that their dues were paid up to Sept. 1, 1819. The amount of their dues to the Grand Lodge, as appears by return from Sept. 1, 1819, to March 1, 1820, is \$70.00, from which deduct \$20.00 paid D. D. G. Master Warren, for which the Lodge holds his receipt, and it will leave them indebted to the Grand Lodge for that period the sum of \$50.00

By return from March 1, 1820, to January, 1822, there appears to be due the Grand Lodge,	32.00
	<hr/> \$82.00

But in this return, the annual fee to the Grand Lodge is set at \$8.00 per annum for the whole time, whereas from January 11, 1821, the period at which the Grand Lodge adopted its code of By-Laws, the annual fee required was 12½ cents on each of the members; and if the return was corrected, it would make a difference in favor of the Lodge of \$3.46

By error in return from January 1 to September 1, 1822, the Lodge is entitled to a credit of	3.75
Leaving a balance due the Grand Lodge	74.79
	<hr/> \$82.00

This sum the Lodge has not at present the means of paying. The circumstances which were stated as having led to that inability are principally the following :

Soon after the establishment of the Lodge, as no convenient room could be hired in which to hold their meetings, and they were then doing a great deal of work,—there being no Lodge within twenty miles, and only one within forty-five miles—it was judged expedient to incur the expense of erecting a building which would afford them a suitable and convenient Hall. By this means the Lodge became incumbered with a debt of 600 or 700 dollars.

Soon after this period Lodges were multiplied in the neighboring country, the interest created in the community by the establishment of a new Lodge so far in the interior died away, and the receipts for work in this Lodge during a considerable period were little more than sufficient to meet its current expenses.

At present they are without funds, and indebted to the amount of several hundreds of dollars. Several of the members with whom your committee conversed appeared exceedingly anxious that the arrearages to the Grand Lodge should be paid, and expressed a willingness to pledge their own private securities, if by that means they could procure funds for that purpose. How general this feeling may be, your committee have not the means of judging; but are inclined to the opinion that previous to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge the money will be raised, their dues paid, and the credit of the Lodge re-established.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Sept. 20, 1826.

A. NOURSE, *per order.*

Voted, That the foregoing report be accepted.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening next, at half past six o'clock, then to meet at this place.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

MASON'S HALL, Portland, Jan. 12, A. D. 1827.

The Grand Lodge met, by adjournment from Jan. 11th.

Grand Officers present as elected and installed on the previous day.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayer was offered by Rev. Sylvanus Cobb.

The M. W. Grand Master then made the following appointments for the ensuing year, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN of Portland, Deputy Grand Master.

" JOHN L. MEGQUIER of Portland, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" SAMUEL STEPHENSON of Gorham, Grand Marshal.

" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF of Wells, Grand Chaplain.

" Rev. SAMUEL RAND of Portland, " "

" Rev. ASA MEAD of Brunswick, " "

" BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT of Bath, Senior Grand Deacon.

" ISAAC LINCOLN of Brunswick, Junior Grand Deacon.

" ELEAZER WYER of Portland, Grand Steward.

" NELSON RACKLYFT of Portland, " "

" OLIVER GRISWOLD of Fryeburg, " "

" JOSEPH CHANDLER of Augusta, " "

" ROBERT R. KENDALL of Freeport, Grand Sword Bearer.

" SETH CLARK of Portland, Grand Pursuivant.

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN of Portland, " "

" WILLIAM STEVENS of Portland, Grand Tyler.

The above named officers were severally installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Rev. Reuben Nason of Gorham.

Second District—R. W. Reuel Washburn of Livermore.

Third District—R. W. Amos Nourse of Hallowell.

Fourth District—R. W. John Miller of Warren.

Fifth District—R. W. David J. Bent of Bangor.

Sixth District—R. W. Libbeus Bailey of Eastport.

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Charles Fox, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio.</i>
R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" George Thacher, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Robert P. Dunlap, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" William Lord, Rec. Grand Secretary,	"
" Simon Greenleaf.	
" Albion K. Parris.	
" Daniel Granger.	
" William Swan.	
" Thomas Browne.	
" Nehemiah Cram.	

The following Report was presented :

The committee appointed "to consider and report whether an officer of this Grand Lodge, or of any subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction, is entitled to act as such, by virtue of *election* merely, or whether *installation*, either by self or proxy is also essential," have attended to the service assigned them, and report : That finding no direct authority on the subject of Installation declaring it to be essential or otherwise, they are left to infer its character principally from the *nature of the ceremony*. For although it has been usual for all officers of Lodges to be installed at a period not far distant from that of their election, yet it is found, that while some have scrupulously abstained from officiating until they have been duly installed, others considering installation a mere ceremony, have entered forthwith upon the discharge of the duties incident to the offices to which they have been elected, and submitted to installation at some convenient season afterwards.

Now in regard to the subordinate officers of a Lodge, inasmuch as Installation consists simply in investing them with the appropriate badges of their respective offices, and pronouncing a short charge illustrating and enforcing the duties of their several stations, your committee can see no good reason for regarding it in any other light than as *merely ceremonial*. Not so in regard to the Master. He is required as a preliminary part of that ceremony, to signify his solemn assent to very important principles and regulations. Without this assent he would not be entitled to installation, nor would any one be authorized to install him. But if no new rights or powers are acquired by installation, to what purpose is the ceremony to be withheld ? If he be in fact master of the Lodge previously to being installed as such, the refusal to install cannot divest him of any rights appertaining to the office, and so would be perfectly nugatory. Your com-

mittee are therefore clearly of opinion, that *installation*, in the case of a *Master* of a Lodge is *absolutely essential*, and that mere election cannot confer the rights, privileges and powers incident to that office.

Officers of the Grand Lodge are required by its By-Laws to "be installed as soon after their election as conveniently may be"; a phraseology implying that, if it cannot conveniently be done forthwith, it may be postponed for a season. And the question may then arise whether the individuals elected to office, but not installed, are in fact officers in the Grand Lodge. To this question your committee are inclined to answer in the affirmative. For, if the principles already assumed as applicable to subordinate Lodges be correct, no doubt can be entertained in regard to any, except the Grand Master; and he, being necessarily of the degree of Past Master, must of course have previously taken upon himself all the obligations to be derived from installation, and it would therefore be in his case a mere repetition.

While therefore your committee duly appreciate the importance of so impressive a ceremony as that of installation, and strongly recommend that it in no case be omitted or unnecessarily postponed, they are still of opinion that officers of this Grand Lodge and those of subordinate Lodges other than Master become so by virtue of election or of appointment only; but that no one not of the degree of Past Master can be considered as possessed of *all the rights* appertaining to the Master of a Lodge, in whom installation has not perfected what election had begun.

But to provide for the exigence of a new Lodge, whose officers have not been installed, and perhaps for some other cases, it is believed that the Grand Master is and ought to be vested with the power of granting, by way of Dispensation, such powers to the Master appointed or elected as may be necessary for conferring degrees and regulating the concerns of the Lodge until he shall have been duly installed.

A. NOURSE, *per order*.

Which report was accepted.

The following report was submitted and accepted:

The Committee appointed on the communication received from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, "having considered the subject referred to them, respectfully ask leave to report, that as the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has given to both sides of the question all the publicity which its nature requires, and as the report of a former committee of this Grand Lodge contains as much of the argument in support of our opinions as is proper to be committed to writing, it is not deemed expedient at present to take any farther order on the subject.

SIMON GREENLEAF,
SAMUEL FESSENDEN, } Committee.
WILLIAM SWAN,

The committee to which were referred petitions for new Lodges in Sidney and Sangerville, made reports recommending that the further consideration of said petitions be referred to the next Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge; the committee not being satisfied that the petitioners from Sidney have the approbation of the two nearest Lodges, and the signatures to the Sangerville petition appearing to be all in one hand-writing. Which reports were accepted.

A communication from R. W. Reuel Washburn was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Simon Greenleaf and William Swan.

The following Report on Amendment of By-Laws was presented:

The Committee to inquire if any alterations or amendments be necessary to Section 11th, Chapter IV, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, report that they have given the subject all the consideration which its importance deserves, and while they would *approach* with veneration the Regulations which have been established by the wisdom of the Grand Lodge, they cannot but be impressed with the sentiment that the interests of masonry would be promoted by affording some relief to subordinate Lodges within its jurisdiction. This they are satisfied cannot so well be done as by reducing the *annual dues* of the subordinate Lodges. They would therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That so much of Section 11, Chap. IV, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, be rescinded, as requires from subordinate Lodges the payment annually of *one eighth* of a dollar from each member constituting such Lodge, and that only *two dollars* shall be paid by subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge for every person initiated therein.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JONATHAN THAYER, *per order*.

The foregoing report being read,

Ordered, That the further consideration of it be postponed to our next Annual Communication, and that a copy be forwarded to the several subordinate Lodges, for their consideration.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Corresponding G. Secretary has examined the communications received from other Grand Lodges, and respectfully reports:

That since the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, the

proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Missouri, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and the District of Columbia, and also a list of the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, with a list of the Lodges subordinate to that Grand Lodge have been received, all which have been examined with care and attention. While the correspondence presents little, which seems to require the particular attention of this Grand Lodge, it satisfactorily evinces a commendable zeal among the fraternity, in all parts of the United States, in promoting the interest of masonry and diffusing its benign light. It furnishes evidence that there exists among the several Grand Lodges a laudable emulation to excel in their benevolent exertions to diminish the sum of human misery, and to increase the lustre of the character of our ancient and venerable institution, for good works; which is its sure defence against the calumnies of ignorance and prejudice.

On examination of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Delaware and Virginia, it appears that those Grand Lodges have adopted the same erroneous construction of the meaning of a report of the Committee approved by the Grand Lodge of Maine at its annual communication in January, A. D. 1824, relative to the masonic obligation, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. They seem to regard it as authorizing a *change* in the *mode* of conferring the masonic degrees, instead of regarding it, as it should properly be considered, as merely warranting the use of *either* of two words of similar import and meaning. Not more than one of those Grand Lodges, however, appear to have seen the reply made by a committee of this Grand Lodge to the communication received from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in relation to this subject, and it may be presumed that they have formed their opinion rather from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, than from the language of the report which they deem objectionable.

There is a proposition before the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, to establish an Asylum for the purpose of supporting and educating the orphan children of indigent masons in all the useful learning and arts, which may be necessary to make them worthy members of society. A plan for carrying such a design into effect has been reported, but not definitely acted upon, the same having been submitted to the consideration of the subordinate Lodges. The plan proposed appears in the printed proceedings of that Grand Lodge.

In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, it appears that a proposition has been introduced to recommend to the several Lodges under its jurisdiction to contribute such sums in aid of the funds of the American Colonization Society, as it may be in their power to grant; and that the subject be recommended to the other Grand Lodges in the United States. As many worthy and intelligent masons have entertained and expressed strong

doubts, whether such an appropriation of masonic funds would not be to divert them from their legitimate object, and as circulars have been addressed to several of the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, soliciting them to contribute in aid of the funds of the American Colonization Society, the Grand Lodge will consider whether it is not expedient to express its opinion on this subject.

It is believed that the correspondence presents no other subject requiring the attention of the Grand Lodge.

JOHN L. MEGQUIER, *Cor. G. Secretary.*

Which report was accepted.

That part of the foregoing Report which relates to Masonic funds was committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Robert P. Dunlap and William Swan, to report at the next annual communication, and it is recommended to the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction to suspend making any contributions to the American Colonization Society until the decision of this Grand Lodge on the subject shall be known.

The further consideration of the Report on the subject of a Grand Lecturer was referred to the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Resolve submitted by R. W. James L. Child :

Resolved, That R. W. Rev. Reuben Nason, Reuel Washburn, Amos Nourse, John Miller, David J. Bent and Libbens Bailey, be a committee to consider what means ought to be adopted to produce uniformity in the mode of work and lecturing in the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, with instructions to report at the next annual meeting.

Which Resolve was adopted.

On motion,

Voted, That the District Deputy Grand Masters meet at some central place, to consider the subject of work and lecturing in subordinate Lodges, and that their expenses be paid by the Grand Lodge.

Resolve submitted by R. W. William Swan :

It having been represented to this Grand Lodge that some individuals initiated into the mysteries of masonry by Lodges under this jurisdiction have been guilty of flagrant and lamentable deviations from all the principles of our institution, and it being deemed highly important for the credit of the fraternity that such individuals should be forever excluded from its honors, therefore

Resolved, As the united opinion of this Grand Lodge, that all the subordinate

Lodges under our jurisdiction be particularly and earnestly directed to a careful and constant attention to the wise and salutary provisions of our By-Laws, respecting the admission of candidates for initiation, and that in no instance they allow or countenance a deviation from the minutest particulars thereof.

Which Resolve was adopted.

Ordered, That the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction be directed to receive no further instructions from any Grand Lecturer, but to look for information from the District Deputy Grand Masters, until the further order of this Grand Lodge.

The committee on Diplomas were directed to procure a plate forthwith.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, April 12, A. D. 1827.

PRESENT—M. W. CHARLES FOX,		G. Master.
R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,		S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,		J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,		G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,		Rec. G. Secretary.
" OLIVER GERRISH,		G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,		S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JEREMIAH HASKELL,		J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH B. WALTON,		G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM STEVENS,		G. Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	Temple,	No. 25
Kennebec,	" 5	Blazing Star,	" 30
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Hermon,	" 32
Oriental Star,	" 21	Casco,	" 36

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Petitions—of William Frost and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Sangerville, Penobscot County, by the name of Mosaic Lodge; of Ezra Going and others, for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Sidney, county of Kennebec, by the name of Rural Lodge; and of Philip Leach and others, praying for a charter to hold a Lodge in the town of Vassalborough, county of Kennebec, by the name of Vassalborough Lodge—were read, and committed to R. W. Samuel Fessenden, John L. Megquier and Joseph B. Walton.

The committee reported upon said petitions, recommending in each case that the prayer of the petitioners be granted; which reports were severally accepted, and charters ordered to be issued accordingly.

A petition from Tranquil Lodge, praying for a remission of their dues to the Grand Lodge for the past year, was read; and on motion,

Voted, That said petition lie over to the next Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund, at their meeting held this day.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, July 12, A. D. 1827.

PRESENT—M. W. CHARLES FOX,

R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,

" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,

" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,

" WILLIAM LORD,

" ELEAZER WYER,

G. Master.

S. G. Warden, *p. t.*

J. G. Warden, *p. t.*

G. Treasurer.

Rec. G. Secretary.

G. Marshal, *p. t.*

R. W. NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN CHUTE Jr.,	G. Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.
M. W. WILLIAM SWAN Esq.	
R. W. D. D. Grand Master from the first District.	

The following Lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	Somerset,	No. 34
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Harmony,	" 38
Oxford,	" 18		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of Michigan was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and on motion,

Voted, That this Grand Lodge do recognize the Grand Lodge of Michigan as a regular Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to forward them a copy of our By-Laws, the last Annual Communication, and a Circular containing the signatures of the Grand Officers.

A communication from Buxton Lodge was laid before the Grand Lodge, communicating a vote of said Lodge, expressing a wish to have that Lodge consecrated, and its Officers installed by this Grand Lodge on Wednesday, the 12th day of September next.

On motion,

Voted, That this Grand Lodge will meet at Buxton, on Wednesday, the 12th day of September next, for the purpose of consecrating said Lodge, and installing its Officers.

Voted, That Tranquil Lodge, at Minot, have leave to withdraw their petition, and that the Grand Secretary give them notice.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest, WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A special communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at the house of Brother Pelatiah Harmon, in Buxton, County of York, on Wednesday, Sept. 12, A. D. 1827, for the purpose of consecrating Buxton Lodge and installing its officers.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain. A procession was formed in the following order:

M. W. CHARLES FOX,	G. M.
R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	D. G. M.
" GEORGE THACHER,	S. G. W.
" THOMAS S. BOWLES,	J. G. W., <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	Cor. G. Sec.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal.
" REUBEN NASON,	G. Chaplain, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELEAZER WYER,	S. G. D., <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. D., <i>p. t.</i>
" HORACE SEAVER,	G. Sw. Bearer, <i>p. t.</i>
" LUTHER RICHARDSON,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" OLIVER GERRISH,	" "
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	"
" ZACHARIAH NOWELL, bearer of the Holy Bible, supported by R. W. ISAAC LANE.	
" DANIEL GRANGER, bearer of Constitutions.	
Bro. SAMUEL CHASE,	G. Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>
Bro. EBENEZER SEAVER, }	Stewards in the
" JEREMIAH HASKELL, }	rear of procession.

The Grand Lodge moved in procession to the Rev. Mr. Loring's meeting-house, where, after an appropriate Oration by R. W. Brother John Holmes, of Alfred, they proceeded to the business for which they were assembled.

Buxton Lodge was then consecrated, and the Officers thereof installed, in ample and ancient form. The services were closed by a benediction pronounced by the Grand Chaplain. After which the Grand Lodge returned to the room where they first assembled, and was closed in ample form.

Attest, *

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, Oct. 11, A. D. 1827.

PRESENT—M. W. CHARLES FOX,	G. Master.
R. W. NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" SETH CLARK,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
" OLIVER GERRISH,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" EBENEZER SEAVER,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN CHUTE, JR.,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICER.

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN.

The following lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	Oriental Star,	No. 21
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Somerset,	" 34

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The following report was presented and accepted :

The Committee appointed to prosecute inquiries into the state and condition of Masonry in countries bordering on the Mediterranean, and in Asia, report in part, that they have received letters from Rome, Naples and Florence, in reply to such inquiries, which are herewith communicated.

JONATHAN GREENLEAF, *per order*.

Oct. 1827.

The Communications referred to in the foregoing report, were read, and ordered to be placed on file.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary*.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1828.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, January 10, A. D. 1828.

PRESENT—M. W. CHARLES FOX,	G. Master.
R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	D. G. Master.
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal.
Rev. JONATHAN GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
" SAMUEL RAND,	" "
" ASA MEAD,	" "
" BENJAMIN D. BARTLETT,	S. G. Deacon.
" OLIVER GERRISH,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELEAZER WYER,	G. Steward.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	" "
" ROBERT R. KENDALL,	G. Sword Bearer.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICER.

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W.	Rev. REUBEN NASON,	from the First District.
"	REUEL WASHBURN,	" " Second District.
"	AMOS NOURSE,	" " Third District.
"	JOHN MILLER,	" " Fourth District.
"	MOSES GREENLEAF,	" " Fifth District.

The following lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	Oriental Star,	No. 21	Harmony,	No. 38
Warren,	" 2	Freeport,	" 23	Penobscot,	" 39
Kennebec,	" 5	Temple,	" 25	Morning Star,	" 41
Amity,	" 6	Village,	" 26	Freedom,	" 42
United,	" 8	Northern Star,	" 28	Alna,	" 43
Saco,	" 9	Tranquil,	" 29	Piscataquis,	" 44
Pythagorean,	" 11	Blazing Star,	" 30	Central,	" 45
Oriental,	" 13	Union,	" 31	Lafayette,	" 48
Solar,	" 14	Waterville,	" 33	M. Splendor,	" 49
St. George,	" 16	Somerset,	" 34	St. John's,	" 51
A. Land-Mark,	" 17	Bethlehem,	" 35	Mosaic,	" 52
Oxford,	" 18	Casco,	" 36	Vassalborough,	" 54
Maine,	" 20	Washington,	" 37		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Senior Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Finance submitted their annual Report, as follows, viz :

There was a balance in the Treasury, on settlement
of the Treasurer's account, January, 1827, of \$1762.71

There has been paid into the Treasury since that period, by the

D. D. G. Masters of the several Districts, as follows :

By the D. D. G. Master of the 1st District,	\$307.12½
" " " " 2d "	88.37½
" " " " 3d "	169.12
" " " " 4th "	150.25
" " " " 5th "	210.50
" " " " 6th "	18.25
	<hr/> 943.62

There has also been paid to the Grand Treasurer
for the Charters granted,

240.00

Deduct \$10 from each, applied to the Charity Fund,

30.00

210.00

\$2916.33

There has been paid by the G. Treasurer since the last annual settlement, and for which satisfactory vouchers have been produced, the following sums, viz :

To increase the Charity Fund, it being one-half the amount remaining in the Treasury on settlement, January, 1827, being in conformity to the By-Laws,	881.35½
Donation to the Charity Fund by the Grand Treasurer,	30.00
Amount paid the Recording Grand Secretary for his services up to January, 1828,	55.00
Amount paid Grand Tyler for services to that period,	8.00
“ paid for Hall rent up to January, 1828,	40.00
“ paid for Insurance on furniture, regalia, &c., against fire, printing, postages, &c.,	99.71½
“ paid Steward's bills,	53.86
	<hr/> 1167.93
“ paid expenses of D. D. G. Masters, incurred in the discharge of their official duties, viz :	
R. W. Bro. Nason, 1st District,	49.57
“ “ Washburn, 2d District,	21.00
“ “ Nourse, 3d District,	30.50
“ “ Miller, 4th District,	35.20
“ “ Greenleaf, 5th District,	17.52
	<hr/> 153.79

No claim from 6th District.

Remaining in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, January, 1828, a balance of	1594.61
	<hr/> \$2916.33

The Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge consists of

10 shares in Bank of Portland,	1000.00
10 shares in Casco Bank,	1000.00
20 shares in Canal Bank, (75 per cent. paid in)	1500.00
Sundry Notes of hand secured on interest,	800.00
Interest on the above notes and Bank Stock up to January 1, 1828, estimated at	76.50
One-half the balance in the hands of the Treasurer,	797.31
	<hr/> \$5173.81

Deduct balance on Charity Fund's account in favor of the Treasurer,	130.45
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Amount of Charity Fund January 10, 1828,	\$5043.36
Applied in charity by the Trustees the past year,	340.00

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM SWAN, *per order.*

Your Committee are not informed of any demands existing against the Grand Lodge. They have examined the books of the Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary, and find that the duties of both have been discharged with neatness and fidelity. The Committee recommend an allowance of thirty dollars for the services of the Grand Treasurer the past year, and the sum of sixty dollars to the Recording Grand Secretary, and eight dollars to the Grand Tyler, for their respective services the past year. The account with the Grand Treasurer has been settled, leaving the above mentioned balance in his hands. Your Committee have the satisfaction to report a settlement with all the D. D. G. Masters excepting the Sixth, and his account may be daily expected. And your Committee have great pleasure in submitting so favorable a statement of the funds of the Grand Lodge: all which is respectfully submitted,

January 10, 1828.

WILLIAM SWAN,
SAMUEL FESSENDEN, } *Committee on Finance.*
ELEAZER WYER,

Which report was accepted.

Petitions of John Trafton and others for a lodge in the town of Shapleigh, County of York; of Nathaniel Pease and others for a lodge in the town of Denmark, County of Oxford; and of William Davenport and others for a lodge in the town of Bangor, County of Penobscot—were severally read and committed to R. W. Bro. Daniel Granger, Bro. Griswold and Bro. Parsons.

A memorial from Waterville Lodge was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and committed to R. W. Ebenezer Hutchinson, Rev. Jona. Greenleaf, William Swan, Robert P. Dunlap and Amos Nourse.

Previous to the election of Officers, M. W. Charles Fox and R. W. George Thacher declined being considered candidates for re-election.

The following R. W. Brethren were chosen a Committee to sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, viz.: William Swan, Amos Nourse and James L. Child, who reported the following brethren to be duly elected, viz:

- M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN of Portland, Grand Master.
- R. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP of Brunswick, Senior Grand Warden.
- R. W. AMOS NOURSE of Hallowell, Junior Grand Warden.
- R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH of Portland, Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. WILLIAM LORD of Portland, Recording Grand Secretary.

R. W. Charles Fox, Eleazer Wyer and Nehemiah Cram, were chosen a Committee on Finance.

M. W. Samuel Fessenden, Grand Master elect, was duly invested by R. W. Charles Fox, Past Grand Master.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary.

The following report was submitted:

The Committee appointed to consider and report what means ought to be adopted to produce uniformity in work and lecturing in the subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, have attended the duty assigned them and report:—

That, after mature deliberation and thorough investigation, they are unanimously of opinion, that, at the present moment, it is highly expedient and necessary that other means should be adopted to promote the desired object than those now in operation. The lodges in general expect it, and it is the opinion of your Committee, that their expectations are reasonable and ought not to be disappointed. The question then arises, in what manner can the means of uniform and systematic instruction be extended to all the lodges in the State, with the assurance that all will avail themselves of its benefits? A large proportion of the lodges under this jurisdiction are low in funds, and many have no small difficulty in providing themselves with suitable accommodations and meeting their current expenses. These last, therefore, would be very illy able to pay any extra expense, and yet these are precisely the lodges which most need instruction. And the funds even of the richest lodges in the State, are much less considerable than those of the Grand Lodge. It is therefore believed to be both expedient and essential, that the necessary funds for carrying into effect the proposed measure, should be drawn from the Treasury of the Grand Lodge, whose coffers have been replenished by contributions from all the subordinate lodges in the State.

It is also believed, that members of the fraternity in general, can much more conveniently and profitably devote attention to this subject in the winter than at any other period, and that the sooner they are availed of the means of instruction, the more acceptable and useful they will prove. Under these impressions and with these views, the Committee having agreed upon a uniform mode of lecturing and of work, not differing in any material point from the most approved mode prevailing among us, recommend that the following measures be adopted for its speedy and general promulgation.

1. That the State be divided into three districts; the first to be composed of District No. 1, under the present arrangement. The second of Districts No. 2 and 3; and the third of Districts No. 4, 5 and 6.

2. That three brethren, thoroughly and perfectly acquainted with the lectures and work agreed upon, as well as of irreproachable moral character, be appointed by the Grand Lodge to visit forthwith all the lodges, each in his respective district, having given previous seasonable notice thereof, and devote to each three days, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, and any number of days more, not exceeding three, to any lodge that may desire it; one-half the expense only for this latter period, to be paid by the Grand Lodge.

3. That the lecturers thus employed, shall receive each \$1.50 per day, and have their traveling and incidental expenses paid.

Your Committee cannot conclude their report, without adverting again to the urgent necessity which they believe to exist for the adoption of some means for extending information and promoting uniformity among us. And, should the measures above recommended meet the approbation of the Grand Lodge, the Committee promise themselves the satisfaction of witnessing from them the most happy results.

All which is respectfully submitted.

R. NASON,	} Committee.
REUEL WASHBURN,	
AMOS NOURSE,	
JOHN MILLER,	
MOSES GREENLEAF,	

Which report was accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That the three brethren referred to in the foregoing report, be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master.

The following resolution was submitted by R. W. James L. Child:

Resolved, That there be paid to R. W. Reuben Nason, Amos Nourse, John Miller and Reuel Washburn, six dollars each, for their services in attending at Hallowell to consider the subject of work and lecturing in subordinate Lodges.

Which resolve was adopted.

The report of a committee on the subject of a Grand Lecturer, which was laid over from our last Annual Communication, was indefinitely postponed.

R. W. Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish, presented the Grand Lodge with the sum of Thirty Dollars, to be added to the Charity Fund, being the amount allowed him for his services as Grand Treasurer the past year.

On motion,

Voted unanimously, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Brother Joseph M. Gerrish, for this renewed instance of his liberality.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening next, Jan. 11, at half past six o'clock.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, Jan. 11, A. D. 1828.

The Grand Lodge met according to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES L. CHILD,	D. G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	S. G. Warden.
" AMOS NOURSE,	J. G. Warden.
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	R. G. Secretary.
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	C. G. Secretary.
" JOEL MILLER,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain,
" " ASA MEAD,	" "
" " SAMUEL RAND,	" "
" OLIVER GERRISH,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" SAMUEL B. STEVENS,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELEAZER WYER,	G. Steward.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	" "
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. CHARLES FOX,
" WILLIAM SWAN.

District Deputy Grand Masters, from the Second and Fifth Districts.

The following lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	Oxford,	No. 18	Washington,	No. 37
Warren,	" 2	Oriental Star,	" 21	Harmony,	" 38
Lincoln,	" 3	York,	" 22	Penobscot,	" 39
Kennebec,	" 5	Freeport,	" 23	Morning Star,	" 41
Amity,	" 6	Temple,	" 25	Alna,	" 43
Pythagorean,	" 11	Village,	" 26	Piscataquis,	" 44

Oriental,	No. 13	Northern Star,	No. 28	M. Splendor,	No. 49
Solar,	" 14	Union,	" 31	St. John's,	" 51
St. George,	" 16	Waterville,	" 33	Vassalborough,	" 54
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Somerset,	" 34		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then made the following appointments for the ensuing year, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz :

- R. W. PELEG SPRAGUE, of Hallowell, Deputy Grand Master.
 " JOHN L. MEGQUIER, of Portland, Cor. Grand Secretary.
 " SAMUEL STEPHENSON, of Gorham, Grand Marshal.
 " Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF, of Wells, Grand Chaplain.
 " " SAMUEL RAND, of Portland, " "
 " " SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Alna, " "
 " " ASA MEAD, of Brunswick, " "
 " ISAAC LINCOLN, of Brunswick, Sen. Grand Deacon.
 " OLIVER GRISWOLD, of Fryeburg, Jun. Grand Deacon.
 " ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, Grand Steward.
 " NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, "
 " JOSEPH CHANDLER, of Augusta, "
 " WILLIAM DUNN, of Poland, "
 " ROBERT R. KENDALL, of Freeport, Grand Sword Bearer.
 " SETH CLARK, of Portland, Grand Pursuivant.
 " OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of do. "
 " WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Rev. Reuben Nason, of Gorham.
Second District—R. W. Thomas Clark, of Paris.
Third District—R. W. Moses Springer, of Gardiner.
Fourth District—R. W. Isaac G. Reed, of Waldoborough.
Fifth District—R. W. Jedediah Herrick, of Hampden.
Sixth District—R. W. Libbeus Bailey, of Eastport.

The above named officers were severally Installed by the M. W. Grand Master either by themselves or proxies.

R. W. John Miller, of Warren, R. W. Daniel Wadsworth, of Hallowell, and R. W. George L. Darling, of Gorham, were appointed a committee to give Lectures and Instruction in Subordinate Lodges.

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Samuel Fessenden, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio.</i>
R. W. Peleg Sprague, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" Robert P. Dunlap, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Amos Nourse, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" William Lord, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" Simon Greenleaf,	
" Albion K. Parris,	
" Daniel Grauger,	
" William Swan,	
" Thomas Browne,	
" Nehemiah Cram.	

The following resolution, which was submitted at the annual Communication, in January, 1827, a copy of which, with the report thereon, has been forwarded to all the subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, for their consideration :

" Resolved, That so much of Sec. 11, Chap. 4, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge be rescinded, as requires from subordinate lodges the payment annually of one-eighth of a dollar for each member constituting such lodge, and that only two dollars shall be paid by subordinate lodges to the Grand Lodge for every person initiated therein,"

was taken into consideration, and after a full discussion, the resolve was so far amended as not to go into operation until from and after the first day of September, A. D. 1828.

Which resolve as amended was adopted.

Report on the Memorial from Waterville Lodge.

IN GRAND LODGE, JAN. 11, A. L. 5828.

The Committee to whom was referred the Memorial of Waterville Lodge, on the subject of an Institution for the instruction of females, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report the following resolutions :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge highly approve of the exertions of the brethren of Waterville Lodge, and the general plan of the Institution which they propose to establish.

Resolved, That

be a committee to consider and report at the next annual meeting, what further order, if any, it is expedient that this Grand Lodge should take on the subject.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EBEN'R HUTCHINSON, *per order.*

Which report and resolutions were adopted, and R. W. Ebenezer Hutchinson, Charles Fox, James L. Child, Jonathan Thayer and Rev Samuel Rand, were appointed the committee agreeable to the second resolution.

The committee to which were referred the petitions for new lodges, made reports, recommending that a charter be granted for a lodge at Shapleigh, York County, by the name of Fraternal Lodge; and a charter for a lodge in Denmark, Oxford County, to be called Mount Moriah Lodge: which reports were accepted, and charters ordered to be issued accordingly.

Upon the petition of William Davenport and others, praying for a lodge in Bangor, to be called St. Mark's Lodge, the committee reported that the further consideration thereof be postponed to the next Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge for the following reasons, viz: there being already a lodge established in the place, and the circumstances set forth in the petition being new and singular, and the committee not having sufficient information to convince them that it will be for the interest of Masonry that another lodge should be there established; and by thus postponing the subject, the petitioners will have opportunity to show the propriety and reasonableness of their petition.

Which report was accepted.

Report of the Corresponding Grand Secretary.

The Corresponding Grand Secretary has examined the several communications received from other Grand Lodges, and reports: That since the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Missouri, Kentucky, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Vermont, Massachusetts and Nova Scotia, and the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, have been received; all which have been carefully examined.

A careful perusal and critical examination have not enabled the Secretary to discern anything in the Foreign Correspondence which would seem to require the particular attention of this Grand Lodge; but he has the pleasure of stating that the proceedings of the Grand Lodges received furnish satisfactory evidence that the attention of those Grand Lodges is sedulously directed to raise the character and reputation of our Institution, and to render it more and more the admiration of the world, by strictly adhering to its principles, and

faithfully executing its noble and benevolent designs. There appears to be a commendable degree of emulation among the several Grand Lodges, and the fraternity generally, to excel in the laudable works of beneficence and charity.

JOHN L. MEGQUIER,

January 11, 1828.

Corresponding Grand Secretary.

Which report was accepted.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund at their Meeting, Jan. 10, 1828.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and committed to R. W. Reuel Washburn, Robert R. Kendall and John Miller.

The following resolution was submitted by R. W. Amos Nourse :

Resolved, That Chapter 1st, Section 3d, of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be so amended, that the regular communications thereof be held on the third Thursdays, instead of the second.

The following resolution was offered by R. W. Charles Fox :

Resolved, That Chapter 4th, Section 4th, of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be so amended, that the returns from subordinate Lodges shall include the names of all members suspended and expelled during the year, and the causes thereof.

The foregoing resolves being read, Ordered, that the further consideration of them be postponed to the next Quarterly Communication, and that a copy be forwarded to the several subordinate lodges, for their consideration.

Voted, That the Recording Grand Secretary be authorized to insert such other name in the petition for a lodge at Denmark, as the petitioners shall agree upon.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Samuel Rand, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, April 10, A. D. 1828.

PRESENT—M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	Grand Master.
R. W. MOSES SPRINGER,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ DANIEL WADSWORTH,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	Rec. G. Sec'y, <i>p. t.</i>
“ OLIVER GERRISH,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ Rev. JONA. GREENLEAF,	G. Chaplain.
“ ARTHUR SHIRLEY,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
“ OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	“ “
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	Blazing Star,	No. 30
Kennebec,	“ 5	Somerset,	“ 34
Solar,	“ 14	Piscataquis,	“ 44
A. Land Mark,	“ 17		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain.

Petitions of Henry Farwell and others, for a lodge in the town of Dixfield; of John R. White and others, for a lodge in the town of Unity; of William Davenport and others, for a lodge in the town of Bangor, were severally read, and committed to R. W. Jonathan Greenleaf, Arthur Shirley and Oliver S. Hartshorn.

A petition from Somerset Lodge, praying for permission to hold their Lodge Meetings for the present year in the town of Milburn, was read and committed to R. W. Jonathan Greenleaf, Arthur Shirley and Oliver S. Hartshorn, which committee reported that the prayer thereof be granted; and the same was accepted.

Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, from the committee appointed to obtain Masonic information in foreign countries, reported three letters received in reply to their enquiries, which were read and placed on file.

Voted, That the further consideration of the resolutions offered by R. W. Amos Nourse and R. W. Charles Fox, at the Annual Communication, be postponed till the next Quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge.

A communication from a committee of Belfast Lodge, praying that the present charter of said lodge may be revoked, was read and committed to R. W. Moses Springer, John L. Megquier and Joseph Harrod. Also, a petition from sundry brethren of Belfast, praying for a new charter, committed to same Committee.

The Committee to whom the petitions for new lodges were referred made a report, recommending the granting of charters for a lodge in Dixfield, to be called King Hiram Lodge, a lodge in Unity, to be called Unity Lodge, and a lodge in Bangor, to be called St. Mark's Lodge.

On motion it was

Voted, That the report be accepted, and that charters be granted accordingly.

Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, July 10, A. D. 1828.

PRESENT—M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ DANIEL WADSWORTH,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN CHUTE,	G. Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH HARROD,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ OLIVER GERRISH,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following Lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	A. Land Mark,	No. 17
Kennebec,	“ 5	Blazing Star,	“ 30
Rising Virtue,	“ 10	Morning Star,	“ 41
Solar,	“ 14		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

R. W. Oliver Gerrish was added to the committee on the communication from Belfast Lodge.

The resolution submitted by R. W. Amos Nourse, at the Annual Communication, viz:

Resolved, That Chap. 1st, Sec. 3d, of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be so amended, that the regular communications thereof be held on the third Thursdays, instead of the second,

was taken into consideration, and unanimously adopted.

The resolution submitted by R. W. Charles Fox at the Annual Communication, viz:

Resolved, That Chap. 4th, Sec. 4th, of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, be so amended, that the returns from subordinate lodges shall include the names of all members suspended and expelled during the year, and the causes therefor,

was taken into consideration, and unanimously adopted.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to give notice to the subordinate lodges of the adoption of the foregoing resolutions.

The following report was submitted :

The committee to whom was referred the petition from Belfast Lodge, surrendering their charter, and praying the Grand Lodge to revoke the same, have considered the subject and ask leave to report, that in their opinion the prayer of said petition ought to be granted, and accordingly recommend that the surrendered charter of Belfast Lodge be accepted.

And the same committee to whom was also referred the petition of Samuel Gordon and others, having considered the subject, are of opinion that it is inexpedient to take further order thereon.

Per order of the committee,

JOHN L. MEGQUIER.

Which report was accepted.

A petition from sundry brethren in Belfast, praying for the restoration of the charter of Belfast Lodge, was read, and on motion,

Voted, That the same be conditionally committed to R. W. John L. Megquier, William Lord and Joseph Harrod, to report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, provided the petitioners obtain the consent of the two nearest lodges, and the D. D. G. Master of that District.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary*.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, Oct. 16, A. D. 1828.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. CHARLES FOX,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN CHUTE,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ OLIVER B. DORRANCE,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JAMES B. CAHOON,	“ “ “
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following lodges were represented, viz:—

Portland,	No. 1	Blazing Star,	No. 30
Rising Virtue,	“ 10	Somerset,	“ 34
A. Land Mark,	“ 17	Morning Star,	“ 41

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Bro. J. L. Megquier submitted the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry brethren of Belfast, praying for a restoration of the charter of the late Belfast Lodge, have attended to the service assigned them, and report, that in their opinion the interest of masonry will be promoted by a restoration to the said petitioners of the said charter, and therefore recommend that it be restored. The committee would recommend that the further prayer of the petitioners, that the lodge hereafter be known by the name of Phoenix Lodge, be also granted ; and that the property lately belonging to the Belfast Lodge be restored with the said charter, provided the said newly organized lodge shall assume the debts of the old lodge, now due to this Grand Lodge.

JOHN L. MEGQUIER, *per order.*

Which report was accepted.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1829.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, January 15, A. D. 1829.

PRESENT—M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	G. Master.
R. W. DANIEL GRANGER,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal.
" Rev. ASA MEAD,	G. Chaplain.
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELEAZER WYER,	G. Steward.
" JOHN CHUTE,	" " <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH B. WALTON,	" " <i>p. t.</i>
" ROBERT R. KENDALL,	G. Sword Bearer.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICER.

R. W. CHARLES FOX.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Rev. REUBEN NASON,	from the First District.
" THOMAS CLARK,	" " Second District.
" MOSES SPRINGER,	" " Third District.

The following lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	St. George,	No. 16	Hermon,	No. 32
Lincoln,	" 3	A. Land-Mark,	" 17	Waterville,	" 33
Hancock,	" 4	Oriental Star,	" 21	Washington,	" 37
Kennebec,	" 5	Freeport,	" 23	Morning Star,	" 41
Saco,	" 9	Temple,	" 25	Freedom,	" 42
Cumberland,	" 12	Village,	" 26	Aurora,	" 50
Oriental,	" 13	Northern Star,	" 28	St. John's,	" 51
Orient,	" 15	Blazing Star,	" 30		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain.

A communication was received from R. W. Brother Simon Greenleaf, informing the Grand Lodge that he resigned his seat at the board of Trustees of the Charity Fund.

The Committee on Finance submitted their annual report, as follows, viz :

There was a balance in the Treasury, on settlement of the Grand Treasurer's account, January, 1828, of \$1594.62

There has been paid into the Treasury since that period, as follows, viz :

By the D. D. G. Master of the 1st District,	\$218.25	
" " " " 2d "	53.37	
" " " " 3d "	118.62	
" " " " 4th " (no returns.)		
" " " " 5th " (no returns.)		
" " " " 6th "	12.25	
	<hr/>	402.49
There has also been paid for four Charters granted,	320.00	
From which deduct \$10 each, applied to the Charity Fund, in conformity with the By-Laws,	40.00	
	<hr/>	280.00
		<hr/>
		\$2277.11

There has been paid by the G. Treasurer since the last annual settlement, as follows, viz :

To increase the Charity Fund, it being one-half the amount remaining in the Treasury at the last settlement, agreeably to the By-Laws,	797.31
Donation to the Charity Fund by the Grand Treasurer,	30.00
Amount paid Grand Secretary for his services,	60.00
" paid Grand Tyler for his services,	8.00
" paid A. Nourse for his services, as per vote,	6.00
" paid Grand Steward's bills,	54.24

Amount paid expenses of Committee on the subject of a		
uniform mode of lecturing,	18.00	
" paid Insurance on regalia, &c.,	3.12	
" paid Bro. Darling's bill for lecturing,	166.47	
" paid Bro. Wadsworth's bill for lecturing,	171.11	
" paid Shirley & Hyde's bill for parchment		
and printing,	45.25	
" paid Annin & Smith's bill for plate and diplomas,	557.00	
" paid Hill & Edwards' bill for advertising,	4.00	
" paid for Hall rent up to January 1, 1829,	40.00	
" paid Wm. Lord's bill for postages,	9.31	
" paid Bro. J. Miller's bill for lecturing,	87.36	
" paid D. D. G. Masters' bill for expenses, viz :		
1st District,	36.50	
2d District,	16.09	
3d District,	26.72	79.31
4th District,	—	
5th District,	—	
6th District,	—	
		<u>\$2136.48</u>
Balance in the Treasury, one-half of which is applicable		
to the Charity Fund,		140.63
		<u>\$2277.11</u>
Statement of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine, January,		
1829.		
10 shares in Bank of Portland,	1000.00	
10 shares in Casco Bank,	1000.00	
20 shares in Canal Bank,	2000.00	
		<u>\$4000.00</u>
Sundry Notes of hand on interest, in the hands of the		
Treasurer for money loaned,	1100.00	
Balance in Treasury unapplied,	6.02	
One-half of balance of the account this day settled with		
the Grand Treasurer,	70.31	
		<u>1176.33</u>
It appears by the Treasurer's account of the Charity		\$5176.33
Fund, that he has received since the last annual		
settlement, for interest and dividends on Bank Stock,	304.16	
For four charters granted by the Grand Lodge,	40.00	
For Note for money loaned to Bro. Cummings,	100.00	
For the Treasurer's donation,	30.00	
For half the balance of money in the Treasury at the		
last settlement,	797.31	
		<u>\$1271.47</u>

And he has paid as follows :

In sundry charitable donations,	235.00
Loaned on two notes received and on file,	400.00
Paid last installment on 20 Shares in Canal Bank,	500.00
Balance due the Treasurer on the Charity Account at the last settlement,	130.45
	<hr/> 1265.45

Leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer, Jan.

1829.

6.02

1271.47

Your committee are aware that the welfare of the Grand Lodge depends much on its finances; at the same time, they are equally sensible that the Grand Treasurer has been both faithful and prompt in discharging the duties of his office, not only for the last year, but for a series of years, in which he has sustained that office, with honor to himself and great satisfaction to this Grand Lodge; yet on him alone does not rest the prosperity of our finances; they therefore regret, that whilst he has sedulously and gratuitously performed these duties, he should have so much trouble in obtaining the returns and accounts from the District Deputy Grand Masters, some of which are not received until the actual meeting of the Grand Lodge, and many not until after its adjournment, and some are even delayed for years; by this course, the charity fund of the Grand Lodge is not increased as it should be, by one half of the balance remaining, or which ought to be in the Treasury at the annual settlement; it would therefore be more satisfactory to the Grand Treasurer, and certainly would also be to the committee, to be able, as was contemplated by the By-Laws, to make a fair and full exhibit of the financial concerns of the Grand Lodge in their Annual Report, previous to the choice and appointment of its officers.

The D. D. G. Master of the 2d district forms an exception to the above remarks, inasmuch as he in due season made the returns of all the lodges working in his district, and settled his account.

Your committee have also performed that part of their duty which relates to the inspection of the records of the Secretary, and are happy to report that they have been kept with his usual care and neatness.

And they would recommend that there be paid to the Grand Treasurer for his services the year past, the sum of thirty dollars, and to the Grand Secretary for his services the year past, the sum of sixty dollars, being the same amount as voted them the last year, and also recommend that the sum of eight dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler.

January 15, 1829.

CHARLES FOX,
ELEAZER WYER, } *Committee of Finance.*

Which report was accepted.

Report of the Corresponding Grand Secretary.

The Corresponding Grand Secretary respectfully reports :

That, since the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, he has received the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Indiana, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Connecticut, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Delaware, Virginia, Massachusetts and Kentucky, and the Constitutions and By-Laws of the Grand Lodges of Connecticut and the District of Columbia ; all which he has carefully examined. The subjects which they present do not seem to require the particular attention of this Grand Lodge, being, generally speaking, of a local character, and therefore not of general interest, except as they tend to show the prospects and condition of the Masonic Fraternity in the different parts of the country.

It is a source of satisfaction to be able, from a perusal of the Foreign Correspondence, to remark that our sister Grand Lodges seem to take a lively interest in advancing the reputation and promoting the prosperity of our venerable institution, which, by constantly contributing its means to diminish the sum of human misery, in pursuance of its original design, furnishes the best refutation of the unjust slanders of its enemies, and of those, who, from ignorance of its principles, or from sinister motives, have arrayed themselves against it.

JOHN LOUVILLE MEGQUIER, *Cor. Grand Sec'y.*

January 15, 1829.

Which report was accepted.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers.

The following R. W. Brethren were chosen a Committee to sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, viz. : R. W. Charles Fox, Daniel Granger and John Miller, who reported the following brethren to be duly elected, viz :

- M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN of Portland, G. Master.
- R. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP of Brunswick, S. G. Warden.
- R. W. AMOS NOURSE of Hallowell, J. G. Warden.
- R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH of Portland, G. Treasurer.
- R. W. WILLIAM LORD of Portland, Rec. G. Sec'y.

R. W. Charles Fox, Eleazer Wyer and Nehemiah Cram were chosen a Committee on Finance.

R. W. Charles Fox was chosen to constitute one of the board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of R. W. Simon Greenleaf.

The M. W. Samuel Fessenden, Grand Master elect, was duly invested by R. W. Charles Fox, Past Grand Master.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary.

R. W. Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish made a donation to the Charity Fund of Thirty Dollars, being the amount allowed him for his services as Grand Treasurer the past year.

On motion,

Voted unanimously, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Bro. Gerrish, for this renewed instance of his liberality, and that the donation be distributed by the Trustees agreeably to his wishes.

A communication from St. George Lodge was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening next, Jan. 16.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary*.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, Jan. 16, A. D. 1829.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	G. Master.
R. W. THOMAS CLARK,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal.
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	Jun. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ELEAZER WYER,	G. Steward.
" JOHN CHUTE,	" " <i>p. t.</i>
" ROBERT R. KENDALL,	G. Sword Bearer.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN.

" CHARLES FOX.

District Deputy Grand Masters, from the First and Second Districts.

The following lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	Village,	No. 26
Hancock,	" 4	Northern Star,	" 28
Kennebec,	" 5	Blazing Star,	" 30
Rising Virtue,	" 10	Hermon,	" 32
Cumberland,	" 12	Waterville,	" 33
Oriental,	" 13	Washington,	" 37
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Aina,	" 43
York,	" 22	Buxton,	" 47
Temple,	" 25	Vassalborough,	" 54

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The following report was submitted :

The committee to whom was referred the memorial of Waterville Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report, that said memorial and the resolutions thereon, relating to an institution for female education, be referred to the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge. All which is respectfully submitted.

January 16, 1829.

EBENEZER HUTCHINSON, *per order*.

Which report was accepted.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then made the following appointments for the ensuing year, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz :

- R. W. PELEG SPRAGUE, of Hallowell, Deputy Grand Master.
 " JOHN L. MEGQUIER, of Portland, Cor. Grand Secretary.
 " SAMUEL STEPHENSON, of Gorham, Grand Marshal.
 " Rev. SAMUEL RAND, of Portland, Grand Chaplain.
 " " SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Saco, " "
 " " STEPHEN LOVELL, of Portland, " "
 " ISAAC LINCOLN, of Brunswick, Sen. Grand Deacon.
 " OLIVER GRISWOLD, of Fryeburg, Jun. Grand Deacon.
 " NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, Grand Steward.
 " ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, "
 " WILLIAM DUNN, of Poland, "
 " JOSEPH CHANDLER, of Augusta, "

R. W. ROBERT R. KENDALL, of Freeport, Grand Sword Bearer.

" SETH CLARK, of Portland, Grand Pursuivant.

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of do. "

" WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland, Grand Tyler.

The above named officers were severally installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Rev. Reuben Nason, of Gorham.

Second District—R. W. Thomas Clark, of Paris.

Third District—R. W. Cyrus Kendrick, of Gardiner.

Fourth District—R. W. Isaac G. Reed, of Waldoborough.

Fifth District—Samuel K. Gilman, of Castine.

Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.

Seventh District.—R. W. Samuel L. Valentine, of Bangor.

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund:

M. W. Samuel Fessenden, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio.</i>
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R. W. Peleg Sprague, Deputy Grand Master,	"
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" Robert P. Dunlap, Senior Grand Warden,	"
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" Amos Nourse, Junior Grand Warden,	"
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" William Lord, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
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" Albion K. Parris,	
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" Daniel Granger,	
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" William Swan,	
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" Thomas Browne,	
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" Nehemiah Cram,	
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" Charles Fox.	
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The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund at their Meeting, Jan. 15, 1829.

R. W. Eleazer Wyer was appointed a committee to procure clothing and jewel for one District Deputy Grand Master.

Prayers were offered by R. W. Bro. Moses Springer, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, April 16, A. D. 1829.

PRESENT—M. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ HORACE SEAVER,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	G. Secretary.
“ JOHN CHUTE,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ SAMUEL BRADLEY,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following lodges were represented, viz :

Orient,	No. 15	St. Croix,	No. 46
Ancient Land Mark, “	17	Buxton,	“ 47

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form.

There being no business before the Grand Lodge this evening, it was closed in due form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, July 16, A. D. 1829.

PRESENT—M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN CHUTE,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	R. G. Secretary.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" NEHEMIAH CRAM,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	A. Land Mark,	No. 17
Rising Virtue,	" 10	Fraternal,	" 55

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Communications from the Grand Lodges of Mississippi and the District of Columbia were laid before the Grand Lodge, read, and ordered to be put on file.

A communication from Fraternal Lodge, at Shapleigh, was laid before the Grand Lodge, communicating their desire to have said lodge consecrated and its officers installed on the ninth day of September, 1829. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge, in compliance with the request of Fraternal Lodge, will cause said lodge to be consecrated, and its officers installed, on the ninth day of September next.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

A Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, Oct. 22, A. D. 1829.

PRESENT—M. W. WILLIAM SWAN,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN CHUTE,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	R. G. Secretary.
“ SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal.
“ ARTHUR McARTHUR,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ PASCHAL BROOKS,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following lodges were represented, viz :

Portland,	No. 1	Adoniram,	No. 27
A. Land Mark,	“ 17	Mt. Moriah,	“ 56

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form.

A petition from Penobscot Lodge, at Garland, for the removal of said lodge, was read, and committed to R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, Charles Fox and Samuel Stephenson, to report at the next Annual Communication.

The following resolution was submitted by R. W. J. B. Osgood :

Resolved, That Chap. 4th, Sec. 17th, of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, be amended as respects the time in which a subordinate lodge may be consecrated and its officers installed, and that the two years which is now allowed from the date of its charter, be extended to such time, and under such regulations and restrictions as the Grand Lodge may adopt.

The foregoing resolve being read,

Ordered, That the further consideration of it be postponed to the next Annual Communication, and that a copy be forwarded to the several subordinate lodges for their consideration.

The Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1830.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, January 21, A. D. 1830.

PRESENT—M. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	G. Master.
R. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	S. G. Warden.
“ AMOS NOURSE,	J. G. Warden.
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
“ WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
“ JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	Cor. G. Sec.
“ SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal.
“ Rev. SAMUEL RAND,	G. Chaplain.
“ MOSES GREENLEAF,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ OLIVER GRISWOLD,	J. G. Deacon.
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
“ ELEAZER WYER,	“ “
“ ROBERT R. KENDALL,	G. S. Bearer.
“ SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
“ OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	“ “
“ WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. CHARLES FOX,
“ WILLIAM SWAN,
“ NATHANIEL COFFIN.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Rev. REUBEN NASON, from the First District.
“ THOMAS CLARK, “ “ Second District.
“ CYRUS KENDRICK, “ “ Third District,
“ SAMUEL K. GILMAN, “ “ Fifth District.

The following lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	St. George,	No. 16	Morning Star,	No. 41
Lincoln,	" 3	A. Land Mark,	" 17	Freedom,	" 42
Kennebec,	" 5	York,	" 22	Piscataquis,	" 44
Amity,	" 6	Freeport,	" 23	Aurora,	" 50
Eastern,	" 7	Village,	" 26	St. Johns,	" 51
United,	" 8	Northern Star,	" 28	Mosaic,	" 52
Saco,	" 9	Blazing Star,	" 30	Rural,	" 53
Rising Virtue,	" 10	Bethlehem,	" 35	Vassalborough,	" 54
Cumberland,	" 12	Washington,	" 37	Fraternal,	" 55
Solar,	" 14	Penobscot,	" 39	Mount Moriah,	" 56

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Finance submitted their annual report, as follows, viz:

There was a balance in the Treasury on settlement with the Grand Treasurer, January, 1829, of	\$140.63
Paid into the Treasury since that period, viz:	
By the D. D. G. Master of the 1st District,	\$16.38
" " " " 2d District,	24.00
" " " " 3d District,	23.50
" " " " 4th District,	{ 67.75 12.00
" " " " 5th District,	61.12
" " " " 6th District,	4.00
By Cyrus Kendrick, D. D. G. Master Third District,	40.12
By the D. D. G. Master of Fourth District,	32.75
	<hr/> 281.62
	<hr/> \$422.25

There has been paid by the Grand Treasurer, since the last annual settlement, and for which satisfactory vouchers have been exhibited, the following sums, viz:

To increase the Charity Fund, being one-half the amount remaining in the Treasury at the annual settlement, 1829, (agreeably to the By-Laws),	70.31
Amount allowed the Grand Treasurer for his services, 1829, the same being a donation from him to the Charity Fund,	30.00
Paid W. Lord for his services as Grand Secretary for year 1829, per vote of the Grand Lodge,	60.00
Paid Grand Steward's bill for 1829,	54.63
Paid A. Shirley's bill for printing and stationery,	28.25

Paid Bro. William Stevens for services as Grand Tyler for year 1828, by vote of Grand Lodge,	8.00
Paid Hall rent up to January 1, 1830,	40.00
Paid Hill & Edwards, for printing,	3.00
Paid sundry postages, &c.,	2.10
Paid D. D. G. Masters' bills of expenses, viz :	
1st District,	5.20
2d District,	1.00
3d District, for year 1828,	9.00
" " " 1829,	38.88
4th District,	21.87
5th District,	7.12
6th District,	13.00
7th District,	14.50
	<hr/>
	110.57
	<hr/>
	\$406.86

Amount received by the Treasurer,	422.25
	<hr/>
Balance in the Treasury,	\$15.39

Statement of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine, January, 1830.

10 shares in Bank of Portland;	1000.00
10 shares in Casco Bank,	1000.00
20 shares in Canal Bank,	2000.00
Sundry Notes of hand on interest, in the hands of the Treasurer, and which are satisfactorily secured,	1110.00
	<hr/>
	\$5110.00
Received since the last annual statement, viz :	
For interest and dividends on Bank Stock,	139.00
For the Treasurer's donation,	30.00
For one-half the balance in the Treasury at the last settlement,	70.31
For balance in the Charity Fund account,	6.02
	<hr/>
	\$245.33
He has paid in sundry charitable donations,	137.00
Balance to new account,	108.33
	<hr/>
	\$245.33

Donations made by the Board of Trustees, Jan. 22, 1830,	108.00
Leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer, of	.33

Your committee regret that they cannot present a more favorable view of the finances of the Grand Lodge for the past year. They feel justified in stating that there are balances due from some of the masonic districts; but are unable to state the precise amount. They feel a satisfaction in being able to state that there are no debts now due from the Grand Lodge, excepting the

balance above stated as due the Grand Treasurer. At a period like the present, when the receipts of the Grand Lodge will but little more than meet the necessary current expenses, your committee feel the necessity of recommending a curtailing of expenses. In reviewing the disbursements from the Treasury, they cannot but notice the amount paid to the respective D. D. G. Masters, compared with expenses incurred in their official duties. They would not be understood as in any respect implicating the R. W. Brethren who have discharged those duties: on the contrary, they state with great pleasure, their entire satisfaction in the accounts exhibited. But they cannot but approve the course adopted by the D. D. G. Masters in several districts, who have been able to obtain the necessary returns and information from their districts, without incurring the expense of traveling through their respective districts. This course they recommend for the current year. The records of the G. Secretary have been carefully examined, and found to have been kept with neatness and accuracy. They recommend an allowance of fifty-five dollars to the Recording G. Secretary for his services the past year; thirty dollars for the services of the G. Treasurer; and the sum of eight dollars to the G. Tyler, for his services during the same period.

All which is respectfully submitted.

January 21, 1830.

WILLIAM SWAN,	} Committee.
ELEAZER WYER,	
NEHEMIAH CRAM,	

Which report was accepted.

M. W. Samuel Fessenden, Grand Master, delivered the following

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN:

The term for which I was elected to preside over the interests of Masonry in this State, by the suffrages of the members of this Grand Lodge, having expired; and admonished by increasing cares, and bodily infirmity, that I ought not to be considered as a candidate for the high and responsible office of Grand Master; and having come to the determination to decline being so considered, I cannot omit, on this occasion, to express the deep sense of gratitude which I feel for the confidence which has been reposed in me; a confidence I am but too sensible, conferred rather from a belief in my wishes than my ability to promote the cause of Masonry.

At a moment like the present, in the history of our Institution, I feel it an urgent duty to assure you that my wishes are still ardent for the promotion of the cause in which I have been engaged for now more than twenty years, without having been able to perceive that its principles are any other than such as are calculated to do good, by calling into vigorous action the best sympathies of our nature—by promoting kindness and brotherly love among

men—by relieving temporal distress—strengthening and confirming the moral sense by strong moral suasion; and repressing vice, as well by directing the mental eye to the awful retributions of eternity, denounced by the Creator upon all the wicked, as to the unspeakable rewards proffered to the good, in the sacred volume which is received as the rule and guide of faith and practice.

I feel myself more specially called to an expression of my feelings and views in regard to Masonry, from the fact that I have been for nearly twenty years, and am still a professor, though I feel among the most unworthy, of Christianity, and a member of Christ's visible church. As I am fully persuaded that the cause of Christianity is the most holy of all causes, and the promulgation of its principles and practice throughout the world an event, of all others, most to be desired—if, indeed, Masonry stands in the way of the advancement of Christ's Kingdom, I feel that it ought to be abandoned. If, on the contrary, the principles of Masonry harmonize with Christianity, and its efforts are directed in those pure and holy channels, which love to God and man have consecrated—if its streams emanate from the same inexhaustible fountain of good, and tend to the same ocean of felicity—then no reason exists why Masonry should be desecrated and the institution held up as worthy the destestation of all good and virtuous men.

On this subject, producing at the present moment so much excitement; against which are arrayed many excellent men; on which some of our most pious divines seem to feel it a duty to animadvert with great zeal, not to say virulence, and to class it among the greatest abominations which are overspreading the world and poisoning all the moral fountains which have been opened—it is certainly the duty of Masons to ponder—we are called on to examine our principles anew—to review with great solicitude their practical tendency, and, if found to be impure, though late, to renounce and abjure them.

These, however, are to be carefully examined, ere we suffer these fountains of charity to be dried up, which certainly have cheered the hearts of some widows and fatherless—which have relieved some of the famishing and naked—which have been the means of arousing in some, to more vigorous action, the sickly moral sense, and exciting to better hopes and more cheering prospects—before we stand by and see those streams congeal which have cooled the lip fevered by penury, want and wo, and excited to healthy action those mental and moral powers which have been diseased and debased by vice.

If the institution have an immoral tendency, it must be found in its principles or its practices. By these it is surely right to try it—and to this test we ought to be willing to submit. By this test we desire to be judged; and we think it unjust to be subjected to any other. Whether our institution has a claim to so great antiquity, as some advance, cannot affect the question whether its principles are immoral or good. On this subject I shall not address you. History has settled this question in such a way as surely to put to silence

those who assert Masonry to be of recent origin. Its existence may be proved many centuries by the most authentic public records. How far beyond it extended and existed as a society may be somewhat obscure from the manner in which that existence has been perpetuated.

This branch I leave with such as have learning and leisure to pursue the inquiry.

That abuses may have crept into the institution in some parts of the world, and even in some parts of our own happy country, is no doubt to be feared. Masonry arrogates not perfection in its professors. Many may be and no doubt have been seduced from its salutary principles, and been led to engraft on the institution some which are bad. Many, like the rest of our fallen race, have been left to abandon the pure principles of Masonry, seduced by corrupt practices, and inordinate appetites, and unholy ambition. But we think we are not to be judged by these aberrations of brothers, however deeply they may have wounded a good cause. If so, and other institutions are to be judged by the same rule, how would our holy religion, and I speak of it I hope with reverence, escape the general condemnation? Have more corruptions been founded on Masonry than have crept in among those who have professed christianity? Look at the various sects founded upon the same stock and claiming to draw principles from the same source.

Shall Christianity, and with it piety, be reprobated on account of the unholy pretensions of the Roman Hierarchy? Has the fountain been so polluted by the blood of martyrs, of various sects and denominations, that it is no longer a fountain where sin and uncleanness may be washed away? Have the unholy lives and conversations of many of its professors, however to be deplored, made christianity a corrupt institution or its genuine effects on the heart less to be desired?

Let us examine still further. Has a more unhallowed ambition characterized professed Masons than professed Christians? On which *professed* altar have libations of blood been most profusely poured out? Under the sanction of which name, have treachery, and cruelty, and murder, and rapine, found the most secure asylum? Clothed in which garb have intolerance and hypocrisy been most securely wrapped?

But I forbear the parallel! Our enemies would point us to a single martyr. It is possible. We will not refer to the blood of the thousands, who cease not to cry, how long, Oh Lord! dost thou cease to avenge the blood of the saints?

But the Christian religion is the same benign, and holy and divine institution still—infinite the best of all institutions, nor do we compare Masonry with it. We only say, that if the name of the institution has been profaned to the promulgation of any unchristian, or dangerous doctrine or practice, let it not be attributed to Masonry—any more than the corruptions to the spirit of that institution, whose basis is supreme love to God and to our neighbor as ourselves.

Too many, under the garb of Masonry, have done iniquity—And alas! where is the institution, which has never been made a cloak for sin? But, my brethren, what are the principles of Masonry? I appeal to you, do any of them lie concealed?

It is the very first in all the grades, from the entered apprentice to that of Knight Templar, and so far I have been advanced, that the Holy Bible is given as the only guide to faith and practice.

True, every one, under such light as is afforded from instruction by the servants and spirit of God, must interpret for himself according to the dictates of his own conscience.

But who can receive it in simplicity of heart, and materially disagree as to its moral precepts or moral sanctions? May not all denominations, nay, do they not, offer incense on this one altar? How can it be ever open before us and fail to produce some good effect? Surely, we must be mad, if we have unholy purposes to accomplish in Church or State, to send forth our brethren to the work with the strongest injunctions to make that holy volume the Man of all their Councils! In that book are contained all our principles of thought and action.

I may add, and let the world judge how strongly it speaks in favor of our institution, that in all the attempts to extinguish this great light, it has always been diffusing its beneficent beams from the Masonic Altar.

When Church and State have combined to quench it, that sacred Book has been open to enlighten and purify, protected by the despised secrets of Masonry. Amidst the utter gloom in which for a time Atheism shrouded a fair portion of Europe, the Bible still lay open in true Masonic Lodges.

We are accused of acting in the dark—are not our Masonic Constitutions before the world? To them also we may confidently appeal for an exposition of our principles—and challenge aught which can tend to promote licentiousness of morals, or a life of irreligion. Is it a dangerous precept, that which lays at the very foundation of the Masonic edifice, “do good to all men as we have opportunity, and especially to the brethren?”

Is it a crime to appropriate our funds for the relief of the poor and distressed, whose husbands or fathers have contributed to that fund? But we know, that while such have in common justice a paramount claim, no Masonic principle restricts our charities. The principle is sufficiently broad to embrace all objects of benevolence, but alas! our means are too much circumscribed!

True, we do not trumpet an account of the charities which Masonry diffuses and the blessings she bestows. We do not say they are large. We know that they are something. If but little in the common mass and unperceived by the world at large, we still hope they go to increase the aggregate of human happiness and relieve the weight of human woe. With this we ought to be content, that “we have done what we could.”

May the blessing of God be on all other charitable and benevolent institutions of the present enlightened christian day! We would not circumscribe

them. How much may be subducted from such efforts in the great day of accounts, for the glowing language in which they are spread before the world in annual reports, we leave to Him who judges the motives of the heart which dictate the generous acts.

We are accused of advancing lofty pretensions. I have never understood that Masonry has ever claimed anything more than to be a charitable, moral society—based on *that charity* and *that morality*, which are enjoined in the Scriptures of inspiration. If it be wrong to support such a society, I am not able to perceive it.

It has been asserted that our obligations lead us to protect a brother right or wrong, and to shield him from justice in the commission of crime. Such an assertion is untrue.

While, as I hope, we shall ever deem it a duty to aid the brethren in all that is lawful and praiseworthy, I confidently say that I know of no Masonic obligation which imposes it on me to protect a brother in doing wrong. On the contrary, I have ever felt it as the very spirit of all my Masonic obligations to restrain a brother from going in the way of the wicked; even if necessary to bring him to justice, when other efforts have failed to wean him from vice.

Admitting it as a duty to shield a brother from immediate danger of life or limb, I would ask if that be not a Christian duty which I owe to every individual of the human race?

But to protect a Mason in the violation of the laws of God or man is not Masonry, and forms no part of any obligation which I have assumed.

To speak truth at all times—to adhere to it on all occasions, and to look to it under all circumstances, as the lucid point by which to shape our course in life is a fundamental principle of Masonry. It is never to be sacrificed to protect a brother even in his right; much less in wrong.

It has been asserted that Masonry has been prostituted to political purposes. It may be so in some sections of our country. But surrounded as I am by brethren of different political views, I appeal confidently to all for the truth of what I say, that *here* it has never been so.

Into none of the political contests which have agitated us, has Masonry entered.

The grand charge to all is to be a quiet and peaceable citizen of the government under which Providence may cast our lot—and if there be any thing on which peculiar stress is laid, as a masonic duty, next to the following of the great light, *it is* that political dissensions shall never enter our consecrated halls. In political tempests Masonry never lends its hand to direct the storm.

My brethren know this. And that the legitimate object of Masonry is to inculcate and enforce the charitable conclusion, that in these things brethren may *honestly* disagree. That such difference in opinion ought not to sever that chain of brotherly love, which binds us together—nor freeze that charity which hopeth all things.

To cultivate all the moral virtues—to subdue all the inordinate and unholy

passions—to pursue the dictates of reason—to love truth—to seek peace and pursue it—to abound in every good word and work, are the only legitimate principles of Masonry. Be it, as I hope it has been, our care to adhere to them.

This, brethren, is the only sure way to silence the enemies of the institution.

And let me now, on retiring from this elevated situation, solemnly impress on my brethren, in this way, to fulfill this important duty.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers.

The following R. W. Brethren were chosen a Committee to sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, viz: R. W. Daniel Granger, Thomas Clark and Moses Greenleaf, who reported the following brethren to be duly elected, viz:

- M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP of Brunswick, G. Master.
- R. W. AMOS NOURSE of Hallowell, S. G. Warden.
- R. W. REV. REUBEN NASON of Gorham, J. G. Warden.
- R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH of Portland, G. Treasurer.
- R. W. WILLIAM LORD of Portland, R. G. Secretary.

R. W. William Swan, Eleazer Wyer and James B. Cahoon were chosen a Committee on Finance.

R. W. William Swan, Samuel Fessenden, Daniel Granger, Nehemiah Cram and Albion K. Parris, were chosen to constitute a permanent part of the board of Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge, for three years ensuing.

The M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Grand Master elect, was duly invested by R. W. Samuel Fessenden, Past Grand Master.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary.

Communications were received from Fraternal Lodge at Shapleigh, and Rural Lodge at Sidney. Read and committed to R. W. Daniel Granger, Nathaniel Coffin and Paschal Brooks.

On motion,

Voted, That R. W. William Swan, Nathaniel Coffin and Amos Nourse, be a Committee to wait on the M. W. Past Grand Master, and return him the

thanks of this Grand Lodge for the address delivered by him this evening, and request a copy for publication.

R. W. Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish presented a donation to the Charity Fund of Thirty Dollars, being the amount allowed him for his services as Grand Treasurer the past year.

On motion,

Voted unanimously, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Bro. Gerrish, for this renewed instance of his liberality.

Voted, That R. W. Moses Greenleaf, Rev. Reuben Nason, Nathan Cutler, Rev. Samuel Rand and Simon Greenleaf, be a Committee to take into consideration the peculiar duties of masons at the present time and report.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening next, Jan. 22.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, Jan. 22, A. D. 1830.

The Grand Lodge assembled at six o'clock, P. M., agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	G. Master.
R. W. AMOS NOURSE,	S. G. Warden.
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal.
" REV. SAMUEL RAND,	G. Chaplain.
" JOHN CHUTE,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" OLIVER GRISWOLD,	J. G. Deacon.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
" ELEAZER WYER,	" "
" ROBERT R. KENDALL,	G. Sword Bearer.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. SAMUEL FESSENDEN.
" NATHANIEL COFFIN.

District Deputy Grand Masters, from the Third and Fifth Districts.

The following lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	Blazing Star,	No. 30
Lincoln,	" 3	Bethlehem,	" 35
Kennebec,	" 5	Harmony,	" 38
United,	" 8	Piscataquis,	" 44
Solar,	" 14	Aurora,	" 50
St. George,	" 16	Rural,	" 53
A. Land Mark,	" 17	Vassalborough,	" 54
Freeport,	" 23	Fraternal,	" 55
Village,	" 26	Mount Moriah,	" 56

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then made the following appointments for the ensuing year, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

R. W. PELEG SPRAGUE, of Hallowell, Deputy Grand Master.

" PASCHAL BROOKS, of Portland, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" ROBERT R. KENDALL, of Freeport, Grand Marshal.

" Rev. SAMUEL RAND, of Portland, Grand Chaplain.

" " SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Saco, " "

" " STEPHEN LOVELL, of Portland, " "

" ISAAC LINCOLN, of Brunswick, Sen. Grand Deacon.

" OLIVER GRISWOLD, of Fryeburg, Jun. Grand Deacon.

" NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, Grand Steward.

" ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, " "

" WILLIAM DUNN, of Poland, " "

" JOSEPH CHANDLER, of Augusta, " "

" OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, G. S. Bearer.

" SETH CLARK, of Portland, G. Pursuivant,

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, " "

" WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland, G. Tyler.

The above named officers were severally installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Samuel Stephenson, of Gorham.

Second District—R. W. Stephen Emery, of Paris.

Third District—R. W. Rufus C. Vose, of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Isaac G. Reed, of Waldoborough.

Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.

Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.

Seventh District—R. W. David Shepard, of Sebec.

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio.</i>
R. W. Peleg Sprague, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" Amos Nourse, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Rev. Reuben Nason, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" William Lord, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" Albion K. Parris.	
" Samuel Fessenden.	
" William Swan.	
" Charles Fox.	
" Daniel Granger.	
" Nehemiah Cram.	

The following report was submitted :

The committee appointed to wait upon the R. W. Past Grand Master, Samuel Fessenden, to present him the thanks of the Grand Lodge for his Address delivered upon his retiring from the chair, and request a copy for publication, have performed that service, and have the pleasure to report,

That the R. W. Brother has yielded to the wishes of the Grand Lodge, and will furnish a copy to the Grand Secretary.

Which report was accepted.

The following report was presented :

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the peculiar duties of Masons at the present time, have attended to that duty as far as the limited time allotted to them would admit, and they now ask leave to report, that they have with unfeigned regret seen the press teeming with inflammatory publications, misrepresenting our order as maintaining principles, and imposing on its members obligations, immoral in their nature, dangerous to the community, and tending in effect to subvert the freedom of our republican institutions, and of all regular government ; to weaken the confidence of man in man, and to undermine the foundations of civil society and of religious hope. That such principles deserve the reprobation of every friend to the best interests of mankind cannot for a moment be denied ; but such principles are not, and never have been, the principles of Free Masonry. Societies of Illuminati, falsely assuming the name and symbols of Masons, may have been formed in some parts of our country, and from them may have emanated a poison which, in greater or less degree, may have infected some lodges originally of genuine Masons, and insidiously intermixed their corrupt principles with the pure principles of true and ancient Masonry. How widely such corruption may have extended in other parts of our country we know not. It exists not, to our

knowledge, in Maine. But, by whatever means corruption may have been introduced, or however widely extended, Masonry itself, any more than Christianity, is not justly responsible for the errors of its nominal professors, nor chargeable with the corruptions which may have assumed its *name*, or sought shelter under its *garb*. And it does not attempt to vindicate, but disowns and rejects them.

From the nature and extent, however, of the charges which are publicly made against Masonry, and the excitement they have produced in the minds of a large portion of the community in some parts of our country, and the respectability of some of those who have been led by them to view the institution as of injurious and even dangerous tendency, it may at first view seem that "Masons owe it to themselves and to the world, to vindicate themselves from such charges," by an explicit and formal avowal of the principles they do profess and maintain, and disavowal of those which do *not* belong to them. But it is well known to all true Masons, and it is far from being wholly unknown to the world, that the principles of Masonry have been for centuries made public. It is well known to Masons, and has been publicly and repeatedly declared to the world, that the first and fundamental principle of Free Masonry is that of *faith in God*;—That, for the knowledge of Him, his character and laws, it invariably refers to his works and his word the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments;—That it considers these Scriptures as emphatically the Great Light of Masonry, and gives them to all its members as the rule and guide of their faith and practice; to be received as such by all true Masons, and obligatory on them as well in their character of Masons as of men;—That it gives them also *without note or comment*, leaving it to the understanding and enjoining it upon the conscience of each individual, to direct his course according to their precepts. And no principle inconsistent with the obvious and acknowledged principles of these Scriptures, is recognized by, or can consist with the principles of genuine Masonry.

It is equally known that the whole design and all the tendencies of Masonry, are to aid the cultivation of all the moral and social virtues—to comfort the afflicted—to relieve the distressed—to do justice and maintain truth—to harmonize and subdue the passions—and to promote "peace on earth and good will to men." And in all its precepts, and through all its ceremonials, it seeks to impress these principles more strongly upon the mind, and to inculcate more forcibly their observance and practice. With candid and unprejudiced minds this will be sufficient, and with other minds no declaration of ours can be expected to avail.

It is true that Masons have their secrets. They consist in our modes of inculcating our principles, and in our ceremonials. These, blended, form the evidence by which we may prove our title to the name and privileges of Masonry. But true Masonry possesses no secret involving any moral principle which it does not and has not always freely disclosed. All other societies, and even Christian churches, have their secrets and keep them. Masons have

theirs, and cannot honestly disclose, nor with propriety be required publicly to discuss them. And though, from the peculiar circumstances of the present time, and the fears of some good men with regard to the designs and tendencies of Masonry, it may be thought even by some good Masons, that the Grand Lodge ought in some public and formal manner to declare explicitly to the world its principles, and distinctly disavow those which are falsely imputed to it, yet Masons should recollect that their principles have often, and upon proper occasions, always been distinctly declared, and all those immoral and dangerous principles which have been imputed to their order as distinctly disavowed; that they are under no obligations, as Masons nor as men, to enter the lists of discussion and argument with political enthusiasts or heated fanatics, but ought to avoid all those things which serve only to keep alive the frenzy which threatens to lay waste the superstructure and uproot the foundations of social harmony: and therefore your committee can perceive no course so proper to recommend under the present circumstances, as that all true Masons should quietly let the tempest take its course, and fear not its consequences, while they endeavor to vindicate the sincerity of their profession by a well ordered life and conversation, and "by *well doing* to put to silence the ignorance of foolish men." All which is respectfully submitted,

MOSES GREENLEAF,	} Committee.
NATHAN CUTLER,	
SAMUEL RAND,	
SIMON GEEENLEAF,	
REUBEN NASON,	

Which was accepted.

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial and petition of Fraternal Lodge, praying for an extension of the time for their consecration, and also for some relief on account of expenses incurred by reason of the inattention of the Grand Lodge to its appointments for the public installation of their officers, ask leave to report, that a further time of one year from the first day of January instant, be allowed for the consecration of Fraternal Lodge and the installation of their officers. And, that whenever within the year these services shall be performed, there be paid to the Treasurer of that lodge from the funds of the Grand Lodge, the sum of Fifty Dollars, to assist them in meeting the expenses of installation.

The same committee, also having under consideration the petition of Rural Lodge, ask leave to report, that a further time of one year from the first day of January instant, be allowed for the consecration of Rural Lodge, and the installation of its officers.

All which is submitted,

In Grand Lodge, Jan. 22, 1830.

DANIEL GRANGER, *per order.*

Which report was accepted.

Voted, That one hundred and fifty copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge be printed and distributed as heretofore, together with a sufficient number of copies of the farewell address of the M. W. Past Grand Master to furnish all the members of the lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

REPORT.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the resolution submitted to the Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication, October 22, 1829, by R. W. Joshua B. Osgood, relative to the amendment of the 17th section of the 4th Chapter of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, having had the same under consideration report,

That, in the opinion of your Committee, said chapter and section ought to be so far amended as respects the time in which subordinate lodges may be consecrated and their officers installed, and that four years be allowed from the date of their respective charters for said consecration and installation.

Which is respectfully submitted,

January 22, 1830.

THOMAS CLARK, *per order*.

The foregoing report having been fully discussed, on motion,

Voted, That the subject be indefinitely postponed.

REPORT.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Penobscot Lodge, having attended to the duty assigned them, ask leave to report, that in their opinion the interest of Masonry would be promoted by complying with the wishes of the petitioners and giving the permission to hold their meetings in the town of Dexter and Exeter alternately. They therefore recommend that the prayer of their petition be granted, on condition that the petitioners procure the approbation of Meridian Splendor Lodge to the removal of said Penobscot Lodge as prayed for.

January 22, 1830.

JOSEPH M. GERRISH, *per order*.

Which report was accepted.

REPORT.

To the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Corresponding Secretary respectfully reports :

That since the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Delaware, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania and the District

of Columbia, have been received; all which have been carefully read and examined.

In the Lecturer's report, published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, it is stated "that masonry in Pennsylvania may be considered as flourishing in all the thickly settled portions of the State;" and it appears by the proceedings of several of the other Grand Lodges, that masonry commands the respect which it merits; and this is evinced by the fact that a considerable number of dispensations and charters have been granted within the last year, establishing subordinate lodges in different States. The foreign correspondence does not, it is believed, present any subject particularly requiring the attention of this Grand Lodge.

Jan. 22, 1830.

JOHN L. MEGQUIER, *Cor. Grand Secretary.*

Which report was accepted.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund at their meeting, Jan. 21, 1830.

Voted, That in future, *all* refreshments be dispensed with in this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the time for consecrating Mount Moriah Lodge, and installing its officers, be extended to one year from the first day of January, 1830.

The following resolution was submitted by R. W. Amos Nourse:

Resolved, That Sec. 3d, Chap. 1st, of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, be so amended as to strike out Portland, and insert Hallowell or Augusta.

The foregoing resolve being read,

Ordered, That the further consideration of it be postponed to the next Annual Communication, and that it be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, for the consideration of the several subordinate lodges under this jurisdiction.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to effect a loan or loans, on the credit of the Grand Lodge, to an amount sufficient to enable him to pay all existing demands against the Grand Lodge, and those that may accrue the ensuing year, on such time and such rate of interest, not exceeding six per cent., as he may think advisable.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

LIST OF LODGES.

The following is a list of lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maine, under the superintendence of the seven District Deputy Grand Masters, viz :

FIRST DISTRICT.

R. W. SAMUEL STEPHENSON, Gorham, D. D. G. M.

Portland.....	No. 1.....	Portland.
United.....	" 8.....	Brunswick
Saco.....	" 9.....	Saco.
Cumberland.....	" 12.....	New Gloucester.
A. Land Mark.....	" 17.....	Portland.
York.....	" 22.....	Kennebunk.
Freeport.....	" 23.....	Freeport.
Adoniram.....	" 27.....	Livington.
Casco.....	" 36.....	No. Yarmouth.
Harmony.....	" 38.....	Gorham.
Freedom.....	" 42.....	Parsonsfield.
Buxton.....	" 47.....	Buxton.
St. Johns.....	" 51.....	South Berwick.
Fraternal.....	" 55.....	Shapleigh.

SECOND DISTRICT.

R. W. STEPHEN EMERY, Paris, D. D. G. M

Pythagorean.....	No. 11.....	Fryeburg.
Oriental.....	" 13.....	Bridgton.
Oxford.....	" 18.....	Paris.
Oriental Star.....	" 21.....	Livermore.
Tranquil.....	" 29.....	Minot.
Blazing Star.....	" 30.....	Rumford.
Mount Moriah.....	" 56.....	Denmark
King Hiram.....	" 57.....	Dixfield.

THIRD DISTRICT.

R. W. RUFUS C. VOSE, Augusta, D. D. G. M.

Kennebec.....	No. 5.....	Hallowell.
Maine.....	" 20.....	Farmington.
Temple.....	" 25.....	Winthrop.
Northern Star.....	" 28.....	Anson.
Hermon.....	" 32.....	Gardiner.
Waterville.....	" 33.....	Waterville.
Somerset.....	" 34.....	Norridgewock.
Bethlehem.....	" 35.....	Augusta.

Morning Star.....	No. 41.....	Litchfield.
Central.....	" 45.....	China.
Lafayette.....	" 48.....	Readfield.
Rural.....	" 53.....	Sidney.
Vassalborough.....	" 54.....	Vassalborough.
Unity.....	" 58.....	Unity.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

R. W. ISAAC G. REED, Waldoborough, D. D. G. M.

Lincoln.....	No. 3.....	Wiscasset.
Solar.....	" 14.....	Bath.
Orient.....	" 15.....	Thomaston.
St. George.....	" 16.....	Warren.
Village.....	" 26.....	Bowdoinham.
Union.....	" 31.....	Union.
Alna.....	" 43.....	Alna.
Aurora.....	" 50.....	Thomaston.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

R. W. HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS, Castine, D. D. G. M.

Hancock.....	No. 4.....	Castine.
Amity.....	" 6.....	Camden.
Felicity.....	" 19.....	Bucksport.
Phoenix.....	" 24.....	Belfast.
Lygonia.....	" 40.....	Surry.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

R. W. OLIVER N. ALLEN, Lubec, D. D. G. M.

Warren.....	No. 2.....	Machias.
Eastern.....	" 7.....	Eastport.
Washington.....	" 37.....	Lubec.
St. Croix.....	" 46.....	Calais.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. DAVID SHEPARD, Sebec, D. D. G. M.

Rising Virtue.....	No. 10.....	Bangor.
Penobscot.....	" 39.....	Garland.
Piscataquis.....	" 44.....	Sebec.
Meridian Splendor.....	" 49.....	Newport.
Mosaic.....	" 52.....	Sangerville.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATIONS.

[Transcript of the Record.]

Grand Lodge of Maine.

At a Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, April 15, 1830, there not being members enough present, the Grand Lodge was not opened.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

Grand Lodge of Maine.

Quarterly Communication at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, July 15, A. D. 1830.

There were not members enough present this evening to open the Grand Lodge, and it was adjourned without day.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

Grand Lodge of Maine.

Quarterly Communication at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, October 21, A. D. 1830.

Not being members enough present to open, the Grand Lodge adjourned without day.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1831.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Thursday, January 20, A. D. 1831.

PRESENT—M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	G. Master.
R. W. DANIEL GRANGER,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" PASCHAL BROOKS,	Cor. G. Secretary.
" MANLY HARDY,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" REV. ALLEN H. COBB,	G. Chaplain, <i>p. t.</i>
" GORHAM PARKS,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" DAVID BURBANK,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
" OLIVER GERRISH,	G. Sword Bearer.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN.
" CHARLES FOX.
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

R. W. SAMUEL STEPHENSON, from the First District.

The following lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	Cumberland,	No. 12	Casco,	No. 36
Hancock,	" 4	Solar,	" 14	Washington,	" 37
Kennebec,	" 5	A. Land Mark,	" 16	Harmony,	" 38
Amity,	" 6	Oriental Star,	" 21	Aurora,	" 50
Eastern,	" 7	Temple,	" 25	Fraternal,	" 55
United,	" 8	Felicity,	" 28	Mount Moriah,	" 56
Saco,	" 9	Freeport,	" 32		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayers were offered by the Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report:

The Committee on Finance having attended to the various duties of their appointment, submit their annual report, as follows :

There was a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer at the annual settlement, Jan. 1830, of	\$15.38½
Received from the D. D. G. Master of 2d District on second return,	\$6.00
Received from the D. D. G. Master of 7th District on second return,	27.00
	<hr/> 33.00
Received for my note given by virtue of a vote of the Grand Lodge,	120.00
	<hr/> \$168.38½

There has been paid by the Treasurer since the last annual report, as follows :

To increase the Charity Fund, being one-half of the balance remaining in the Treasury on settlement, 1830,	7.69
Sundry printing bills amounting to	21.25
Amount allowed the G. Treasurer for his services up to January, 1830,	30.00
Amount allowed Grand R. Sec'y for his services to same period,	55.00
Amount allowed G. Tyler for his services to same period,	8.00
Amount paid G. Steward's bill to this period,	47.38
Paid interest on moneys borrowed,	3.00
Stationery and postages,	12.77
Paid Hall rent to January 1, 1831,	40.00
S. L. Valentine, D. D. G. Master 7th District, for sundry expenses,	2.28
Cash, paid money borrowed for use of Grand Lodge,	120.00
	<hr/> 347.37
Deduct amount of receipts as per statement,	168.38½
Leaving due the Treasurer on this account,	<hr/> \$178.98½

Statement of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine, January, 1831.

10 shares in Bank of Portland,	1000.00
10 shares in Casco Bank,	1000.00
20 shares in Canal Bank,	2000.00
Sundry Notes of hand on interest, in the hands of the Treasurer, and which are satisfactorily secured,	910.00
Cash in the hands of the Treasurer,	278.00
	<hr/> \$5188.00
Received since the last annual settlement, viz :	
For interest and dividends on Bank Stock,	286.22
He has paid in sundry donations by order of the Trustees,	139.00
Balance applicable to relief,	147.22
	<hr/> \$286.22
Donations made by the Board of Trustees, January 20, 1831,	147.00
Leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer, of	.22
There is in the hands of the Treasurer applicable to the increase of the funds,	\$278.004

The accounts of the Treasurer have been examined and found correct. Your Committee have also examined the records of the Grand Secretary, and find in both instances that the duties of their respective offices have been discharged with their usual accuracy and fidelity. They recommend an allowance of forty dollars for his services to this period—thirty dollars to the Grand Treasurer, and eight dollars to the Grand Tyler for their services to this period. Although the foregoing statement of the funds of the Grand Lodge does not present a very cheering aspect, the Committee are pleased to learn that there are no outstanding debts due from the lodge excepting the balance stated to be due the Treasurer, which may be liquidated by obtaining a credit from the Charity Fund, to be reimbursed hereafter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Portland, Jan. 20, 1831.

WILLIAM SWAN, *for the Com. on Finance.*

Which report was accepted.

Voted, That the several sums recommended in the Report of the Committee of Finance for services, be paid to the persons therein named, by the Grand Treasurer, as recommended.

R. W. Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish presented the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge with the sum of Thirty Dollars, being the amount allowed him for his services as Grand Treasurer the past year.

On motion,

Voted, unanimously, that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Brother Gerrish, for this repeated instance of his liberality, and that the donation be distributed agreeable to his request, viz: to Bro. Wm. Stevens, of Portland, ten dollars; to Rev. Jacob Herrick, of Durham, ten dollars; to the wife of Jacob Herrick, Jr., five dollars, and to the widow Brown, of Portland, five dollars.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers.

The following R. W. Brethren were chosen a Committee to sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, viz: R. W. William Swan, Benjamin J. Herrick and Moses Fuller, who reported the following brethren to be duly elected, viz:

- M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP of Brunswick, Grand Master.
- R. W. AMOS NOURSE of Hallowell, Senior Grand Warden.
- R. W. REV. REUBEN NASON of Gorham, Junior Grand Warden.
- R. W. JAMES B. CAHOON of Portland, Grand Treasurer.*
- R. W. WILLIAM LORD of Portland, Recording Grand Secretary.

R. W. Charles Fox, Joseph M. Gerrish and Eleazer Wyer were chosen a Committee of Finance.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Recording Grand Secretary.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Corresponding Grand Secretary respectfully reports:

That since the last Annual Communication the friendly courtesies of this Grand Lodge have been reciprocated by the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Ohio, Vermont, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, New Jersey, New York, Kentucky, Mississippi, Maryland and Delaware, from whom the proceedings at their annual communications have been duly received by the Grand Secretary.

These communications are occupied mostly with matters of a local character, and after a careful examination of their proceedings, it is believed that nothing is presented particularly requiring the attention of this Grand Lodge.

January 20, 1831.

PASCHAL BROOKS, *C. G. Secretary.*

Which report was accepted.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to borrow on the credit of the Grand Lodge, the sum of two hundred and fifty-six dollars and ninety-eight cents, for the purpose of paying the debts due by the Grand Lodge.

*R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH was unanimously re-elected, but declined to serve.

Voted, That the further consideration of the resolution submitted by R. W. Amos Nourse at the last Annual Communication, be postponed until the next Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That a further time of one year be allowed for the consecration of Mount Moriah Lodge of Denmark, and the installation of its officers.

A communication from Fraternal Lodge at Shapleigh was laid before the Grand Lodge. Read and committed to R. W. W'm Swan, Gorham Parks and David C. Magoun, to report at the adjournment.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Friday evening next, Jan. 21.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, January 21, A. D. 1831.

The Grand Lodge met at 7 o'clock, P. M., agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	Grand Master,
R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" MOSES FULLER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JAMES B. CAHOON,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	R. G. Secretary.
" PASCHAL BROOKS,	Cor. G. Sec'y.
" SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" S. G. LADD,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" DAVID C. MAGOUN,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward.
" SETH CLARK,	G. Pursuivant.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICER.

R. W. WILLIAM SWAN.

Lodges represented as yesterday.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then made the following appointments for the ensuing year, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

R.W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, of Wiscasset, Deputy Grand Master.

" PASCHAL BROOKS, of Portland, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" ROBERT R. KENDALL, of Freeport, Grand Marshal.

Rev. SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Saco, Grand Chaplain.

" ALLEN H. COBB, of Durham, " "

" " SILAS STEARNS, of Bath, " "

" OLIVER GRISWOLD, of Fryeburg, Sen. Grand Deacon.

" MOSES SPRINGER, Jr., of Gardiner, Jun. Grand Deacon.

" NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, Grand Steward.

" ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, " "

" JOSEPH CHANDLER, of Augusta, " "

" ISAAC GAGE, of Hallowell, " "

" OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, G. Sword Bearer.

" SETH CLARK, of Portland, G. Pursuivant,

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, " "

" WILLIAM STEVENS, of Portland, G. Tyler.

The above named officers were severally installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Samuel Stephenson, of Gorham.

Second District—R. W. Stephen Emery, of Paris.

Third District—R. W. Andrew Masters, of Hallowell.

Fourth District—R. W. Isaac G. Reed, of Waldoborough.

Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.

Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.

Seventh District—R. W. David Shepard, of Sebec.

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund:

M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Grand Master, *ex officio*.

R. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Deputy Grand Master, "

" Amos Nourse, Senior Grand Warden, "

" Rev. Reuben Nason, Junior Grand Warden, "

" William Lord, Recording Grand Secretary, "

" Albion K. Parris.

" Samuel Fessenden.

" William Swan.

" Charles Fox.

" Daniel Granger.

" Nehemiah Cram.

The following resolution was submitted by R. W. William Swan :

Resolved, That from and after this date, every subordinate lodge shall pay annually for the support of the Grand Lodge, one-eighth of a dollar for each member constituting such Lodge, such dues to be collected and paid into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge conformable to the By-Laws.

The foregoing resolution was read and committed to R. W. William Swan, John L. Megquier and S. G. Ladd, which Committee made the following report :

The Committee appointed to consider a resolve proposing an amendment to the By-Laws, have considered the subject, and are unanimously of opinion that it is expedient to adopt the same, but recommend that it lie over till the next Annual Communication, and that the Secretary communicate the same to the lodges under this jurisdiction.

January, 1831.

WILLIAM SWAN, *per order*.

The foregoing report having been read,

Ordered, That it lie over to the next Annual Communication, and that it be communicated to subordinate lodges before the Annual Communication.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from Fraternal Lodge at Shapleigh, submitted the following report :

The undersigned, a Committee of the Grand Lodge, have had under consideration the petition of Fraternal Lodge to be installed in ample form, and ask leave to report and recommend, that so much of the prayer of said petition as relates to an extension of time and to an installation be granted, and they further recommend that the whole ceremony be under the direction of the District Deputy Grand Master for the district in which said lodge is situated.

Respectfully submitted,

January, 1831.

WILLIAM SWAN, *per order*.

Which report was accepted.

The Recording Grand Secretary reported the proceedings of the Trustees of the Charity Fund at their meeting, January 20, 1831.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary*.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATIONS.

[Transcript of the Record.]

Grand Lodge of Maine.

Quarterly Communication at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, April 21, A. D. 1831.

No members present, and the Grand Lodge was not opened.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

Grand Lodge of Maine.

Quarterly Communication at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, July 21, A. D. 1831.

PRESENT—Brothers [John K.] Gilman, John L. Megquier, David Burbank, W. Morse, Jr., John Purinton and William Lord.

The Charter, Records &c., of Kennebec Lodge, were returned to the Grand Lodge by Bro's Gilman and Morse.

Not being members enough present, the Grand Lodge was not opened.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *Grand Secretary.*

Grand Lodge of Maine.

Quarterly Communication at Masons' Hall in Portland, Thursday, October 20, A. D. 1831.

The Grand Lodge was not opened, there being no officers present except the Secretary.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, (by order of the M. W. Grand Master), Monday, December 19, A. D. 1831.

PRESENT—M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	G. Master.
R. W. SAMUEL STEPHENSON,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JAMES B. CAHOON,	G. Treasurer.
" WILLIAM LORD,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
" PASCHAL BROOKS,	Cor. G. Secretary.
" ROBERT R. KENDALL,	G. Marshal.
" DAVID BURBANK,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" GEORGE L. DARLING,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN,	" "
" ARTHUR M. DAVIS,	G. Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM STEVENS,	G. Tyler.

The following lodges were represented, viz:

Portland,	No. 1	A. Land Mark,	No. 17	Harmony,	No. 38
United,	" 3	Freeport,	" 23		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The resolution submitted by R. W. Amos Nourse, at the Annual Communication in January, 1830, viz:

Resolved, That Section third, Chapter first, of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, be so amended, as to strike out Portland, and insert Hallowell, or Augusta,

was taken into consideration, and after being amended by striking out Hallowell, was unanimously adopted.

A communication was received from Joseph Chandler, Benjamin Davis, and Rufus Chandler, Jr., a committee of Bethlehem Lodge at Augusta, tendering to this Grand Lodge the use of their hall at Augusta for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge accept the offer made by Bethlehem Lodge for their accommodation.

Voted, That R. W. Joseph Chandler of Augusta, Amos Nourse of Hallowell, and Moses Springer, Jr., of Gardiner, be a committee to make arrangements for the meeting of the Grand Lodge at Augusta.

Voted, That Charles B. Smith and Joseph M. Gerrish be a committee to take charge of the records, papers and furniture of the Grand Lodge, now in the hands of the Treasurer and Secretary, and deliver the same to the Secretary and Treasurer, or other officers of the Grand Lodge that may be chosen at the Annual Communication, taking their receipt for the same.

Voted, That Charles B. Smith and Joseph M. Gerrish be a committee to dispose of all the unnecessary furniture of the Grand Lodge, and pay the amount received for the same into the Treasury.

The following resolution was submitted by R. W. John L. Megquier, viz :

Resolved, That Section third, Chapter first of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be amended, by striking out in the first line of said section the words "regular meetings," and inserting the words "Annual Communications"; also, by striking out the third line of said section, as printed, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "Thursday of January."

The foregoing resolution was read, and committed to R. W. John L. Megquier, George L. Darling and Robert R. Kendall; which committee unanimously recommended the adoption of said resolution.

Ordered, That the further consideration of the subject be postponed to the next Annual Communication, and that the same be printed and forwarded to the several subordinate lodges for their consideration.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Attest,

WILLIAM LORD, *G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1832.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Augusta, on Thursday, the 19th day of January, A. D. 1832.

PRESENT—M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	Grand Master.
R. W. EBEN HILTON,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. B. CAHOON,	Grand Treasurer.
“ JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	R. G. Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ROBERT R. KENDALL,	Grand Marshal.
“ REUEL WASHBURN,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM HASKELL,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH CHANDLER,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ DANIEL WADSWORTH,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ FREDERICK WINGATE,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The following lodges were represented :

Portland,	No. 1	Freeport,	No. 23	Waterville,	No. 33
Lincoln,	“ 3	Temple,	“ 25	Washington,	“ 37
Eastern,	“ 7	Northern Star,	“ 28	Lafayette,	“ 48
United,	“ 8	Union,	“ 31	Rural,	“ 53
Solar,	“ 14	Hermon,	“ 32	King Hiram,	“ 57
A. Land Mark,	“ 17				

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The report from the Corresponding Grand Secretary was read and accepted.

A communication from the District Deputy Grand Master of the Seventh District was read and placed on file.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Recording Grand Secretary, *pro tem*.

Voted, That the amendment in the constitution as proposed at the last meeting be adopted, and that in future there be only one meeting of the Grand Lodge annually.

Voted, That R. W. Reuel Washburn, Jonathan Thayer, David C. Magoun, Joseph Chandler and Benjamin Folsom be a Committee to consider whether the interest which accrued from the Charity Fund during the past year can be now appropriated for the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, as may be considered worthy of assistance, and report at the adjournment of this meeting.

Proceeded to the choice of officers.

Voted, That R. W. Benjamin Folsom, Benjamin Davis and Jonathan Smith be a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers to be elected by ballot, who reported the following brethren to be duly elected, viz :

M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN of Wiscasset, G. Master.

R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER of Portland, S. G. Warden.

R. W. DAVID C. MAGOUN of Bath, J. G. Warden.

R. W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS of Augusta, R. G. Secretary.

R. W. JAMES B. CAHOON of Portland, G. Treasurer.

R. W. Henry W. Fuller, Jesse Robinson and Daniel Wadsworth were chosen a Committee on Finance.

M. W. Robert P. Dunlap and R. W. Benjamin Davis were chosen members of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Albion K. Parris and Nehemiah Cram.

On motion of Bro. May,

R. W. John L. Megquier, Seth May and David C. Magoun were appointed a Committee to see if a member of a subordinate lodge, once expelled, can be restored.

Voted, That the Recording Grand Secretary be requested to notify the officers elect.

A motion was made by Bro. May, to remit all dues from subordinate lodges, but the question on so remitting was decided in the negative.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn until Thursday evening, February 9, 1832, at 7 o'clock, then to meet at this place.

Adjourned accordingly.

JOSEPH M. GERRISH, *G. Secretary, p. t.*

MASONS' HALL, Augusta, Feb. 9, 1832.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

R. W. Benjamin Davis was chosen Grand Secretary *pro tempore*.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge now adjourn to meet at this place on Thursday, the 16th of February instant, at 7 o'clock P. M.

BENJAMIN DAVIS, *G. Secretary, p. t.*

MASONS' HALL, Augusta, Feb. 16, A. D. 1832.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	G. Master.
R. W. CHARLES B. SMITH,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ AMOS H. HODGMAN,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JONATHAN SMITH,	G. Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	G. Secretary.
“ THOMAS GILPATRICK, JR.,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ THOMAS GILPATRICK,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOSEPH CHANDLER,	G. Steward.
“ WILLIAM PARTRIDGE,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ FREDERICK WINGATE,	G. Tyler.

Lodges represented, as on January 19.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master elect being present, signified his acceptance of that office, and was duly installed by the M. W. Robert P. Dunlap.

The Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

- R. W. AMOS NOURSE, of Hallowell, Deputy Grand Master.
 " ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough, Cor. Grand Secretary.
 " JOSEPH CHANDLER, of Augusta, Grand Marshal.
 " REV. SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Saco, Grand Chaplain.
 " " FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset, " "
 " " MOSES SPRINGER, Jr., of Gardiner, " "
 " REUEL WASHBURN, of Livermore, S. G. Deacon.
 " EBEN HILTON, of Wiscasset, J. G. Deacon.
 " JESSE ROBINSON, of Augusta, G. Steward.
 " RUFUS C. VOSE, of do. " "
 " ELEAZER WYER, of Portland, " "
 " AMOS H. HODGMAN, of Warren, " "
 " OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, G. Sword Bearer.
 " WILLIAM PARTRIDGE, of Gardiner, G. Pursuivant.
 " OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, " "
 " FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, Grand Tyler.

The above named officers, as also the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, were duly installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

The M. W. Grand Master then ordered the formation of a new Masonic District, to be composed of the several lodges in the County of York, and to be called and known as the *Eighth* Masonic District.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. John C. Humphreys, of Brunswick.

Second District—R. W. Stephen Emery, of Paris.

Third District—R. W. Eben Fuller, of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Zina Hyde, of Bath.

Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.

Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.

Seventh District—R. W. David Shepard, of Sebec.

Eighth District—R. W. Frederick Clark, of Saco.

The Committee on Finance submitted their report, which was accepted and ordered to be placed on file, as follows :

The Committee of Finance, having attended to the duties assigned them so far as to examine the Treasurer's account, ask leave to report as follows, viz :

There was a balance due the former Grand Treasurer, Joseph M. Gerrish, at the annual settlement in Jan. 1831, the sum of one hundred seventy-eight dollars ninety-eight cents,	\$178.98
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And there appears to have been paid by him before he
handed over the books to his successor, James B.
Cahoon, the following sums, viz :

To Samuel Stephenson, D. D. G. Master, the sum of	2.50	
“ “ “ “ “ for postage,	.10	
To Hezekiah Williams, D. D. G. Master, the sum of	2.00	
To Jeremiah Martin, for lights, &c., the sum of	7.50	
To W'm Lord, Recording Grand Secretary, the sum of	40.00	
To William Stevens, Tyler, the sum of	8.00	
To amount allowed Treasurer,	30.00	
	<hr/>	\$90.10
		\$269.08

And there was received by the said Gerrish the following sums, viz :

From Samuel Stephenson D. D. G. Master,	10.00	
“ Hezekiah Williams “ “	35.75	
“ David Shepard “ “	3.37	
	<hr/>	49.12
		\$219.96

There appears to have been paid by the present Grand Treasurer up to this
time, the following sums, viz :

Shirley & Hyde's bill for printing,	91.30	
Thomas Todd's “ “	3.75	
Samuel Stephenson, D. D. G. Master,	13.00	
W'm Lord, G. Secretary, for postage, &c.,	5.25	
J. Martin, lights, &c.,	6.00	
Hall rent,	40.00	
D. Shepard, D. D. G. Master,	14.75	
Israel Waterhouse, transporting furniture, regalia, &c., to Augusta,	5.00	
	<hr/>	179.05

And it appears that said Cahoon has received up to the present time the following sums, viz :

From Charles B. Smith, for furniture sold by vote of Grand Lodge,	8.19	
From D. Shepherd, D. D. G. Master,	28.75	
	<hr/>	36.94
		<hr/>
		\$142.12

And there appears now to be due to the Treasurer, James B. Cahoon, the sum of one hundred forty-two dollars and twelve cents.

The amount which appears by this account to be due to the former Treasurer of two hundred nineteen dollars and ninety-six cents was carried to the Charity Fund account and there settled and balanced.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JESSE ROBINSON, *per order.*

Statement of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine, January 1832, viz :

10 shares in Bank of Portland, cost,	1000.00
10 shares in Casco Bank, "	1000.00
20 shares in Canal Bank, "	2000.00
	<hr/>
	\$4000.00

Sundry promissory notes, viz :

John L. Megquier and others,	200.00
Jonathan Greenleaf "	50.00
Moses Greenleaf "	150.00
Thomas Herrick "	100.00
Stephen Stephenson "	200.00
Oliver Griswold "	200.00
William Walker "	10.00
	<hr/>
	910.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,910.00

There is due from the Grand Lodge to the Charity Fund for money loaned them by vote of said Grand Lodge, at their annual meeting, January, 1831, to pay the debts due from said Grand Lodge to sundry individuals, and to be reimbursed when in funds, the sum of

219.96

\$5,129.96

Interest and dividends received since last Annual Communication, viz :

Balance in hands of Treasurer on settlement, April 15, 1831,	58.26	
Interest and dividends received since,	246.00	
		<u>\$304.26</u>

Should the Grand Lodge pass a vote as of last year to borrow of the Charity Fund to pay its debts, and allowing the same to the Treasurer, Secretary and Tyler, as of last year, which would amount to	220.12	
		<u>\$84.14</u>

There would be eighty-four dollars only remaining which would be applicable to relief.

On examination of the Treasurer's books, we find there is due to him a balance on the general account, which is herewith exhibited, the sum of	142.12	
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To pay the Treasurer, Secretary and Tyler of last year, as we have reported,	78.00	
		<u>\$220.12</u>

The Grand Lodge stands now indebted to the Charity Fund, the sum of	219.96	
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Should another loan be made to pay the debts of 1831, as above stated, viz :	220.12	
		<u>\$440.08</u>

The Grand Lodge will be indebted to the Charity Fund the sum of four hundred forty dollars and eight cents.

JESSE ROBINSON, *per order*.

On motion of R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to borrow from the Charity Fund, the sum of two hundred and twenty dollars and twelve cents to pay the debts due from the Grand Lodge.

On motion of John L. Megquier,

Voted, That the sum of eighty-four dollars and fourteen cents be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the purpose of Charity, and that the same be distributed and paid under the direction of the Trustees of the Charity Fund.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the subject, whether the interest which accrued from the Charity Fund during the past year, can be now appropriated for the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and

orphans, as may be considered worthy of assistance, made a report, which was read and accepted, as follows :

*To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Members
of the Grand Lodge of Maine.*

The Committee to whom was referred the question, whether the interest which accrued from the Charity Fund during the past year can be now appropriated for the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, as may be considered worthy of assistance, inasmuch as the Trustees of said fund have not held a meeting for that purpose, it being required by the fifth Section, Chapter 5th of the By-Laws, that "all interest unappropriated at the end of the year, shall be added to the principal," have had that subject under consideration, and ask leave to report, that in their opinion the spirit of masonry requires that there should be an annual distribution of said interest among the indigent brethren of our fraternity, their widows and orphans, provided there be a sufficient number of applicants in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, worthy to receive said charity ; and this distribution should not be prevented by negligence on the part of said Trustees. In fact it is expressly provided in the Section of the By-Laws above referred to, that such *appropriation shall be annually made*. It is believed by your Committee, that upon a fair construction of the latter clause in said Section, said interest should be added to the principal, when a balance remains, after making just and equitable appropriations among the worthy and indigent brethren, their widows and orphans, who apply for the same, or who are known to said Trustees to be in distressed circumstances and worthy Masonic aid, and not otherwise. But if there could be any doubt upon the subject, it is removed by the fact that this is an adjournment of the Annual Meeting of said Lodge, and consequently a distribution or appropriation may now be made under the direction of the Trustees, without conflicting even with the letter of said provision. All which is respectfully submitted,

February 9, 1832.

REUEL WASHBURN, *per order*.

On motion of R. W. David C. Magoun,

Voted, That the District Deputy Grand Masters be specially requested, after giving seasonable notice of the time, to visit during the year all the lodges within their several Districts, receive their returns, collect the dues of the Grand Lodge, and make report at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of R. W. John L. Megquier,

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, for the able and faithful manner in which he has performed the duties of the office of Grand Master during the last two years.

On motion of R. W. Reuel Washburn,

Voted, That R. W. Eleazer Wyer be authorized to procure clothing for the Eighth Masonic District.

The Committee appointed to inquire whether a mason who has been expelled by a subordinate lodge, may be restored, made a report, which was read and accepted, as follows :

The Committee appointed to inquire whether a mason who has been expelled by a subordinate lodge, may be restored, have considered the subject, and report,

That, in their opinion, it is competent for a subordinate lodge to restore an expelled Member of the Fraternity to the rights and privileges of Masonry, upon satisfactory evidence of his reformation.

J. L. MEGQUIER, *per order*.

Voted, and chose by ballot, R. W. Henry W. Fuller, one of the Trustees of the Charity Fund, instead of R. W. Charles Fox, whose time had expired.

A communication from Kennebec Lodge was read and referred to R. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Charles Fox, Samuel Fessenden, John L. Megquier and Reuel Washburn.


Voted, That the Recording Grand Secretary cause the proceedings of the Grand Lodge to be printed.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *G. Secretary*.

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Grand Master,	<i>ex-officio</i> ,
R. W. Amos Nourse, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" John L. Megquier, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" David C. Magoun, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" Asaph R. Nichols, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" Samuel Fessenden.	
" William Swan.	
" Daniel Granger.	
" Robert P. Dunlap.	
" Benjamin Davis.	
" Henry W. Fuller.	

 The List of Lodges is the same as last year. The eighth District comprises Saco, York, Adoniram, Freedom, Buxton, St. John's and Fraternal Lodges, heretofore in the First District.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1833.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Augusta, on Thursday, the 17th day of January, A. D. 1833.

PRESENT—M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN,

" AMOS NOURSE,

R. W. DAVID C. MAGOUN,

" REUEL WASHBURN,

" JAMES B. CAHOON,

" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,

" JOSEPH CHANDLER,

" BENJAMIN DAVIS,

" CHARLES N. COGSWELL,

" DAVID NEAL,

" RUFUS C. VOSE,

G. Master.

D. Grand Master.

S. G. Warden, *p. t.*

J. G. Warden, *p. t.*

G. Treasurer.

Rec. G. Secretary.

G. Marshal.

S. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

J. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

G. Steward, *p. t.*

" "

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. ZINA HYDE, from the Fourth District.

" FREDERICK CLARK, from the Eighth District.

Lodges represented :

PORTLAND,	by	James B. Cahoon.
ANCIENT LAND MARK,	"	Jonathan Smith.
FREEPORT,	"	Theodore Curtis.
HERMON,	"	Thomas Gilpatrick, Jr.
SOLAR,	"	David C. Magoun.
ORIENT,	"	Peter Vigoureux.
ST. GEORGE,	"	George Sproule.
VILLAGE,	"	Moses Safford, Jr.
WASHINGTON,	"	Jabez Mowry.
ST. JOHN'S,	"	Charles N. Cogswell.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. Prayer by Rev. Frederick Clark of Saco.

Proceedings of the last Annual Meeting were read by the Recording Grand Secretary.

Proceeded to the choice of officers.

R. W. Bro's Benjamin Davis, Rufus C. Vose and Charles N. Cogswell were chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers to be elected by ballot; who having attended to the duty assigned them, reported the following Brethren to be duly elected, viz:

M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN of Wiscasset, G. Master.

R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER of Portland, S. G. Warden.

R. W. DAVID C. MAGOUN of Bath, J. G. Warden.

R. W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS of Augusta, R. G. Secretary.

R. W. Rufus C. Vose, Benjamin Davis and Zina Hyde, Committee on Finance.

The Committee to whom was referred a resolve in 1831, requiring that every subordinate lodge shall pay annually for the support of the Grand Lodge, one eighth of a dollar for each member constituting such lodge, such dues to be collected and paid into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge conformable to the By-Laws, were discharged from the further consideration thereof, and the same was referred to R. W. Reuel Washburn, Zina Hyde and James B. Cahoon.

R. W. Brothers David C. Magoun, Zina Hyde and Charles N. Cogswell were appointed a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The Committee to whom was referred, at the last Annual Communication, a communication from Kennebec Lodge, were discharged from the further consideration of that subject, and the same was referred to R. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Reuel Washburn, David C. Magoun, Amos H. Hodgman, Zina Hyde and Joseph Chandler, with instructions to report at the adjournment of this meeting.

Communication from St. John's Lodge, was read and referred to R. W. David C. Magoun, Amos Nourse and Zina Hyde, to wit:

To the Grand Lodge of Maine:

The undersigned, members of St. John's Lodge, No. 51, in South Berwick, would respectfully represent that they received a charter from the Grand Lodge in the early part of the year A. L. 5827; that the lodge then consisted of only a few members and was destitute of funds; that those few, actuated by a desire to promote the cause of masonry and the good of masons, incurred a considerable number of expenses, which are necessarily incident to the commencement of every lodge, in paying the Grand Lodge for its charter, and in purchasing the necessary jewels, working tools and furniture for the lodge; that during the first year of the existence of our Lodge several persons made application and were accepted and initiated into the mysteries of Masonry. Encouraged by the good opinion of masonry which seemed to prevail in the public mind here at that time, and induced thereto by our increasing numbers, we, by great exertions and much expense, succeeded in causing a Masonic Hall for our accommodation to be erected in the latter part of the year A. L. 5827; in consecrating which and in installing the officers of the lodge at that time, we were induced to incur additional expenses of music, &c., thinking thereby we should exert a favorable influence on the public mind in favor of masonry. And we have regularly paid our dues to the Grand Lodge since we received our charter, amounting to nearly \$100.

To meet and liquidate all of the above mentioned expenses and many others which have not been named, we have been obliged to hire a considerable sum of money, and thereby get in debt.

This circumstance being generally known to masons in this vicinity, and the anti-masonic influence which has prevailed here, have not only deterred persons from becoming masons, but have prevented those who were masons from becoming members of our lodge, and have also induced many members to leave it. Consequently we have had no work to do for more than a year, and but little since the first year of our existence as a lodge; and our lodge being small, consisting of only twelve members at the present time, our quarterages have hardly paid our expenses from year to year for carrying on our business. Being thus situated, in debt, having no funds and but few members, about a year ago the holders of some of the notes due from the lodge called on us for payment. Those who had been members, but who had left the lodge in consequence of its debts, refused to contribute anything; consequently the few members then belonging to it, who had determined to remain by the lodge through good and evil report, had to pay the debts which then pressed, amounting to \$238, by contribution among themselves. There still remains due from the lodge \$150, the payment of which is now requested, and which will have to be paid by still fewer than before, unless assistance can be procured from the Grand Lodge. We would therefore, in view of the

above facts, respectfully request the Grand Lodge to assist us in the payment of the last mentioned sum, and as in duty bound will ever pray.

(Signed.) HIRAM H. HOBBS, SIMON FOSS, THEO. F. JEWETT, JOHN FROST, JOHN GOODWIN, CHAS. N. COGSWELL.

South Berwick, June 20, 1832.

Communication from Hermon Lodge was read and referred to R. W. Reuel Washburn, David C. Magoun, Amos H. Hodgman, Zina Hyde and Joseph Chandler, viz :

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

The memorial of the undersigned, members of Hermon Lodge, Gardiner, would respectfully represent,

That we were all of us initiated, or received various degrees in Masonry at the Kennebec Lodge in Hallowell, and in consideration thereof paid the customary fees to the Treasurer of said lodge, thereby contributing a large amount to the funds of the same.

That these contributions were made with the express understanding and under solemn stipulations that they should be appropriated to *Masonic purposes, and to no other.*

Your memorialists would further represent that we are informed that the members of said Kennebec Lodge, having abandoned the cause of Masonry, have *perverted* the entire funds of said lodge to purposes not authorized by their charter, by placing them out of the control of the Masonic Institution.

Being desirous that the amount by us contributed should be restored to the Masonic Institution and appropriated to its legitimate objects, the undersigned have thought fit to present this memorial, requesting the advice and assistance of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, to enable us to recover back from the funds of Kennebec Lodge, if the same are available, an equitable proportion of the amount by us contributed, that the same may be placed at the disposal of the lodge with which we are connected, a lodge which has *never wavered in the faith of Masonry, or despaired of its cause.*

(Signed.) BENJAMIN SHAW, EBENEZER WHITE, JAS. BOWMAN, DAVID NEAL, W'M PARTRIDGE, DANIEL CLAY, ROBERT GOULD, E. F. DEANE, JAMES TARBOX, CYRUS KINDRICK, ABNER SMALL, THOMAS GILPATRICK, JOHN STONE, JOHN HASELTINE, FREEBORN GRAVES, SETH GAY, ICHABOD WENTWORTH, DANIEL WOODWARD, PETER VIGOUREUX, EZEKIEL HOLMES.

Gardiner, January 17, 1833.

Report from the District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District, was read and placed on file.

A verbal report or statement was made by the District Deputy Grand Master of the Eighth Masonic District, in which he gave

an interesting account of the truly Masonic spirit which prevails throughout that District.

A motion in writing was made by R. W. Frederick Clark, instructing the District Deputy Grand Masters as to the times of visiting subordinate lodges in their respective districts, which was read and committed to R. W. Rufus C. Vose, Joseph Chandler and Zina Hyde.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn until to-morrow evening at seven o'clock.

* And the Grand Lodge then adjourned.

Attest, ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

STEVENS'S HALL, Augusta, Jan. 18, A. D. 1833.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN,	G. Master.
R. W. SAMUEL G. LADD,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" ZINA HYDE,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JABEZ MOWRY,	G. Marshal <i>p. t.</i>
" MOSES SAFFORD, Jr.,	G. Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	Rec. G. Sec'y.
" PETER VIGOUREAUX,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" THOMAS GILPATRICK,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" BENJAMIN DAVIS,	G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" PETER TALBOT,	" "

Lodges represented as yesterday.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Recording Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

R. W. REUEL WASHBURN, of Livermore, Deputy Grand Master.

" ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" JESSE ROBINSON, of Augusta, Grand Marshal.

" REV. SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Saco, Grand Chaplain.

" " FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset, " "

" " MOSES SPRINGER, Jr., of Gardiner, " "

" EBENEZER HILTON, of Wiscasset, S. G. Deacon.

" C. N. COGSWELL, of South Berwick, J. G. Deacon.

" BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Steward.

" THOMAS W. SMITH, of do. " "

" THOMAS GILPATRICK, of Gardiner, " "

" AMOS H. HODGMAN, of Warren, " "

" OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, G. Sword Bearer.

" WILLIAM PARTRIDGE, of Gardiner, G. Pursuivant.

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, " "

" FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, Grand Tyler.

The foregoing officers, except those reappointed, were duly installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or Proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. John C. Humphreys, of Brunswick.

Second District—R. W. Stephen Emery, of Paris.

Third District—R. W. Rufus C. Vose, of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Zina Hyde, of Bath.

Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.

Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.

Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.

Eighth District—R. W. Frederick Clark, of Saco.

R. W. Reuel Washburn submitted the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred a resolution, proposed by R. W. William Swan at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, held at Portland on the twentieth day of January, A. D. 1831, requiring "that from and after that time every subordinate lodge shall pay annually for the support of the Grand Lodge, one-eighth of a dollar for each member into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge, conformably to the By-Laws as originally adopted,"—have had the same under consideration and ask leave to report. That said resolution was committed to an intelligent Committee of the Grand Lodge at the time the same was proposed, who on the same evening reported unanimously in favor of its final adoption; recommending however that notice should be given to the subordinate lodges that the further consideration of said resolution, by which an alteration in the existing By-Laws of the Grand Lodge was

contemplated, would be had at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, which was held at Augusta in January, 1832. And your Committee further report that said resolution, through mistake and accident, was not called up at their said meeting; and the question has arisen whether it be proper and expedient at the present time to take into consideration said resolution and carry into effect the object contemplated thereby. Inasmuch as the subordinate lodges had notice and did not appear to make objections at our last annual meeting, your Committee can see no good reason why the said resolution should not be definitely acted upon at this meeting, and we are clearly of opinion that it is expedient to adopt the same, and make it a part of our By-Laws. If subordinate lodges consider Masonry to be worth anything, they will not object to paying their proportion of the charges which are necessary in order to keep the institution in a healthful state, and if they are satisfied that Masonry has become useless and is not deserving the countenance and encouragement of the brethren, it is time their charters should be surrendered and the Grand Lodge be relieved from the discharge of its duties to such of the subordinate lodges.

Your Committee therefore recommend the adoption of said resolve, first amending it so that it shall take effect from and after the present time, and that the Recording Grand Secretary give immediate notice to the subordinate lodges of the adoption of this regulation.

All which is respectfully submitted.

January 18, 1833.

R. WASHBURN, *per order*.

Which report was read and accepted, and the resolve adopted.

R. W. David C. Magoun presented the following report, viz:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report:

That they have examined communications received from the Grand Lodges of Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Virginia, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Georgia, New Jersey and Kentucky; and while they witness in all those communications, with great pleasure the gratifying evidence that Masonry continues to enjoy throughout the United States, the undiminished confidence of its original friends and supporters; sustaining its high character for virtue, benevolence and usefulness; and that few, if any, are deterred by the late excitement against the institution, from expressing their full belief and entire conviction in the eventual re-establishment of the prosperity of the Craft, and of the extended influence and satisfactory effect of that charity, which is founded in the universal beneficence of our Great Grand Master, and constitutes a principal rule of action for all good Masons,

they at the same time do not perceive any matters or subjects requiring the special notice or action of the Grand Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Augusta, Jan. 18, A. L. 5833.

DAVID C. MAGOUN, *per order*.

The foregoing report was read and accepted.

The Committee on Finance, by the Chairman, made the following report :

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duties assigned them so far as to examine the Treasurer's Report, ask leave to report as follows :

There has been paid by the Grand Treasurer the following sums :

To S. L. Valentine, for installing Mosaic Lodge,	\$10.00
" J. & W. E. Edwards,	3.75
" Fraternal Lodge,	50.00
" F. Wingate,	20.00
" F. Clark,	25.99
" Z. Hyde,	11.75
" Printing,	16.37
" Postage,	3.65
" Secretary &c.,	40.42
" Treasurer,	30.00
	<hr/>
	\$211.93

There has been received by him,

Of J. Herrick,	\$58.39
" Lafayette Lodge,	2.00
" Portland,	6.00
" Orient,	25.25
	<hr/>
	\$91.64

Balance against the Grand Lodge,

\$120.29

There has been received by the Treasurer,

Interest on account of the Charity Fund, \$291.14. Should the Grand Lodge borrow from the Charity Fund the sum of \$120.29, due the Treasurer, there would be \$170.85 applicable to relief.

All which is respectfully submitted.

RUFUS C. VOSE, *per order*.

Which report was read and accepted.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to borrow from the Charity Fund one hundred and twenty dollars and twenty-nine cents, to pay the debt due from the Grand Lodge, as represented in the report of the Committee on Finance.

The following report was submitted, viz :

The committee of the Grand Lodge to whom was submitted the communication of the Kennebec Lodge at Hallowell, making a surrender of their charter, and to whom was also submitted the memorial of several members of the Hermon Lodge at Gardiner, in relation to the disposition which the Kennebec Lodge has made of its funds, and praying the assistance of the Grand Lodge in recovering back an equitable proportion of these funds to be at the disposal of the Hermon Lodge, having given to these subjects all the consideration which the time allowed would permit, ask leave to report as follows :

We have examined the records of the Kennebec Lodge, which are surrendered with their charter ; and thereby, as well as by the information of the Committee of that lodge, find, that on the 19th day of July, A. D. 1831, all the funds of the lodge, after payment of its debts and making several charitable bequests, were, by virtue of several resolutions and a deed made and executed in pursuance thereof, placed in the hands of Amos Nourse, Samuel G. Ladd, Andrew Masters, Daniel Wadsworth, Isaac Gage, John D. Lord, Silvanus W. Robinson, Simon Page and Charles Vaughan, Jr., as Trustees, to be by them improved and appropriated for charitable uses, according to the original purpose for which they had been raised ; and were it not, that we do not find in these proceedings of the lodge sufficient security provided for the regular administration of this Charity Fund according to the truly liberal and Masonic design of the donors, we should at once recommend the acceptance of their charter as offered, but we do not find upon the record any evidence of the acceptance of the Trust created by their resolutions, nor do we find either in the record or deed of trust any provision for the regular annual accounting of these Trustees for the proper management and disposition of this Charity Fund. We do find a provision for their ultimate accountability to the Trustees of Hallowell Academy, who are constituted by the Resolves and deed of the lodge, Trustees of the fund instead of the nine individuals above named—provided these individuals shall abuse their trust, or all decease before its final distribution. But this Academy is by its incorporation a merely Literary Institution, and if it have the legal power to charge itself with such a Trust, cannot be supposed either to have or feel sufficient interest in the execution of it to induce them to accept that trust and perform the duty of watching over the distribution of a purely Masonic Charity Fund : for such purpose the Grand Lodge appears to be specially incorporated by the State. In view of all the circumstances in the case, we therefore recommend that the acceptance of the charter of the Kennebec Lodge be postponed till the next Annual Communication ; and if in the meanwhile it shall be properly signified to the Grand Lodge that the nine Trustees appointed by the Kennebec Lodge have accepted the trust reposed in them, and will hold themselves accountable to the Grand Lodge for its faithful execution in the same manner and degree as they would be accountable to the Trustees of the Hallowell Academy, provided the Trustees of said Academy had accepted the trust and assumed the responsibilities contemplated for them—then and in such case the doings of the

Kennebec Lodge, in thus disposing of their funds be approved, and the charter accepted, and also, that this Grand Lodge will hereafter consider itself as standing in the same relation to the said nine Trustees, and the survivors of them, as the Trustees of the Hallowell Academy would stand towards them, had they made themselves parties to these proceedings, and will accordingly receive the regular reports of said nine Trustees, as to the disposition they shall from time to time make of their funds, and discharge towards them all such duties, and exercise over them all such powers as it was obviously intended the Trustees of the Academy should discharge and exercise, in order to carry into full effect the benevolent intentions of the lodge. And in regard to the memorial of sundry members of Hermon Lodge at Gardiner, claiming a portion of the funds of Kennebec Lodge, your Committee are unable to perceive that the said Memorialists have any just or legal claim to any share in said funds any more than the members of other subordinate lodges; and it is believed that the Grand Lodge have no right to interfere to effect the object of the petitioners.

All which is respectfully submitted,

REUEL WASHBURN,	} Committee.
DAVID C. MAGOUN,	
ZINA HYDE,	
JOS. CHANDLER,	

Augusta, Jan. 18, 1833.

Which report was read and accepted, and the Recording Grand Secretary directed to furnish the Chairman of said nine Trustees with a copy of the same.

The following report was submitted, to wit:

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry brethren, members of St. John's Lodge, praying aid from the Grand Lodge in relieving them from their pecuniary embarrassments, have had the same under consideration, and report:

That the case of the petitioners seems to your Committee to be one of peculiar hardship—one that calls for the sympathy of the Grand Lodge, and not only for their sympathy, but for substantial relief at their hands, if they have power to grant it consistently with the present condition of their Treasury, and consistently too with the paramount regulations of the Grand Lodge, which every Mason, as well as every member of the Grand Lodge, must of course consider sacred. Your Committee find on inquiry that the G. Lodge have at present no funds at their disposal even to meet the ordinary current expenses, that in consequence of this deficiency they have been obliged to borrow, and now stand indebted to the Charity Fund from 400 to 500 dollars. This fund it will be recollected is under the charge of Trustees, who are authorized

to appropriate the annual proceeds in charity to "poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans," but "no part of the principal of said fund" is to "be expended for any purpose whatever." Under these circumstances your Committee do not see how it is possible for the Grand Lodge, however much they may desire it, to comply with the wishes of the petitioners in relieving them from their present embarrassments. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following Resolution.

Resolved, That the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and the present condition of its Treasury render it wholly impracticable for it to make a donation, even to relieve the urgent embarrassments of the members of St. John's Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Augusta, Jan. 18, 1833.

A. NOURSE, *per order*.

Which report was accepted and the resolution adopted.

R. W. Rufus C. Vose submitted the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of instructing the District Deputy Grand Masters as to the times of visiting subordinate lodges, have considered the subject, and ask leave to report :

That it be specially enjoined on the District Deputy Grand Masters, to visit all the lodges within their respective Districts, and repeat their visits during the year if it shall be deemed useful or necessary, to collect the dues to the Grand Lodge, and make report thereof to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and that for this purpose the Grand Secretary furnish the District Deputy Grand Masters with the necessary blanks immediately.

All which is respectfully submitted,

RUFUS C. VOSE, *per order*.

Which report was accepted.

The following R. W. Brethren were chosen by ballot as Trustees of the Charity Fund instead of R. W. Bro's Fessenden, Swan and Granger, viz: Amos Nourse of Hallowell, Joseph M. Gerrish of Portland and William Partridge of Gardiner.

Voted, That the Recording Grand Secretary cause the proceedings of this Grand Lodge to be printed.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

The G. Master requests the District G. Masters to report the state of *all* the lodges in their respective Districts in season to be laid before the G. Lodge at their next Annual Communication. Returns of lodges are to be dated on the first day of September annually. District G. Masters have from that day till the time of meeting in January to make their visits and procure returns, and, as they have the power of appointing as many substitutes as are necessary to perform this service, it is confidently hoped this important duty will be *fully* done. Since the last meeting reports have been made to the G. Master from all the Districts but two. So soon as all are received, a communication will be made by him to the District G. Masters, and through them to the lodges under their care.

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Grand Master,	<i>ex-officio.</i>
R. W. Renel Washburn, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" John L. Megquier, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" David C. Magoun, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" Asaph R. Nichols, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" Amos Nourse.	
" Joseph M. Gerrish.	
" William Partridge.	
" Robert P. Dunlap.	
" Benjamin Davis.	
" Henry W. Fuller.	

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1834.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Stevens's Hall in Augusta, on Thursday the 16th day of January, 1834.

PRESENT—M. W. REUEL WASHBURN,	G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. ZINA HYDE,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" BENJAMIN DAVIS,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	G. Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	Grand Secretary.
" WILLIAM PARTRIDGE,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" THOMAS GILPATRICK, JR.,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" DANIEL ORMSBY,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" EDMUND PILLSBURY,	S. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" CHARLES A. SYLVESTER,	J. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" FREDERICK WINGATE,	Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented :

HERMON,	by	Thomas Gilpatrick, Jr.
WATERVILLE,	"	A. Stilson.
RURAL,	"	Daniel Ormsby.
LINCOLN,	"	N. Clark.
SOLAR,	"	Z. Hyde.
UNION,	"	C. A. Sylvester.
MERIDIAN SPLENDOR,	"	E. Pillsbury.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Proceedings of the last Annual Meeting were read by the Recording Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows :

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duties assigned them so far as to examine the Report of the Treasurer, ask leave to report as follows :

There has been paid out by the Treasurer the following sums :

To Thomas Stevens, for Hall rent two years,	\$10.00
" I. Berry & Co., for printing,	16.65
" L. Severance, for "	3.25
" J. Chandler, for postage,	3.59
" Secretary &c.,	40.50
" Treasurer,	30.00
" F. Wingate, Tyler,	2.00
" Postage paid by Grand Master,	1.86
" Frye Hall, for expenses of visiting Amity Lodge,	3.00
" H. Williams, for visiting Felicity Lodge, and postage,	2.40
	<hr/> \$113.25

There has been received by the Treasurer and now in his hands, certain balances and interest belonging to the Charity Fund, the sum of 277.85

Should the Grand Lodge borrow of the Charity Fund the sum of \$113.25, due the Treasurer, for sums by him paid according to his report, which your Committee recommend, there would be left applicable to relief the sum of 164.60

The Committee further recommend that in future the sum of thirty dollars be allowed to the Secretary and twenty dollars to the Treasurer, instead of the sums before allowed.

* All which is respectfully submitted.

BENJ. DAVIS, }
ZINA HYDE, } Committee.

Which report was read and accepted. And it was

Voted, To borrow the sum as recommended above by the Committee on Finance.

Proceeded to the choice of officers.

R. W. Zina Hyde, Benjamin Davis and William Partridge, were chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers to be elected by ballot, who having attended to the duty assigned them, reported the election of the following Brethren, viz :

M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, of Wiscasset, Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN L. MEGQUIER, of Portland, Senior Grand Warden.

" DAVID C. MAGOUN, of Bath, Junior Grand Warden.

" BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.

" ASAPH R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

R. W. Zina Hyde, Thomas W. Smith and Rufus C. Vose were chosen a Committee on Finance.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn till to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock.

Adjourned accordingly.

Attest, ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

STEVENS'S HALL, Augusta, Jan. 17, A. D. 1834.

The Grand Lodge met at seven o'clock P. M., agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN,	G. Master.
R. W. REUEL WASHBURN,	D. Grand Master.
" ZINA HYDE,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" CHAS. A. SYLVESTER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" NATHANIEL STEVENS,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" BENJAMIN DAVIS,	G. Treasurer.
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	Grand Secretary.
" EDMUND PILLSBURY,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" LEVERETT LORD,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" FREDERICK WINGATE,	Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented :

HERMON,	by	Thomas Gilpatrick, Jr.
WATERTOWN,	"	A. Stilson.
RURAL,	"	D. Ormsby.
LINCOLN,	"	N. Clark.
SOLAR,	"	Zina Hyde.
MERIDIAN SPLENDOR,	"	E. Pillsbury.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Proceedings of the last evening meeting were read by the Recording Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

- R. W. REUEL WASHBURN, of Livermore, Deputy Grand Master.
 " ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough, Cor. Grand Secretary.
 " JESSE ROBINSON, of Waterville, Grand Marshal.
 " Rev. SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Saco, Grand Chaplain.
 " " FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset, " "
 " " MOSES SPRINGER, of Gardiner, " "
 " EBENEZER HILTON, of Wiscasset, S. G. Deacon.
 " C. N. COGSWELL, of South Berwick, J. G. Deacon.
 " THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Grand Steward.
 " MOSES SAFFORD, JR., of do. " "
 " THOMAS GILPATRICK, JR., of Gardiner, " "
 " AMOS H. HODGMAN, of Warren, " "
 " OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, G. Sword Bearer.
 " WILLIAM PARTRIDGE, of Gardiner, G. Pursuivant.
 " OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, " "
 " FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, Grand Tyler.

The foregoing officers, except those re-appointed, were duly installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Abner B. Thompson, of Brunswick.
Second District—R. W. Stephen Emery, of Paris.
Third District—R. W. Rufus C. Vose, of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. Zina Hyde, of Bath.
Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.
Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.
Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.
Eighth District—R. W. Samuel Johnson, of Saco.

REPORT.

The Committee appointed to examine Foreign Correspondence, have attended to that service, and beg leave to report:

That they have examined the Foreign Correspondence received since the last meeting of this Grand Lodge, and find official communications from the Grand Lodges of Virginia, Ohio, Georgia, Connecticut, Florida, South Carolina, Louisiana, Kentucky, Rhode Island, Mississippi and the District of Columbia,

together with circulars from the Grand Lodges of New York, Kentucky, Louisiana and the Province of Nova Scotia. And finding nothing in either of these documents which in the opinion of your Committee calls for the special action of this Grand Lodge, they have only to recommend that they be deposited in the archives of the same.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ZINA HYDE,
ASAPH R. NICHOLS, } Committee.

The foregoing report was read and accepted.

Communications from District Deputy Grand Masters, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 7, with the accompanying returns, were read and placed on file.

A Special Communication from the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island was read and placed on file.*

The following motion was introduced by R. W. Bro. Z. Hyde of Bath.

IN GRAND LODGE, January 17, 1834.

Moved, That the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge be altered as follows, viz :

By repealing Section 1 in Chap. 5, and Sec. 5 in Chap. 5, and adopting in lieu thereof the following :

"There shall be a Charity Fund established by the Grand Lodge which shall be from time to time increased by adding thereto all moneys that there may be in the Treasury at the close of the annual meeting, including all donations not specially appropriated by the donors, and the interest accruing annually from this Charity Fund, after deducting therefrom such sums as may be necessary in addition to the receipts of the Treasurer for payment of the ordinary expenses of the Grand Lodge, shall be appropriated either in whole or in part for the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, as they may consider worthy of assistance, and if the whole be not so distributed, the residue shall be added to the fund."

Also further to amend the By-Laws by adding the following proviso, to be added at the close of the 3d Section of Chapter 5th of the By-Laws :

"*Provided*, That if, at the annual meeting of said Trustees, a majority of the whole board shall not be present, vacancies may be filled for the time being so that all necessary business may be transacted."

IN GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, January 18, 1834.

The undersigned, a Committee of the Grand Lodge, have considered the within motion, and report, that the same be adopted and a copy thereof sent to each subordinate lodge.

Z. HYDE, per order.

* This communication relates to the anti-masonic excitement, and as we do not find a copy of the answer, is now unimportant.

R. W. Nathaniel Stevens of Hallowell, was chosen a Trustee of the Charity Fund instead of R. W. Robert P. Dunlap, whose term had expired.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Hyde of Bath,

Voted, That the question of acceptance of the charter of the Kennebec Lodge be postponed to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and that the subject be referred to R. W. Bros. Reuel Washburn, Benjamin Davis and Asaph R. Nichols, with directions to inquire why the Trustees of said lodge have not complied with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge, as recommended in the report of a committee of the Grand Lodge, accepted January 18, 1833, and to report thereon at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Hyde of Bath,

Voted, That the Secretary and Treasurer be a Committee to engage a suitable place for the future meetings of the Grand Lodge and for a repository of the furniture thereof.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

Adjourned accordingly.

Attest, ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

STEVENS'S HALL, Augusta, January 18, A. D. 1834.

The Grand Lodge met at nine o'clock, A. M., agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN,	Grand Master.
R. W. REUEL WASHBURN,	D. Grand Master.
“ ZINA HYDE,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ NATHANIEL STEVENS,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ BENJAMIN DAVIS,	Grand Treasurer,
“ ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ EDMUND PILLSBURY,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ MOSES SAFFORD, Jr.,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ FREDERICK WINGATE,	Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

A statement of the Charity Fund and donations made by the Trustees, was exhibited and read; showing that the sum of \$164.60 had been distributed among twenty-one applicants.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest,

ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *G. Secretary.*

The G. Master requests the District G. Masters to report the state of *all* the lodges in their respective Districts in season to be laid before the G. Lodge at their next Annual Communication. Returns of lodges are to be dated on the first day of September annually. District G. Masters have from that day till the time of meeting in January to make their visits and procure returns, and, as they have the power of appointing as many substitutes as are necessary to perform this service, it is confidently hoped this important duty will be *fully* done.

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Nathaniel Coffin, Grand Master,	<i>ex-officio.</i>
R. W. Reuel Washburn, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" John L. Megquier, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" David C. Magoun, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" Asaph R. Nichols, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" Amos Nourse.	
" Joseph M. Gerrish.	
" William Partridge.	
" Nathaniel Stevens.	
" Benjamin Davis.	
" Henry W. Fuller.	

REPORTS

OF

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

TO THE M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, ESQ.,

G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

DEAR SIR: Since the receipt of your circular of January 24th last, I have attended to the duties required of me so far as has been the usual practice, and herewith forward you a return of my doings, embracing the different lodges comprising the First Masonic District, the number of members on the first of September last, &c. You will perceive that there is nothing due the Grand Lodge from this return, and from all the information I could obtain, there is nothing due for any former arrearages.

* * * * *

All the lodges in this District keep up a system of organization, and generally meet quarterly, except Cumberland Lodge at New Gloucester; their last meeting was in November, 1830, at which time the officers specified in this return were elected, and no meeting has been had since. They had three or four meetings that year previous to November, and but three to six members attended. Their Charity Fund consists of about \$400 in a bad state; a Committee was chosen to investigate the state of the funds and get additional security, &c., which Committee attended to their duty, but cannot get a meeting of the lodge to make a report, and they say they fear that Masonry cannot be again revived in that lodge. The other lodges in this District each have a very respectable Charity Fund, except Casco, which has none. If it were not for the funds I think very few of the lodges would continue in a state of organization; that seems now to be the principal cause of keeping them up. The lodges generally have abolished the quarterages, and endeavor to manage their expenses in the most economical manner. I doubt from what

I can learn that it would be practicable under the present state of affairs for the Grand Lodge to ask any fee from members: the depression is so great that any expense, however small, might be the means of doing an injury by reducing the number of members, who otherwise would be willing to continue. As regards a subscription to the Grand Lodge to pay up the debt that has accrued, by exertion it possibly might be obtained, but I should think it extremely doubtful: notwithstanding there is nominally a considerable number of members to each lodge, still there are but few that meet, and these few are individuals who feel a deep interest in the preservation of their Charity Fund, that it shall be properly managed and kept sacred for the object pointed out by our excellent institution. As regards masons not members, I find it impossible to ascertain with any degree of correctness, but I should think there were more that are not members than are members; it would be impossible to ascertain. I appointed a Brother in this vicinity, who went to all the lodges except Portland Lodge, and their returns had been sent me previously.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.

Brunswick, February 8, 1833.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Return of Lodges composing the Second Masonic District, under the Jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine.

MOUNT MORIAH LODGE, Denmark, 1830.

Fifteen members including officers; one initiate; due the Grand Lodge, \$2.00.

Same Lodge, 1831. Thirteen members including officers. No work done.

Same Lodge, 1832. Dominicus G. Tarbox, Master; Cyrus Ingalls, S. W.; Levi P. Sawyer, J. W.; Joshua B. Osgood, Treas.; William Pingree, Sec.; Elisha Newcomb, S. D.; Robert H. Miller, J. D.; Benaiah Walker, J. S.; William Allen, Tyler. Nine—being all that are now members. Two initiates; fees due the Grand Lodge, \$4.00. No alteration since 1832, Sept. 1, except one death. Three masons in town not members.

ORIENTAL LODGE, Bridgton, 1830.

Twenty-three members including officers. One initiate; fees due the Grand Lodge, \$2.00.

Same Lodge, 1831. Twenty-three members including officers.

Same Lodge, Sept. 1, 1832. George W. Cushman, Master; William Bragg, S. W.; Solomon Andrews, J. W.; Ira Crocker, Treas.; Samuel Farnsworth, Sec.; Jacob Emerson, S. D.; Eben Kilborn, J. D.; James Flint, S. S.; Geo. Peirce, J. S.; James Stevens, Tyler.

Members. Leander Gage, W'm Morse, Jr., John Kilborn, Jr., Eben Emerson, Daniel Brown, Edward Carlton, Dan Morse, Abner Smith, Charles Whitman, Joshua Sawyer, Bryan Paine. No initiate; one death; from fifteen to twenty masons not members.

BLAZING STAR LODGE, *Runford*, 1829.

Twenty-seven members including officers. No work done.

Same Lodge, 1830. Twenty-six members including officers. One death; one suspension. No work done.

Same Lodge, 1831. Twenty-six members including officers. No work done.

Same Lodge, Sept. 1832. Joseph H. Wardwell, Master; Samuel Rolfe, S. W.; Benj. Poor, J. W.; Moses F. Kimball, Treas.; Hezekiah Hutchins, Jr., Sec.; James N. Bricket, S. D.; Amos Andrews, J. D.; Francis Cushman, S. S.; Thomas Bragg, J. S.; Curtis P. Howe, Tyler.

Members. Francis Swan, Aaron Graham, David H. Farnum, Moses Abbot, Alvan Bolster, Farnum Abbot, Joseph Adams, Moses Merrill, David Kimball, Joseph Luffkin, Joshua Graham, James V. Poor, Jonathan Powers, John Luffkin, Colman Godwin, Abel Wheeler, Cotton Elliot, Stephen G. Stevens. Two restored that were suspended. Twenty-eight members including officers.

Same Lodge chose officers Jan. 2, 1833. Benj. Poor, Master; John Luffkin, S. W.; James N. Bricket, J. W.; Moses F. Kimball, Treas.; Hezekiah Hutchins, Jr., Sec.; Francis Swan, S. D.; Joseph H. Wardwell, J. D.; Amos Andrews, S. S.; Moses Abbot, J. S.; David Kimball, Tyler. Four masons within the limits of the lodge not members. No work done since Sept. 1, 1829.

OXFORD LODGE, *Paris*, 1831.

Twenty-three members including officers. No work done. I have been able to procure no other returns from this lodge. The Secretary and records are out of town, and although I have both notified and called, I have not succeeded.

M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The foregoing contains all the returns of Lodges in the Second Masonic District I have been able to obtain. I addressed letters to each lodge by mail, requesting immediate and specific information on all the points contained in your circular, and anticipated an immediate attention to the subject. In this I have been disappointed. On a former occasion I gave notice of an official visit to each lodge, and my letters remained in the post offices untouched in some instances; and in others, some lodges found it inconvenient to meet. I find that many of the lodges have not held their usual communications. This, and the general apathy prevailing, is to be ascribed to the crusades

against the craft. In Oxford, an attempt has been made to get up an excitement against us: it has succeeded in a small degree, and to prevent the further spread of the mania, the brethren have kept perfectly still. The same cause has been my excuse for gross negligence in regard to the duties of my appointment; and although perhaps not a very valid one, this operated more than any thing else to produce a failure of regular returns.

I do not feel competent to make suggestions as to what may or should be done. I am aware that the Institution must be abandoned, unless the forms and rules are observed, and even then, it would be a cumbrous, inert, fruitless institution, unless it can be revived, animated and inspired with the fire and spirit of our ancient times of prosperity. I do indeed wish to see its former prosperity return—when masons shall feel the inspiration of its holy principles, and demonstrate the excellence of their faith by their lives and conversation. This would create a moral power, which would withstand all the opposition which might be brought to bear against it. My hopes and fears alternate on the subject: the prospect seems to me not flattering. But it may be otherwise.

There are two lodges in this District which have not been installed, Mount Moriah at Denmark, and King Hiram at Dixfield. The former wish to know what their situation is, and what is best to be done. I can only refer to your wisdom.

I inclose direct to you Eight Dollars—received as above, to which you will be good enough to give its proper destination.

I hope and request that some brother, more active and faithful than myself, will receive the appointment of D. D. G. Master in this District. Had it been left to my option, or had I even been consulted before the appointment was made, I should have unconditionally declined, both for the good of the craft and my own convenience, since I am and have been unable to attend to the duties as they should have been attended to. I only now can regret that the confidence reposed in me has met so poor returns.

With sentiments of respect and fraternal regard,

I am your obedient servant,

Paris, April 7, 1833.

STEPHEN EMERY, D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

TO THE M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, ESQ.,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

In compliance with a vote passed at the last communication of the Grand Lodge, specially requiring the D. D. G. Masters to visit the several lodges in their respective districts, and to report the state of the same to the Grand Lodge, the undersigned, D. D. G. Master of the 4th District, having per-

formed that duty in said District, would beg leave to offer the following as his report, viz:

From Lincoln Lodge, holden at Wiscasset, returns were received for the years 1829, 1830, 1831 and 1832, during which no dues have accrued to the Grand Lodge. No members have been added, died, been expelled, or have seceded. The whole number of members returned is 28.

From Solar Lodge, holden at Bath, a return received for the years 1829, 1830, 1831 and 1832, presenting the officers elected for the year 1833. During this period no dues to the Grand Lodge appear to have accrued, no members have been added, expelled or have died or seceded. The whole number of members returned is 56.

From Orient Lodge, holden at Thomaston, received a return for the year 1832, during which no dues had accrued to the Grand Lodge, there not having been any initiations since Sept. 1829. No deaths, dismissals or secessions have taken place the past year, but thirteen members less are returned than in 1829. Whole number returned 44.

From St. George Lodge, holden at Waldoborough and Warren on alternate years, received returns for the years 1828, 1829, 1830, 1831 and 1832, during which no members appear to have been dismissed or to have seceded; one died, ten candidates crafted and raised, and six members added to the lodge. Dues to the Grand Lodge \$25.25. Present members as returned 26.

From Village Lodge, holden at Bowdoinham, received a return for the years 1830, 1831 and 1832, during which no dues have accrued to the Grand Lodge, no additions, dismissals, secessions or deaths have taken place. Members returned 18.

From Union Lodge, holden at Union, received a return including the years 1830, 1831 and 1832, during which one member has been added, three deceased, none dismissed or seceded, three candidates crafted and raised. Dues to the Grand Lodge *Six Dollars*, but not paid for want of available funds. Number of members 37.

From Alna Lodge, holden at Alna and Newcastle alternately, a return for the years 1830, 1831 and 1832, during which no dues have accrued to the Grand Lodge; no member has been added or dismissed, or has seceded; one member has died, and the whole number now reported is 32.

From Aurora Lodge, held at East Thomaston, a report for the years 1830, 1831 and 1832, during which no member had been added, three had deceased, but none been dismissed or had seceded. Whole number returned 26.

Making the total number of members belonging to the eight lodges constituting the 4th District 267.

The records of all these lodges appeared to have been kept in a neat and correct manner, but the regular meetings of Alna Lodge have been suspended

since the year 1828; of Aurora since 1830; of St. George for about one year past; of Lincoln for about one year past; during which time no record has been made by these lodges.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Augusta, Jan. 17, 1833.

Z. HYDE, D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.

TO THE M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, ESQ.,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

SIR:—Having performed in a measure the duty assigned me as D. D. G. Master of the 4th Masonic District of Maine for the year 1832, I now beg leave to communicate for your personal information, the following particulars resulting from my inquiries while on that duty, viz:

Alna Lodge, holden at Alna and Newcastle alternately, destitute of funds, and not in debt to any amount of moment. No meetings held or quarterages paid since the year 1828, when a Committee was chosen to adjust fiscal matters between the Newcastle and Alna parts of the lodge, which Committee has not yet acted. Considerable opposition has been manifested, but appears to be subsiding.

Union Lodge, possessed of no available funds and not in debt, continues its regular monthly meetings, but collects no quarterages, nor has it for some years past. No opposition.

Aurora Lodge, holden at East Thomaston. No funds; some small demands against the lodge; no meetings since December 29, 1830, and no quarterages assessed since then. Meetings for burials occasionally take place. No opposition manifested.

Orient Lodge, holden at Thomaston. No funds or dues payable; possessed of a Hall; meetings held every two months. No opposition manifested for the year past.

St. George Lodge, holden at Waldoborough and Warren on alternate years; possessed of five shares in the Thomaston Bank; meetings seldom held; no quarterages assessed, and no opposition manifested.

Lincoln Lodge, holden at Wiscasset. No meetings had been held during the past year, and no election of officers for the year now commenced.

Solar Lodge, holden at Bath, has a Charity Fund consisting of five shares in the Lincoln Bank, and about \$300 uncollected dues from members for quarterages; is free of debt, and has a small amount in the Treasury. Meetings have been held monthly without intermission, but very thinly attended for the last three or four years.

Village Lodge, holden at Bowdoinham, has a Hall, and about \$100 in funds; does not assess quarterages, and has held no regular meetings for nearly two years. Considerable opposition has been manifested.

A general depression of Masonic zeal was manifested, but no disposition to

abandon the cause, and only at Alna was the subject of resigning their charter spoken of as deserving consideration. At Thomaston, in Orient Lodge, the subject had been agitated, but had not prevailed.

With much respect and fraternal affection,

Bath, Jan. 1833.

Z. HYDE, D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

TO THE M. W. NATHANIEL COFFIN, Esq.,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

DEAR SIR:—Herewith I transmit my return of such lodges in this District as are in a situation to make returns to Sept. 1, 1832. I authorized Bro. Frye Hall, of Belfast, to visit Amity and Phoenix Lodges, on that side of the Bay, and have but just received from him the returns, from which it appears that Amity Lodge at Camden, is in as prosperous condition as could be expected in these days of adversity to the craft. They have had but one initiate for the last three years, but their monthly communications have been as regular as in the days of their greatest prosperity. It is supposed there are about seventy-five masons within the limits of Amity Lodge not members of any lodge. I have not yet received the dues from said lodge, but expect them.

Phoenix Lodge at Belfast, has had no initiate since Sept. 1, 1829, and no meetings of the lodge since June 20, 1831. It is supposed there may be one hundred masons within the limits of this lodge not members of any lodge.

Hancock Lodge at Castine, have had no initiates for four or five years, and no regular meeting since January, 1832. In 1831 there were about twelve members, and twice as many more masons within its limits, not members of any lodge. This lodge has no funds.

Felicity Lodge at Bucksport, has not kept up its regular monthly communications, but has had the several offices filled, and has made returns and paid their dues, as credited in account, \$2.12.

Lygonia Lodge at Ellsworth, was visited by Bro. Alfred Langdon, who has made return to me and paid the dues of that lodge, as credited in account, \$1.62½.

It is thought there are more masons within the limits of the two last mentioned lodges not members of any lodge, than there are members.

I think it difficult to raise much money in this District by subscription.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS, D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.

Castine, May 28, 1833.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

TO THE M. W. MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MAINE:

I received my commission on the 20th June, by mail, unaccompanied by any blanks or instructions of any kind. On the 24th December, adjusted the accounts with Piscataquis Lodge, but was not able to collect together a sufficient number of the members to make a formal visit.

Dec. 25th, visited the hall of Rising Virtue Lodge, having given previous notice, but found no members present; called on the Secretary and examined the records, found them in good order, but the Secretary was not prepared to settle the accounts with the Grand Lodge, consequently left a request for Bro. Valentine to settle the account and forward the returns to me; but not being able to effect a settlement, it was deferred until January 29, when being in Bangor I settled with the Secretary, as will be seen by the returns.

Two years ago I attempted to get returns from Mosaic, Penobscot and Meridian Splendor Lodges, without visiting them, but failed of getting any of them in season to make a return to the Grand Lodge, and of two altogether; and moreover, having personally attended to the duty last year in visiting every lodge in the District, and learning also that in other Districts that duty was neglected, and furthermore, meeting with such success as I did as far as I had gone this year, had on the whole concluded to omit the returns from the three remaining lodges this year, until I received your communication on the 1st instant, on my return from Bangor, and being taken sick of a fever on the 3d was confined by sickness and snows until the 20th instant, when I visited the Master of Mosaic Lodge, examined the records and adjusted the accounts, but received nothing but a renewal of the request to have the dues to the Grand Lodge relinquished. I think it was some time in Feb. last that a petition for that purpose was sent to me for my approbation, which under the circumstances of the case was obtained, and I supposed was forwarded to the Grand Lodge, since which I have heard nothing from it. The Master informs me that they are much in debt and without the ability to pay, as will be seen by reference to the returns from that lodge. In the present state of Masonry their ability will probably not be increased and their dues to the Grand Lodge of course be neglected. I would therefore *suggest* the propriety of cancelling the dues to the Grand Lodge up to this time, and in future to demand the usual fees, and if they neglect or refuse to pay them to demand the charter.

On the same day called on the Secretary of Penobscot Lodge, the Master living at a distance, and found the members were so scattered that they had had but one meeting since my visit last year, which is also very much the case with the other lodges in the District; their meetings are rare, and but thinly attended.

On the 21st, called on the Secretary of Meridian Splendor Lodge, the

Master living at a distance; found him prompt and correct in attending to all the duties of his office.

In all the lodges in the District, I find there have been but three initiations during the year, as will be seen by reference to the returns.

I know of no one who has renounced masonry during the year; there are two however, in this region who, I have been informed on good authority, have heretofore renounced it since the New York excitement. Col. Joseph Lee of Milo, formerly the Master of a lodge in Bucksport, Maine, speaks of it with indifference or contempt; and Rev. N. W. Sheldon of Brownville, who was initiated and crafted in Piscataquis Lodge, has renounced and denounced it in the most bitter invectives, has created a considerable Anti-Masonic excitement in the neighborhood, and with the assistance of a few of his influential neighbors has deluged the town with Anti-Masonic papers, almanacs, &c.

With regard to the funds of the several lodges, I cannot give a very definite account. The Piscataquis Lodge are not in debt, and have only about *one dollar* in funds. Having received their charter a few years only before the excitement, they were somewhat in debt when that commenced; but by a little exertion they have extricated themselves, and are now just about square with the world. Having initiated none for several years, and in the course of events some dying, and others moving entirely out of the country, their members are gradually diminishing. The funds of Mosaic Lodge have been alluded to above. In Penobscot Lodge I was informed that there was probably something in fund, but how much they were unable to say, having had no settlement with the Treasurer for several years. I was told that Meridian Splendor Lodge was somewhat in debt; that they received their charter so short a time before the excitement that they had never been able to pay up their bills for their first fitting out. What is the condition of Rising Virtue Lodge I know nothing, as I have not been in Bangor since I received your communication.

As to the debt of five hundred dollars due the Charity Fund, there are differences of opinion respecting the mode of liquidating it. In general, those I have conversed with on the subject have been of opinion that it would be better to apportion the debt on the several lodges according to their several ability; or if that should not be practicable, according to their several returns the present year. I am of opinion that it ought to be paid in some way, and that the current expenses of the Grand Lodge should be reduced as much as possible, and that the assessment on the subordinate lodges should be sufficient to meet that expense.

Yours with fraternal regard,

DAVID SHEPHERD, D. D. G. M. 7th M. D.

Sebec, Feb. 23, 1833.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1835.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Stevens's Hall in Augusta, on Thursday the 15th day of January, A. D. 1835.

PRESENT—R. W. REUEL WASHBURN,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ZINA HYDE,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ABNER B. THOMPSON,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ BENJAMIN DAVIS,	Grand Treasurer.
“ ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ AMOS H. HODGMAN,	Grand Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ THOMAS W. SMITH,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ MOSES SAFFORD, JR.,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM PARTRIDGE,	S. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM TRAFTON,	J. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ FREDERICK WINGATE,	Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented :

ANCIENT LAND MARK,	by	Jonathan Smith.
SOLAR,	“	Zina Hyde.
ST. GEORGE,	“	Amos H. Hodgman.
ORIENT,	“	J. Miller.
FRATERNAL,	“	William Trafton.
HERMON,	“	William Partridge.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Proceedings of last meeting were read by the Recording Grand Secretary.

The following report was presented :

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duties assigned them so far as to examine the Report of the Treasurer, ask leave to report as follows :

There have been paid out by the Treasurer the following sums, viz :

To Bro. David Shepherd, D. D. G. M. of the 7th M. D.,	11.50
" Stage driver for bringing Account Books from Portland,	.50
Printing bill to L. Berry & Co.,	14.29
To Joseph Chandler, for postage,	2.79
" A. R. Nichols, for services as Secretary,	30.00
" Treasurer for his services,	20.00
" A. R. Nichols for stationery,	.75
" Frederick Wingate, Tyler,	2.00
" N. Stevens, sleigh hire,	1.50
	<hr/>
	\$83.33

And there has been received by the Treasurer :

From Stephen Emery, D. D. G. M. of the 2d M. D.,	8.00	
" D. Shepherd, " " 7th "	16.00	
" Lincoln Lodge by the hand of the Grand Master,	3.12½	27.12½
	<hr/>	
Dividends on Bank Stock,	185.00	
Interest on Notes,	48.00	233.00
		<hr/>
		260.12½

Should the Grand Lodge borrow of the Charity Fund the sum of \$56.20½ which your Committee recommend, there will remain applicable to charitable distributing, the sum of \$176.79½.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Augusta, Jan. 15, 1835.

THOMAS W. SMITH, }
ZINA HYDE, } Committee.

Which report on being read was accepted.

Voted, To borrow of the Charity Fund the sum of \$56.20½ as recommended by Committee on Finance.

Proceeded to the choice of officers.

R. W. Amos H. Hodgman, Zina Hyde and Jonathan Smith were chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers to be elected by ballot, who having attended to the duty assigned them, reported the election of the following Brethren :

M. W. REUEL WASHBURN, of Livermore, Grand Master.

R. W. JOEL MILLER, of Thomaston, Senior Grand Warden.

" ABNER B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick, Junior Grand Warden.

" BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.

" ASAPH R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

R. W. Bro's Thomas W. Smith, Abner B. Thompson and Eben Fuller were chosen a Committee on Finance.

R. W. Bro's Zina Hyde and Abner B. Thompson were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Reports from the District Deputy Grand Masters of the First, Fourth and Seventh Districts were read, accepted and ordered on file.

Report of the Committee to procure a suitable room for the future meetings of the Grand Lodge, was read, accepted and ordered on file, to wit:

The Committee to whom was referred at the last Annual Communication, the subject of procuring a suitable room for the future meeting of the Grand Lodge, ask leave to report: That they have not yet been able to obtain a suitable place, but think before another Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, they will be able to procure a suitable room.

All which is respectfully submitted,

January 15, 1835.

ASAPH R. NICHOLS, }
BENJAMIN DAVIS, } Committee.

Voted, To accept the alterations in the By-Laws, as proposed at the last Annual Communication, in Sec. 1, Chap. 5, Sec. 5, Chap. 5, and Sec. 3, Chap. 5, the same having been communicated to all the lodges in this State.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn it adjourn till to-morrow evening.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest,

ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *G. Secretary.*

STEVENS'S HALL, Augusta, Jan. 16, 1835.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. Reuel Washburn, Grand Master; other officers as yesterday.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The proceedings of the last evening meeting were read by the Recording Grand Secretary.

Voted, and chose by ballot, James L. Child, a Trustee of the Charity Fund in place of Benjamin Davis, whose term of office had expired.

The following report was submitted:

The Committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence, having attended to that service, beg leave to report:

That they have examined the official communications received since the last meeting of this Grand Lodge, which consist of abstracts of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, New Jersey, New Hampshire and Vermont for the year 1834, and also from the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire for the same year. And finding nothing in either of these documents which in the opinion of your Committee requires the action of this Grand Lodge, they have only to recommend that they be deposited in the archives of the same, and that the Secretary be instructed to forward the doings of this Grand Lodge to each of the Grand Lodges in the United States and such other Masonic Bodies as have heretofore extended to it similar civilities.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Augusta, Jan. 16, 1835.

ZINA HYDE,
A. B. THOMPSON, } Committee.

Which report on being read was accepted.

The Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

R.W. DAVID C. MAGOUN, of Bath, Deputy Grand Master.

" ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" AMOS H. HODGMAN, of Warren, Grand Marshal.

" REV. SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Saco, Grand Chaplain.

" " FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset, " "

" " MOSES SPRINGER, of Gardiner, " "

- R. W. WILLIAM TRAFTON, of Shapleigh, S. G. Deacon.
 " WILLIAM PARTRIDGE, of Gardiner, J. G. Deacon.
 " NATHANIEL STEVENS, of Hallowell, Grand Steward.
 " MOSES SAFFORD, JR., of do. " "
 " WILLIAM L. WHEELER, of Augusta, " "
 " THOMAS GILPATRICK, JR., of Gardiner, " "
 " OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, G. Sword Bearer.
 " OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, G. Pursuivant.
 " JAVAN KNAPP, of Gardiner, " "
 " FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, Grand Tyler.

The foregoing officers, except those re-appointed, were duly installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, of Gorham.
Second District—R. W. Stephen Emery, of Paris.
Third District—R. W. Thomas W. Smith, of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. Thomas Eaton, of Bath.
Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.
Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.
Seventh District—R. W. David Shephard, of Sebec.
Eighth District—R. W. Samuel Johnson, of Saco.

The following report was presented :

The Committee to which was referred the subject of inquiry relative to the acceptance of the charter of the Kennebec Lodge,* have made due inquiries why

* The papers laid before the Grand Lodge, in 1831, tendering the surrender of the Charter of Kennebec Lodge, are as follows :

At a meeting of the members of Kennebec Lodge held at Masons' Hall in Hallowell, July 18, 5831, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted :

Whereas, Masonry in its principles and purity is an institution of benevolence and charity, and ought to be cherished and sustained, only so long as it is beneficial to society, by conducing to these elevated and benignant purposes.

And, *Whereas*, the members of this lodge are reluctantly convinced that from a combination of extraordinary circumstances, the period has arrived when it no longer subserves these beneficent objects, but its mere existence is made the occasion of angry excitement and unmerited obloquy ; and it is believed that a surrender of its Charter will involve no dereliction of moral or masonic principles, but on the contrary is enjoined by both, as the means of preventing discord and contention, and of promoting the true objects and paramount design of the institution, the peace, harmony and happiness of the whole community. Therefore,

Resolved, That the Secretary of Kennebec Lodge be and he hereby is

the Trustees of said lodge have not complied with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge, and report: That they have received in answer thereto from said Trustees the annexed statements, which are herewith submitted.

January 16, 1835.

ASAPH R. NICHOLS, }
BENJ. DAVIS, } Committee.

The statements referred to are as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the doings of the Grand Lodge of Maine in 1833 and 1834, in regard to the acceptance of the charter of Kennebec Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and report:

That on examination they find nothing in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge which calls for the action, or specially invites the attention of the Trustees, except that part which seems to contemplate that said Trustees may and ought to absolve themselves from the accountability under which they now stand to the Trustees of Hallowell Academy, and assume in lieu thereof, a similar accountability to the Grand Lodge of Maine. And in reference to *this* point, your Committee would remark that, after much reflection, they are not able to perceive how it is or can be competent for the "Trustees of the Charity Fund of Kennebec Lodge," having accepted the trust reposed in them upon certain specified terms and conditions contained in a deed of trust which is matter of record, and which has a legal and binding force upon them according to the precise tenor of it, now to change, by any act of theirs, the conditions of that trust, and divest themselves of obligations that now rest upon them; and it is respectfully submitted as the decided opinion of this Committee, that the Trustees have no right to inquire into the propriety or impropriety of any conditions annexed to the trust accepted by them. Their inquiry must be, not what these conditions *ought to be*, but what they *are*; and to the faithful and exact observance of these they are bound by a legal obligation of which they cannot divest themselves while assuming to act as Trustees. All which is respectfully submitted,

A. NOURSE, }
S. G. LADD, } Committee.

authorized and instructed in the name of the lodge to surrender its charter unconditionally to the Grand Lodge of Maine, at its Quarterly Communication, to be held on Thursday, the twenty-first of July instant.

Resolved, That by the foregoing act, no disrespect is intended to the masonic institution, whose principles still command, as they have ever received, our entire approbation.

Copy of the record, Attest, W'M MORSE, Jr., Secretary.

At a special meeting of Kennebec Lodge at Masons' Hall, Hallowell, July 18, 1831,

Voted, That W'm Morse, Jr., and Samuel K. Gilman, be requested to attend the next Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, as delegates of Kennebec Lodge.

Copy of record, Attest, W'M MORSE, Jr., Secretary.
Hallowell, July 20, 1831.

The above report having been presented to the Trustees at an adjourned meeting held on Monday evening, December 22, 1834, it was

Voted, That said report be accepted and placed on file, and a copy of the same, certified by the Secretary, be sent to the Committee of the Grand Lodge to whom the subject of the report was referred.

A true copy from the record. Attest,

Hallowell, Dec. 22, 1834.

CHARLES VAUGHAN, JR.

Which report on being read was referred with the annexed statements to R. W. Brothers Nathaniel Coffin, Zina Hyde and David C. Magoun.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Hyde,

Ordered, That the Treasurer be instructed to proceed forthwith, as fast as may be, to the collection or renewal, with sufficient sureties, of all notes due to this Grand Lodge.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Hyde,

Resolved, That the several District Deputy Grand Masters be instructed to call on the several lodges in their respective Districts, between the first of September next and the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, either by personal visits, by appointing a proxy to visit in their stead, or by addressing them in writing; and that in so doing they urge the importance of a return being made to them of the state of each lodge, and a payment of the tax of twelve and a half cents on each member as required by the laws of this Grand Lodge. And that he be instructed to recommend to such subordinate lodges as are not in a situation, or do not sufficiently feel the importance of a punctual observance of the laws of the institution to fulfill these requirements, the resignation of their charters to the hands of the Grand Lodge and the appointment of Trustees to preserve and dispose of the property of such lodge, in accordance with masonic usage.

Which resolve on being read was adopted.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Davis,

Ordered, That the Recording Grand Secretary procure to be printed the usual number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, ASAPH R. NICHOLS, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Reuel Washburn, Grand Master,	<i>ex-officio.</i>
R. W. David C. Magoun, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" Joel Miller, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Abner B. Thompson, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" Asaph R. Nichols, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" Amos Nourse.	
" Joseph M. Gerrish.	
" William Partridge.	
" Nathaniel Stevens.	
" James L. Child.	
" Henry W. Fuller.	

REPORTS
OF
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine.

I have forwarded blank returns to each of the subordinate lodges within the First Masonic District, and have called personally upon the officers and members of four of the seven lodges during the past year, and have requested returns to be made from them all. I have received returns from only two, containing a list of members, with the remark that no changes have been made or work done since the last previous returns. I have collected no moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully and fraternally your obedient servant,

A. B. THOMPSON, D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.

Brunswick, January 1, 1835.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

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

In reporting on the performance of my official duty as D. D. Grand Master of the 4th Masonic District of the State of Maine, I have to state that, to avoid the expense of special visits to all of the lodges in said district, I addressed letters enclosing blanks to, and urging on the officers, the importance

of having returns made in due form and season. To this address I have received the following returns, viz :

From Solar Lodge, in Bath, reporting thirty-eight members, fourteen suspended, one deceased.

Orient Lodge, in Thomaston, reporting five members, two new ones, one deceased.

Union Lodge, in Union, twenty-one members.

Which is respectfully submitted,

Bath, Jan. 12, 1835.

Z. HYDE, D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

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

Having delayed to make my return as long as practicable to get it in to the Annual Communication, in hopes to receive the returns from the lodges in this District, I am under the necessity of saying that I have received no response from either, although I wrote to each requesting the returns to be made, and recommended a practicable and convenient mode of doing it for each. Two years ago, at the special request of the Grand Master, I visited each lodge in person, made a settlement, and exhibited to the Grand Lodge the condition of each at that time. Last year, on a tour through the country on other business, I took occasion to call on the officers of each; but not finding them prepared at the time, and it not being convenient for me to tarry, I received an assurance that the returns should be seasonably made, one of which was duly made and forwarded. This year none has yet been made.

The state of Masonry is so low in this region, and the members especially in the north part of the county so scattered, that the lodges have ceased to meet altogether, and it needs some one more energetic than myself to arouse them to any activity. I hope such a one will be appointed at the approaching election. I have paid out for postage on my commission and blanks from the Grand Lodge one dollar; and whether I am entitled to a remuneration unless I collect it from the subordinate lodges, I leave for you to determine.

Very respectfully and fraternally,

Sebec, Jan. 12, 1835.

DAVID SHEPHERD, D. D. G. M. 7th M. D.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1836.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Stevens's Hall in Augusta, on Thursday, the 21st day of January, A. D. 1836.

PRESENT—M. W. REUEL WASHBURN,	G. Master.
R. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JONATHAN SMITH,	G. Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM PARTRIDGE,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" NATHANIEL STEVENS,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" DAVID NEAL,	S. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" THOMAS GILPATRICK, Jr.,	J. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" EBENEZER WHITE,	Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented :

ANCIENT LAND MARK,	by	Jonathan Smith.
HARMONY,	"	Josiah Pierce.
HERMON,	"	Thomas Gilpatrick, Jr.
RURAL,	"	Daniel Ormsby.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Proceedings of the last meeting were read.

The following report was submitted, read, and accepted, viz :

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duty assigned them so far as to examine the Report of the Treasurer, ask leave to report as follows:

There have been received during the past year, the following sums, viz:

For dividends on Bank Stock,	\$255.00
For Premium,	30.00
On notes,	71.55
Donation to widow Gilman, not paid,	7.79
Amounting to the sum of	<u>\$364.34</u>

And that he has paid during the same time the following sums, viz:

To J. C. Humphreys, D. D. G. M. of the 1st M. D.	\$14.44
To David Shepherd, " " 7th "	1.00
For postage bill up to Jan. 1, 1836,	2.55
For printing bill,	20.00
For services of Secretary,	30.00
For services of Treasurer,	20.00
For Luther Severance's bill,	1.00
Making in the whole the sum of	<u>\$88.99</u>

The Committee find a balance of two hundred seventy-five dollars and thirty-five cents, which can be applied to objects of charity.

THOMAS W. SMITH, } Committee on
A. B. THOMPSON, } Finance.

Grand Lodge, January 21, 1836.

Proceeded to the choice of officers.

R. W. William Partridge, Nathaniel Stevens and Jonathan Smith were chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, to be elected by ballot, who having attended to the duty assigned them, reported the unanimous election of the following Brethren, viz:

- M. W. REUEL WASHBURN, of Livermore, Grand Master.
- R. W. JOEL MILLER, of Thomaston, Senior Grand Warden.
- R. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick, Junior G. Warden.
- R. W. BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

R. W. William Partridge, Nathaniel Stevens, Joseph M. Gerrish and Asaph R. Nichols were chosen Trustees of the Charity Fund.

R. W. Thomas W. Smith, Abner B. Thompson and Eben Fuller were chosen a Committee on Finance.

R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish and Abner B. Thompson were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

A communication from Solar Lodge was received and referred to Bro's Amos Nourse, Abner B. Thompson and Asaph R. Nichols, with instructions to report at the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge now adjourn, to meet at the dwelling-house of Bro. Benjamin Davis, at half past six o'clock to-morrow evening.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

AUGUSTA, Jan. 22, 1836.

The Grand Lodge met at the dwelling-house of Bro. Benjamin Davis, agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—	M. W. REUEL WASHBURN,	Grand Master.
*	R. W. JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
"	ABNER B. THOMPSON,	J. G. Warden.
"	BENJAMIN DAVIS,	Grand Treasurer.
"	JAMES L. CHILD,	G. Marshal.
"	THOMAS W. SMITH,	S. G. Deacon.
"	WILLIAM PARTRIDGE,	J. G. Deacon.
"	DANIEL ORMSBY,	Grand Tyler.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following report:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having examined the papers and documents submitted to them, find that they consist of the Journals of proceedings, By-Laws, Addresses and Letters of the Grand Lodges of the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Ohio, Kentucky and South Carolina, and also of the Grand Chapters of Connecticut, Ohio and Virginia; and although there appears to be much useful and interesting matter contained in several of them, your Committee have seen nothing that requires the particular action of this Grand Lodge,

excepting that of directing the Secretary to reciprocate their respective civilities on the part of the Grand Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Jan. 22, 1836.

JOSEPH M. GERRISH, }
A. B. THOMPSON, } Committee.

Which report on being read was accepted.

Voted, That Bro's Nathaniel Coffin, Zina Hyde and David C. Magoun, to whom was committed a communication from the Trustees of the Kennebec Lodge, at the last Annual Meeting, be requested to report on the same at the next Annual Communication.

Report of Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish, District Deputy Grand Master of the First District, was received, which on being read was accepted, and together with the circular and accompanying papers, ordered to be placed on file.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, together with Abner B. Thompson, Thomas W. Smith and James L. Child, be a Committee to dispose of the Bank Stock, or such part of it as they may deem expedient, now owned by the Grand Lodge of Maine, and invest the amount received therefor in Stock of other Banks, which in their opinion may be equally safe and more productive; and that the Treasurer be authorized to transfer any stock which said Committee may so dispose of. No sale of stock in any case to be made for less than its par value.

A communication from the Master of Rural Lodge was received, surrendering the charter and records of their lodge; which was read, and the charter and records were accepted, and the communication ordered to be placed on file.

A communication was received from Bro. Samuel Fessenden, requesting that the whole or a part of the amount due on a demand against Bro. Oliver Griswold, deceased, on which himself and Thomas A. Deblois were sureties, might be remitted. Whereupon it was

Voted, That the amount of interest now due and which may accrue until the expiration of six months from this date, be remitted for the benefit of the widow of the said deceased, on condition that the principal be paid within that time, and if it be not so paid, at the expiration of the six months, the Treasurer is hereby requested to collect principal and interest.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer give notice to all debtors to the Grand Lodge that unless their demands are paid on or before the twenty-second day

of July next, they will be left with an attorney for collection, and the Grand Treasurer is hereby requested to leave all such demands as remain unpaid at the time above specified, with an attorney accordingly, and authorized to invest the principal of all sums collected by him in Bank Stock.

Ordered, That the several District Deputy Grand Masters be authorized and requested to receive of such subordinate lodges within their respective districts as have become inoperative, or indisposed to continue their masonic labors, the Charters, Books, Papers, Regalia, &c. of said lodges, giving them receipts therefor, and hand them over to the Grand Treasurer, that they may be deposited in the archives of the Grand Lodge, in trust for the benefit of said subordinate lodges; to be returned to them again whenever thereto required; or the papers may be directly handed over by the officers of the subordinate lodges to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor, instead of the District Deputy Grand Master's.

Resolved, That all such subordinate lodges as have property and funds belonging to said lodge, which are of so small an amount as not to excite a sufficient interest in the members of the lodge to which they belong, to take care of and apply them, or the interest, to legitimate masonic purposes, for which they were created—or do not wish to have the trouble and responsibility of managing them among themselves, be and are hereby requested to place them in the hands and under the government of the Grand Lodge, the interest of which, arising from said funds, to be placed in the hands of a Board of Trustees, to be appointed by said subordinate lodge, to be by them distributed among such objects of charity as said Board or lodge may direct. And that the several District Deputy Grand Masters be authorized to receive said property and funds with the evidence thereof, and transmit them to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, to be united with and disposed of in like manner as the funds of the Grand Lodge—and the interest applied as above directed until such subordinate lodge shall call for the same, and then the amount to be refunded, provided, however, that any of the subordinate lodges, or their officers, may, if they choose, hand over the funds directly to the Grand Treasurer, and take his receipt therefor, instead of that of the District Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

R. W. DAVID C. MAGOUN, of Bath, Deputy Grand Master.

“ ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough, Cor. Grand Secretary.

“ AMOS H. HODGMAN, of Warren, Grand Marshal.

“ SAMUEL JOHNSON, of Hallowell, Grand Chaplain.

“ FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset, “ “

“ MOSES SPRINGER, of Gardiner, “ “

“ WILLIAM TRAFTON, of Shapleigh, Senior G. Deacon.

- R.W. WILLIAM PARTRIDGE, of Gardiner, Junior G. Deacon.
 " NATHANIEL STEVENS, of Hallowell, Grand Steward.
 " MOSES SAFFORD, Jr., of Augusta, " "
 " WILLIAM L. WHEELER, of Augusta, " "
 " THOMAS GILPATRICK, Jr., of Gardiner, " "
 " OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, Grand Sword Bearer.
 " OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, Grand Pursuivant.
 " FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, Grand Tyler.

The foregoing officers were duly installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Josiah Pierce, of Gorham.
Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, of Canton.
Third District—R. W. Thomas W. Smith, of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. Thomas Eaton, of Bath.
Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.
Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.
Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.
Eighth District—R. W. George Thatcher, of Saco.

Ordered, That the Recording Grand Secretary be requested to procure the printing of the usual number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and that one copy be forwarded to each subordinate lodge, to each of the officers of the Grand Lodge, to each of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and to all Masonic bodies which are in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund:

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| M. W. Reuel Washburn, Grand Master, | <i>ex-officio.</i> |
| R. W. David C. Magoun, Deputy Grand Master, | " |
| " Joel Miller, Junior Grand Warden, | " |
| " Abner B. Thompson, Senior Grand Warden, | " |
| " Philip C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary, | " |
| " Amos Nourse, | |
| " James L. Child. | |
| " William Partridge. | |
| " Nathaniel Stevens. | |
| " Joseph M. Gerrish. | |
| " Asaph R. Nichols. | |

REPORTS

OF

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

FIRST DISTRICT.

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

The undersigned having been appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the First Masonic District for the year 1835, having accepted the appointment, and performed some of its duties, asks leave respectfully to state, that in conformity with some of the requisitions of said commission, and in accordance with recent usages adopted by this Grand Lodge, instead of convening the several lodges and visiting them personally in an official capacity, he addressed a circular to each and every lodge in said District, therein respectfully requesting them to cause the annual returns of their respective lodges to be made to the 1st of last September, and forward them to me together with the dues to the Grand Lodge, a copy of which circular is hereto subjoined. But although this reasonable request was at first entirely neglected, and by all the lodges delayed beyond the period therein fixed to make their returns, yet, by second and third applications by writing and personal calls, I have at length succeeded in obtaining the returns of all the lodges within the district for the year ending September 1, 1835, excepting that of Cumberland Lodge in New Gloucester, from whom I have received no communication.

I find all the lodges in the district without exception inactive and inoperative as to any work, their members dispirited, and with some few honorable exceptions indisposed to masonic duties. Some of the lodges which hold funds to a considerable amount, are not able to rally their members so as even to elect their officers. The two lodges in Portland have funds to the amount of \$2000 each, but decline the payment of their dues to the Grand Lodge: and the reason they give is simply, that they cannot collect it of their members, and if paid they must take it from their Charity Fund; and they say that the Grand Lodge may as well pay their own expenses from their own funds as from the funds of the subordinate lodges. There are others, viz:

Casco and Freeport Lodges, that have no available fund, and cannot as some of the members say by any effort whatever get their members together to choose officers, much less to collect the tax required of them by the Grand Lodge. Both of these lodges have in contemplation the surrendering of their charters; and the former, by some of their members, has expressed itself to that effect on the back of their annual returns for the last year. I also observe by a letter on file that Cumberland Lodge wishes to do the same.

Harmony Lodge, at Gorham, has a small fund of about \$400; have recently had a meeting, chosen officers, and agreed to hold on; have made their returns and paid their dues to me for the last two years, but expressed a wish and expectancy that the Grand Lodge would remit the amount paid if the other lodges did not meet the requirements of the Grand Lodge in this particular, that they may stand on an equal footing with the other lodges under this jurisdiction. The amount they have paid is

For the year 1834,	\$2.37½
“ “ 1835,	2.62½
	<hr/> \$5.00

United Lodge made their returns to me for the year 1835, without any comments, and paid their dues, viz: \$1.50, making in the whole I have received six dollars fifty cents.

Jan. 22, 1836.

J. M. GERRISH, D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

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

Immediately on receiving a commission as D. D. G. M. for the 4th Masonic District, I addressed a communication to each of the lodges in this district, requesting a return &c. to be made to me previous to the 1st of January. I have received answers from only two, which I inclose. I also inclose a petition from Solar Lodge to the Grand Lodge, to accept the charter of the same. It is proper to state, that since the resolution appended to the petition, the lodge voted to distribute the funds belonging to the same, among the members, and that each member so receiving his proportion, be directed to bestow the same in charity, for the relief of the poor and needy, according to the principles of Freemasonry. The funds were accordingly distributed, agreeably to the vote.

Brother Hyde informs me that he sent a list of names, (of widows,) who have formerly received a portion of the charity fund. I have none to add. I regret that it is out of my power to attend the Grand Lodge.

Fraternally yours,

Bath, January 20, 1836.

THOS. EATON, D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1837.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Rogers's Hotel in Augusta, on Thursday, the 19th of January, A. D. 1837.

PRESENT—M. W. REUEL WASHBURN,	Grand Master.
R. W. DAVID C. MAGOUN,	D. G. Master.
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" DANIEL CLAY,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" BENJAMIN DAVIS,	Grand Treasurer.
" PHILIP C. JOHNSON,	R. G. Secretary.
" STEPHEN MARSHALL,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" FREDERICK WINGATE,	Grand Tyler.

Lodge represented :

HERMON,

by

STEPHEN WEBBER.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Recording Grand Secretary.

Proceeded to the choice of officers.

R. W. Asaph R. Nichols, Daniel Clay and Frederick Wingate were chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count votes for Grand Officers to be elected by ballot, who having attended to the duty assigned them, reported the election of the following Brethren :

M. W. REUEL WASHBURN, of Livermore, Grand Master.
 R. W. JOEL MILLER, of Thomaston, Senior Grand Warden.
 R. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick, Junior G. Warden.
 R. W. BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.
 R. W. PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

R. W. Thomas W. Smith and Stephen Webber were chosen Trustees of the Charity Fund, in room of Bro. Amos Nourse, whose term of office had expired, and Bro. William Partridge, deceased.

R. W. Thomas W. Smith, Abner B. Thompson and Frederick Wingate were chosen a Committee on Finance.

R. W. Abner B. Thompson and David C. Magoun were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge now adjourn, to meet at this place at six o'clock to-morrow evening.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 20, 1837.

The Grand Lodge met at Rogers's Hotel, at six o'clock P. M., agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. REUEL WASHBURN,	G. Master.
R. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" BENJAMIN DAVIS,	G. Treasurer.
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" STEPHEN WEBBER,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" DAVID NEAL,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" EBENEZER F. DEAN,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The following report was received, read and accepted :

The Committee on Finance, having examined the accounts of the Treasurer, report as follows :

The income received from the Charity Fund the past year is from

Dividends on Bank Stock,	\$280.00
Interest on notes,	41.25
Donation not called for,	6.00
Total,	<u>\$327.25</u>

The amount paid from this fund the past year is for

Expenses of D. D. G. Masters,	\$5.37
Expenses in collecting money,	1.50
Fees of Secretary, Treasurer and Tyler,	52.00
Printing,	14.08

Total, \$72.95

Deduct amount received of D. D. G. M. 1st M. D. 6.50

Balance, 66.45

Leaving a balance to be applied to objects of charity of 260.80 \$327.25

There was in the Treasury, January, 1836, 9.35

The Treasurer has received the past year on notes, 450.00

Making the amount which may be invested in stocks, 459.35

The Treasurer has also received during the past year
from the income of the Charity Fund, as before
stated, a balance of 260.80

Making the amount of money in his hands the sum of 720.15

All which is respectfully submitted,

Grand Lodge, Jan. 19, 1837. THOMAS W. SMITH, } Committee on
A. B. THOMPSON, } Finance.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following report:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having examined the papers and documents submitted to them, find that they consist of the Journals of proceedings, By-Laws, Addresses and Letters of the Grand Lodges of the States of New Jersey, Mississippi, New York, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Kentucky and Massachusetts, and also of the Grand Chapters of the States of New Hampshire and Tennessee; and although there appears to be much useful and interesting matter contained in them, your Committee have seen nothing that requires the particular action of this Grand

Lodge, excepting that of directing the Secretary to reciprocate their respective civilities on the part of this Grand Lodge.

Which is respectfully submitted,

A. B. THOMPSON, *Committee.*

Grand Lodge of Maine, January 20, 1837.

Which report was read and accepted.

The Committee to which was referred the communication and resolve from Solar Lodge, at Bath, report that in said communication they tender to the Grand Lodge their charter, and request the acceptance thereof. But by the resolve passed by said lodge it appears to your Committee they have violated masonic principles and usages. Your Committee, therefore, being of the opinion that the said Solar Lodge have violated their charter, recommend that the Grand Lodge recall the same.

A. R. NICHOLS, }
A. B. THOMPSON, } *Committee.*

Which report on being read was accepted. Whereupon it was

Ordered, That the Rec. Grand Secretary forward a copy of the foregoing report to the Secretary of Solar Lodge, and request said lodge to return their charter to the Grand Lodge, agreeably to the foregoing report.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to invest in bank stock, as soon as may be, the money now in his hands, as a part of the principal of the charity fund of this Grand Lodge. And he is hereby authorized and directed to invest in bank stock as aforesaid, any further sum or sums of money which he may receive from any individuals now indebted to said fund, previous to our next Annual Communication, reserving the interest to be disposed of under the direction of the Trustees of said fund, for charitable purposes.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, together with Abner B. Thompson, Thomas W. Smith and James L. Child, be a Committee to dispose of the Bank Stock, or such part of it as they may deem expedient, now owned by the Grand Lodge of Maine, and invest the amount received therefor in Stock of other Banks, which in their opinion may be equally safe and more productive; and that the Treasurer be authorized to transfer any stock which said Committee may so dispose of. No sale of stock in any case to be made for less than its par value.

The Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

R. W. DAVID C. MAGOUN, of Bath, Deputy Grand Master.

" ISAAC G. REED, of Waldoborough, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" AMOS H. HODGMAN, of Warren, Grand Marshal.

R.W. MOSES STONE, of Jay,	Grand Chaplain.
" FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset,	" "
" MOSES SPRINGER, of Gardiner,	" "
" WILLIAM TRAFTON, of Shapleigh,	Senior G. Deacon.
" DAVID NEAL, of Gardiner,	Junior G. Deacon.
" NATHANIEL STEVENS, of Hallowell,	Grand Steward.
" MOSES SAFFORD, Jr., of Augusta,	" "
" WILLIAM L. WHEELER, of Augusta,	" "
" THOMAS GILPATRICK, Jr., of Gardiner,	" "
" OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland,	Grand Sword Bearer.
" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland,	Grand Pursuivant.
" FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta,	Grand Tyler.

The foregoing officers were duly installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Josiah Pierce, of Gorham.

Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, of Canton.

Third District—R. W. Thomas W. Smith, of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Thomas Eaton, of Bath.

Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.

Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.

Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.

Eighth District—R. W. George Thacher, of Saco.

Ordered, That the Recording Grand Secretary be requested to procure the printing of the usual number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and that one copy be forwarded to each subordinate lodge, to each of the officers of the Grand Lodge, to each of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and to all Masonic bodies which are in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Reuel Washburn, Grand Master,	<i>ex-officio.</i>
R. W. David C. Magoun, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" Joel Miller, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Abner B. Thompson, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" Philip C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" James L. Child.	
" Nathaniel Stevens.	
" Joseph M. Gerrish.	
" Asaph R. Nichols.	
" Thomas W. Smith.	
" Stephen Webber.	

The following is the only D. D. G. Master's Report for this year which we find on file.

FIRST DISTRICT.

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

The ill health of my family will prevent my meeting the Grand Lodge at their approaching Annual Communication. I had made my arrangements to be at Augusta this week, but the severe sickness of two children forbids my going from home.

I have not visited the several lodges in my district the past season. Very few of them meet regularly I am told. I addressed a circular letter to each lodge in my jurisdiction, requesting them to make their annual returns to me by the 1st of January 1837. But I have received returns from two lodges only, viz: from the United Lodge, at Brunswick, with \$1.50 dues to the Grand Lodge, and a return from Ancient Landmark Lodge, at Portland, but no fees. The returns I now enclose to you, to be laid before the Grand Lodge at their meeting. The \$1.50 I will pay over the first personal opportunity I have. I request I may not be re-appointed D. D. G. Master of this district, as I shall not be able to attend to the duties of the office.

Gorham, Jan. 16, 1837.

JOSIAH PIERCE, D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1838.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at the Augusta House, in Augusta, on Thursday, the 18th day of January, A. D. 1838.

PRESENT—R. W. A. B. THOMPSON,	G. Master, <i>p. t.</i> *
“ JAMES L. CHILD,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ THOMAS W. SMITH,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ BENJAMIN DAVIS,	Grand Treasurer.
“ PHILIP C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ BENJAMIN SHAW,	Grand Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ FREDERICK WINGATE,	Grand Tyler.

VISITING BRETHREN.

R. W. A. R. Nichols, David Neal, Moses Safford, Jr., A. G. Brown, J. D. Barnard, Stephen Webber, Daniel Ormsby, James Conner, James Capen, Daniel Clay, Charles Lawrence, Joseph Smith, Charles Fox and Benjamin White.

Lodges represented :

ORIENT,	by	John D. Barnard.
ANCIENT LAND MARK,	“	Joseph Smith.
HERMON,	“	Stephen Webber.
PORTLAND,	“	Charles Fox.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

*A letter from the Grand Master, which we find on file, states that he cannot be present on account of a sick child, and says: “If there should be a sufficient number of the brethren present, by all means proceed to elect the officers and finish the necessary business.” He says also, “It will be recollected that I have held the office of Master of the Grand Lodge three successive years, and consequently am not eligible to a re-election.”

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

In accordance with a vote passed June 23, A. D. 1846, a special communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on the third day of November, A. L. 5846, and was opened at nine o'clock A. M. by R. W. Alex. H. Putney, Grand Master *pro tem*.

PRESENT—	R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
	" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
	" ASA BAILEY,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
	" SAMUEL CHASE,	Grand Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
	" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. G. Secretary.
	" NATHAN C. FLETCHER,	Cor. Grand Secretary.
W. and Rev.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain.
	" CYRIL PEARL,	" "
W.	JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal.
	" JOHN ELLIOT,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
	" JOHN DAIN,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>

Full returns were received through R. W. Simon Foss, late D. D. G. M. of the Seventh Masonic District—

From Meridian Splendor Lodge, at Newport, with dues up to June 1st, amounting to	\$18.00
From Penobscot Lodge, at Dexter, to same date, with dues amounting to	26.00
And from Rising Virtue Lodge, at Bangor, with dues to same date, amounting to	28.00
	<u>\$72.00</u>

R. W. Bro. Foss's bill for postage, traveling expenses, &c., for

two and a half years, as D. D. G. Master, amounting to \$16.00, was presented, allowed, and ordered to be paid.

The Resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge, at the Annual Communication thereof, in June, 1845, proposing an amendment of the By-Laws in relation to the time of holding the annual meetings, having been submitted to the several subordinate lodges for their consideration, was now called up, and the proposed amendment was adopted as follows, viz :

Resolved, That the 3d Section of Chapter 1st, and the 4th Section of Chapter 2d, of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, be so altered and amended as that the Annual Communication for the choice of officers and the transaction of business shall be on the 1st Wednesday in May, at 9 o'clock A. M.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Freeman Bradford,

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to consider the expediency of providing means to pay the expense of a Delegate from each lodge in attending the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge; and also of requiring the several subordinate lodges hereafter to pay the annual assessment of one-eighth of a dollar for each of their members, as provided in Section 11th, of Chapter 4th, of the By-Laws.

R.W. Bros. Freeman Bradford, N. C. Fletcher and Jona. Smith were appointed on said Committee.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to two o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—The Grand Lodge organized as in the morning.

The Committee on the subject of assessments and pay of Delegates, reported as follows :

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of requiring the payment of all dues from subordinate lodges, and also for the purpose of recommending a general and full representation of all lodges at the annual meetings of the Grand Lodge of Maine, report the following Preamble and Resolution :

Whereas, The interest of the Masonic Institution requires that all the lodges within this jurisdiction should be represented at the Annual Communications of this Grand Lodge; and it is apparent that the neglect of the several lodges

in this particular arises in part from the fact that the individual delegates from the subordinate lodges, under the present regulations, are obliged to defray their own expenses, therefore—

Resolved, That the several lodges within this State be required to pay annually hereafter the sum of one-eighth of a dollar for each and every member belonging to the same, in addition to the initiation fees, as required by the 11th Section of the 4th Chapter of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the subordinate lodges take into consideration the subject of authorizing their Delegates and Representatives at the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, to appropriate the whole, or such part of the fund arising from the payment of the one-eighth of a dollar aforesaid, as may be deemed necessary towards paying the expense of one Delegate from each lodge represented at the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge; and to communicate, at the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, the sense of their respective lodges upon this subject.

F. BRADFORD,	} Committee.
J. SMITH,	
N. C. FLETCHER,	

The foregoing report was read and accepted, and the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The following Resolution was then offered, and adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge deem it inexpedient, at this time, to make an appointment of a Grand Lecturer for the current year.

On motion,

Voted, That R. W. Bro. A. H. Putney be a Committee to procure such Regalia as may be necessary to supply the several D. D. G. Masters, in place of that which has been lost.

On motion,

Voted, That three members be added to the Committee appointed to revise the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, and that said Committee be requested to report at the next annual meeting.

And R. W. Bros. F. Bradford, C. B. Smith and Cyril Pearl, were added accordingly; and on motion of R. W. Bro. Elliot,

Voted also, That said Committee consider the expediency of adopting the new system of granting Grand Lodge certificates of membership to members of subordinate lodges.

Extracts from the records of the Grand Lodge.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1847.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the 5th day of May, 1847, at 9 o'clock A. M.

PRESENT—R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. C. HUMPHREYS,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ FRYE HALL,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ NATHAN C. FLETCHER,	Cor. G. Secretary.
W. and Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain.
“ CYRIL PEARL,	“ “
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal.
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon.
“ JOSEPH CLARK,	J. G. Deacon.
“ THOMAS P. TUFTS,	Grand Steward.
“ THOS. S. BOWLES,	“ “
“ ASA BAILEY,	G. Sword Bearer.
“ STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

Second District—R. W. HEZEKIAH HUTCHINS, JR.

Third District—R. W. LORY BACON.

Fourth District—R. W. JOHN W. LINDLEY.

Fifth District—R. W. FRYE HALL.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Past Grand Master.

“ ABNER B. THOMPSON, Past Grand Master.

VISITORS.

Bros. J. M. Gerrish, Oliver Pollard, J. B. Coyle, W. L. Hall, Eaton Shaw, D. Winslow, J. Dunn, John Dain, D. G. Plummer, J. A. Deane, E. M. Plimpton, S. C. Munsey, William Coffin, Merrill, A. Shirley, Whitehouse, Skillins, S. Chase, Jr., and others.

The Grand Lodge was called to order and opened in due form; and Bros. Bradford, Valentine and Collins were appointed a Committee on Credentials, who, having attended to the duty assigned them, reported that the following lodges were represented by the following named brethren, who were entitled to seats in this Grand Lodge, viz:

1. PORTLAND, Portland, by Freeman Bradford, M.; William Kimball, S. W.; James R. Milliken, J. W.
5. KENNEBEC, Hallowell, by N. Gunnison, Proxy.
6. AMITY, Camden, by Abraham Ogier, M.
8. UNITED, Brunswick, by Abner B. Thompson, M.
9. SACO, Saco, by Thomas P. Tufts, M.
10. RISING VIRTUE, Bangor, by Joseph C. Stevens, M.; S. L. Valentine, and John G. Bowen, Proxies.
12. CUMBERLAND, New Gloucester, by Ezra Tobie, S. W.
13. ORIENTAL, Bridgton, by George W. Cushman, M.; Edward F. Quimby, S. W.
14. SOLAR, Bath, by John Elliot, S. W.
16. ST. GEORGE, Waldoborough, by Joseph Clark, M.
17. ANCIENT LAND-MARK, Portland, by C. B. Smith, M.; Charles Fobes, S. W.; William Allen, J. W.
23. FREEPORT, Freeport, by John Collins, M.; Samuel Thing, S. W.
24. PHOENIX, Belfast, by Daniel Haradan, S. W.; Caleb Chase, Proxy.
29. TRANQUIL, Minot, by William Bickford, Proxy.
31. UNION, Union, by ——— S. W.
32. HERMON, Gardiner, by Stephen Webber, M.
33. WATERVILLE, Waterville, by Jacob M. Crooker, J. W.
35. BETHLEHEM, Augusta, by Benjamin A. G. Fuller, M.
40. LYGONIA, Surry, by William Somerby, Proxy.
46. ST. CROIX, Calais, by William Goodwin, Proxy.
50. AURORA, Thomaston, by W. H. Hodgdon, Proxy.
58. UNITY, Freedom, by Thomas Bolton, Proxy.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was read and accepted.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, an invoca-

tion was made to the Throne of Mercy, by the Rev. Cyrus Cummings, Grand Chaplain.

On motion,

Voted, That all Master Masons of regular standing, who may desire it, be invited to take seats as visitors, during the present Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Bros. Freeman Bradford and Jonathan Smith were appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

On motion,

Voted, That 3 o'clock this afternoon be assigned as the time for the election of Grand Officers.

The Grand Secretary reported to the Grand Lodge, that five vacancies had occurred in the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, by the expiration of their term of office.

On motion,

Voted, To proceed forthwith to fill the vacancies in the Board of Trustees.

And the votes having been received and counted by R. W. Bros. Humphreys and J. Smith, the Committee appointed for that purpose, the following R. W. brethren were declared to be duly elected, viz :

ABNER B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick.

NATHAN C. FLETCHER, of Thomaston.

JONATHAN SMITH, of Westbrook.

THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta.

JOSEPH C. STEVENS, of Bangor.

A petition was received from Lygonia Lodge, praying that the designation of its location, as expressed in its charter, may be changed from Surry to Ellsworth; said lodge having been uniformly holden in that part of Ellsworth, which was set off from the town of Surry since their charter was granted; and on motion,

Voted, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

A petition was received from Northern Star Lodge, at Anson, praying for liberty to hold said lodge alternately, for such periods of time as its member may agree upon, in the towns of Anson

and Solon. The R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of the Third District, in which said lodge is located, being present and approving the same, it was, on motion,

Voted, That the prayer of the petition be granted.

A communication was received from United Lodge at Brunswick, asking information respecting the propriety of receiving into their lodge a person who has lost a leg: which communication was referred to R. W. Bros. Bacon, Stevens and Bradford; who subsequently reported, in the language of the Committee appointed to revise the By-Laws:

"That when the deformity of the candidate is not, in the opinion of the lodge, such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts or mysteries of Freemasonry, or does not amount to an inability honestly to acquire the means of subsistence, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient land-marks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institution."

Which report was read and accepted.

A communication was received from a Committee of Morning Star Lodge, at Worcester, Mass., inviting this Grand Lodge to be present and participate with them and other bodies of the fraternity, in the festivities of the 24th of June next. Read and placed on file.

A petition was received from John Miller and twenty-three others, members of St. George Lodge, at Waldoborough, setting forth that said lodge was originally chartered in the year 1806, by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; and that on the 10th day of October last past, the village of Waldoborough was visited by a destructive conflagration, and the charter, records, and most of the furniture and fixtures of said lodge were burnt; and praying for a new charter, with power to hold said lodge alternately, for such periods of time as the members may direct, in the towns of Warren and Waldoborough.

The R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of the 4th District, in which said lodge was located, being present, and approving the same, it was, on motion,

Voted, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted, free from the usual charge.

The bill of R. W. Bro. John Miller, for expenses as Grand Lecturer, having been audited and allowed,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be requested to pay the same.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Stevens,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to refund to each lodge, which has made its returns and paid funds into the Grand Treasury since the year 1842, and previous to June, 1845, agreeably to a vote of the Grand Lodge passed at that time, remitting all fees then due.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until half past two o'clock P. M.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, May 5, 1847.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 2½ o'clock P. M. Officers and members as in the morning.

A petition was received from the members of Tranquil Lodge, at Minot, setting forth that the charter of said lodge was destroyed by fire on the 17th day of September, 1843; that they are desirous of resuming the labors of the lodge, and praying for a renewal of their charter, with power to open and hold said lodge at said Minot, or in the town of Auburn, being formerly a part of Minot when said charter was originally granted. The R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of the Second District, in which said lodge was located, being present and approving the same, it was, on motion,

Voted, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted, free of the usual charge.

The Committee of Finance, to whom was referred the Grand Treasurer's accounts for the past year, reported—

That there had been received into the Grand Treasury, from all sources, since June 23, 1846, and up to May 5, 1847, the sum of three hundred and ninety-nine dollars and thirty-two cents, exclusive of the several sums, which,

at the time of making this report, were being paid in as dues from subordinate lodges for the past year, and which the Committee could not report upon before the time fixed for the election of Grand Officers; that there has been disbursed by the Grand Treasurer, for the past year, the sum of two hundred and twenty-two dollars and four cents; and that there remains in his hands, as per his account current annexed, a balance of one hundred and seventy-seven dollars and twenty-eight cents; and that the items of expenditure are properly vouched, and the accounts correctly cast.

Which report was read and accepted.

The Grand Treasurer's account, alluded to in the foregoing report, shows the invested fund of the Grand Lodge to consist of

5 shares in Freeman's Bank of Augusta, valued at	\$ 500.00
10 " " Casco " " Portland, " "	1,000.00
20 " " Canal " " " " "	1,500.00
Total,	<u>\$3,000.00</u>

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers.

Bros. John Elliot, Samuel Thing and Nathan C. Fletcher were appointed a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes; who reported the unanimous election of the following officers:

- M. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY, of Portland, Grand Master.
- R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Senior Grand Warden.
- " FRYE HALL, of Belfast, Junior Grand Warden.
- " HENRY H. BOODY, of Portland, Grand Treasurer.
- " CHARLES B. SMITH, of Portland, Recording G. Secretary.

Which report was accepted.

R. W. Bros. Freeman Bradford, Jonathan Smith and Abner B. Thompson were elected a Committee of Finance for the ensuing year.

The Committee appointed at a former communication to revise the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, made their report thereon, submitting a revised code of By-Laws and Regulations for consideration. The report was accepted, and the Laws and Regulations submitted were then taken up, considered and discussed until 6 o'clock, when the Grand Lodge was called off until 7½ o'clock this evening.

At 7½ o'clock the Grand Lodge was again called to labor, and resumed the consideration of the By-Laws, until half past nine, when they were again called off until 7½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, May 6, 1847.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at half past seven o'clock. Grand Officers as yesterday.

Bros. C. B. Smith and T. S. Bowles were appointed a Committee on the subject of conferring the Past Master's Degree in an irregular manner; which Committee subsequently reported the following preamble and resolution, viz:

Whereas, It has been represented to this Grand Lodge that certain brethren in the eastern part of the State have assumed the authority to confer upon Master Masous, who have not been elected to preside over any regularly constituted lodge, the Degree of Past Master, which this Grand Lodge regards as highly improper and unmasonic: therefore

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do solemnly protest against the repetition of an act so manifestly objectionable, and which can be regarded only as an unwarrantable innovation upon the rights and privileges of the institution in this jurisdiction.

Which report was accepted and the preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted.

On motion of M. W. Robert P. Dunlap,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the M. W. John T. Paine, Past Grand Master, for the able and courteous manner in which he has presided over their deliberations; and for the zeal and fidelity manifested by him in sustaining the interest and the honor of the craft in this jurisdiction; and that our fraternal regard be extended to him, with our best wishes for his future welfare and happiness.

The further consideration of the By-Laws was resumed and continued until one o'clock, when the Grand Lodge was called off until two o'clock P. M.

MASONS' HALL, May 6th, 2 P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

R. W. Bro. Ogier, Master of Amity Lodge, pursuant to instructions, submitted to the Grand Lodge, for their consideration, a copy of an article in the By-Laws of said Amity Lodge. And the same having been read and considered, it was, on motion,

Voted, That the Grand Lodge see no cause to interfere with the provision in said article.

The Committee appointed at a former communication, on an intimation that Amity Lodge had misapplied its funds, using them for purposes contrary to Masonic usage, reported—

That they had investigated the subject, which was fully explained to them by said lodge, and in a manner entirely satisfactory to the Committee.

Which report was accepted.

R. W. Bro. Lory Bacon, D. D. G. Master of the Third District, submitted a report, setting forth the condition and prospects of the lodges in his District, and representing them generally to be in a prosperous state. Report read and accepted and placed on file.

The Committee appointed at a former communication to consider the expediency of adopting the new system of granting Grand Lodge certificates of membership, to members of subordinate lodges, reported adversely to the proposition, and submitted the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do not deem it expedient to adopt the system of granting Grand Lodge certificates of membership to members of subordinate lodges.

Which report was accepted and the resolution adopted.

On motion of Bro. Grand Marshal,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer pay to the Grand Secretary, the sum of \$30 for his services the past year; and also the sum of \$3.82, the amount paid by him for postages and stationery during the same period.

On motion of Bro. Jonathan Smith,

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to R.W. Bro. Henry H. Boody, Grand Treasurer for his faithful and gratuitous services in that office.

On motion,

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. W. C. Martin, of Boston, for the friendly and fraternal manner in which he interested himself in procuring and forwarding to us one of our Grand Lodge Jewels which had been lost.

On motion of R. W. Bro. J. Smith,

Resolved, That one dollar of the fees hereafter received by this Grand Lodge for each candidate initiated, shall be appropriated in payment of the debt due to the Charity Fund, until said debt shall be extinguished.

On motion,

Resolved, That the D. D. G. Masters of the several Districts be requested to call upon the several dormant lodges in their respective Districts, or the principal members thereof, and ascertain whether it is their intention to resume work; and in case it is not, that said D. D. G. Masters demand and receive from them their charters, records, regalia and other masonic property, to be returned to the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure a sufficient number of blank diplomas for the ensuing year; and also such number of blank charters as may be deemed necessary.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure such number of jewels and collars for D. D. G. Masters, as may be necessary to complete the set for said officers.

The proposition submitted at the last communication, and sent out to the lodges, providing 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 arising from said one-eighth of a dollar 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, was taken up; and on motion,

Voted, That the same be adopted.

The consideration of the new code of By-Laws was then resumed, and the same having been fully considered and discussed, and amended in several particulars, were approved, and ordered to be printed and sent out to the lodges for their examination; (provided, however, that the Committee be authorized to correct any clerical errors, and any conflicting provisions, so as not to change the sense,) so that final action may be had thereon at the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until Wednesday evening, the 19th inst., at 6 o'clock P. M., then to convene for the purpose of installing the Grand Officers.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Rec. Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, Portland, May 19, 1847.

This being the evening designated for the installation of the Grand Officers, and a competent number of the officers and members being present, the Grand Lodge was called to labor at 7 o'clock, by the M. W. Alexander H. Putney, who presided, assisted by

R. W. THOMAS P. TUFTS,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" WILLIAM KIMBALL,	Grand Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Grand Secretary.
W. NATHAN J. DAVIS	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" EPHRAIM BROWN,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN PURINTON,	Grand Steward.
" GEORGE SMALL,	" "
" JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal.
" REV. C. CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain.
" ASA BAILEY,	G. Sword Bearer.
" JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

There were also present a respectable number of representatives and other brethren from several subordinate lodges.

In the absence of a Past Grand Master, the R. W. Charles B. Smith, being the oldest Past Master present, was called upon to perform the ceremony of installing the Grand Master elect, who thereupon proceeded to execute the duty assigned him, and duly installed the M. W. Alexander H. Putney as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and conducted him to the Oriental chair.

The Grand Marshal then, by order of the M. W. Grand Master, announced the following appointments for the ensuing year, viz :

- R. W. SAMUEL L. VALENTINE, of Bangor, Deputy Grand Master.
 " NATHAN C. FLETCHER, of East Thomaston, C. G. Secretary.
 W. Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS, of Westbrook, Grand Chaplain.
 " " WILLIAM A. DREW, of Augusta, " "
 " " CYRIL PEARL, of Harrison, " "
 " " GILES BAILEY, of Brunswick, " "
 " " JAMES PRATT, of Portland, " "
 " JONATHAN SMITH, of Westbrook, Grand Marshal.
 " NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, S. G. Deacon.
 " JOSEPH CLARK, of Waldoborough, J. G. Deacon.
 " MATTHEW HASTINGS, of Calais, Grand Steward.
 " THOMAS S. BOWLES, of Bath, " "
 " JOHN PURINTON, of Portland, " "
 " GEORGE SMALL, of Westbrook, " "
 " ASA BAILEY, of Portland, Grand Sword Bearer.
 " SAMUEL B. STEVENS, of Westbrook, Grand Pursuivant.
 " EBENEZER G. EATON, of Saco, " "
 " JOHN DAIN, of Portland, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Daniel Winslow, of Portland.
Second District—R. W. Hezekiah Hutchins, Jr., of Ramford.
Third District—R. W. Lory Bacon, of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. John W. Lindley, of Union.
Fifth District—R. W. Leonard Jarvis, of Surry.
Sixth District—R. W. Jeremiah Fowler, of Lubec.
Seventh District—R. W. Joseph Prescott, of Garland.
Eighth District—R. W. Thomas P. Tufts, of Saco.

The Grand Master then proceeded to install in ample form the several subordinate Grand Officers, those who were absent being installed by proxy. After which, the Grand Marshal made the usual proclamation, that the Grand Lodge of Maine was duly constituted and the Grand Officers installed for the current masonic year.

A report was then received from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in which they say :

That they acknowledge in behalf of the Grand Lodge of Maine, with expressions of reciprocal friendship, the receipt of communications, within the past year, in the form of printed proceedings, from the sister Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Georgia, Arkansas and Louisiana.

The committee also acknowledge the receipt of circulars from several grand and subordinate lodges; and observe, that—

To narrate the contents, or even the most important parts of the contents of all these papers, would require a space that can hardly be eligible for a report of this kind.

They, however, proceed to discuss several topics, which appear to have been regarded as important by various other Grand Lodges, but upon which this Grand Lodge deem it inexpedient at this time to take any action.

In their closing remarks, the committee observe that—

On the whole, though the correspondence in possession of your committee shows that there are differences of opinion amongst masons, as being *Free* Masons they are free to differ in the spirit of love and in the desire for truth; yet no where is heard any *harsh* sounds—no noise of axe, hammer, or any tool of *iron*. All these differences are salutary in their bearings upon the common work in which we are all engaged. Masonry, purified by the past desertions of men who never estimated its beauties, or understood its principles, has arisen of late years, with unwonted zeal and vigor. Never was the Institution more prosperous than at this moment. There are thirty-one Grand Lodges now in the United States, with which are connected more than eighteen hundred subordinate lodges, besides Royal Arch Chapters, Encampments and other masonic organizations. These all should be, and we trust are, the sacred sanctuaries of charity—a charity that halts not to inquire whether a brother is of this nation or that, of one political party or another, of our religious communion or not, *but is he a mason?* and if found to be such, in the day of his need, rushes to his assistance on the well known points of fellowship. That the principles of our order may teach us all to forget each other's errors, forgive each other's faults, and unite us all together by the cement of brotherly love and friendship, should be the prayer of every mason.

The report of the committee was read and accepted, and ordered to be placed on file; and the Grand Secretary requested

to make such extracts from it, for publication, as he may think proper, it being deemed inconvenient, at this time, to publish the report in detail.

The Grand Master then appointed the R. W. Bros. Cyril Pearl, Josiah Pierce and Freeman Bradford, a Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the current year.

On motion,

Voted, That Bros. C. B. Smith, John Purinton and George Small be a committee to procure such jewels and collars as may be necessary to complete the set for the several officers of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

LIST OF LODGES—1846.

We find no list made up in 1847.

FIRST DISTRICT.

R. W. JOSEPH SMITH, Portland, D. D. G. M.

Portland.....	No. 1.....	Portland.
United.....	" 8.....	Brunswick.
Cumberland.....	" 12.....	New Gloucester.
Ancient Land-Mark.....	" 17.....	Portland.
Freeport.....	" 23.....	Freeport.
Casco (charter surrend.),	" 36.....	North Yarmouth.
Harmony.....	" 38.....	Gorham.

SECOND DISTRICT.

R. W. HEZEKIAH HUTCHINS, JR., D. D. G. M.

Pythagorean.....	No. 11.....	Fryeburg.
Oriental.....	" 13.....	Bridgton.
Oxford.....	" 18.....	Paris.
Oriental Star.....	" 21.....	Livermore.
Tranquil.....	" 29.....	Minot.
Blazing Star.....	" 30.....	Rumford.
Mount Moriah.....	" 56.....	Denmark.
King Hiram.....	" 57.....	Dixfield.

THIRD DISTRICT.

R. W. LORY BACON, Augusta, D. D. G. M.

Kennebec.....	No. 5.....	Hallowell.
Maine.....	" 20.....	Farmington.
Temple.....	" 25.....	Winthrop.

Northern Star.....	No. 28.....	Anson.
Hermon.....	" 32.....	Gardiner.
Waterville.....	" 33.....	Waterville.
Somerset.....	" 34.....	Norridgewock.
Bethlehem.....	" 35.....	Augusta.
Morning Star.....	" 41.....	Litchfield.
Central.....	" 45.....	China.
Lafayette.....	" 48.....	Readfield.
Vassalborough.....	" 54.....	Vassalborough.
Rural (charter surrend.).	" 53.....	Sidney.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

R. W. JOHN W. LINDLEY, Thomaston, D. D. G. M.

Lincoln.....	No. 3.....	Wiscasset.
Solar.....	" 14.....	Bath.
Orient.....	" 15.....	Thomaston.
St. George.....	" 16.....	Warren.
Village.....	" 26.....	Bowdoinham.
Union.....	" 31.....	Union.
Alna.....	" 43.....	Alna.
Aurora.....	" 50.....	Thomaston.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

R. W. FRYE HALL, Belfast, D. D. G. M.

Hancock.....	No. 4.....	Castine.
Amity.....	" 6.....	Camden.
Felicity.....	" 19.....	Bucksport.
Phoenix.....	" 24.....	Belfast.
Lygonia.....	" 40.....	Surry.
Unity.....	" 58.....	Freedom.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

R. W. JEREMIAH FOWLER, Lubec, D. D. G. M.

Warren.....	No. 2.....	Machias.
Eastern.....	" 7.....	Eastport.
Washington.....	" 37.....	Lubec.
St. Croix	" 46.....	Calais.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. JOSEPH PRESCOTT, Garland, D. D. G. M.

Rising Virtue.....	No. 10.....	Bangor.
Penobscot.....	" 39.....	Garland.
Piscataquis.....	" 44.....	Sebec.
Meridian Splendor.....	" 49.....	Newport.
Mosaic.....	" 52.....	Sangerville.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

R. W. ARTHUR McARTHUR, Limington, D. D. G. M.

Saco.....	No. 9.....	Saco.
York.....	" 22.....	Kennebunk.
Adoniram.....	" 27.....	Limington.
Freedom.....	" 42.....	Parsonsfield.
Buxton.....	" 47.....	Buxton.
St. John's.....	" 51.....	South Berwick.
Fraternal.....	" 55.....	Shapleigh.

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At the same time the Trustees of the Charity Fund had the right to increase this amount to the sum of two hundred dollars.

Which is respectfully submitted,

January 18, 1844.

A. R. NICHOLS,
FREDERICK WINGATE, } Committee.
BENJAMIN SWAN,

This report, on being read, was accepted.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine,
in account with BENJAMIN DAVIS, Treasurer.

1843.	Dr.
To donations paid sundry persons, by vote of Trustees,	\$289.00
To paid postage bills,	4.08
To paid N. Hutchins for use of hall,	5.00
To paid William R. Smith & Co.'s bill for printing,	.75
To paid Severance & Dorr's bill for printing,	17.25
To balance to new account, 1844,	595.86
	<hr/> \$911.94
1843.	Cr.
By balance of account of 1842, brought forward,	\$289.44
By amount refunded, charged to widow Benjamin,	5.00
By two dividends on 5 shares in Freeman's Bank, Augusta,	27.50
By dividend on shares in Casco Bank,	No. 33, 20.00
" " " " " "	" 34, 20.00
" " " Canal Bank,	" 21, 40.00
" " " " "	" 28, 40.00
" " " " "	" 29, 40.00
" " " Bank of Portland,	" 40, 15.00
" " on capital stock of " "	" 1, 280.00
" " " " " "	" 2, 80.00
" " on trust fund of " "	" 3, 20.00
" " " " " "	" 4, 20.00
" " " " " "	" 5, 15.00
	<hr/> \$911.94

R. W. James L. Child, Charles Fox and J. R. Abbot, were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Voted, That we now proceed to the choice of Grand officers for the ensuing year.

Whereupon, Bros. A. R. Nichols and Jonathan Smith, were appointed a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes, who reported the election of

M. W. THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN T. PAINE, of Sanford, Senior Grand Warden.

" ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY, of Portland, J. G. Warden.

" HENRY H. BOODY, of Portland, Grand Treasurer.

" PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

Bros. Charles Fox, J. M. Gerrish and Daniel Winslow, were chosen a Committee on Finance.

Bros. A. B. Thompson, Reuel Washburn, James L. Child, Edward Fuller and Amos Nourse, were chosen Trustees of the Charity Fund.

R. W. A. H. Putney, of Portland, submitted the following resolve as an amendment of the By-Laws:

Resolved, That the 3d Section of Chapter I of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be altered, by striking out the "Third Thursday in January," and inserting "the 23d of June, except when that day comes on the Sabbath, in which case the Annual Meeting shall be held on the 24th of June." Also, to alter Section 4, Chapter II, to the same effect.

And the same was referred to a Committee, consisting of Bros. A. B. Thompson, John Dorr and A. H. Putney.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of amending the 3d Section of Chapter I, and the 3d Section of Chapter V of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, at the last Annual Communication, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master,

Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Committee to whom was referred, at our last Annual Communication, the proposition to amend the 3d Section of Chapter I and the 3d Section of Chapter V of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, by striking out "Augusta," wherever the word occurs, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "Portland," so that hereafter the regular meetings of the Grand Lodge, and of the Trustees of the Charity Fund, shall be held in Portland aforesaid, have given some attention to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report: That the information obtained from the inquiries they have made, shows most clearly that

the year, for interest and dividends on notes and stocks; and this, in ordinary times, would be very nearly correct. It will be seen by this report, that the amount now applicable to charitable purposes, is much less than has been distributed in past years. The deficiency arises in consequence of the omission of the Banks in which the Charity Fund is principally invested, to make their second semi-annual dividend of profits, occasioned by the peculiar condition of our moneyed institutions. Although the sum before stated is the amount of interest or income actually received, yet it is believed, that a further sum has been earned during the past year, which will hereafter be available. But, while the amount of income received is considerably less than in former years, it is believed that the proper objects of our bounty are as numerous as they were the last year; and the Committee would accordingly regret to find the Grand Lodge compelled to confine its donations to the amount which appears to the credit of the income account, as before stated. The Committee believe, that in calculating the amount of interest which has accrued from the Permanent Fund, it would be safe to add to the amount of interest and dividends actually received into the Treasury, three per cent. on the amount of Bank Stock belonging to that fund. This would amount to one hundred and thirty-five dollars; which, added to the balance of eighty-two dollars and thirty-seven cents before named, would make the amount which would be applicable to charitable purposes, at the present time, two hundred seventeen dollars and thirty-seven cents.

The Committee, therefore, believing that the course here suggested would be in accordance with the By-Laws, and taking into consideration the probable destitute condition of many of the applicants for donations, and the present condition of the Masonic Institution, recommend that the Grand Treasurer be authorized and directed to borrow the sum of one hundred and thirty-five dollars, to be refunded out of interest and dividends which may hereafter be received from the charity fund; that this amount be added to the balance of eighty-two dollars and thirty-seven cents, as before stated; and that the sum of two hundred seventeen dollars and thirty-seven cents be now distributed in charity, provided that the number and circumstances of those who may apply therefor, shall, in the opinion of the Grand Lodge, render a disposition of that sum expedient.

All which is respectfully submitted,

THOS. W. SMITH,	} Committee on Finance.
A. B. THOMPSON,	
FRED. WINGATE,	

Proceeded to the choice of officers.

R. W. David Neal, A. G. Brown and Moses Safford, Jr., were chosen a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, to be elected by ballot, who having attended to the duty

assigned them, reported, that the following Brethren are unanimously elected :

- M. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick, Grand Master.
- R. W. THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Senior Grand Warden.
- " STEPHEN WEBBER, of Gardiner, Junior Grand Warden.
- " BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.
- " PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

The following persons were chosen Trustees of the Charity Fund, viz : James L. Child, David Neal and Moses Safford Jr., in place of James L. Child, whose term has expired, and Thos. W. Smith and Stephen Webber, members ex officio.

James L. Child, David Neal and Frederick Wingate were chosen Committee on Finance.

Charles Fox, Asaph R. Nichols and James L. Child, were chosen Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Voted, that when this lodge adjourn, it adjourn to meet at this place, on Tuesday evening next, at seven o'clock.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

TUESDAY, Jan. 23, 1838.

The Grand Lodge met at the Augusta House agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON,	Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS W. SMITH,	S. G. Warden.
" STEPHEN WEBBER,	J. G. Warden.
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	Grand Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" DAVID NEAL,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" MOSES SAFFORD, JR.,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" BENJAMIN DAVIS,	Grand Treasurer.
" PHILIP C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" FREDERICK WINGATE,	Grand Tyler.

VISITING BRETHREN.

R. W. John D. Barnard, Nathaniel Stevens, Charles Fox, David Ormsby and Peter Vigoureux.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which on being read was accepted:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, report, that they have carefully examined the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Florida, Ohio, Kentucky, Mississippi and Missouri, for the year past. In some sections of the country masonry is evidently fast awaking from the slumbers into which it had fallen by the unjust and iniquitous warfare waged against it. Public sentiment has in a great measure become tranquilized, and the demagogue spirit which for a time agitated and distracted one of the most pacific institutions of human origin, breathing "peace on earth and good will to men," is receiving the reprobation of the virtuous of all parties and denominations. The Committee cannot but indulge the hope, that the lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, will be able before the next communication to report that they are, one and all, in a perfect state of organization, and availing themselves of the benefit to be derived from frequently meeting together in the lodge-room, as in the days of "auld lang syne." They recommend that the Grand Secretary reciprocate salutations with all the Grand Lodges in the Union, by forwarding to each a printed copy of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

JAMES L. CHILD,	} Committee.
DAVID NEAL,	
ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	

The Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

R.W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Deputy Grand Master.

" ZINA HYDE, of Bath, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Grand Marshal.

" MOSES STONE, of Jay, Grand Chaplain.

" FREEMAN PARKER, of Winthrop, " "

" MOSES SPRINGER, of Gardiner, " "

" DAVID NEAL, of Gardiner, S. G. Deacon.

" MOSES SAFFORD, JR., of Augusta, J. G. Deacon.

" NATHANIEL STEVENS, of Hallowell, Grand Steward.

" WILLIAM L. WHEELER, of Augusta, " "

" FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, " "

" OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, " "

" OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, G. Sword Bearer

R.W. BENJAMIN SHAW, of Gardiner, Grand Pursuivant.

" JOHN D. LORD, of Augusta, " "

" BENJAMIN COOK, of Gardiner, Grand Tyler.

The foregoing officers were duly installed by the M. W Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Eleazer Wyer, of Portland.

Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, of Canton.

Third District—R. W. James L. Child, of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Amos H. Hodgman, of Warren.

Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.

Sixth District—R. W. Oliver N. Allen, of Lubec.

Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.

Eighth District—R. W. William Trafton, of Shapleigh.

Bro. Benjamin Davis was chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes to fill the vacancies in the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, in place of A. R. Nichols, Nathaniel Stevens, David Neal and Moses Safford, Jr., who have been appointed officers of this Grand Lodge.

John H. Ingraham, Benjamin Swan and Daniel Clay, of Gardiner, and Elias Bond of Hallowell, were chosen Trustees, as aforesaid.

The Grand Treasurer submitted a statement of the Charity Fund, which was read and ordered on file, to wit:

The following is all the property belonging to the Grand Lodge of Maine, viz:

20 shares Canal Bank, Portland.

10 shares Casco Bank, Portland.

10 shares Portland Bank, Portland.

5 shares Freeman's Bank, Augusta.

45

One note hand signed by Oliver Griswold, Samuel Fessenden,

Thomas A. Deblois, dated Jan., 1828, for

\$200.00

One note signed Thomas Herrick, Jacob Herrick, O. S.

Hartshorn, Alpheus Shaw, dated Jan 30, 1823,

100.00

One note signed William Walker, dated Dec. 1, 1829, for

10.00

(Deceased and lost.)

\$310.00

I have collected since Jan. 1834, (the time I received the above notes), \$600 on old notes due the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the Recording Grand Secretary, James L. Child and Benjamin Davis, be a Committee to revise the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge; and that when completed, the Grand Secretary cause a sufficient number of copies to be printed to furnish each subordinate lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, with one copy.

The subordinate lodges in Maine, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge during the depressed state of Masonry, not having been in receipt of fees by which to meet their own expenses, or to pay the Grand Lodge their dues, therefore

Voted, That this Grand Lodge remit to all the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction all dues owing to them, up to the third Thursday of January current.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to procure the printing of the usual number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and that one copy be forwarded to each of the officers of this Grand Lodge, one copy to each of the subordinate lodges in this State, one copy to each of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and one copy to all Masonic bodies which are in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge be now closed.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *R. G. Secretary.*

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund:

M. W. Abner B. Thompson, Grand Master,	<i>ex-officio.</i>
R. W. Asaph R. Nichols, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" Thomas W. Smith, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Stephen Webber, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" Philip C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" Joseph M. Gerrish.	
" James L. Child.	
" John H. Ingraham.	
" Benjamin Swan.	
" Daniel Clay.	
" Elias Bond.	

There are no reports on file from District Deputy Grand Masters for 1838. From Bro. Josiah Pierce of the First District, we find a letter to the Grand Secretary as follows :

GORHAM, January 17, 1838.

BRO. JOHNSON: Till very lately I have expected to have attended the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine. I now find that I cannot be present.

I have received no returns from any lodge in the District over which I am D. D. G. Master, for the last masonic year.

I decline being a candidate for re-appointment to my present office. Please make my wishes known to the Grand Lodge, and oblige your friend and brother,
JOSIAH PIERCE.

A letter from R. W. David C. Magoun, Deputy Grand Master, dated Jan. 17, 1838, says :

I understand from Bro. Eaton, the District Deputy Grand Master for the Fourth District, that there have been no meetings in his District, and he has no communication to make. You will please so state to the Grand Lodge.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1839.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at the Augusta House, in Augusta, on Thursday, the 17th day of January, A. D. 1839.

PRESENT—M. W. A. B. THOMPSON,

Grand Master.

R. W. A. R. NICHOLS,

Deputy Grand Master.

" THOMAS W. SMITH,

S. G. Warden.

" DANIEL CLAY,

J. G. Warden, *p. t.*

" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,

Grand Marshal.

" P. C. JOHNSON,

Rec. G. Secretary.

" BENJAMIN DAVIS,

Grand Treasurer.

" MOSES SAFFORD, Jr.,

S. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

" LUCIUS Q. C. BOWLES,

J. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

" NATHANIEL STEVENS,

Grand Steward.

" FREDERICK WINGATE,

" "

" ISAAC HOBBS,

G. Sword Bearer, *p. t.*

" OLIVER B. DORRANCE,

Grand Pursuivant, *p. t.*

" BENJAMIN SHAW,

" "

" EBENEZER WHITE,

Grand Tyler, *p. t.*

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. CORNELIUS HOLLAND, from the Second District.

" JAMES L. CHILD, from the Third District.

" AMOS H. HODGMAN, from the Fourth District.

Lodges represented:

PORTLAND,

by

J. B. Cahoon.

EASTERN,

"

Isaac Hobbs.

ANCIENT LAND-MARK,

"

O. B. Dorrance.

WASHINGTON,

"

Taft Comstock.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, on taking the chair, called the Grand Lodge to order, and the same was opened in ample form.

The proceedings of the last meeting were then read by the Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Finance submitted their annual report which is as follows:

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duty assigned them, ask leave to report:

That the income arising from the Charity Fund the past year is:

Dividends on five shares in Freeman's Bank,	\$40.00
Interest on note collected of General Fessenden and others,	63.25
Total,	\$103.25

The amount paid from this fund the last year is for fees of

Secretary,	30.00
For fees of Tyler for 1838,	4.00
Printing minutes of proceedings,	14.00
Printing revised By-Laws and advertising meeting,	18.00
Sundry costs and expenses in collecting notes, &c., &c.,	24.31
Postage bill,	1.70
To Committee for revising constitution and superintending printing the same,	6.00
To amount advanced by G. Treasurer, to pay the Charities as ordered at the last annual meeting,	135.00
Total,	\$233.01

It will be seen by the foregoing statement, that there is a deficit of \$129.76 to meet the claims of the Grand Treasurer upon the Charity Fund.

His claim arises principally from the loan made by him under direction of the Grand Lodge at their last Annual Communication, to enable him to pay out the appropriations then ordered.

At the time those appropriations were made, it was confidently expected that dividends upon the stock of the Grand Lodge in the Portland Banks would be declared in the course of the year, but being disappointed in this respect, nothing can be distributed in charity the current year. The Committee recommend that the Grand Treasurer be authorized and directed to borrow the sum of \$129.76, to be refunded out of interest and dividends which may hereafter be received from the Charity Fund.

The amount of cash in the Treasury, January 18, 1838, belonging to the Permanent Fund, as appears by the Treasurer's books, was

Since that time he has collected on note,	\$84.35
	200.00
	\$284.35

Making the sum of \$284.35 to be appropriated by the Treasurer agreeably to the provision of the By-Laws.

January 17, 1839.

JAMES L. CHILD, } Committee on
FRED. WINGATE, } Finance.

This report on being read was accepted.

The Grand Treasurer made a report, giving a statement of the funds under his charge, which was read and ordered on file.

Communications from the Grand Lodges of New York and South Carolina, were read by the Grand Secretary, which, together with sundry other communications, on motion of Bro. Shaw, were referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Voted, To choose a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Bros. Isaac Hobbs, Oliver B. Dorrance and Lucius Q. C. Bowles, were chosen said Committee.

Proceeded to the choice of officers.

R. W. Cornelius Holland, Amos H. Hodgman and Frederick Wingate, were chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, to be elected by ballot, who reported the following brethren as unanimously elected:

M. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick, Grand Master.

R. W. THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Senior Grand Warden.

" STEPHEN WEBBER, of Gardiner, Junior Grand Warden.

" BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.

" PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

R. W. A. R. Nichols, Benjamin Swan and Frederick Wingate were chosen a Committee on Finance.

Bro. Oliver B. Dorrance was chosen a Trustee of the Charity Fund, in place of Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish, whose term of office had expired.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge remit all dues from the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, up to the present time.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn to meet at this place on Tuesday evening next, at 7 o'clock.

After some remarks appropriate to the occasion from several of the brethren,

Voted, To adjourn.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 22, 1839.

The Grand Lodge met at the Augusta House, agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. A. B. THOMPSON,	Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS W. SMITH,	S. G. Warden.
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	G. Marshal.
" BENJAMIN DAVIS,	G. Treasurer.
" P. C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" MOSES SAFFORD, JR.,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ISAAC HOBBS,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" L. Q. C. BOWLES,	G. Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The Grand Lodge was called to order by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and opened in ample form.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a Report, accompanied with a communication from said Committee, to the officers of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, both of which, on being read, were accepted, ordered to be entered upon the Records, and printed; and the original communication forwarded by the Grand Secretary to its proper destination.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 17, 1839.

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

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of communications and Foreign Correspondence, report—

That there have been received by the R. W. Grand Secretary during the past year, the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Connecticut,

Pennsylvania, New York, Kentucky, Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Maryland and Florida; and by examination we find them to consist principally of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of those States, and that no other action is deemed necessary for this Grand Lodge than to request the Secretary to reciprocate the like friendly regards. The communications from New York and South Carolina Grand Lodges contain interesting subjects; the former we are not able to take much part in, and the latter we have considered with much deliberation, and have prepared a communication touching the subject matter of theirs to this Grand Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ISAAC HOBBS,	} Committee on Foreign Correspondence.
LUCIUS Q. C. BOWLES,	
O. B. DORRANCE,	

COMMUNICATION

AUGUSTA, Jan. 17, 1839.

Respected Brethren: Your communication bearing post-mark, "Charleston, July 2, 1838," directed to the Grand Secretary, was this evening presented to the Grand Lodge of Maine, at its annual session; and we, the subscribers, were appointed a Committee to examine and consider the same, and in the discharge of the duty imposed on us, we answer your communication. While we sympathize with you, respected brethren, in your recent loss by conflagration, we the more regret our inability to afford assistance at a time when pecuniary aid is so much needed. It must be known to you, that the unfortunate and unjustifiable anti-masonic excitement, which has prevailed throughout New England, since 1826, raging with the violence of pestilential disease, has so far affected our labors, as to produce in nearly all our lodges an entire relinquishment of them. In fact, our work is suspended, and the sound of the Gavel is not heard within our walls consequently our funds cannot accumulate by the means so profitably exercised previous to the injurious influence above referred to; and the funds that we have are so situated, as not to produce more than sufficient to meet our current expenses. Yet, brethren, we do not despair. We can faintly discern the dawn of a brighter day, and are encouraged to hope that the day is not far distant when we can resume our labors—when the benevolent designs of our beloved Institution can be brought into beneficial operation, and its glory be again at "high meridian," and shine with renovated lustre.

With fraternal esteem, respectfully yours

ISAAC HOBBS,
LUCIUS Q. C. BOWLES,
O. B. DORRANCE.

To M. W. Charles M. Freeman, G. M.; R. W. George B. Echord, D. G. M.;
R. W. William B. Foster, S. G. W.; R. W. John Evans, J. G. W.; R. W.
J. W. Bruen, C. G. S.; of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

The M. W. Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal, viz:

- R. W. A. R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Deputy Grand Master.
- " ZINA HYDE, of Bath, Corresponding Grand Secretary.
- " JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Grand Marshal.
- " MOSES STONE, of Jay, Grand Chaplain.
- " FREEMAN PARKER, of Winthrop, " "
- " MOSES SPRINGER, of Gardiner, " "
- " DAVID NEAL, of Gardiner, S. G. Deacon.
- " MOSES SAFFORD, Jr., of Augusta, J. G. Deacon.
- " NATHANIEL STEVENS, of Hallowell, Grand Steward.
- " W. L. WHEELER, of Augusta, " "
- " FRED. WINGATE, of " " "
- " OLIVER GERRISH, of Portland, " "
- " OLIVER S. HARTSHORN, of Portland, G. Sword Bearer.
- " BENJAMIN SHAW, of Gardiner, Grand Pursuivant.
- " JOHN D. LORD, of Augusta, " "
- " BENJAMIN COOK, of Gardiner, Grand Tyler.

The foregoing Officers were duly installed by the M. W. Grand Master, either by themselves or proxies.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Eleazer Wyer, of Portland.
- Second District*—R. W. Cornelius Holland of Canton.
- Third District*—R. W. James L. Child, of Augusta.
- Fourth District*—R. W. Amos H. Hodgman, of Warren.
- Fifth District*—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.
- Sixth District*—R. W. Isaac Hobbs, of Eastport.
- Seventh District*—R. W. Daniel Shepherd, of Sebec.
- Eighth District*—R. W. William Trafton, of Shapleigh.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized and requested from time to time to invest such sums as may come into his hands, belonging to the principal of the Charity Fund, in such Bank Stock as in his opinion shall be most productive and safe.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to procure the printing of the requisite number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and to forward one copy to each of the officers of this Grand Lodge, one copy to each of the subordinate lodges in this State, one copy to each of the District

Deputy Grand Masters, and one copy to all legal Masonic bodies which are in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge now adjourn.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund.

M. W. A. B. Thompson, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio.</i>
R. W. A. R. Nichols, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" Thomas W. Smith, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Stephen Webber, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" P. C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" James L. Child.	
" John H. Ingraham.	
" Benjamin Swan.	
" Daniel Clay.	
" Elias Bond.	

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1840.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at the Augusta House in Augusta, on Thursday the 16th of January, A. D. 1840.

PRESENT—M. W. A. B. THOMPSON,	G. Master.
R. W. A. R. NICHOLS,	D. G. Master.
“ O. B. DORRANCE,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. L. CHILD,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. C. HUMPHREYS,	G. Marshal.
“ P. C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ BENJAMIN DAVIS,	G. Treasurer.
“ MOSES SAFFORD, JR.,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ I. R. CHADBOURNE,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ F. WINGATE,	Grand Steward.
“ A. H. PUTNEY,	“ “ <i>p. t.</i>
“ E. WHITE,	G. Sword Bearer, <i>p. t.</i>
“ S. LAKE,	G. Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

R. W. J. L. CHILD, from the Third District.

Lodges represented :

PORTLAND,	by	J. B. Cahoon.
UNITED,	“	J. C. Humphreys.
ANCIENT LAND-MARK,	“	O. B. Dorrance.
EASTERN,	“	I. R. Chadbourne.
FELICITY,	“	Sewall Lake.
PHENIX,	“	N. M. Lowney.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, on taking the chair, called the Grand Lodge to order, and the same was opened in due form, omitting the usual ceremonies.

The proceedings of the last meeting were then read by the Grand Secretary.

A communication from Bro. David Shepherd, District Deputy Grand Master of the Seventh Masonic District, was read and ordered on file.

The return from Hermon Lodge was read, and ordered on file.

R. W. I. R. Chadbourne, J. L. Child and O. B. Dorrance, were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following Report, which, on being read, was accepted:

REPORT.

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duties devolving upon them in virtue of their office, report:

That the income arising from the Charity Fund, the past year, is:

Dividend on 20 shares in Canal Bank, Portland,	\$20.00
" 10 " Bank of Portland,	20.00
" 10 " Casco Bank, Portland,	10.00
" 5 " Freeman's Bank, Augusta,	32.50
Total,	<hr/> \$82.50

The amount paid from this fund the last year is as follows, viz:

To Smith & Robinson for printing,	4.50
William Hastings' bill,	14.00
To L. Severance, for 1838 and 1839,	4.50
To L. Severance, for 1840,	.75
Postage bill,	1.87
To Recording Grand Secretary,	30.00
Total,	<hr/> \$55.62
Balance,	<hr/> \$26.88

The Charity Fund borrowed of the Grand Lodge,
Jan. 17, 1839, the sum of

129.76

And the above balance of the Charity Fund, being
applied to its payment in part, viz:

26.88

Leaves still due to the Grand Lodge the sum of

\$102.88

It will be seen by this statement, that nothing can be distributed in charity the current year, and that the Charity Fund is deficit in the sum of eighty-eight dollars and thirteen cents, to meet the claims of the Grand Treasurer upon it. There are several notes due the Grand Lodge, some of which may be eventually collected, and are in the hands of an attorney for that purpose; but no part of these can be realized at present.

January 16, 1840.

A. R. NICHOLS, } Committee on
FRED. WINGATE, } Finance.

Proceeded to the choice of Grand Officers.

R. W. Benjamin Davis, N. M. Lowney and A. H. Putney, were chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers to be elected by ballot; which Committee reported that the following brethren were unanimously elected.

M. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON, of Brunswick, Grand Master.

R. W. THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Senior Grand Warden.

" STEPHEN WEBBER, of Gardiner, Junior Grand Warden.

" BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.

" PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

R. W. A. R. Nichols, Frederick Wingate and Benjamin Swan were chosen a Committee on Finance.

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge remit all dues from the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, up to the present time.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn to meet at this place on Thursday evening next, at seven o'clock.

Adjourned. The Grand Lodge was then closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

AUGUSTA, January 23, 1840.

The Grand Lodge met at the Augusta House, agreeably to adjournment.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, on taking the chair, called the Grand Lodge to order, which was opened in due form, omitting the usual ceremonies.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted the following report, which, on being read, was accepted:

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine.

The undersigned, Committee on Foreign Correspondence, ask leave to report: That they have examined the communications received from the following Masonic bodies since the last annual meeting, viz: From Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, for 1838-39; Missouri, for 1838-39; Kentucky, Alabama, for 1838-39; North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Virginia, Louisiana and Ireland.

These communications were either extracts or entire minutes of Grand Lodges, giving the names of the Grand Officers elected, details of the finances, suspensions, expulsions, and reinstatements, in their respective bodies—funeral orations delivered on the decease of Grand Officers and private brethren distinguished for moral excellence and public usefulness.

Nothing is found requiring any action on the part of this Grand Lodge. The Committee recommend a continuation of the interchange of friendly communications with all the Grand Lodges in the Union; and also that a copy of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge be forwarded to the Grand Masonic Lodge of Ireland, with the friendly greetings of this Grand Lodge.

Per order,

JAMES L. CHILD, }
O. B. DORRANCE, } Committee.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary be authorized and directed to procure the printing of the requisite number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and forward one copy to each of the officers of this Grand Lodge, one copy to each of the subordinate lodges in this State, one copy to each of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and one copy to all-legal Masonic bodies which are in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Secretary, viz:

R. W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Deputy Grand Master.

" ZINA HYDE, of Bath, Cor. Grand Secretary.

" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Grand Marshal.

" MOSES STONE, of Jay, Grand Chaplain.

" FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset, " "

" MOSES SPRINGER, of Portland, " "

" MOSES SAFFORD, JR., of Augusta, Senior Grand Deacon.

" OLIVER B. DORRANCE, of Portland, Junior Grand Deacon.

R. W. NATHANIEL STEVENS, of Hallowell,	Grand Steward.
" W. L. WHEELER, of Augusta,	" "
" FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta,	" "
" SEWALL LAKE, of Bucksport,	" "
" ICHABOD R. CHADBOURNE, of Eastport,	G. Sword Bearer.
" BENJAMIN SHAW, of Gardiner,	Grand Pursuivant.
" JOHN D. LORD, of Hallowell,	" "
" EBENEZER WHITE, of Gardiner,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Eleazer Wyer, of Portland.

Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, of Canton.

Third District—R. W. Luther Severance, of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Amos H. Hodgman, of Warren.

Fifth District—R. W. Hezekiah Williams, of Castine.

Sixth District—R. W. Isaac Hobbs, of Eastport.

Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.

Eighth District—R. W. William Trafton, of Shapleigh.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn to meet at this place on Thursday, the 6th day of February next, at 7 o'clock in the evening.

Adjourned. The Grand Lodge was then closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

AUGUSTA, Feb. 6, 1840.

The Grand Lodge met at the Augusta House, according to adjournment.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, on taking the chair, called the Grand Lodge to order, which was opened in due form, omitting the usual ceremonies.

The following proposition was submitted by Bro. J. L. Child, viz:

Voted, That the 2d Section of Chapter V of the by-laws be so far altered, as that the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund be authorized to distribute in charity, for the relief of poor and distressed worthy brethren, their widows

and orphans, such part of the principal of the Charity Fund not exceeding ten per cent. of the same, annually, as they may deem expedient.

Which, on being read, was ordered to be printed with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, for the consideration of the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction; and that the further consideration of the subject by this Grand Lodge be postponed to the next Annual Communication.

Voted, To adjourn.

The Grand Lodge was then closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, viz:

M. W. A. B. Thompson, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio.</i>
R. W. A. R. Nichols, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" Thomas W. Smith, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" Stephen Webber, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" P. C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" James L. Child.	
" John H. Ingraham.	
" Benjamin Swan.	
" Daniel Clay.	
" Elias Bond.	

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1841.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at the Augusta House, in Augusta, on Thursday, the 21st of January, A. D. 1841.

PRESENT—M. W. A. B. THOMPSON,	G. Master.
R. W. THOMAS W. SMITH,	S. G. Warden.
“ MOSES SAFFORD, JR.,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JEREMIAH FOWLER,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ BENJAMIN DAVIS,	G. Treasurer.
“ P. C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

R. W. HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS, from the Fifth District.

Lodges represented :

UNITED,	by	A. B. Thompson.
WASHINGTON,	“	Jere. Fowler.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, on taking the chair, called the Grand Lodge to order, which was opened in due form, omitting the usual ceremonies.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Grand Secretary.

Adjourned to meet at this place on Thursday evening next, at seven o'clock.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

AUGUSTA, Jan. 28, 1841.

The Grand Lodge met at the Augusta House, according to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON,	Grand Master.
R. W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	D. G. Master.
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	S. G. Warden.
" J. L. CHILD,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" BENJAMIN DAVIS,	Grand Treasurer.
" P. C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" MOSES SAFFORD, JR.,	S. G. Deacon.
" BENJAMIN FOWLER,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" J. T. PAINE,	Grand Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
" F. WINGATE,	Grand Steward.
" HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The M. W. Grand Master, on taking the chair, called the Grand Lodge to order, which was opened in due form, omitting the usual ceremonies.

The return of Washington Lodge, together with a communication from said lodge, in relation to the vote submitted by this Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication, relative to an alteration of the by-laws, was read and ordered on file.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report, which, on being read, was accepted.

REPORT.

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duty assigned them, report—

That from the Treasurer's accounts, which appear to be correctly cast and properly vouched, the interest arising from the Charity Fund the past year, and received by him, is :

Dividend on 5 shares in Freeman's Bank, at 6 per cent.,	\$80.00
" 20 " Canal Bank, at 1 per cent.,	20.00
" 10 " Portland Bank, at 1 per cent.,	10.00
" 10 " Casco Bank, at 2 per cent.,	20.00
Amounting in the whole to	<hr/> \$80.00

The amount paid from this fund the past year, is as follows, viz:

Postage bill, for 1840,	\$1.17
Severance & Dorr, for printing report,	12.00
W. R. Smith & Co., for printing,	1.50
P. C. Johnson, services as Rec. G. Secretary	30.00
	<hr/> 44.67
Leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of	\$35.33

To be applied towards the payment of the \$102.88, which was due from the Charity Fund to the Grand Lodge at the close of the year 1839—or to be otherwise disposed of as the Grand Lodge may deem proper.

There has been received by said Treasurer, since his last settlement, on debts due the Grand Lodge, the sum of two hundred and fifty-seven dollars and forty-seven cents.

All which is respectfully submitted,

A. R. NICHOLS, *per order.*

R. W. H. Williams, M. Safford, Jr. and A. R. Nichols, were chosen a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, to be elected by ballot.

The Committee reported the election, by unanimous vote, of

M. W. HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS, of Castine, Grand Master.

R. W. THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Senior Grand Warden.

" JOHN T. PAINE, of Sanford, Junior Grand Warden.

" BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.

" PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

Which report was accepted.

Bros. Asaph R. Nichols, Frederick Wingate and Benjamin Swan, all of Augusta, were elected Committee on Finance.

R. W. A. B. Thompson, of Brunswick, Reuel Washburn, of Livermore, J. L. Child, of Augusta, Amos Nourse, of Hallowell, A. R. Nichols, of Augusta, and Edward Fuller, of Readfield, were chosen Trustees of the Charity Fund.

Voted, That the Grand Lodge remit all dues from the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, up to the present time.

Bros. James L. Child and Hezekiah Williams, were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The M. W. Grand Master elect, on taking the chair, was pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Secretary, viz:

- R. W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Deputy Grand Master.
 " ZINA HYDE, of Bath, Cor. Grand Secretary.
 " JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Grand Marshal.
 " MOSES STONE, of Jay, Grand Chaplain.
 " FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset, " "
 " MOSES SPRINGER, of Portland, " "
 " MOSES SAFFORD, JR., of Augusta, S. G. Deacon.
 " OLIVER B. DORRANCE, of Portland, J. G. Deacon.
 " NATHANIEL STEVENS, of Hallowell, Grand Steward.
 " WILLIAM L. WHEELER, of Augusta, " "
 " FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, " "
 " SEWALL LAKE, of Bucksport, " "
 " ICHABOD R. CHADBOURNE, of Eastport, G. Sword Bearer.
 " BENJAMIN SHAW, of Gardiner, Grand Pursuivant.
 " JOHN D. LORD, of Hallowell, " "
 " EBENEZER WHITE, of Gardiner, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Eleazer Wyer, of Portland.
Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, of Canton.
Third District—R. W. Luther Severance, of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. Amos H. Hodgman, of Warren.
Fifth District—R. W. Frye Hall, of Belfast.
Sixth District—R. W. Jeremiah Fowler, of Lubec.
Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.
Eighth District—R. W. William Trafton, of Shapleigh.

The following proposition for an amendment of the By-Laws, submitted at the last Annual Communication, by Bro. J. L. Child, viz:

" *Voted*, That the 2d Sec. of Chapter V of the By-Laws be so far altered, as that the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund be authorized to distribute in charity, for the relief of poor and distressed worthy brethren, their widows and orphans, such part of the principal of the Charity Fund, not exceeding ten per cent. of the same annually, as they may deem expedient."

Was taken up and discussed at much length, by Bros. Child, Nourse and Thompson, in *favor*, and Bros. Paine, Washburn and

Fowler, *against* the amendment—when on motion of Bro. Nourse, the *following* was submitted for the foregoing amendment, viz:

Voted, To strike out in Sec. 2d, Chapter V of the By-Laws, the words “and no part of the principal of said fund shall be expended for any purpose whatever,” and substitute in lieu thereof the following words, “*and may distribute in charity, for the relief of poor and distressed worthy brethren, their widows and orphans, such part of the principal of the Charity Fund, not exceeding three hundred dollars annually, as they may deem expedient.*”

And then the further consideration of the foregoing substitute for the proposed amendment was, on motion of Bro. Washburn, postponed to the next Annual Communication, and ordered to be sent out to the subordinate lodges, as a proposed amendment, agreeably to the provision of the By-Laws.

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the M. W. Past Grand Master, A. B. Thompson, for the faithful and acceptable manner in which he has performed the duties of the office of Grand Master, for the three years past.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed to inquire into the condition and value of the stock in Banks, and other property held by the Grand Lodge, and report at the next Annual Communication what disposition can and ought to be made of the same, with a view to the best interest of the Charity Fund, to which it belongs.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted the following report, which, on being read, was accepted:

REPORT.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have had very little time to examine the communications submitted to them, but have cursorily looked through those from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Ohio, Indiana, Florida, Mississippi and Missouri, being all that have been received during the past year from Grand Lodges—and they had very little to awaken hope, in relation to the craft, or cheer the gloom that has been for years thickening upon our ill-fated but much injured institution. The brethren, amidst the *persecutions* and *adverse events* of the last fifteen years, seem to have departed from their “*first love*,” and lost much of the freshness and joyousness of days of “*auld lang syne*.” Whether a brighter day is ever to dawn upon the Institution, is matter rather for prophecy than calculation—but however this may be, it will always remain true, that “the white apron and white gloves” were fit

emblems of that purity of life, and high standard of morals, which the principles of the craft ever inculcated and enforced. The Committee recommend a reciprocation of civilities with other Grand Lodges.

JAMES L. CHILD, *per order*.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be requested to procure the printing of the requisite and usual number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and forward one copy to each of the Grand officers, one copy to each of the subordinate lodges in this State, one copy to each of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and one copy to all legal Masonic bodies with which this Grand Lodge is in correspondence.

Voted, To adjourn.

The Grand Lodge was then closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, viz:

M. W. Hezekiah Williams, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio</i> .
R. W. A. R. Nichols, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" Thomas W. Smith, S. G. Warden,	"
" J. T. Paine, J. G. Warden,	"
" P. C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" A. B. Thompson.	
" R. Washburn.	
" J. L. Child.	
" A. Nourse.	
" Edward Fuller.	

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1842.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at the Augusta House, in Augusta, on Thursday, the 20th of January, A. D. 1842.

Present—R. W. J. T. PAINE, AMOS NOURSE, J. L. CHILD, B. SWAN, F. WINGATE, J. DORR, E. ROBINSON and P. C. JOHNSON.

In the absence of the M. W. Grand Master, Bro. J. T. PAINE, being the senior member present, took the chair, and called the Grand Lodge to order in the following manner, to wit:

R. W. J. T. PAINE,	M. W. Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
" AMOS NOURSE,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" J. L. CHILD,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" P. C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" B. SWAN,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN DORR,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" E. ROBINSON,	G. Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The Grand Lodge was then opened in due form, omitting the usual ceremonies.

The proceedings of the last meeting of the Grand Lodge were read by the Grand Secretary.

The returns of the Phoenix and Orient Lodges were read and ordered on file.

The Committee on Finance submitted a report, which on being

read was recommitted, for the purpose of ascertaining more specifically the sources from which, and the time within which, the interest arising from the Charity Fund had accrued, with instructions to report at the next adjourned meeting.

The report of the Grand Treasurer was submitted, which, on being read was accepted, and ordered on file.

Bros. James L. Child and John Dorr were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The subject of the amendment of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, submitted at the last Annual Communication, proposing to authorize the annual distribution of three hundred dollars of the principal of the Charity Fund, was taken up and amended by substituting the words "*two hundred*" for "*three hundred*." The question of adopting the amendment as amended was then taken, which was decided in the affirmative.

The petition of the members of Unity Lodge, praying for permission to remove said lodge to Freedom village, was referred to a Committee consisting of all the brethren present, who, after taking the same into consideration, reported that, the petition being approved by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District within which the said Unity Lodge is located, they recommend that the prayer thereof be granted. Which report on being read was accepted.

A communication from Bro. Frye Hall, District Deputy Grand Master of the Fifth Masonic District, recommending the remission of the fees due from Phoenix Lodge, was read—whereupon it was

Voted, That the amount of fees now due, and which may hereafter become due, from all the subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be remitted until otherwise ordered.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn to meet at this place to-morrow evening at seven o'clock.

The Grand Lodge was then closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

FRIDAY EVENING, January 21, 1842.

Met according to adjournment.

PRESENT—R. W. THOMAS W. SMITH,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. T. PAINE,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JONATHAN SMITH,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ PHILIP C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ JAMES L. CHILD,	Grand Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
“ A. R. NICHOLS,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ REUEL WASHBURN,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ BENJAMIN SWAN,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The Grand Lodge was then opened in due form, omitting the usual ceremonies.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Finance, to which was recommitted their report of last evening, submitted the following, which on being read was accepted.

REPORT.

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, Jan. 21, 1842.

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duty assigned them, ask leave to report :

That they find in the Treasurer's hands an unexpended sum

balance, belonging to the Charity Fund, of	\$35.33
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He has also received the past year, the following dividends,

viz :

4 on 10 shares in the Casco Bank,	72.50
3 on 10 shares in Portland Bank,	115.00
2 on 20 shares in the Canal Bank,	60.00
1 on 5 shares in the Freeman's Bank,	15.00
	<hr/>

Amounting in the whole to

\$297.83

From which he has paid the following sums, viz :

William Wourt's bill of postage,	1.21
Philip C. Johnson's salary, as Secretary,	30.00
Severance & Dorr, for advertising,	.75
William R. Smith & Co., for printing the annual proceedings,	10.75
	<hr/>

Amounting to

\$42.71

Leaving a balance of

\$255.12

M. W. THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN T. PAINE, of Sanford, Senior Grand Warden.

" ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY, of Portland, J. G. Warden.

" BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.

" PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. G. Secretary.

Which report was accepted.

Bros. Asaph R. Nichols, Benjamin Swan and Frederick Wingate, all of Augusta, were elected a Committee on Finance.

R. W. Bro. Jonathan Smith, submitted a proposition to amend the 3d Section of the 1st Chapter of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, by striking out the word "*Augusta*" in the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "*Portland*."

Voted, That the foregoing proposition be committed to a Committee, consisting of Bros. R. Washburn, J. T. Paine and A. Nourse, with instructions to report on the expediency of adopting the amendment at the next Annual Communication, and that the usual notice be sent out to the subordinate lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, agreeably to the By-Laws thereof.

Voted, That the several District Deputy Grand Masters be addressed by the Grand Secretary, and requested, previous to the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, to report how many and what lodges continue their organization, and all other facts which may be necessary to enable the Grand Lodge to understand their true condition.

The M. W. Grand Master then made the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Secretary :

R. W. A. R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Deputy Grand Master.

" ZINA HYDE, of Bath, Corresponding Grand Secretary.

" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Grand Marshal.

" MOSES STONE, of Jay, Grand Chaplain.

" FREEMAN PARKER, of Wiscasset, " "

" MOSES SPRINGER, of Portland, " "

" JOHN DORR, of Augusta, S. G. Deacon.

" OLIVER B. DORRANCE, of Portland, J. G. Deacon.

" EBEN WHITE, of Gardiner, Grand Steward.

" JOHN D. LORD, of Hallowell, " "

" FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, " "

" SEWALL LAKE, of Bucksport, " "

" ICHABOD R. CHADBOURNE, of Eastport, G. Sword Bearer.

R. W. BENJAMIN SHAW, of Gardiner, Grand Pursuivant.

" JONA. SMITH, of Westbrook, " "

" E. ROBINSON, of Augusta, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Eleazer Wyer, of Portland.

Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, of Canton.

Third District—R. W. Benjamin Swan, of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Amos H. Hodgman, of Warren.

Fifth District—R. W. Frye Hall, of Belfast.

Sixth District—R. W. Jeremiah Fowler, of Lubec.

Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.

Eighth District—R. W. William Trafton, of Shapleigh.

Voted, That we now adjourn.

The Grand Lodge was then closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

The following Brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund :

M. W. Thomas W. Smith, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio</i> .
R. W. A. R. Nichols, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" J. T. Paine, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" A. H. Putney, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" P. C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" A. B. Thompson.	
" R. Washburn.	
" James L. Child.	
" Amos Nourse.	
" Edward Fuller.	

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1843.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at the Augusta House, Augusta, on the 19th day of January, A. D. 1843.

PRESENT—	M. W. THOMAS W. SMITH,	Grand Master.
	R. W. JOHN T. PAINE,	S. G. Warden,
	“ A. H. PUTNEY,	J. G. Warden.
	“ P. C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
	“ R. WASHBURN,	G. Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
	“ O. B. DORRANCE,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
	“ A. H. HODGMAN,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
	“ F. WINGATE,	Grand Steward.
	“ JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Pursuivant.
	“ JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Marshal.
	“ M. SAFFORD, JR.,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

Lodges represented :

PORTLAND,	by	Samuel Chase, Master, Rufus Beals, S. Warden, J. B. Hudson, J. Warden.
ANCIENT LAND-MARK,	by	A. H. Putney, Master, David Robinson, S. Warden. S. C. Munsey, J. Warden.
UNITED,	by	Jere. Haskell, Proxy.
FREEPORT,	by	A. Bailey, S. Warden.
PHOENIX,	by	W. L. Wheeler, Proxy.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W.	BENJAMIN SWAN, from the Third District.
“	A. H. HODGMAN, from the Fourth District.
“	FRYE HALL, from the Fifth District.

PAST OFFICERS AND PERMANENT MEMBERS.

- M. W. CHARLES FOX, Past G. Master.
 " REUEL WASHBURN, Past G. Master.
 R. W. J. L. CHILD, Past D. D. G. Master.
 " L. SEVERANCE, Past D. D. G. Master.
 " D. ORMSBY, Past Master.
 " E. FULLER, Past Master.

VISITING BRETHREN.

- R. W. CHARLES HUNT.
 " D. C. EMERY.

The Grand Lodge was then opened, omitting the usual ceremonies.

The Committee on Finance submitted their report, accompanied by the account of the Grand Treasurer, showing the state of the funds of the Grand Lodge at the present time—which, on being read was accepted, and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

REPORT.

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, January 19, 1843.

The Committee on Finance, having attended to the duties assigned them, report—

That they find in the Treasurer's hands (less his claim for services) an unexpended balance of two hundred eighty-nine dollars and forty-four cents, as per said Treasurer's account, herewith submitted.

The Committee would further state, that all the items of said account are duly and properly vouched. Which is respectfully submitted,

BENJ. SWAN,
 FRED. WINGATE, } Committee.

Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine,
in account with BENJAMIN DAVIS, Treasurer.

1842.	Dr.
To donations paid sundry persons, per vote of the Trustees,	\$372.24
To paid Mr. Hutchins for use of hall,	5.00
To paid postage bill,	1.27
To paid for collections in Portland,	.25
To paid W. R. Smith & Co., for printing,	11.89
To paid P. C. Johnson's bill, as Secretary,	30.00
To balance to new account,	289.44
	<hr/>
	\$710.09

1842.					Cr.
By balance from old account,					\$255.12
By amount of balance from old account of Grand Lodge,					257.47
By amount refunded, charged widow Jackson,					5.00
By dividend on 10 shares Casco Bank,					42.50
" " 20 " Canal Bank,					70.00
" " 10 " Bank of Portland,					50.00
" " 5 " Freeman's Bank,					30.00
AUGUSTA, Jan. 18, 1843.					\$710.09

The proposition submitted by Bro. Jonathan Smith, at the last Annual Communication, to amend the 3d Section of the 1st Chapter of the By Laws, was discussed at considerable length, by Bros. Washburn, Paine, Child, Fox, Hodgman, Smith, Putney, Haskell and others, after which, on motion of Bro. Fox, it was

Voted, That the M. W. Grand Master appoint some member of this Grand Lodge to supply the place of Bro. Nourse, one of the Committee to which the foregoing subject was committed at the last Communication, who, it is understood, is prevented from attending this meeting on account of sickness—the other two of the Committee, Bros. Washburn and Paine, not having been able to agree upon a report; and Bro. Hodgman was accordingly appointed.

Whereupon, the Committee, as aforesaid, having taken the subject into consideration, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master,

Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Committee to whom was referred the proposition of R. W. Bro. Jona. Smith, to amend the 3d Section of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, by striking out the word "Augusta," in the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "Portland," have had the subject under consideration, and doubting the expediency of an immediate removal, as contemplated by said proposition, and believing the subject to be of sufficient interest and importance to require further consideration, respectfully recommend that final action upon the proposition be postponed until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 19, 1843.

REUEL WASHBURN, }
A. H. HODGMAN, } *Committee.*

The question of the acceptance of the same was voted to be taken by yeas and nays, and being so taken, was decided as follows, to wit:

M. W. Bro. Thomas W. Smith, R. W. Bros. R. Washburn, J. L. Child, L. Severance, F. Wingate, A. H. Hodgman, M. Safford, Jr., B. Swan, E. Fuller, W. L. Wheeler, D. Ormsby, F. Hall and P. C. Johnson, in the affirmative—and

M. W. Bro. C. Fox, R. W. Bros. O. B. Dorrance, Jonathan Smith, J. Haskell, J. C. Humphreys, Samuel Chase, R. Beals, J. B. Hudson, D. Robinson, J. C. Munsey, A. Bailey, A. H. Putney and J. T. Paine in the negative—

Being 13 in the affirmative and 13 in the negative.

So it was decided not a vote.

On motion of Bro. Dorrance, it was then

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, at the close of the present Communication, it adjourn to meet at Masonic Hall, Portland, on the 24th of June next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of the further consideration of the proposition for the amendment of the 3d Section of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

Whereupon Bro. A. H. Putney, having voted in favor, moved a reconsideration of the foregoing vote for an adjournment to Portland; which motion, on being put, was decided in the negative.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge now adjourn, to meet at this place to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock.

The Grand Lodge was then closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 20, 1843.

The Grand Lodge met at the Augusta House, agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. THOMAS W. SMITH,

R. W. A. R. NICHOLS,

" J. T. PAINE,

" A. H. PUTNEY,

" P. C. JOHNSON,

" R. WASHBURN,

" J. L. CHILD,

" SAMUEL CHASE,

G. Master.

Deputy Grand Master.

S. G. Warden,

J. G. Warden.

Rec. G. Secretary.

G. Treasurer, *p. t.*

S. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

J. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

R. W. F. WINGATE,	Grand Steward.
" JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Pursuivant.
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Marshal.
" MOSES SAFFORD, Jr.,	Grand Tyler, p. t.

PERMANENT AND VISITING BRETHREN.

R. W. Bros. R. Beals, J. B. Hudson, D. Robinson, S. C. Munsey, A. Bailey, J. Haskell, B. Swan, D. Ormsby, F. Hall, L. Severance, J. Dorr, E. Fuller, N. Stevens and A. Masters.

The Grand Lodge was then opened, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Voted, That the Grand Lodge now proceed to the choice of Grand Officers for the current year.

Whereupon, R. W. Bros. N. Stevens and John Dorr, were appointed a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers by ballot, who reported that the following brethren were unanimously elected :

- M. W. THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Grand Master.
- R. W. JOHN T. PAINE, of Sanford, Senior Grand Warden.
- " ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY, of Portland, J. G. Warden.
- " BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Treasurer.
- " PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

Bros. Asaph R. Nichols, Frederick Wingate and Benjamin Swan, were elected a Committee on Finance.

The M. W. Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Secretary :

- R. W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Deputy Grand Master.
- " AMOS STICKNEY, of Vassalboro', Cor. Grand Secretary.
- " JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Grand Marshal.
- " JOHN H. INGRAHAM, of Augusta, Grand Chaplain.
- " MOSES STONE, of Jay, " "
- " JOHN DORR, of Augusta, Senior Grand Deacon.
- " OLIVER B. DORRANCE, of Portland, Junior Grand Deacon.
- " EBEN FULLER, of Augusta, Grand Steward.
- " JERE. HASKELL, of Portland, " "
- " FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, " "
- " MOSES SAFFORD, Jr., of Augusta, " "

- R. W. DANIEL CARLETON, Jr., of Alna, G. Sword Bearer.
" BENJAMIN SHAW, of Gardiner, Grand Pursuivant.
" JONATHAN SMITH, of Westbrook, " "
" ELIJAH ROBINSON, of Augusta, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Eleazer Wyer, of Portland.
Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, of Canton.
Third District—R. W. Benjamin Swan, of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. Amos H. Hodgman, of Warren.
Fifth District—R. W. Frye Hall, of Belfast.
Sixth District—R. W. Jeremiah Fowler, of Lubec.
Seventh District—R. W. David Shepherd, of Sebec.
Eighth District—R. W. Elisha Bodwell, of Shapleigh.

R. W. Bro. John C. Humphreys, of Brunswick, was chosen, by ballot, Trustee of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge, in place of Bro. A. R. Nichols, who is a Trustee of the Charity Fund in virtue of the office he held in the Grand Lodge.

R. W. J. L. Child, and Jona. Smith were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who, having examined the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges within the United States, and other communications which have been transmitted to this Grand Lodge during the past year, submitted the following report, which on being read was accepted :

REPORT.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence ask leave to report, that they have had before them reports from the Grand Lodges of New York, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Missouri, Arkansas, Ohio, Connecticut, Georgia, Virginia, Maryland, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Also the proceedings of the Convention of Delegates from a number of Grand Lodges, held in Washington City, in March last, received since our last Annual Convention; and while they find nothing which requires the special action of this Grand Lodge, they are happy to have it in their power to state that there appears to be gratifying evidence that the star of Masonry in some of the States is in the ascendant—that the prejudices against that institution are fast being dispelled before the beamings of light and knowledge—and encouragement is afforded for the belief that the time is not far distant, when Masonry will resume her standing among the time-honored institutions of the age—having virtue for their base, and the relief of human woe their superstructure.

Before closing this report, they would state that the Unity Lodge, within this jurisdiction, reports having unanimously expelled, at a communication on the 12th April, 1842, THOMAS JONES, a member of said lodge, for having publicly renounced masonry, and being guilty of conduct unworthy the character of a brother.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Augusta, Jan. 20, 1843.

JAMES L. CHILD, }
JONATHAN SMITH, } Committee.

Voted, That one copy of the "Journal of a Convention of Delegates from the Grand Lodges of the United States, held at Washington, D. C., on the 7th of March, 1842," be forwarded to each of the District Deputy Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of R. W. Bro. James L. Child, the question was taken upon the *reconsideration* of the vote whereby the report submitted by Bros. Washburn and Hodgman last evening, in relation to the removal of the Grand Lodge was rejected—which was decided in the affirmative, as follows :

M. W. Thomas W. Smith, R. Washburn, R. W. J. L. Child, J. Dorr, B. Swan, M. Safford, Jr., L. Severance, D. Ormsby, F. Wingate, E. Fuller, N. Stevens, A. Masters and P. C. Johnson, in the affirmative; and R. W. Bro. F. Hall, in the negative.

Bros. A. R. Nichols, Jonathan Smith, R. Beals and J. B. Hudson, were, at their request, excused from voting. And, on motion, the report above mentioned was then accepted.

On motion of Bro. James L. Child,

Voted, That, in connection with the proposition submitted at the last Annual Communication, by Bro. Jonathan Smith, viz. : To amend the 3d Section of Chapter I of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, by striking out the word "*Augusta*," in the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "*Portland*," the final action upon which is to lay over to the next Annual Communication, agreeably to the recommendation of the report of the Committee, a proposition be submitted to amend also the 3d Section of Chapter V by striking out the word "*Augusta*," in the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof, the word "*Portland*,"—and that the same be committed to the Committee who had the subject of the first proposition for amendment above mentioned under consideration the last year—that the same be sent out to all the subordinate lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge—and that the Committee aforesaid be instructed to obtain an expression of the opinions of as many of

the members of the lodges aforesaid, upon the subject of said amendments, as may be practicable, either through the District Deputy Grand Masters, or otherwise, and report to this Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to address the several District Deputy Grand Masters, specially requesting them to visit the several lodges within their respective Districts, previous to the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, with a view to ascertain how many and what lodges continue their organization; also their actual standing and condition, as far as practicable, and the prospects generally for a revival of the institution of masonry within this State; and report their doings at the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of M. W. Bro. Washburn,

Voted, That the vote of last evening, whereby the Grand Lodge refused to reconsider the vote, "that when this Grand Lodge adjourn at the close of the present communication, it adjourn to meet at Masonic Hall, Portland, on the 24th day of June next, at 10 o'clock A. M." &c., and also the vote whereby they agreed to adjourn to meet at Portland on the 24th of June next, be rescinded.

Voted, That this Grand Lodge now adjourn.

The Grand Lodge was then closed, omitting the usual ceremonies.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary*.

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund.

M. W. Thomas W. Smith, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio</i> .
R. W. A. R. Nichols, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" J. T. Paine, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" A. H. Putney, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" P. C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" A. B. Thompson.	
" R. Washburn.	
" James L. Child.	
" A. Nourse.	
" Edward Fuller.	
" John C. Humphreys.	

MASONIC STATE CONVENTION.

1843.

In pursuance of previous public notice, a Convention of the members of the Masonic Fraternity in the State of Maine, was holden at Masonic Hall, in Portland, on the fourth, and by adjournment on the fifth, days of October, 1843. The Convention was organized by the choice of Bro. Thomas S. Bowles, of Bath, as President, and Bros. Thomas Todd, of Portland, and Arthur McArthur, of Limington, as Secretaries.

Bro. Stephen Swett was chosen Door Keeper.

The throne of grace was then addressed by Rev. Bro. Wiley, of Portland.

A Committee was appointed to ascertain the names and qualifications of the members present, who reported the following names:

Auburn—William Bickford.

Augusta—John H. Ingraham.

Anson—William Haskell.

Bath—Thomas S. Bowles.

Bangor—Francis Shepherd.

Brunswick—John C. Humphreys, Jeremiah O'Brien, William H. Morse, Abner B. Thompson, Charles J. Noyes, George Earle, Robert Bowker.

Bridgton—Ebenezer Kilborn, James Flint, Moody F. Walker.

Cape Elizabeth—John Fickett.

Casco—Elliot Staples.

Cumberland—Joseph Sturdivant, Joseph Smith.

Freedom—Joseph Hockey.

Gardiner—Charles Herrick.

Gorham—William Barton.

Knox—Seth Webb.

Lee—William Randall.

Linington—Arthur McArthur.

Litchfield—Joseph Williams.

New Gloucester—Charles Megquier, Peletiah Lyon.

Portland—Samuel Chase, Alexander H. Putney, Ephraim Wiley, Thomas Todd, Lemuel Gooding, Benjamin C. Fernald, Caleb Chase, Charles Fobes Samuel Waterhouse, Seth Bird, Edward Waite, Rufus Beals, Hosea Harford, Thomas Bolton, Thomas B. Parsons, Albert Winslow, Charles Fox, David Robinson, Stephen Swett, James McArthur, Henry H. Boody, George Bradford, William F. Safford, Daniel Hood, David Jones, Samuel Hazelton, John B. Hudson, Isaac Ingersoll, Elias M. Plimpton, Nelson Racklyft, Cornelius Maloney, Stephen C. Munsey, William P. Davis, Moses E. Perry, John Hamilton, John Purinton, Jonathan Swett, Anthony Knapp, William Allen, Joseph M. Gerrish, Joshua Dunn, John Woodbury, T. D. Soule, Isaac Davis, Arthur Shirley.

Rumford—Hezekiah Hutchins, Jr., Joseph H. Wardwell.*

Thomaston—Edward C. Tilson.

Waldoborough—Thomas Simmons, Jacob Ludwig.

Westbrook—Silas Broad, Dexter Brewer.

On motion,

Voted, That Bros. Abner B. Thompson, of Brunswick, Alexander H. Putney, Charles Fox and Elias M. Plimpton, of Portland, Thomas Simmons, of Waldoborough, John C. Humphreys, of Brunswick, Moody F. Walker, of Bridgton, and Hezekiah Hutchins, Jr., of Rumford, be a Committee to report what business may properly come before this Convention.

Which Committee made the following

REPORT.

The Committee appointed to report on business for this Convention have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report—

1st. That a Committee be raised to report, as far as may be practicable, upon the state of Masonry in the State of Maine.

2d. That a Committee be raised to address all the lodges in this State, upon the subject of Masonry generally, and recommend that all the Masonic bodies be represented in the Grand Lodge of Maine, at the next Annual Communication of that body.

3d. That the sense of this Convention be taken upon the expediency of requesting the Grand Lodge to employ one or more Grand Lecturers to visit the different lodges in this State, in order to impart instruction and produce uniformity in the work.

4th. Your Committee recommend the appointment of a State Committee by this Convention, for the purpose of obtaining facts interesting to the institution of Free Masonry, from different sections of these United States, the British Dominions, West India Islands, and generally throughout the world. They would suggest that much valuable information may be obtained through that portion of the brethren who visit foreign countries in the merchant service—who are generally warm and active friends of the Masonic institution.

5th. We would recommend the adoption of some plan whereby the lodges in this State may become more conversant with each other. A well digested plan of correspondence, connected with a general representation in the Grand Lodge of this State, might effect many valuable and useful purposes.

6th. The Committee also recommend that the Convention consider and decide upon the propriety of a grand celebration of the nativity of St. John the Baptist, on the 24th of June, 1844.

7th. Also, that this Convention consider the expediency of reducing the fees for the several degrees of Masonry, and if they should think proper, to adopt such proceedings as shall tend to carry into effect their wishes.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

The report was unanimously accepted, and a vote was passed to take it up by sections.

1. The following brethren were appointed the Committee under the first section: Charles Fox, of Portland, Francis Shepherd, of Bangor, and John M. Ingraham, of Augusta.

2. Under the second section, it was voted to raise one from each lodge represented in the Convention, and the following brethren were appointed:

<i>Portland</i> —Caleb Chase, Dan'l Winslow.	<i>* Union</i> —John W. Lindlay.
<i>Brunswick</i> —Henry H. Boody.	<i>Castine</i> —Hezekiah Williams.
<i>New Gloucester</i> —Chas. Megquier.	<i>Bucksport</i> —John W. Sherwood.
<i>Freeport</i> —Asa Bailey.	<i>Eastport</i> —Samuel Rice.
<i>Gorham</i> —Charles Hunt.	<i>Bangor</i> —Francis Shepherd.
<i>Fryeburg</i> —James Osgood.	<i>Piscataquis</i> —David Shepherd.
<i>Bridgton</i> —Edward Carlton.	<i>Saco</i> —John Spring.
<i>Dixfield</i> —John M. Eustis.	<i>Kennebunk</i> —Samuel Mendum.
<i>Hallowell</i> —Amos Nourse.	<i>Limington</i> —Arthur McArthur.
<i>Anson</i> —William Haskell.	<i>Parsonsfield</i> —Tobias Ricker.
<i>Gardiner</i> —Benj. Shaw, Elisha J. Ford.	<i>Hollis</i> —Samuel Bradley.
<i>Augusta</i> —John M. Ingraham, Benjamin Davis.	<i>Oxford</i> —Jacob Tukesbury.
<i>Litchfield</i> —John Dennis.	<i>South Berwick</i> —Chas. N. Cogswell.
	<i>Sanford</i> —John T. Paine.

China—Alfred Marshall.

Portland—James McArthur.

Freedom—Joseph Hockey.

Lubec—Jabez Mowry.

Wiscasset—Eben Hilton.

Rumford—Joseph H. Wardwell.

Thomaston—Edward C. Tilson.

Norridgewock—Samuel Philbrick.

Waldoborough—Isaac G. Reed.

3. *Voted*, As the sense of this Convention, that the Grand Lodge be requested to employ *one* Grand Lecturer, as contemplated in the third section.

4 and 5. The fourth and fifth sections were recommitted to the Committee that made the report, who submitted the following additional sections, which were adopted :

The Committee recommend to the Convention, the appointment of a Committee to bring the subjects contemplated by the fourth and fifth sections, to the notice of the Grand Lodge, at its next communication, with power to carry the objects of said articles into effect, as far as practicable, should the Grand Lodge decline taking action in the premises.

They also recommend, that, in case the Convention vote to observe the next anniversary of St. John, by a public address and celebration, said Committee notify the Grand Lodge of the same, and respectfully invite their co-operation.

The following brethren were appointed the Committee under these two sections, viz. : Abner B. Thompson, Francis Shepherd, Moody F. Walker, Alex. H. Putney, John T. Paine, Joseph Hockey, and Joseph H. Wardwell.

6. *Voted, unanimously*, to have a grand celebration of the nativity of St. John the Baptist, at Portland, on the 24th of June, 1844, and that the Committee who called this Convention, together with the first three officers of the United Lodge of Brunswick, be the Committee of Arrangements, and that the Committee be authorized to add to their number, should they deem it expedient.

7. Under this section, on motion of Bro. McArthur, of Limington,

Voted, That a Committee be chosen to attend the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to suggest to that body the propriety of taking into consideration the expediency of changing the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, in relation to the fees of admission, and that the same for making, crafting and raising, may be reduced to the sum of *fifteen dollars*.

And Brothers Thomas S. Bowles, Arthur McArthur, Ephraim

Wiley, John C. Humphreys, and Joseph Hockey, were appointed that Committee.

On motion of Bro. Hockey, of Freedom,

Voted, That the proceedings of this Convention be signed by the President and Secretaries, and that the Committee who called this Convention, be a Committee to publish the same, and furnish a copy to each of the members of this Convention, the several lodges known to be in existence in New England, and also to the officers of the Grand Lodges of this State, and of New England.

Voted, That the Committee who called this Convention, be empowered to call another whenever they shall deem it expedient.

The following brethren were appointed a Committee to procure an Orator for the 24th June next:—Gen. Samuel Fessenden, of Portland, Henry H. Boody, of Brunswick, Arthur McArthur, of Limington, Joseph Hockey, of Freedom, Amos Nourse, of Hallowell, Gorham Parks, of Bangor, and Ichabod Chadbourne, of Eastport.

Voted, That Bros. Charles Fox and Henry H. Boody, of Portland, and John C. Humphreys, of Brunswick, be a Committee to recommend to the Grand Chapter a reduction of the fees of Royal Arch Chapter Masonry.

Voted, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to the Brethren of the Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges, for their kindness in providing them with accommodations.

Voted, That this Convention adjourn *sine die*.

THOMAS S. BOWLES, *President*.

THOMAS TODD,
ARTHUR MCARTHUR, } *Secretaries*.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1844.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Concert Hall, Augusta, on the 18th day of January, A. D. 1844.

PRESENT—M. W. THOMAS W. SMITH,

R. W. A. R. NICHOLS,

“ A. H. PUTNEY,

“ A. B. THOMPSON,

“ P. C. JOHNSON,

“ BENJAMIN DAVIS,

“ JOHN DORR,

“ NATHANIEL STEVENS,

“ JERE. HASKELL,

“ FREDERICK WINGATE,

“ MOSES SAFFORD, JR.,

“ DANIEL CARLETON, JR.,

“ JONATHAN SMITH,

“ J. H. INGRAHAM,

“ MOSES STONE,

“ JAMES SAFFORD,

“ CORNELIUS HOLLAND,

“ BENJAMIN SWAN,

M. W. CHARLES FOX,

“ REUEL WASHBURN,

R. W. STEPHEN LORD,

“ J. L. CHILD,

Grand Master.

D. G. Master.

S. G. Warden, *p. t.*

J. G. Warden, *p. t.*

Rec. G. Secretary.

Grand Treasurer.

S. G. Deacon.

J. G. Deacon, *p. t.*

Grand Steward.

“ “

“ “

G. Sword Bearer.

Grand Pursuivant,

Grand Chaplain.

“ “

Grand Tyler.

D. D. G. Master.

“ “

Past Grand Officer.

“ “

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“ “

Lodges represented :

1. PORTLAND, by Samuel Chase, M.; Rufus Beals, S. W.; James McArthur, J. W.
8. UNITED, by James L. Peabody, M.; A. B. Thompson, S. W.; Moses Titcomb, J. W.
9. SAGO, by William H. Marks, Proxy.
12. CUMBERLAND, by N. L. Ingersoll, Proxy.
13. ORIENTAL, by George W. Cushman, M.; Austin S. Frisbee, S. W.
15. ORIENT, by Joseph W. Berry, J. W.
16. ST. GEORGE, by John Miller, Proxy.
17. ANCIENT LAND-MARK, by David Robinson, M.; Daniel Winslow, S. W.; Stephen C. Munsey, J. W.
21. ORIENTAL STAR, by Moses Stone, Proxy.
23. FREEPORT, by A. R. Kendall, M.; Joseph Dennison, S. W.; Asa Bailey, J. W.
27. ADONIRAM, by H. H. Boody, Proxy.
35. BETHLEHEM, by J. R. Abbot, M.; Lory Bacon, S. W.; Chas. Keene, J. W.
38. HARMONY, by Daniel C. Emery, S. W.; Charles Hunt, J. W.
48. LAFAYETTE, by Edward Fuller, M.; David Smith, Proxy.
56. KING HIRAM, by John G. Barnard, M.
58. UNITY, by Daniel Weed, M.; P. G. Jackson, S. W.; Joseph Hockey, J. W.
5. KENNEBEC,* by Nathaniel Stevens, S. W.
53. RURAL,* by Daniel Ormsby, M.
14. SOLAR,* by Thomas S. Bowles, M.; L. P. Lemont, S. W.; John Elliot, J. W.

VISITING BRETHREN.

William Kimball, of Portland; Alvah Josselyn, Elisha Hallett, Jr., Jacob H. Arnold, Joseph Young, John A. Pettingill, William Hunt, of Augusta; Willis W. Stewart, of Hollis; Jonathan Swift, of Norway; Solomon Metcalf, of Litchfield; Matthew Hastings, of Calais; Jonathan Young, of Bangor; Davis Hatch, of Bath; Leverett Lord, Stephen Lord, of Hallowell; Ephraim Brown, George Williston, of Brunswick.

The Grand Lodge was called to order by the M. W. Grand Master, which, after a prayer by the Rev. J. H. Ingraham, Senior Grand Chaplain, was opened in due form, omitting the usual ceremonies.

* The two first of these lodges had surrendered their charters—the first in 1832, the second in 1836. The charter of the latter was recalled by the Grand Lodge in 1837, for a violation of the By-Laws. But, being represented on the present occasion, each representative, or delegate, by permission of the Grand Lodge, was allowed to vote.

On motion, the question was taken upon the admission of R. W. David Smith, as proxy of Lafayette Lodge, which, after considerable discussion, was decided in the negative—there being 26 in favor, and 26 against the admission.

Whereupon, Rev. Bro. J. H. Ingraham, by permission of the M.W. Grand Master, read a portion of the records of the Grand Lodge, from which it appeared that the practice of admitting a proxy, where a lodge was not fully represented by its officers, was early adopted and frequently practiced by this Grand Lodge—and thereupon, on motion of Bro. Joseph Hockey, the vote whereby the proxy of Bro. Smith was rejected, was reconsidered—when it was

Voted, That Bro. Smith be admitted as proxy of said Lafayette Lodge, and that he be entitled to vote in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Finance presented the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Finance, having examined the Treasurer's account, report, that they find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

The amount of his receipts for the past year appears to be \$911.94

The amount of his disbursements is 346.08

leaving in his hands a balance of \$565.86

Of the receipts, the sum of four hundred and fifteen dollars is capital stock from the Bank of Portland, 415.00

which deducted from the balance, \$565.86, in his hands, will leave the sum of \$150.86

to be distributed for charitable purposes—to which, if we add the sum of two hundred dollars, 200.00

which by an amendment of the by-laws, may be taken from the permanent fund, there will be the sum of \$350.86 to be thus distributed.

The Committee are desired by the Treasurer to state, that of the amount distributed last year, the sum of eighty dollars was from money received from the capital stock, or permanent fund, instead of dividends, or interest, as supposed by the Treasurer, when received. This makes no difference, however, as to the aggregate amount in the hands of the Treasurer, but only lessens the amount of capital stock, so much as the sum of eighty dollars.

At the same time the Trustees of the Charity Fund had the right to increase this amount to the sum of two hundred dollars.

Which is respectfully submitted,

January 18, 1844. A. R. NICHOLS,
FREDERICK WINGATE, } Committee.
BENJAMIN SWAN,

This report, on being read, was accepted.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine,
in account with BENJAMIN DAVIS, Treasurer.

1843.		Dr.
To donations paid sundry persons, by vote of Trustees,		\$289.00
To paid postage bills,		4.08
To paid N. Hutchins for use of hall,		5.00
To paid William R. Smith & Co.'s bill for printing,		.75
To paid Severance & Dorr's bill for printing,		17.25
To balance to new account, 1844,		595.86
		<hr/> \$911.94
1843.		Cr.
By balance of account of 1842, brought forward,		\$289.44
By amount refunded, charged to widow Benjamin,		5.00
By two dividends on 5 shares in Freeman's Bank, Augusta,		27.50
By dividend on shares in Casco Bank,	No. 33,	20.00
" " " "	" 34,	20.00
" " " Canal Bank,	" 21,	40.00
" " " "	" 28,	40.00
" " " "	" 29,	40.00
" " " Bank of Portland,	" 40,	15.00
" " on capital stock of "	" 1,	280.00
" " " " "	" 2,	80.00
" " on trust fund of "	" 3,	20.00
" " " " "	" 4,	20.00
" " " " "	" 5,	15.00
		<hr/> \$911.94

R. W. James L. Child, Charles Fox and J. R. Abbot, were chosen a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Voted, That we now proceed to the choice of Grand officers for the ensuing year.

Wherenpon, Bros. A. R. Nichols and Jonathan Smith, were appointed a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes, who reported the election of

M. W. THOMAS W. SMITH, of Augusta, Grand Master.

R. W. JOHN T. PAINE, of Sanford, Senior Grand Warden.

" ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY, of Portland, J. G. Warden.

" HENRY H. BOODY, of Portland, Grand Treasurer.

" PHILIP C. JOHNSON, of Augusta, Rec. Grand Secretary.

Bros. Charles Fox, J. M. Gerrish and Daniel Winslow, were chosen a Committee on Finance.

Bros. A. B. Thompson, Reuel Washburn, James L. Child, Edward Fuller and Amos Nourse, were chosen Trustees of the Charity Fund.

R. W. A. H. Putney, of Portland, submitted the following resolve as an amendment of the By-Laws:

Resolved, That the 3d Section of Chapter I of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be altered, by striking out the "Third Thursday in January," and inserting "the 23d of June, except when that day comes on the Sabbath, in which case the Annual Meeting shall be held on the 24th of June." Also, to alter Section 4, Chapter II, to the same effect.

And the same was referred to a Committee, consisting of Bros. A. B. Thompson, John Dorr and A. H. Putney.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of amending the 3d Section of Chapter I, and the 3d Section of Chapter V of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, at the last Annual Communication, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master,

Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Committee to whom was referred, at our last Annual Communication, the proposition to amend the 3d Section of Chapter I and the 3d Section of Chapter V of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, by striking out "Augusta," wherever the word occurs, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "Portland," so that hereafter the regular meetings of the Grand Lodge, and of the Trustees of the Charity Fund, shall be held in Portland aforesaid, have given some attention to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report: That the information obtained from the inquiries they have made, shows most clearly that

there is a division among the brethren and subordinate lodges on this subject. Some entertain an opinion, very unjustly as your Committee believe, that the decline in Masonry, since 1832, is to be attributed in a great measure to the removal of the Grand Lodge from Portland to Augusta, at that time. But, as we apprehend, there are other causes, well known to the fraternity (but which need not to be particularized or discussed in this place), of sufficient magnitude to have produced the lamentable state of things, touching the prosperity and usefulness of this eminent and honorable institution, and which we all have witnessed in sorrow. How else can we account for the same declension in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and many other States in this Union, where there has been no removal of their Grand Lodges from one place to another? By common consent, and it is believed without opposition from any quarter, the Grand Lodge was removed to Augusta, in 1832. It was then believed that the subordinate lodges would be better accommodated, and the best interest of Masonry subserved, by locating and establishing the Grand Lodge at the Seat of Government, in a central part of the State.

The Grand Lodge was then, as it is now, composed of its regular officers, and certain past officers, and the Master and Wardens of subordinate lodges; the subordinate lodges being entitled to representation in the meetings of the Grand Lodge by proxy, when their Master and Wardens were not present. It seemed apparent to the most superficial observer, that the Master and Wardens of subordinate lodges could attend more conveniently, and with less travel and expense, at Augusta than at Portland, and that they would be much more likely to attend at Augusta, so long as the seat of government should remain there, because there would always be attractions at the seat of government, especially when the Legislature was in session, which could not be found elsewhere. And whenever it should not be convenient for the Master and Wardens of the subordinate lodges to attend, it would be an easy matter to find some brother well acquainted with their views and interests, who, upon being appointed proxy, would cheerfully and freely, and without inconvenience, represent them in the Grand Lodge, whereby a more full and general representation of all the interests of masonry, and from all sections of the State, would be secured, which was regarded as an object of vital importance.

In the opinion of your committee, the same reasons which operated to induce the Grand Lodge, at their annual meeting in 1831, with so much unanimity, to amend their By-Laws so that its future meetings should be held at Augusta, should now operate with equal force against the adoption of the proposition now under consideration.

Your committee therefore recommend that no further action be taken upon this subject at the present time. This report has the concurrence of a majority of the committee, Bro. Paine dissenting.

REUEL WASHBURN, *per order.*

The foregoing report having been read, the question was taken upon its acceptance, which, after considerable discussion, was decided in the negative—25 voting in favor, and 28 against its acceptance. Whereupon it was

Voted, That the proposition to strike out the word "Augusta," in the 3d Section of Chapter I, and the 3d Section of Chapter V of the By-Laws, and inserting in lieu thereof the word *Portland*, be adopted.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn to meet at Portland, on the 24th of June next, at 8 o'clock A. M.

Voted, That M. W. Thomas W. Smith and A. B. Thompson, and R. W. Benjamin Davis, be authorized to invest any moneys in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, belonging to the permanent fund, in such stock as in their judgment shall be most safe and productive.

A memorial from Thomas S. Bowles and twenty-two others, of Bath, praying for the re-organization of Solar Lodge, at that place, whose charter had been recalled by the Grand Lodge—and stating that in 1835 the members of said lodge "voted to adopt measures for its immediate dissolution—sold all their jewels and other Masonic property—divided the funds among the remaining members—gave up their hall, and have not met since"—was read, which memorial, together with a statement of Bro. Matthew Hastings, of Calais, representing the wishes of the members of the St. Croix Lodge, whose charter, records, regalia and other property, have been destroyed by fire; as also a communication of R. W. Jere. Fowler, District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixth Masonic District, upon the same subject, as desiring to be reinstated with a new charter—were severally referred to Bros. J. L. Child, Charles Fox and J. C. Humphreys, who reported that a dispensation be granted to the memorialists of Bath, to the members of the St. Croix Lodge, at Calais, and also to all others whose charters have been surrendered to the Grand Lodge, and who are desirous of being re-organized, with authority to work until the next regular communication; which report, on motion, was accepted. Whereupon it was

Voted, That all applications for new charters be committed to the foregoing Committee, with instructions to report at the next communication.

On motion of Bro. A. B. Thompson,

Voted, That a Committee be appointed, for the purpose of obtaining facts interesting to the institution of Free Masonry, from different sections of the United States, the British Dominions, West India Islands, and generally throughout the world.

Whereupon, M. W. Samuel Fessenden, of Portland, R. W. J. H. Ingraham, of Augusta, and R. W. Joseph Hockey, of Freedom, were appointed said Committee.

On motion of Bro. A. B. Thompson,

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to report to the Grand Lodge measures to be adopted, whereby the lodges in this jurisdiction may become more conversant with each other, through a well digested plan of correspondence, connected with a general representation in the Grand Lodge at its stated communications.

Whereupon, Bros. J. M. Gerrish, Eleazer Wyer and A. H. Putney, were appointed said Committee.

Voted, That the aforesaid Committee, last appointed, be instructed to take into consideration the subject of employing a Grand Lecturer, and, if thought expedient to employ a person in that service, to report the name of some suitable person, and the sum to be allowed as an equivalent for his services.

A proposition was submitted by R. W. J. L. Child, so to alter the 8th Section of Chapter IV of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, that the fees for conferring the first three degrees of Masonry shall not exceed fifteen dollars. Whereupon it was

Voted, That the aforesaid proposition be submitted to the last named Committee, who have under consideration the subject of employing a Grand Lecturer, with instructions to report at the next communication.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be directed to procure a suitable number of diplomas, to be furnished to the subordinate lodges, for the use of such members as are entitled to them by the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge. Also to procure the printing of a suitable number of the By-Laws, and to distribute one copy to each of the officers of the Grand Lodge, and one copy to each of the subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The annual returns from Portland, Oriental, Penobscot, Ancient Land-Mark, Orient, Unity, Washington and Bethlehem Lodges, were received, and placed on file.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have examined communications from the Grand Lodges of Illinois, Virginia, Missouri, Alabama, North Carolina, Mississippi, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Maryland, New Hampshire, Kentucky, Indiana, Tennessee, New York and Texas, for the years 1841 and 1843, and the Grand R. A. Chapters of Virginia, Alabama and Tennessee. They have also received circulars of recent date, signed by Charles W. Moore, of Massachusetts, and John Dove, of Virginia, in relation to a book prepared by the former, called "*The Trestle Board*," and the doings of several of the Grand Lodges thereon; but as your Committee have never seen the book, they are unable to form an opinion as to its merits. A book entitled "*A reprint of Masonic Papers*," originally printed at Madras, East Indies, received through the Grand Master of the District of Columbia, has been examined by your Committee with much interest, and is worthy the careful perusal of all Masons who are in pursuit of "more light."

The correspondence received since the last Annual Communication, affords the most plenary, as well as the most gratifying evidence, that Masonry is rapidly reviving in all parts of the United States. Such is undoubtedly the fact in our own State. It is now especially necessary, now that applications for admission are being made, that our sacred portal be barred against the unworthy—against all whose moral sense, sympathetic feelings and intellectual endowments do not qualify them for the sublime enjoyments and active duties of the conscientious Mason. "Free Masonry," as a system, evidently embraces, in body and substance, the whole duty of man as a moral being; comprising a summary of principles conformable to the very nature and fitness of things. Here is presented that variety and richness of scenery which charms the understanding; that beauty, sublimity and grandeur of objects which fill the contemplative mind with admiring views. Here we discover the wisdom of God in the symmetry of nature, and the finger of Providence in the government of the world. The great outlines in the history of creation are also unfolded; the primitive innocence of man, the fall, and consequent scenes of natural and moral evil. In a word, the history of nature and grace is most beautifully prefigured in a living display of Masonic symbols. Here we view the coincidence of principle and design, between the Christian scheme and speculative Free Masonry, with that pleasing admiration which satisfies inquiry, and clearly proves our system based on the Rock of Eternal Ages. As the subject continues to open, the mind is presented with an endless variety of sublime contemplations. Such are the deep mysteries of the Divine Word, in whom all the fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily; such the terrible majesty of Him that rideth upon the heavens by his name J A H—who plants his footsteps in the sea, and manages the storms; such the boundless display of the unsearchable riches of Divine Benevolence; such the Grand Council of Eternity, which devised and executed that great plan of man's redemption.

The mind is thereby presented with the co-equal and co-eternal existence of the adorable Persons in the Sacred Trinity. The allusions are direct, and meet the understanding in convincing light. Here we view the numerous allusions to that essential Divinity, which foiled the powers of darkness, and brought salvation to the world. Here we are taught in meekness to reverence the name of JEHOVAH, and dwell on the infinitude of his perfections—the eternity of his nature—the wisdom, and goodness, and mercy, and justice, of the great God, as displayed in the moral world, and his controlling, governing power in the natural; all the combined and unspeakable excellencies of the Omnipotent Creator; Time, with all its interesting relations—Eternity, with its everlasting consequences; this world as a dreary wilderness—Heaven as the paradise of God; natural existence, interwoven with pains, and sorrows and death; a happy immortality; endless fruition in the regions of bliss; Vice, with her scorpions to the naked conscience—Virtue, with her sceptre of peace, and her crown of rejoicing. Here, in short, is a vast plenitude of moral and religious instructions—full of interest as the nature of immortality, solemn and momentous as everlasting consequences. Who can unfold the mysteries of this institution, or explore the utmost boundaries of the Masonic system?

“ What heaving bosom breathes not forth one ardent sigh,
To grasp th’ immortal prize, and triumph in the joy? ”

If such be Free Masonry, who among its votaries will be lukewarm—neither hot or cold—and thus deprive himself of its high enjoyments, its blessed hopes, and the world of his beneficent labors? Brethren, let us all work while the day of life lasts, for the night of death is at hand, when our labors shall cease forever.

Your Committee would recommend an interchange of civilities with all Masonic bodies with whom we are in correspondence.

JAMES L. CHILD, *per order*.

The following appointments were made by the M. W. Grand Master:

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| R. W. JAMES L. CHILD, of Augusta, | Deputy Grand Master. |
| “ ELISHA HALLETT, of Augusta, | Cor. Grand Secretary. |
| “ JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, | Grand Marshal. |
| “ MOSES STONE, of Jay, | Grand Chaplain. |
| “ H. H. BOODY, of Brunswick, | “ “ |
| “ JOHN DORR, of Augusta, | S. G. Deacon. |
| “ JACOB H. ARNOLD, of Augusta, | J. G. Deacon. |
| “ EBEN FULLER, of Augusta, | Grand Steward. |
| “ JERE. HASKELL, of Portland, | “ “ |
| “ FREDERICK WINGATE, of Augusta, | “ “ |
| “ MOSES SAFFORD, JR., of Augusta, | “ “ |

- R. W. DANIEL CARLTON, JR., of Alna, G. Sword Bearer.
" BENJAMIN DAVIS, of Augusta, Grand Pursuivant.
" JONATHAN SMITH, of Westbrook, " "
" JAMES SAFFORD, of Augusta, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Eleazer Wyer, of Portland.
Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland, of Canton.
Third District—R. W. Benjamin Swan, of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. Amos H. Hodgman, of Warren.
Fifth District—R. W. Joseph Hockey, of Freedom.
Sixth District—R. W. Jeremiah Fowler, of Lubec.
Seventh District—R. W. Simon Foss, of Dexter.
Eighth District—R. W. Elisha Bodwell, of Shapleigh.

Communications were received from Bros. Eleazer Wyer, Jeremiah Fowler and David Shepherd, District Deputy Grand Masters of the First, Sixth and Seventh Masonic Districts, as also from brethren of several lodges from different sections of the State, not represented on the present occasion, which, though laid before the meeting, in consequence of other business were not read, and consequently not acted upon. It may be proper, therefore, for me to state, that the information contained in the communications alluded to, as well as in the annual returns, is all of a nature encouraging the belief that the prejudices which have so long operated to weigh down and paralyze the healthful influences of our benevolent institution, are fast being dissipated before the genial light of reflecting minds, and the hope that ere long the sound of the gavel may echo the joyful tidings from east to west, and the labors of our masonic edifice have been resumed, and that the work already commenced in many of our lodges will continue to progress, until the streams of happiness, once gushing forth freely from the innumerable fountains of our beloved institution, but so long since rendered dry, shall again break out to moisten and fertilize the land, and to gladden the heart of every disconsolate widow and orphan.

Voted, To adjourn.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

The following brethren compose the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, viz:

M. W. Thomas W. Smith, Grand Master,	<i>ex officio.</i>
R. W. James L. Child, Deputy Grand Master,	"
" J. T. Paine, Senior Grand Warden,	"
" A. H. Putney, Junior Grand Warden,	"
" P. C. Johnson, Recording Grand Secretary,	"
" A. B. Thompson.	
" R. Washburn.	
" James L. Child.	
" Amos Nourse.	
" Edward Fuller.	
" John C. Humphreys.	

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

APRIL 17, 1844.

At a special meeting of the Grand Lodge, at the Augusta House Hall, pursuant to an order of the M. W. Grand Master, for the purpose of bestowing the customary funeral obsequies in masonic order, at the interment of our late Brother JEREMIAH HASKELL, who died at the Augusta House on the 14th instant:

PRESENT—M. W. THOMAS W. SMITH,	Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES L. CHILD,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ JOSEPH G. LADD,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ BENJAMIN SWAN,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ PHILIP C. JOHNSON,	Rec. G. Secretary.
“ ELISHA HALLETT,	Cor. Grand Secretary.
“ BENJAMIN DAVIS,	G. Treasurer.
“ JOHN DORR,	S. G. Deacon.
“ J. H. ARNOLD,	J. G. Deacon.
“ EBEN FULLER,	Grand Steward.
“ FREDERICK WINGATE,	“ “
“ JOHN D. LORD,	Grand Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN H. INGRAHAM,	Grand Chaplain.
“ R. BACHELDER,	Grand Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JAMES SAFFORD,	Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge being called to order by the M. W. Grand Master, was opened in ample form.

After an appropriate and impressive prayer by the Grand Chaplain, a procession was formed, and marched to the State Cemetery, in front of the Capitol, where the body was deposited with the usual ceremonies; after which, the procession returned to the Hall, where the Grand Lodge was closed.

Attest, PHILIP C. JOHNSON, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

ADJOURNED COMMUNICATION.

1844.

The adjourned Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masonic Hall, in Portland, on the 24th day of June, A. L. 5844.

R. W. Eleazer Wyer, D. D. G. Master, called the Grand Lodge to order, when, in the absence of many of the Grand Officers, it was temporarily organized as follows:

R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
W. SAMUEL CHASE,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" DAVID ROBINSON,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
" CALEB CHASE,	Grand Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
" JONATHAN SMITH,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" THOMAS S. BOWLES,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN PURINTON,	S. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" DANIEL WINSLOW,	J. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

Lodges represented:

PORTLAND, No. 1,	by	Samuel Chase, Master.
ANCIENT LAND-MARK, No. 17,	"	David Robinson, Master.
		D. Winslow, S. Warden.
SOLAR, No. 14,	by	Thomas S. Bowles, Master.
		Levi P. Lemont, Proxy.
BETHLEHEM, No. 35,	by	Lory Bacon, S. Warden.

Several visiting brethren were present.

A Committee was raised to report on the business necessary to come before the Grand Lodge at its present communication, consisting of Bros. Bowles, Bacon and Purinton.

The subject of the alteration of the By-Laws, touching fees, was referred to the same Committee. The same Committee were also instructed to take into consideration the expediency of paying from the funds of the Grand Lodge, the expense of printing and circulating the document calling the State Convention, held in Portland, in October last.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON.—Met according to adjournment, and organized as follows:

R. W. JAMES L. CHILD,	Dep. Grand Master.
" ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" SAMUEL CHASE,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
W. HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
" CALEB CHASE,	Grand Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
" THOMAS S. BOWLES,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" DAVID ROBINSON,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN PURINTON,	S. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" LORY BACON,	J. G. Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
" STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

VISITING BRETHREN.

W. C. Gayton Pickman, M. of St. John's Lodge, Boston; R. W. John H. Sheppard, Past H. P. of R. A. Chapter; R. W. Asaph R. Nichols, Past D. G. Master.

Lodges were represented as before, with the following additions:

MOUNT MORIAH,	by	Dominicus G. Tarbox, Master.
UNITED,	"	J. C. Humphreys, Master.
		Moses Titcomb, J. Warden.
FREEPORT,	by	Asa Bailey, Master.
ORIENTAL,	"	G. W. Cushman, Master.
		Ebenezer Kilborn, S. W.
ST. CROIX,	by	Lebbeus Bailey, Proxy.
HARMONY,	"	George L. Darling, Proxy.

A great number of visiting brethren were present.

The presiding officer then read the following letter:

AUGUSTA, Me., June 22, 1844.

To the R. W. James L. Child, D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Maine:

Being unable to attend the meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine, to be held by adjournment at Portland, on the 24th of June, A. L. 5844, you are hereby directed to attend said meeting if your convenience will permit, and preside over the same, and fill all vacancies *pro tem.* that may be found to exist, and act as my proxy in receiving the Jewel of the Grand Master at the Installation of officers, which may be done in private or in public as the Grand Lodge may at the time deem expedient; and you will also preside over the Grand Lodge on the day subsequent, at the public celebration, in all respects exercising all the duties which properly devolve on the Grand Master. Wishing that the Masonic assemblage, on that interesting occasion, may be productive of great good to the Fraternity, and arouse into vitality those heaven-born principles which lie at the foundation of our benevolent Order, and that all the brethren present, as in days of "Auld Lang Syne," may find it a happy as well as a profitable one, I am

With fraternal regard,

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS W. SMITH, *Grand Master of Maine.*

The Committee appointed in the morning, reported as follows:

PORTLAND, June 24, 1844.

The Committee appointed to report on the expediency of the Grand Lodge paying the expense of printing and circulating the documents calling the Masonic Convention in Portland, &c., report, that the Committee are unanimously of opinion that the same should be paid from the funds of the Grand Lodge. The same Committee report that as this is an adjournment of the Annual Communication, and of course the same at which the proposition to amend the By-Laws in relation to reduction of fees was made, the subject must necessarily lie over until the next regular meeting of the Grand Lodge.

JOHN PURINTON, *per order.*

The report on being read was accepted, and thereupon, on motion, it was

Voted unanimously, That a sum not exceeding thirty-five dollars be appropriated for that purpose, and that the Grand Secretary pay the same.

The Committee on various subjects appointed at the Grand Communication in January last, made the following report:

PORTLAND, MASONIC HALL, June 24, 1844.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine.

The Committee to whom was referred the following subjects, viz:

"1st. Of devising measures to be adopted, whereby the lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may become more conversant with each other,

through a well digested plan of correspondence, connected with a general representation in the Grand Lodge at its Stated Communications.

"2d. The subject of employing a Grand Lecturer, and if thought expedient so to do, to report the name of a suitable person, and the sum to be allowed as an equivalent for his services. And

"3d. To consider the proposition of R. W. J. L. Child, in regard to the alteration of the 8th Section of Chapter IV of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, so that the fees for conferring the first three Degrees of Masonry shall not exceed fifteen dollars."

Have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave respectfully to submit the following, as the result of their deliberations:—

In regard to the first subject named, the Committee recommend, that each subordinate Lodge be authorized and requested to appoint some suitable Brother a Corresponding Secretary, whose special duty shall be to open and keep up a regular correspondence with the Grand Lodge, and as many of the subordinate lodges as is practicable; to collect all the statistics and information he can in regard to the lodge of which he is a member, also of as many of the subordinate lodges as he can, and of Masonry generally, and communicate the result to the Corresponding Secretary of the Grand Lodge, with such notes and comments as he may think advisable to make for the benefit of Masonry. And we also recommend that the Corresponding Grand Secretary be requested to acknowledge the receipt of all such communications, and return prompt and suitable answers to the same; and to communicate freely with all the subordinate lodges; and to collect all such information as may be considered useful and proper to be embodied in the Annual Report, to be printed and sent out to all the lodges under this jurisdiction as well as to other Masonic bodies.

And your Committee would also further recommend, that when there are any lodges in the State that have become inoperative, and have not vitality enough to resuscitate themselves, that the Corresponding Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and of the several subordinate lodges, be requested to communicate with some one or more of the members of such decayed lodges, and to use their influence to arouse them from their lethargy—at any rate to obtain such information from them in regard to the funds of their lodge, and the state of their affairs, as that the Grand Lodge may be enabled to take such measures in reference to them as they in their wisdom may deem right and proper.

In regard to the second subject named, of employing a Grand Lecturer, your Committee, in view of the present peculiar dilemma, into which almost all the lodges in the State have been brought by reason of the long suspension of their Masonic labors, so that they have lost the use of many of their Masonic implements, and the regular mode of using them; and considering as they do the important necessity of keeping up a uniformity in the mode of work; and also the importance of inspiring animation and zeal into the minds of our

Brethren generally, at this time, have, after mature deliberation, come to the conclusion, that it is expedient, and we do hereby recommend, that some discreet Brother of suitable age and experience, well skilled in the Masonic Art, be appointed and commissioned by the Grand Lodge, as a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to communicate to some one or more of the members of each and every subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction, that shall require the same, full and complete lectures and uniform mode of work in the first three degrees of Masonry, and as a compensation for his services the Committee recommend that he be paid his traveling expenses, and at and after the rate of — dollars per day, for every day he may be employed: his per diem payment to be made by each subordinate lodge that needs the services, and his actual traveling expenses to be paid by the Grand Lodge—recommending, however, at the same time, that in view of the present state of our finances, industry as to time, and strict economy as to expenses, be observed in the performance of these services.

In regard to the third subject named, viz.: Altering the By-Laws, your Committee find, on examining the 8th Section of the 4th Chapter, that it reads thus: "The fees demanded by a lodge for conferring the first three degrees in Masonry, shall not be less than nineteen dollars, including the fee of the Grand Lodge." As this is an alteration of one of the permanent regulations of the Grand Lodge, and cannot be acted upon at the same meeting, and as the Grand Lodge now assembled, have by their vote decided that this is an adjourned meeting, your Committee make no report thereon.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH M. GERRISH,	} Committee.
ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	
ELEAZER WYER,	

Which report on being read was accepted, and thereupon it was voted as follows:

Voted, That a Grand Lecturer be appointed by the Grand Lodge, who shall receive pay for his traveling expenses from the funds of the Grand Lodge, and for his time and services from the lodges where his services shall be requested.

It was then

Voted, That a Committee be raised to designate a Committee to agree with a Grand Lecturer.

Who thereupon reported the names of Bros. Joseph M. Gerrish, A. H. Putney, John C. Humphrey, George L. Darling and Thomas S. Bowles as said Committee, and they were appointed accordingly.

Voted, That the Grand Lodge cannot constitutionally act at this adjourned meeting on the subject of the alteration of fees.

Voted, To hold a Masonic Festival to-morrow, in connection with such Masonic bodies and brethren as may be pleased to unite with us.

Adjourned to half past seven o'clock this evening.

EVENING.—The Grand Lodge constituted as in the afternoon, opened and proceeded to business.

Present as before, and also many additional brethren, among which were M. W. Charles Fox, Past Grand Master, M. W. Cornelius Holland, D. D. G. Master, M. W. Eleazer Wyer, D. D. G. Master.

So much of the minutes of the 18th January last, as relates to the election and appointment of the Grand Officers the present year having been read, the M. W. Charles Fox, Past Grand Master, proceeded to install in due and ancient form, R. W. James L. Child, D. G. M., as proxy for M. W. Thomas W. Smith, Grand Master elect, who then duly installed the other Grand Officers.

On motion, the Stewards were ordered to procure two dozen Aprons, and the Grand Treasurer was authorized to pay for the same.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint the W. Nelson Racklyft, of Portland, Steward, in place of Bro. Jeremiah Haskell, deceased, and Rev. Ephraim Wiley, of Portland, and Rev. William A. Drew, of Augusta, Grand Chaplains.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to meet at this place at eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY MORNING, June 25, 5844.—The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT—R. W. JAMES L. CHILD,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ CORNELIUS HOLLAND,	D. G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN T. PAINE,	S. G. Warden.
“ ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	J. G. Warden.
“ HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
W. CORNELIUS D. MAYNARD,	Rec. G. Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JAMES M. INGRAHAM,	Cor. G. Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
REV. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain.
“ EPHRAIM WILEY,	“ “
“ WILLIAM A. DREW,	“ “
R. W. JOHN H. SHEPPARD, Boston,	Grand Orator.
“ ELEAZER WYER,	D. D. G. Master.
“ JEREMIAH FOWLER,	“ “
W. LORY BACON,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JAMES P. STETSON,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ WILLIAM H. MORSE,	G. Sword Bearer, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Marshal.
“ JONATHAN SMITH,	D. G. Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>
“ SAMUEL S. WING,	Grand Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i>
“ SAMUEL McLELLAN,	“ “ “
“ MOSES TITCOMB,	Grand Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ PAUL N. BLOSSOM,	“ “ “
“ LEVI P. LEMONT,	“ “ “
“ ASA BAILEY,	“ “ “
“ STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

Lodges represented as before, with various additions; besides a very numerous attendance of visiting brethren.

Among the visitors were the W. C. Gayton Pickman, Master of St. John's Lodge, Boston; R. W. Bro. George K. Tuelon, Grand Lecturer and P. G. Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas and P. G. Secretary of Grand R. A. Chapter of Texas; and a Delegation from the Grand Lodge of Perfection, Portsmouth, N. H., consisting of Bros. John Christie, A. R. H. Fernald, J. H. Abbott, J. M. Edmonds, J. Knowlton, T. L. Pickering and W. Barnabee, also M. W. Abner B. Thompson, P. G. Master, and R. W. A. R. Nichols, Past Deputy Grand Master.

Notice having been given that the other Masonic bodies who purposed to unite in the Masonic Festival, were in readiness to move in procession to the Rev. Dr. Nichols' Church, for the purpose of hearing an Oration delivered by R. W. John H. Sheppard, of Boston, the Grand Lodge was formed under the direction of the Marshal, and proceeded, accompanied by the Grand Chapter of Maine, and several subordinate Chapters, Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges, and a large concourse of Brethren, through the several principal streets of the City to the Church, where the following services were performed :

Voluntary. Organ.

Anthem. "Glory be to God on high."

Prayer by Rev. Cyrus Cummings.

Hymn. "Light and Truth."

Reading of Scriptures by Rev. William A. Drew.

Ode. "When darkness veiled the hopes of man."

ORATION.

By R. W. JOHN H. SHEPPARD, OF BOSTON.

I could have hardly expected, when, on the 24th of June, thirteen years ago, I had the honor of addressing a fraternity in this State, in defence of Masonry, that I should have lived to see this gladsome day of its prosperity. It was then a gloomy period. The popular mind, like the trembling bosom of the ocean, ever sensitive to the least breath of excitement, was so violently agitated by the influence of reports, denunciations and suspicions, that the charities of private life were forgotten, and respect was neither shown to an ancient and honorable society, nor regard nor tenderness to the virtue, piety and feelings of any of the Brotherhood. In this earthquake of the passions—this unnatural convulsion of public opinion, it is pleasing to reflect, that the faith of so few failed, and that the great body of the Fraternity stood firm to their principles, and unshaken in their attachment to the Order. For a thick cloud rested on Mount Moriah; the work of the Temple was suspended; our festivals were neglected; and the Craftsmen were scattered. In the language of Oriental imagery, the daughters of Jerusalem "hung their harps on the willows of Babylon, and sat down by the waters and wept."

But in that dark day, when the misty shadows of persecution were passing over the light which had so long shone upon our sacred retreats, the principles of our Institution were developed, in an extraordinary degree. Seeing that reasoning had become fruitless, and purity of life could not escape calumny, Masons learned to be still, and wait till "the overflowing of the waters passed by." When reviled, they reviled not again. When accused, they were silent. They could only present to their assailants the shield of a *life harmless and*

blameless. They lived in faith, like Zerubbabel and his companions in the day of their captivity, believing that the walls of Jerusalem and the Temple of Jehovah would be again rebuilt. They felt assured that an Institution, which had produced such great and good men in past ages; which had united and blessed the heroic leaders of that Revolution, to which, under Providence we owe our National prosperity; and which had adorned the high places in this Republic with so many sons, was not, could not, be doomed, by an All-wise Creator, to fall beneath the blow of a thoughtless and sudden excitement, and vanish forever! They knew the mysteries, and believed them innocent in the sight of God; they had tried the principles, and found them just and true; they had felt the touch of Brotherly love and kindness, and knew its worth; and, with deep humility, they left their cause in the hand of the Almighty.

I willingly draw a veil, at this cheering festival which a kind Providence has permitted us to enjoy, over the mistaken views and harsh treatment of the past, where political capital was sought, and unjust prejudices were gratified, by aiming at the destruction of an innocent fraternity. For, my Brethren, Masonry has again revived, and is now marching onward in the work of benevolence. Society has tried the experiment of its absence, and has discovered that it is a great conservative system, which, by its softening influences and neutralizing power, is calculated to calm the heat of party spirit, and bring together, face to face, in acts of mutual charity, men who, like the Jews and Samaritans of old, had sometimes forgotten that God is not a respecter of persons nor of sects: and it goes further—it mitigates the ferocity of war, breaks down territorial distinctions and national jealousies, and, by its tenets, tokens and emblems, teaches us that man was not made to live a stranger to his fellow man, in selfish and uncongenial independence. Is it not so? Let facts answer. Never were our prospects fairer than at this auspicious festival; whether we look over the flourishing and almost boundless regions of our own country, or cast an eye on Great Britain and the continent of Europe. May Heaven grant, that, redeemed and purified by this fiery ordeal, our Fraternity may bring forth such fruits of knowledge, temperance and goodness, that every candid mind will confess its excellence.

Freemasonry embraces such a variety of topics, fascinating to one conversant with its design and usefulness, that it is difficult to select a theme for a public discourse, which will do justice to its merits. A concise reference, however, to the nature, tendency and history of the Institution, may not be unprofitable; for our opponents have asserted, that it is a secret society, warring against government and religion; that the tendency of its principles is dangerous; and that it is a modern and even recent invention, not much above a century old. Allow me then, to implore your patience and indulgence: for I must tax them both. We have suffered from misrepresentation and the subject is momentous. I have examined it with much study, and with a sincere desire to seek *the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.* I have no private views, no

peculiar tenets, no political feelings, to gratify in addressing you. If I had sought political honors, which are too often purchased by the sacrifice of an elevated sense of duty, and sometimes fatal to a taste for the sublime and beautiful, I might have pursued them with less moral courage, than in adhering to an Institution which has been so much abused and misrepresented; and surely, I could have found some examples, even among those distinguished for talents, of such time-serving dereliction. But let that pass. I appeal to your patient hearing.

That man was not formed to lead an insulated life, secluded from his fellow man, is a familiar remark. He is by nature a social being. He needs a neighbor's voice. He comes into existence the most helpless of animals; and the first lesson he learns is his dependence on parental care. As he grows up, every blessing and every want convince him, that his happiness is interwoven in the mingled web of human society. Neither in the city nor in the country, in the palace nor in the cottage, can he dwell contented alone. Place him, if you please, in the most salubrious climate upon earth; give him the dominion of a spot filled with all the luxuries of the tropics and picturesque with such scenery, as the ravishing description of Thomson calls to mind, when he exclaims,

"O speak the joy, ye, whom the sudden tear
Surprises often, when you look around
And nothing strikes your eye, but sights of bliss;"

let him have tools to form, and skill to apply the workings of ingenuity; books to enlighten and charm his leisure hours; music to beguile the memory of the past; and, in a word, bestow on him all the accomplishments that art or education could create in polished society; and then, leave him, Robinson Crusoe-like, alone, in his Elysian island; and, believe me, he would be miserable. Soon would you see him on a high cliff gazing at the distant blue, and searching, with tearful eyes, after some speck-like sail on the ocean; or wandering on the sea shore, and casting a sorrowful look to that far-off outline, which apparently bounded the waves, as it bounded the hope of the unhappy exile. He would sigh for a friend to feel for him; a companion to sympathize with him; some one on whose bosom he could fondly breathe his eloquence, and tell the charms of solitude. Make even Paradise a place of solitary confinement, and man would be wretched.

There is a spirit within us—a spark of the Eternal mind—capable of infinitely increasing improvement, of vast enterprise, and destined to live far beyond that immeasurably remote period, when the heavens and earth will be no more. This spirit was ordained for action with congenial beings. It brightens by contact; it grows vigorous by collision. Its greatest bliss is doing the will of God, by communicating happiness to others; whence arises the true foundation of a community of blessings, as opposed to selfishness. It sees its own image in the mirror of another's affection, as the still water reflects the colorings and features of the landscape; and hence it seeks to

cultivate the amenities of friendship and brotherly love. It sees its own deep and unutterable thoughts, written, as it were, with a magnetic pen, in the transcript of a mind more gifted than its own, and it finds itself in an *ideal* world, and is delighted: this is the poetry of nature. And when it looks on the *external* universe—and beholds the earth spotted with graves and sepulchres, and feels that its path is exposed to sickness, often shaded by sorrow, and always tending to the tomb of oblivion—it realizes that something is wrong *within*; something is wanting; that it must have fallen from some higher sphere of glory, and exist here in a state of trial and probation; and then breaks upon the troubled vision the necessity of the Inspired Word, and the value of those doctrines by which life and immortality are brought to light.

It is easy to perceive from reflections of this kind, that associations originated from the very nature of our constitution and wants, as intellectual beings. The one, which is the most ancient, emanated from a connection dictated by Infinite Wisdom, and includes the endearing relations of life; and whatever French infidels or wild reformers may say, the sacred tie of marriage, and domestic union under parental government, are the pillars on which the good order and well-being of society rest. Without the association of pious individuals at the altar, pure and undefiled religion could neither be maintained nor promulgated. Like the Vestal fire, the Church preserves a perpetual flame of devotion. And associations for mutual help, aid and assistance, for strength of moral purpose, pursuit of knowledge, and the promotion of benevolence, have always existed, in some shape or other. I know there have been periods in the past, when darkness seemed to spread over the earth; when idolatry prevailed to a most debasing degree; when society was polluted by polygamy; and when men united for warfare and were linked together only for evil: yet domestic, ecclesiastical and benevolent associations, have in some manner been preserved; and whenever a nation has flourished and been happy, they have been the essential cause. Nor need we travel through the deserts of history, and ascend, as it were, "the White Mountains" of bleakness and solitude, to see the necessity of a brotherhood formed for social and beneficent purposes. There is a striking example in the midst of us: scarcely were our Masonic labors suspended, before kindred societies increased around us, whose deeds of charity and exemplary conduct are deserving of all praise. So true it is, that an Institution, where political and religious differences are disarmed of their sharp points, the pride of wealth and the struggles of poverty forgotten, and a union for useful and benevolent objects promoted, is demanded by the wants and desires of our nature.

Freemasonry is a religious Institution. It is composed of various Degrees and Orders; in each of which, we take the Holy Bible to be the rule and guide of our faith and practice. This Book lies at the foundation of the whole system in a Christian country. The doctrines we inculcate are faith in God, hope in immortality, and charity to all mankind. Therefore no Atheist

can be made a Mason. Every regular lodge is opened with prayer, and requires the candidate to be of age, of good report, a believer in Divine Providence, and with some honest, visible occupation for support. It is an Asylum for the unfortunate and a school of mutual instruction. The most perfect order is preserved, and every thing which surrounds the initiate, teaches him some moral or scientific lesson, conveyed by hieroglyphical symbols. The *form* of a lodge, high as Heaven, broad as the world—with a *support* of the pillars of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty—with the starry canopy for its *covering*—with a Mosaic pavement, tessellated border, and blazing Star, the Star of Bethlehem, for its *ornaments*—and with *jewels* emblematical of brotherly love, relief and truth—is peculiarly adapted to make an impression on the ingenuous heart. We must recollect, mind cannot think, nor converse with mind, without the medium of material objects. I pity the man, who blinded by fanaticism, or polluted by depraved passions, could enter the interior of a lodge, and see no *beauty* in the *lambskin*, the emblem of innocence, nor in the *trowel*, which reminds him to spread abroad the cement of brotherly love and affection; get no *strength* from lectures and charges of a most impressive nature;—and learn no *wisdom* in contemplating an ideal picture of that Temple, of which the Lord said, “mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.” I could name several, whose first serious thoughts, when they “tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,” arose and overshadowed their minds, in the inner chamber of Masonry. And the wretch, who, with a token of brotherly love, and a call upon his Maker to witness his sincerity, and in possession of the incommunicable sign of a Brother, can go away, where the scoffer and scorner will gather round him, and ridicule all the symbolic representations and ceremonies of our Order, forfeits, to say the least, the honor of a gentleman, and the honesty of a man. To every reflecting mind, the lodge is a picture of moral sublimity. The interest increases in each degree. We are taught a solemn lesson of the immortality of the soul, and, at every step, and in every emblem, we are reminded of the most magnificent Temple the world ever saw.

Can it then be possible that we should hold to secrets, rites and ceremonies opposed to the Holy Bible? That our Constitution, of which the immortal Washington said, “*its liberal principles are founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice,*” could authorize or sanction crime? That this Book, ever open on our altar, could be used as a cloak of immorality and wickedness? We must be the worst of infidels, the most abandoned of libertines, to use this Great Light of Masonry, as a guide to hypocrisy, disobedience of the laws, or conspiracy against government. We repel such a charge with indignation. This very Book is a guaranty to the world of the sacredness of our foundation and the purity of our principles. On this Rock of Ages we will rest the defence of Freemasonry, with all its secrecy, ceremonies, oaths and promises. Though we may err as men, and by reason of human frailty, may not always

exemplify our principles by our practice, yet this very Book ought to protect those principles from misrepresentation and injustice. There may have been a few cases, where Masonry has been subject to abuse; but it contains within itself a self-regenerator, which will always correct its aberrations, and restore it to healthy action. It is true we have *secrets*, and we take upon ourselves solemn vows to preserve them; but they are innocent, and chiefly appertain to our ceremonies, and the way and manner of recognizing a Brother. It is said, apostates and fanatics have revealed them. The credulous are welcome to all the knowledge they think they have obtained. None but Ulysses' self could bend his bow. Our principles, object and design, as a Masonic Fraternity, are no secret. They may be found in numerous books, constitutions and charges. They may be seen, standing in bold relief, in that well conducted and excellent periodical, "The Freemasons' Monthly Magazine," published in Boston, besides many other works. I repeat it, the very object and design of our Institution are to teach obedience to the laws of the land and a veneration for our holy religion; to promote knowledge and practice benevolence. We hold to no right to take life or limb, for any violation of our mysteries. We can enforce no penalty, but by the expulsion of a recreant member, whom we leave

"To Heaven,
And to those thorns that in his bosom lodge
To prick and sting him."

But it is objected, that we are a *secret* society. This is not true. The calendar of our lodges is published; the name of each member is matter of notoriety. If it be meant, that we have no right to secrecy in the interior of a lodge, the complaint will not bear examination. Why, even a Board of Brokers in our great cities have their *secret* meetings, to regulate the rise or fall of stocks. The jobber, too, has his *secret* marks. The fact is, we live in a world of evil. We are surrounded by danger. A house of glass would be no castle. The ties of friendship and mutual confidence between man and man, require that there should be some secrecy. Our Saviour himself instructed Peter, James and John, in many mysteries, which the other disciples knew not; he spake to the world in parables, but to his disciples he gave a *secret* explanation. He took the chosen three "up into a high mountain apart, and was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun." Was this beatific vision no *secret*? *Secretly* did the Twelve meet in an upper chamber, at the first Eucharist; though one went out from among them as a traitor. History tells us, that, in the first four centuries, the sacrament was administered in *secret* retreats, and often in subterranean abodes and cemeteries; and that *The Discipline of the Secret* was practised by the Apostolic Church. This is confirmed by the testimony of no less than *eighteen* ancient Fathers. Minutus Felix (who lived A. D. 210) states, that, "Christians *knew each other by secret signs*. Pliny writes to Trajan, that they *took an oath* not to

commit any crime. They, too, were suspected by their enemies of resorting to dark recesses and practicing every abomination. Horrid tales were circulated about them, and they were cruelly persecuted; some even to martyrdom. Tertullian says, in their defence, "It would be more just to judge of our *secret actions* by those that appear, than condemn what is evidently good and praiseworthy upon suspicion of private faults." We regard *silence* and *secrecy* as Masonic virtues; they have kept off vagabonds and intruders from the sanctuary of friendship, and preserved our institution amidst the revolutions and desolations of the world, from time immemorial.

We are accused of gorgeous display in our regalia and titles. It may be so. Yet this comes with a poor grace from some of our opponents. Such is human nature, that every man delights in some honor or mark of distinction,—an epaulette, a star, or even a cold-water badge. The Deacon glories and looks grave in his holy office. The Captain, Major, Colonel, General, loom up, as they advance to each grade on the roster, which they sought with such avidity when following the drum of a militia muster. The rich man exults in the splendor of his palace, or the trappings of his equipage, as he passes his poorer neighbor on the highway of life. Man, almost universally, loves distinction, and will wear the badge of it when he can. Why, then, should envy concentrate its malice on a society whose members only make use of the ornaments and titles of Masonry in their official stations, and then lay them aside and mingle with their fellow-citizens without parade? Our honors and titles belong to the office, and not to the man. We deem them necessary, as regards both respect and politeness in Masonic intercourse.

There is too much fastidiousness and prudish delicacy on these subjects. Among the phenomena of human society may be classed the changes of tastes and opinions, which are continually taking place. *Tempora mutantur, et nos mutamur cum illis*. Reformers naturally rush into extremes. Even amusements and fashions are revolving in a perpetual circle; to-day, most popular; to-morrow, rejected as vulgar or immoral. Has not the cheerful, graceful dance given way to the rude and boisterous sports of childhood? The time was, when theatrical performances and dramatic excellence were cherished and honored by the wise and good, and the theater was regarded as a school of moral reform; it is now abandoned to low comedians, or to the vulgar saltations of a circus. When I read the wonderful dramas of Sophocles, Euripides, Terence or Shakspeare, I cannot believe, but that the sock and the buskin might yet, under strict regulations, be made the instruments of innocent and moral benefit. Manners, too, have changed. Are they improved? The blunt "Yes" and the blunt "No" have taken place of the urbanity and respect, which were once paid to parents, superiors, the clergy, and venerable men and women. Our rough, sturdy republican notions, breaking down all distinctions in society, need the influence of some softening power, or the people, ere long, will treat each other even harsher than has been sometimes

witnessed in the high places of the land. We cannot wonder, therefore, that, among the wise ancients, science wore a simple dress, and was veiled before the world, reserving her treasures for the private meetings of her friends, in some secret retreat; instead of appearing, as she often does now, in public assemblies, either arrayed in tattered rags or transcendental ribands. We cannot get along without marks of distinction, and signs of politeness; although it is not to be desired that they should be manifested on the Utilitarian plan; which is, only to *know* an acquaintance, whom we may meet, when he can be of *use* to us in politics or trade, and at other times *look him out of sight*.

It is said, however, that Freemasonry is anti-republican, and therefore ought to be put down. This is a very erroneous opinion. The tendency is the reverse. The distinctions of rank and fortune are unknown in a lodge. Our government is purely elective. Every member has the right of suffrage, and we submit to the will of the majority for the good of the whole. The poorest, humblest brother, by his virtues, may be chosen to preside over our meetings. The power of the chair is limited by the constitution, and by ancient usages, which are the common law of Masonry. We meet on a *level*, we part on the *square*; that is, we are all equal, and desire to walk uprightly, towards each other and all mankind. The very germ and essence of a republican government, always existed in the elements of a lodge. Here, the prince and his subject, the rich and the poor, the general and his soldier, meet on equal terms, and associate together; like those various trees, which stand side by side in one of our primeval forests; and though the Author of Nature has made some lofty and towering, and with a trunk, branch and foliage, surpassingly beautiful, and overshadowing their fellows of a more lowly and humble form, yet they are all nourished by the same soil and inhale the same dews of heaven: so the native talents and moral virtues of some Masons, elevate them above their brethren; and, if I may continue the figure, as the smaller and weaker vines twine their tendrils round the strong and mighty, so our poorer, feebler members in the lodge dwell by the side of the powerful, in brotherly love and unity. It is a remarkable fact, that, during the dark ages, which covered over a space of nine centuries, the lodges alone, preserved the rudiments of a republican government.

The tendency of our institution in every respect, therefore, is excellent. In England it has founded many valuable schools for children; and I might refer to the benefit of lodges, as lyceums of useful knowledge, and the best models of debating societies. Here, perfect order is preserved. Decency, courtesy and brevity, distinguish every discussion. Some of the chastest and best arguments, happily conceived and eloquently delivered, which I have ever heard, have been on a question of debate in our private assemblies; the style and manner of which, if known, would be worthy of imitation, even in a National Legislature, where wild uproar, vulgar abuse, and interminable

speeches, upon all things and some others, have been too much encouraged by the taste of the day.

It is a fact which ought not to be forgotten, that lodges in this country were pioneers in the Temperance cause; and well might the High Priest, as he entered the R. A. Chapter, say in the language of Shakspeare,

"Give me my robe; put on my crown; I have
Immortal longings in me; now no more,
The juice of Egypt's grape shall moist this lip."

None have rejoiced more in this great moral revolution, this abandoning of alcoholic drinks, than masons, nor contributed more to the cause of Temperance—a noble cause, which has enlisted many men of talents and piety in its behalf; but so much has been ably written and feelingly said on the subject, that any remarks of mine would only be an exhibition of foliage without fruit.

The claim of Freemasonry to a remote antiquity has been the subject of derision among the ignorant, and even of disbelief among some scholars in this country, on whose brows the laurels of erudition are yet green, and untouched by the finger of time. Some years ago, the University of Cambridge, and the Theological Seminary at Andover, had this subject on the carpet. In a note to the elegant Masonic eulogy of the Hon. Francis Baylies, on Lafayette, in 1834, I find this paragraph: "The question propounded to them was this—Is there any known history to justify the belief that speculative or Freemasonry had existed prior to the last century?" President Quincy submitted the question to the learned Faculty of Harvard University, who replied, that they had no knowledge of any such history. Prof. Woods, of Andover, 'had never seen nor heard of any evidence in support of the pretended antiquity of Freemasonry.' Prof. Stuart explored the languages of Europe and Asia, and could find no trace of Freemasonry."

Such was the modest reply of one convocation of literati, and the scornful decision of another. I would approach, with delicacy and veneration, the opinions of distinguished scholars, upon all subjects within the pale of their jurisdiction; but it should be remembered, that there is a common law in literature, as well as in forensic questions, and we have a right to be tried by our peers. Even if the High Priest of Delphos should mount the *Hebrew tripod*, and "in all the languages of Europe and Asia," utter an *erudite response* against the antiquity of Freemasonry, we must beg leave to enter his Theological library, and refer him to "*The Discipline of the Secret*;" and if he do not find that the early fathers of the Church were also Masons, it must be because the light of the Reformation was so intense as to disturb his mental vision.

With profound respect, however, I would inquire, if either of these learned Faculties ever looked into the history of Freemasonry, examined our records, or traced our usages, customs and ceremonies? Did they put themselves in the way of getting the best information? In a word, were they Masons?

Did they ever see the writings of an English Antiquary, the learned Ashmole, founder of the Museum at Oxford, who wrote in the reign of Edward IV? Or of Nicholas Stone, a curious sculptor under Inigo Jones? Or read the Latin Register of William Molart, Prior of Canterbury? Or the manuscript, which was found by the celebrated Locke, in the Bodleian Library, touching an examination of the Brotherhood, before King Henry VI? Did they ever read the letters of Dr. Knipe of Christ Church, Oxford, or the extract from the regulations made in a General Assembly in 1663, when Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Alban's, was Grand Master? Even these few records, in old black letter, would have prevented the promulgation of opinions formed by prejudice, and uttered without the consideration which was due to a very large and respectable body of their fellow-citizens. They would have found, in the archives of Masonry, records as veritable as any of the pages of ancient history, of an Institution, coeval with the Saxon dynasty, and handed down, through Norman, Plantaganet, Stuart and Hanoverian reigns, to the present generation. They would have seen that in 1733 Freemasonry was introduced into Boston; that in 1717 it was universally admitted to be in operation in other countries; that in 1663 the Earl of St. Alban's was Grand Master of Masons in England, and issued some salutary regulations for governing a lodge, and among others, that no one should be made a Mason, unless with "a good reputation and an observer of the laws of the land;" that in 1646, the learned Ashmole states, that he was made a Mason at Warrington in Lancashire; that the discovery by Mr. Locke, in the Bodleian Library, of a manuscript written in the time of Henry VI, induced that great philosopher to send it to the Right Hon. Thomas, Earl of Pembroke, and thus writes to him: "I know not what effect the sight of this old paper may have on your Lordship; but, for my own part, I cannot deny that it has so much raised my curiosity, as to induce me to enter myself into the fraternity;" moreover, that in 1429, during the minority of Henry VI, a Latin Register of William Molart, in manuscript, refers to a respectable lodge in Canterbury, and speaks of Masons as then of *ancient standing*; and still further back, that in A. D. 930, King Athelstane, grandson of King Alfred the Great, encouraged many Masons from France, who "brought with them the charges and regulations of the lodges preserved since the Roman times."

Such are some of the well authenticated documents, embracing more than nine centuries of our history. But they go farther. They refer to other accounts. That of Ashmole speaks of many records of the brotherhood in England, as destroyed in the wars of the Saxons and Danes; and mentions that Prince Edwin, brother to King Athelstane, summoned all the Masons in England to compose a Grand Lodge, of which he was Grand Master. They brought with them all the writings and records extant, in Greek, Latin, French and other languages; from which they framed a constitution and made a law always to observe and preserve the same. He made a book

thereof, showing how the craft was founded. Some of these ancient regulations deserve our notice, so quaintly and honestly did Freemasonry speak its heart. "He shall ordain the wisest to be master of the work, and neither for love nor lineage, riches nor favor, set one over the work, who hath but little knowledge. All the freres shall treat the peculiarities of either other with the gentleness, decencie and forbearance he thinks due to his own." The manuscript found by Mr. Locke, contains a series of questions, and refers to the great antiquity of the brotherhood, as originating in Magna Grecia under Pythagoras. Among others, this question is asked: "*Are Maconnes gudder menne than odhers?*" Ans. "*Some Maconnes are noll so vertuons as some odher menne; but yn the moste part thay be more gude than thay woulde be yf thay war not Maconnes.*" Again: "*Doth Maconnes love eidher odher myghtylye as beeth sayde?*" Ans. "*Yea verglyche and it may not otherwise be; for gude menne and true, kennyngye eidher odher to be socke, doeth always love the more as they be more gude.*" These bear internal evidence of their authenticity. The print of a human footstep on the sands of the sea shore was not more convincing to Crusoe, that man had been there, than these vestiges of Masonry are of its antiquity to the inquirer after truth.

But to proceed: Did the learned civilian, who presides over Harvard College, examine the old Statute books of English law? If he had done so, he would have found that in the third year of Henry VI. (A. D. 1424) an Act of Parliament was passed (chap. 1), entitled, "Masons shall not confederate themselves in Chapters or Assemblies," which provided, that for all such offenses they shall be adjudged felons and punished by fine and imprisonment. It was supposed that a previous Statute of 1422, punishing servants, masons and carpenters, for taking unreasonable wages, was infringed by such chapters and assemblies; but a statute of Elizabeth (chap. 4) rendered the act of 1422 inoperative, as will be seen more particularly in Coke's Institutes, vol. iii. p. 99, chap. 35. All these books are in the Law alcoves of the University Library. Notwithstanding the statutes against Masons, the Duke of Gloucester, believing in their innocence, took them under his protection; and the same King Henry VI. who signed this penal act of Parliament, was afterwards made a member of the fraternity, as I find, by Dr. Anderson's list of Grand Masters in England, that he presided over the Grand Lodge in 1446. The Abbe Barruel, the ablest opponent which Freemasonry ever had, assigned the origin of the Institution to the Manichean sect, which flourished A. D. 272.

Here are legal authorities which show that our Institution has existed nearly one thousand years; and this evidence is fortified by the traditions, lectures and ceremonies, which we use in the interior of the lodge, and which have descended to us from a time, beyond which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. The learned Faculties must have been enjoying the *otium cum dignitate*, perhaps have been sleeping in their libraries, when they gave such sweeping responses in favor of a faction, whose Gothic hand, if it had

succeeded in tearing down the pillars of the Masonic temple, would have spared from desecration, neither the groves of the Academy, nor the Altars of Religion!

But, with your indulgence, I will pursue this subject a little more in detail. In Rees's Cyclopaedia, which was published when there was no excitement nor *cloistered* prejudice against our brotherhood, it is written, "Masons, free and accepted, *a very ancient society* or body of men, so called from some extraordinary knowledge of Masonry or building, which they are supposed to be masters of, or because the first founders of the society were persons of that profession." He goes on to describe them as numerous, being found not only in every country of Europe, but in other parts of the globe, and "*consisting of persons of merit and distinction.*" The origin has, by some, been traced to the time of the introduction of glass, A. D. 674. Dr. Henry attributes it to the difficulty, in Great Britain, of obtaining workmen in ancient times, to meet the great demand for churches, monasteries and public edifices. Others trace it to the invasion of England by the Roman armies, when those stupendous works of architecture were left, of which no historic record exists. Mr. Preston, who published a learned treatise on Masonry, refers to St. Alban, A. D. 303, as the patron in England, and supports his opinion by several ancient manuscripts. St. Austin, as early as 597, was at the head of the Fraternity, and founded the old Cathedral at Canterbury and other churches. After the Heptarchy, it flourished under St. Swithin, and found a zealous protector in Alfred the Great, who was Grand Master in 872. This is corroborated by the character of that wonderful man, the greatest and the best sovereign that ever sat on the throne of England.

The history of Masonry, under King Athelstane, has been already noticed; and it may be further stated, that there is still existing in York, an ancient lodge which traces its origin to that time, A. D. 960. The brethren were there collected under St. Dunstan, in the reign of Edgar. A period of declension followed; and a revival succeeded under Edward the Confessor, in 1041. Gundulph, Bishop of Rochester, and Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, were Grand Masters and joint patrons in 1066, and under their auspices, the celebrated Tower of London was built. I name these saints and noblemen, because they prove that *speculative* and operative Masonry went hand in hand at that early day; for no one of sound understanding could pretend, that such Grand Masters and guardians were workmen, who handled the square and trowel in manual labor. Under Henry II, about 1154, the English lodges were superintended by the Grand Master of the Knights Templar. They prospered under six successive kings, to the reign of Edward III, when the lodges became numerous. This was about A. D. 1326. On the accession of Richard II, William a Wykeham, being Grand Master, the new College in Oxford and Winchester College, were founded at this Mason's expense. During the wars of York and Lancaster, agriculture,

commerce, religion and all the arts and comforts of life were depressed; and Masonry, suffering with them, languished in that stormy period.

The craft flourished in Scotland, in 1424, in the time of Henry VI, under James I, King of the Scots, who was Grand Master. In Hay's manuscript, in the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh, there is a passage in the record of an ancient Masonic charter of this kind; "for sa meikle as from adge to adge it has been observed amongst us, that the Lairds of Roslyn has ever been patrons and protectors of us and our privileges," the Lord of Roslyn is authorized to purchase a new charter from the King; and it is referred to in a subsequent charter, in 1630, and therein the loss is mentioned of the muniments and records "consumed in ane flame of fire within the castle of Roslyn," which took place in 1554.* James II. granted jurisdiction over the lodges in Scotland, to St. Clair, Earl of Caithness and Orkney, who founded the beautiful Chapel of Roslyn, A. D. 1441. There are, my brethren, not only eras in the history of civilization, of stirring interest and importance, but peculiar spots and localities, with which are associated the most enduring recollections. The height where this chapel stood is one of this kind: Roslyn, the summer resort of the citizens of Edinburgh, and noted for the flavor of its strawberries, is a village about six miles from that city. It was celebrated for its castle and romantic environs. A bold and lofty rock, overhanging the river North Est, which, with a semi-circular sweep, dashes against its rugged base, commands a rich view of the waters, woods and valleys. The ruins of the chapel, built by St. Clair, now occupy the summit of the mount. We are informed that this nobleman invited artificers from foreign countries to build it. The style of architecture, buttresses, pinnacles, shafts and flying abutments; the pointed windows, each window divided by a stone mullion, faced with double columns; the transom of the arch adorned with a variety of foliage and figures of suppliants; its wreathed centre; and the niches, canopies, tracery and altars, all evinced the great delicacy and elegance of execution, which were exhibited in the fifteenth century. I refer to this, as an evidence of the knowledge and skill in operative and speculative Masoury in Scotland under the auspices of a monarch, who was himself a Mason. The fields in the vicinity of the old castle of Roslyn, were celebrated for the defeat of an English army of 30,000 troops in 1303; and the plaintive air of Roslyn Castle is not unknown to the lovers of Scotch melody. From the age of St. Clair, Freemasonry has continued to thrive in Scotland; and there is an ancient record of the successive Grand Masters, down to James VI, afterwards King of Great Britain, A. D. 1603. Indeed, the Kilwinning Lodge, of Scotland, and the York Lodge, of England, can trace their armorial bearings far up into the thick darkness of the middle ages, when the splendid Cathedrals, erected by them, stood like light houses on the shores of time.

* A brief inquiry into the origin and principles of Freemasonry, by Simon Greenleaf, 1820, p. 13.

The Art prospered greatly in England, under Henry VIII, A. D. 1529; his royal predecessor, Henry VII, having been Grand Master; and, in the days of his glory, Cardinal Wolsey, so memorable for the giddy height and deep downfall of his power, was also Grand Master. He was succeeded by Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, A. D. 1558—1603, Masonry experienced a temporary check. That haughty and hawk-eyed sovereign—seeing that the lodges were numerous in her kingdom, and being excited by some undue influence, or perhaps the touch of some phrenetic disease, like the late Niagara epidemic—became jealous of the craft. She had heard that they were a mysterious brotherhood, a Rosicrucian fraternity of the Black Art. She was told they were in possession of a *secret*; she thought where there were *secrets* there must be *wizards*; and she concluded, like some theologians of our land of light, that a *secret* was wrong in the sight of Heaven, because it involved a vow, either express or implied, to keep it; and because, no subject in her Realm had a right, even by Magna Charta, to retain a *secret*, especially one she did not know. She brooded over this question of casuistry, until her imagination clothed the whole fraternity in the garments of treason and conspiracy. She resolved (to use the language of a certain recreant Knight) that she ought to demand “*the dissolution of the Institution in a voice potent as thunder!*” And forthwith she sent an armed force to York, to break up the Grand Lodge of England, then in session. The nobleman who conducted this expedition, summoned them to surrender. Report says they calmly heard his message, introduced him into the lodge, and there made a Mason of him; and he went back to her Majesty bearing testimony “that the fraternity did not interrupt her in her state affairs,” and that they were a great and respectable body of citizens.

In Germany Maria Theresa, the Empress-queen, in a similar manner becoming alarmed at the *secrets* of the craft, endeavored to abolish it “*in a voice potent as thunder;*” but the Emperor, Joseph I, who was a Mason, defended the brotherhood and proved them innocent. And thus has Masonry ever emerged from the *thunder-clouds* of persecution, into a brighter sunshine.

Our prosperity increased in the reign of James I; and in that of the unhappy Charles it flourished, for a season, under Inigo Jones, the great architect. Again it suffered, and was sadly retarded during the civil and religious wars which followed; and we hear but little of Masonry during the iron protectorship of Oliver Cromwell, and the gloom which then spread darkness and dismay over the fair fields of England. Perhaps there may be much difference of opinion among my brethren with regard to this revolution. To myself, accustomed to look from the vantage-ground of history on the events of the world, it has ever appeared to be a period of moral and political convulsion; a time when citizen went armed against citizen, neighbor against neighbor, brother against brother; a time when a fanatic parliament, in one part of the city, was changing all the laws, usages and landmarks of the

realm, and an assembly of enthusiasts, in another, were dividing, with a sword, the globes and parsonages of the regular clergy among themselves, and, with a pen, measuring out the kingdom of Heaven exclusively among their followers. Then, indeed, there was "a Church without a Bishop, and a State without a King." It is not surprising, in a revolution when the foundations of society were shaken to their lowest depths, that Freemasonry, the friend of toleration, the patron of the arts and sciences, and the promoter of peace and good order, should have been neglected and almost forgotten. Were our Institution of that designing, rebellious character, which its enemies have alleged, its voice would have been heard in the uproar of that tempestuous parliament; or we should have traced its step in the fields of blood, or seen its hand in the division of ecclesiastical spoils. Yet you find not its features in the dupes of Cromwell—you hear not its voice in the harsh discords of parliamentary Praise-God-Bare-Bones, or Habakkuk Mucklewrath,—nor do you hear it lecturing on the tenebrious doctrines of the infatuated Covenanters.

In 1666, Freemasonry, so remarkably preserved in the day of trouble, revived; and again, under Sir Christopher Wren, charmed the world with the beauties of architecture. During the reign of the bigoted James II. it languished; but brightened under George I, II, III, IV, and William IV, all Masons. George II, in one of the old Irish constitutions, was called "the Mason-King, whom God preserve." It was in the reign of George I. that the much-noted meeting of four lodges took place at the Appleton Tavern, Charles street, Covent Garden, A. D. 1717; a period from which some of our enemies date our origin. Thus do we trace our genealogy from 926, with a weight of testimony which would substantiate an ancient title in any Court of Law; and, moreover, from the ages of St. Alban and St. Austin, with a probability of as much truth as any records of early English history evince. Since George I. ascended the throne, to the present day the archives of Masonry exhibit plenary evidence of its vigorous growth. I might have named, too, that it was introduced into Ireland in 1210, by Launders, Archbishop of Dublin, under whose superintendence Dublin Castle was built.* There is a record preserved of the principal Grand Masters in England, from St. Alban, in 803, to the Earl of Abercorn, in 1725; also of those in Scotland, from James I. In the English list, I find nine kings, many noblemen, and many scholars. Nor does Scotland fall short in distinguished names on her calendar.

What but *secrecy* and *silence* could have preserved so excellent an Institution from so remote a period? "If the laws, charges and regulations, says Dr. Rees,† of free and accepted Masons, as they are detailed in a work entitled 'The Constitutions of Freemasonry,' &c., by the late Lawrence Dermot, Esq.

* Lawrie.

† Cyclopædia.

and revised by Thomas Harper, 1807, are faithfully recorded, *which we have no reason to question*, they are not only irreproachable, but deserving of commendation." Yet the Abbe Barruel, in his "Memoirs of Jacobinism," published in 1798, ascribes all the horrors and bloodshed of the French Revolution, and the political convulsions of Europe, to Freemasonry. But, my brethren, we, and all members of regular and ancient lodges, know that this representation is false. As well might the Massacre of St. Bartholomew, in 1572, when the bells tolled—and torches glared—and daggers gleamed throughout all France, at the same midnight hour, and sixty thousand Huguenots were murdered in cold blood—an event which even the infidel Voltaire eloquently portrayed in his *Henriade*,—be laid at the foot of the cross, as the fruits of the christian religion. The Jacobins of France and the Illuminees of Germany, were not Masons. They had their secrets, but they were those of the mountain banditti. They might have imitated our dress and assumed our regalia; but they were strangers to our principles. They rejected the Bible. They acknowledged no God. They were a band of conspirators. Even the Abbe himself is obliged to confess the difference between them and our Fraternity. He pronounced a panegyric on English Masons, "for (to use his own words) their closer union in the bonds of charity and fraternal affection;" and he further remarks, "that the Illuminees of Germany were opposed to English lodges." When he declares that Freemasonry "wars against Christ and his altars, against thrones and their kings," he showed at once, that a society of Jacobins was as different from a lodge of Masons, as infidelity is from religion, or Paine's "Age of Reason" from the Holy Bible. Our Constitutions, charges and publications, forbid this cruel aspersion; the character of every true Mason in Great Britain, Europe, the United States and everywhere, contradicts this declaration. I will venture to assert, that there are, even in this country, more than ten thousand members of the Fraternity, who are also members of churches; besides many others of excellent repute, high integrity and exemplary morals, who are not professors—and some of whom are the pride and ornament of the land. And can our venerable University, or the Andover Seminary, point out among the tombs and cemeteries of their departed sons, names more illustrious, learning more profound, genius of a more heaven-piercing eye, or piety, patriotism, or morals, more pure, than repose in the graves and sepulchres of our lamented brethren? Look at our country's history, through the prism of truth, and you will see the colors of the *blue* lodge and *crimson* arch, reflected on every page of its glory.

The evidence of our ancient origin, as we gather up the fragments of antiquity and the opinions of learned men, is cumulative. In the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, it is stated that "Freemasonry is an ancient and respectable Institution, embracing individuals of every nation, of every religion, and of every condition of life." So true it is, that distinctions of rank, political and religious differences, and the superiority of birth and fortune, are not regarded

in a lodge. Dr. James Anderson, who was a distinguished Mason, as appears in the archives of the Grand Lodge of England, in 1723, and Mr. Preston, who wrote in 1792, make Freemasonry coeval with the world; but this is straying widely into the boundless fields of conjecture. The Chevalier Ramsay, on the other hand, derives its birth from the Crusades. The Abbe Barruel, an opponent, thinks it might have originated in the school of Pythagoras; though, elsewhere, he attributed it to the Manichean sect. Mr. Greenleaf, in "A Brief Inquiry into the Origin and Principles of Freemasonry," has also brought forward many interesting facts to induce a belief, that in England it was anciently a Druidical institution, emanating from Pythagoras. The worship of the Druids under an oak, their enclosures of immense stones, and especially their gigantic and circular temple of Stonehenge, which bore much affinity to patriarchal customs among the Hebrews, would favor this opinion. Authorities such as these, deserve some credit. Mr. Mounier observes, however, that if Masonry had existed among the ancients, the fact would have been transmitted to us in history. Yet, says the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Masonry has existed in England at least three hundred years, and no mention of it is found in any English historian.

All this may be true; but let us not quarrel about words or names. If the same or similar mysteries, rites and ceremonies, and a like object and design—that of promoting knowledge and virtue, and practicing benevolence—existed in Greece or Rome, in Judea or England, under the title of Pythagorean, Essenian or Druidical societies, and we can discover, in the historian's account of them, the signs, emblems and rudiments of our Masonic Fraternity, we have made out a case worthy of more examination than some of our learned opponents in this country, with the help of ancient languages and with the luxury of extensive libraries, have condescended to bestow. Authorities, however, are not always consulted in making up an *ex-parte* judgment.

The Eleusinian and Dionysian societies of Greece, which were introduced from Egypt about fourteen hundred years before Christ, have often been regarded as the prototypes of Freemasonry. The resemblance, in many particulars, was striking. They had secret signs and mysterious ceremonies, required certain qualifications, and were taught to subdue the passions, practice benevolence, and improve their minds in science, especially geometry and architecture. They used symbols and emblems for moral and intellectual instruction; committed nothing to writing, but every thing to memory; wore a peculiar dress; adhered to a rigid regimen, and passed through various degrees, until they became the companions of Priests, and were eligible to the highest honors. In that period of the world all knowledge was communicated as a secret. It was hidden from the eyes of the vulgar, and never made common. This will account for the distinction which Mr. Gliddon mentions, in his masterly lectures on Egyptian Archæology, between the Demotic or vernacular, and the hieroglyphical language of ancient Egypt. The ritual

of devotion, as well as the text book of science, was concealed in symbols, which to the ignorant might appear ridiculous, but to the enlightened, were full of moral worth and intellectual beauty. Herodotus, Hesychius, Porphyry, Arrian, Eusebius and many other writers, confirm the account of these institutions, before they became deteriorated by the innovations and impurities of a voluptuous age. Cicero, however, speaks highly of them in his time; and he must have had a fine opportunity to examine them during his exile at Athens.

From the Dionysian college sprung the Dionysian artificers, who, about one thousand years before our Saviour, settled in Ionia. They were like Freemasons, it is remarked in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, which refers to Chishull,* who says, "they were divided into lodges." This fraternity built three splendid edifices in Ionia, the ruins of which have been the admiration of modern travelers. The magnificent temple of Teos was among their achievements. In fact, judging from what history says of one, and our experience teaches of the other, the two societies, Dionysian and Masonic, were anciently much alike. But, it is said, the Dionysians worshipped Isis and Osiris. Whether they were actually idolaters in that age of darkness, or considered these as personifications of the Divine perfections, we can only conjecture. The Heathen Mythology was a splendid allegory, in which much truth was concealed, as any one may perceive who will look into Lord Bacon's elucidations on this subject, or examine the Abbe Banier's *Mythology and Fables of the ancients explained from history*. But we need not to rely upon such parentage, originating in an age of Pantheism and spiritual darkness, before the true light shone upon our fraternity. We can trace our origin to a purer and better source.

Professor Robinson, an able opponent of Masonry, who wrote at the close of the last century, ascribes the origin of the Institution to the Dionysian Artificers, who taught the only chaste and durable styles of building, and devoted themselves to the arts and sciences with great assiduity. They emigrated from Athens to Ionia, were soon scattered over the principal cities in Europe and Asia, and visited the seaports of Syria. Wherever they traveled they usually went in companies, carrying their skill and mysteries, and leaving behind them traces of magnificent architecture. Other writers ascribe the origin of the craft to the institutions of Pythagoras, who went from Samos to Crotona, in Italy, about five hundred and sixty years before Christ. When I consider the remote and barbarous age in which he lived; the gentleness of his demeanor and purity of his life; his vast learning; his geometrical and astronomical discoveries, even that which preceded the belief of many centuries—that the sun is the centre of a revolving planetary system;—and when I reflect upon the astonishing influence which he held over the minds of men, I must confess that he appears to me more like a Christian than a heathen philosopher. Jamblicus describes his appearance and eloquence to

* *Antiquitates Asiaticæ*, p. 139.

have been such as to draw all eyes toward him in admiration. Indeed, it is delightful to look, as it were, through the telescope of history, and trace the mild and heavenly radiance of his character, as it shone, like a star, lone and luminous in the desolate regions of those obscure ages.

Pythagoras spent twenty-two years in Egypt, and became deeply versed in all the science and mysteries of the Egyptian priesthood. He visited Crete, Syria, Chaldea, Persia, Phœnicia, and indeed all those countries where knowledge could be obtained. He returned to Samos, richly laden with intellectual treasures; but not meeting with encouragement in his native place, for "*a prophet is not without honor, but in his own country, and among his own kin*," he sought the land of strangers and established a school at Crotona. He taught his disciples the worship of one eternal, omniscient and ever present Deity; and that the study and contemplation of truth, which he communicated by symbols or hieroglyphical emblems, were the only foundation of happiness. He used numbers as geometrical diagrams; regulated the gamut, and by the harmony of music taught to subdue the passions; enjoined secrecy touching their mysteries; adopted a vegetable diet, as more conducive to health and the functions of the brain (for he considered the body the sepulchre of the soul), and, in all his teachings and practice, showed himself the friend of virtue, science and humanity. From him came the definition, *Amicitia, Æqualitas*, friendship is equality, and the noble sentiment, *my friend is my better half*. From him came the sublime idea of the Music of the Spheres, the magnificent conception that blessed spirits in the celestial world hear the heavenly bodies revolving in their orbits, like some vast Panharmonicon, with notes of melody, some loud and high, and some deep, low and clear. His followers were clad in white garments, an emblem of innocence. They committed his lectures to memory, and had mystic words and signs of recognition. Epaminondas, Pelopidas, Plato, Phocion and Demosthenes were said to be of his school. Some men, of one book and of one idea, may condemn him on account of his superstitions and doctrine of the metempsychosis, too harshly. Let us be careful, however, not to pull up the wheat, because there are some tares growing in it; for it must be consoling to any one, who sees how much sin and misery there is at all times in the world, to trace the astral light of the good and virtuous, whether among Jews or Gentiles, Greek or Romans. We should not forget that Martin Luther, the heroic reformer, was not free from superstitions and errors; and if I mistake not, the indentation on the wall in his oratory is still visible, where he threw his inkstand, as he supposed, at the Devil. Through a vista of nearly twenty-five centuries, Pythagoras, who first called himself a philosopher or lover of wisdom, stands forth, not only as a scholar of transcendent learning and genius, but as a man full of philanthropy, a benefactor to the human race, and a favorite of Heaven. If we claim him as a Mason, and trace some of our mysteries to his school, it is because we discover there a system of secrecy, benevolence and moral beauty, like our

own. Even the pious Watts has introduced "his golden verses" in his "Improvement of the Mind;" and they are worthy of a place in every book of education.

The Sect of the Essenes is also brought forward as a Masonic Fraternity. Here, again, the general resemblance is impressive. They held to strict qualifications for admission; to an exemplary life, great secrecy, hieroglyphical emblems, progressive attainments in knowledge, brotherly affection, separation from the world and a community of goods. Philo Judæus speaks of them in glowing colors. In his day, they numbered about four thousand. They dwelt not in cities; laid up neither gold nor silver; had no weapons of war, nor slave among them; kept strictly the seventh day; cultivated the earth for a living, and their minds for knowledge; and were very abstemious and devotional. They abhorred the use of oil, and were remarkable for frequent ablutions. Josephus, in his Wars of the Jews, also gives an interesting sketch of these ascetics. This sect was very ancient. Pliny says it must have existed in the days of Solomon. The learned Scaliger maintains that the Essenes were descended from the Kasideans—a religious fraternity, called Knights of the Temple, who bound themselves to adorn and preserve it; and who were conspicuous in the history of the Maccabees. Their reputation was high; strangers from other countries joined them; and they flourished until the fifth century, when the dark ages came on, and they were barbarously persecuted, and finally abolished by the Roman factions. The Essenes, therefore, were probably among the builders of that Temple, of which they were afterwards the guardians; and having existed more than four centuries after its destruction by Titus, and until Masonry was introduced into England, it is reasonable to conclude they were of our Fraternity. Such is the inference of some writers who have searched deeply into our origin. In Gregory's Church History, vol. i. cent. 3, it is remarked, that the Essenes were Pythagoreans. Mr. Church follows the analogy between the two institutions at great length, and shows an extraordinary coincidence. Indeed, it is thought Pythagoras derived many of his peculiar tenets, and much of his system, from that sect during his travels in Syria. We know the Pythagorean fraternity is mentioned as our archetype, in the manuscript I have already referred to, written in the time of Henry VI. It is somewhat remarkable, that our Saviour, in his terrible denunciation of the hypocrisy of the Sadducees and Pharisees, says not a word of this well known and numerous society. His silence is a volume in its favor. Yet Gregory, in his Church History, is very severe upon them, though I could find no authority quoted for his unjust censure.

Thus I have endeavored to trace our genealogy, from the resemblance of the Eleusinian and Dionysian societies, and Essenian and Pythagorean fraternities of olden time, to the Institution of Freemasonry in England, where its connection with the Druidical economy is not without much plausibility. If such be our origin, our ancient brethren must, at some periods, have been

under the influence of the heathen Mythology; at others, the worshippers of only one Supreme Being; and under the Christian dispensation, believers in the Messiah. They have advanced with the progress of the world. Yet the Abbe Barruel, with much sophistry, uses this as an argument against the character of the fraternity, and accuses the brethren of Pantheism, idolatry, and hatred to the cross of Christ. But this accusation hardly deserves a reply. Pythagoras taught the disciples the unity of *The Great Invisible*, who is the source of motion, light and truth, the Creator and Preserver of all things, and worthy the supreme adoration of all intelligent beings; and such was the belief of the Essenes; so that the Abbe, if he had reflected, would have found that the ancestral lineage of Freemasonry runs along through very respectable families for an immense succession of ages.

As the Eleusinian and Dionysian fraternities existed in Greece, so long before the age of Solomon, and the Dionysian Architects had spread over very many ancient cities, there must, beyond doubt, have been disciples of these sects in Syria and her seaports, some time before the Temple was built. Josephus says, B. viii. chap. 6, that the Corinthian order of architecture was used in that edifice. He also refers to Menander, a Greek writer, who states that Hiram, King of Tyre, adorned the Temple of Jupiter, in that city, with gold, and improved its environs; and when he speaks of Solomon's building Bethhoron and Tadmor in the Wilderness, he observes that he also built a palace for himself, supported by many pillars, with a roof of the Corinthian order. This is an important link in the chain of our history. For Tyre was then a great seaport, a city whose antiquity was of ancient days, the merchant city, the mart of nations; on the vision of whose future downfall Isaiah* and Ezekiel† took their harps, while an Invisible Hand smote the chords, and the intonations were more deep and awful than almost any of the predictions of Hebrew prophecy. At that time the ships of Tarshish crowded her port; she had intercourse with Athens, the Ionian coasts, the Ægean Isles, and indeed with all parts of the Mediterranean and Euxine seas. Some of these Dionysian artificers would naturally be there, and their mysteries with them. Without a great stretch of fancy, therefore, we may conclude that they were also employed in the building of King Solomon's Temple.

"As, when the weary traveler gains
The height of some commanding hill,
His heart revives, when, o'er the plains
He sees his home, though distant still;"

—so from these glimmering views of primeval history, I now turn to a more sure and certain foundation of our origin, and trace our descent from the erection of that magnificent structure, the Temple of Solomon, more than one thousand years before the Advent. Noah, on that first morning, when he

* Isaiah, Chap. xxiii. † Ezekiel, Chap. xxvi, 27.

beheld the sun shining on the peaks of Mount Ararat, after the winds and the waves of a stormy deluge had beat upon the Ark for six long months, could not have felt more joy than the Mason, who, having traveled over the great desert of history, beset with enemies and harassed with difficulties, stands at the foot of Mount Moriah, and sees the light of heaven more and more reflecting on our origin, as he gazes on the pinnacles of this Temple. He then perceives that he has been led along, step by step, through the rugged paths of tradition, with the lamp of the Scriptures before him, until he sees in every Lodge and Chapter, internal evidence of a high and honorable descent from the Grand Lodge of Jerusalem.

I will offer a few reasons for this assurance, which, however, can only be appreciated by those acquainted with our lectures and ceremonies. And 1. Freemasonry is decidedly a *religious*, as well as a benevolent Institution. It is founded on the Bible; though, as an eleemosynary Fraternity, it has ever been remarkable for the relief of the unfortunate, and kindness to a worthy Brother in a poor and penniless state. The testimony of its beneficence would fill volumes; witnesses would rise up and call it blessed, in peace or war, on land or ocean, in all countries, in all ages.

2. Ancient lodges were dedicated to King Solomon. He is recognized in all our work as our first Grand Master. Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram, the widow's son, of the tribe of Naphtali, assisted in the building of the Temple, according to the Scriptures, and also to Josephus. In every lecture, and in every ceremony, they are before our mind in the lodge.

3. It is reasonable to believe, and it is probable, that Solomon, the wisest of men, arranged, classified and regulated the vast body of builders he employed, in some way or manner only known to themselves; so that the various orders, the bearers of burdens, hewers of wood and stone, sculptors, designers and artificers in metals, coming, as I shall show, from various countries, might be bound to each other by brotherly love, know whom to trust, and feel secure in some *mystic tie*, which would preserve their association from invasion or injury. There were one hundred and fifty thousand *cunning workmen* here employed, and thirty-six hundred overseers. These men were not of the Hebrew nation; for Solomon, in making this computation, "*numbered all the strangers that were in the land of Israel*" Literally, and *Solomon numbered all the men, the strangers.** In the Hebrew Lexicon of Gesenius, I find *Gēr*, a sojourner, stranger or foreigner, from the verb *Gār*, to turn aside from the way, to live as not at home, *i. e.* as a stranger. So that there can be no mistake; and, as I have said, many of them were probably Dionysian architects from Tyre, Solomon would of course have learnt their mysteries, and applied and incorporated them, with the Essenian improvements, and his own great knowledge, into a system, and thus concentrate in

* 2 Chron., Chap. ii, v. 17.

one focus a Masonic Institution. This will materially account for the singular resemblance of our brotherhood to the Dionysian and Essenian fraternities.

4. A society, thus created anew by the wisest of men, under a discipline of seven years, must have been too valuable to be lost. Therefore, in the separation of this vast body, at the completion of the Temple, the members would carry the secrets and regulations with them to their homes in Europe and Asia, and, forming new lodges, use every precaution to preserve and perpetuate them in ages to come.

5. In all the work, in every lecture and tradition, and in every emblem and ceremony, reference is invariably made to this great Temple on Mount Moriah;—to its materials, construction, winding steps and inner chambers, from the great pillars which adorned the front, to the keystone which completed it. The lectures and traditions bear on their very face the impress of their origin in Jerusalem. They have been substantially the same for hundreds of years, and are admirably calculated to preserve a living memory of a superb piece of architecture, erected by the command of the Most High, and to which the sacred penmen have devoted four chapters in Kings, and six in Chronicles, with a degree of studious minuteness hardly paralleled in the Bible.

6. The Divine Being seems, in this Temple, to have had a design or purpose far beyond the mere creation of a perishable structure, which the Chaldees could burn up, or time destroy. When Moses was on the top of that Mount, the sight of which was like devouring fire to the children of Israel, the Lord spake unto him, saying: "And let them make Me a Sanctuary; that I may dwell among them, according to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the Tabernacle and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it." St. Paul, in the Epistle to the Hebrews, speaks of this as serving "*unto the example and shadow of heavenly things*;" words of deep and mysterious import, having reference to another Tabernacle in another world, and which modern exegesis, the torturing of the Hebrew letter, and exclusion of all spirituality from the sacred writings, would do entirely away. The Temple built by Solomon, at the command of the Lord, in after ages, was a substitute for and constructed after the model of this Tabernacle. When it was finished, the Lord again appeared to Solomon, and said: "I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there forever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually." Was this declaration of the Almighty ever literally fulfilled? By no means. That material Temple has vanished from the earth! but the *spiritual* Temple still exists. It is in the lodge. It is before every faithful Mason's eye when he enters. It is perpetuated by the Masonic family. It is seen in each degree. And thus has this House of God been preserved from age to age, and the Divine prediction verified.

7. There are traditions belonging to the Temple, only known to the intel-

ligent Mason, which comport with Scripture history, and are so reasonable and consistent that they have ever been received by the craft with implicit faith. Indeed, the preservation of the Pentateuch, during the Babylonish captivity, can be accounted for in no other way. The inquirer after truth may say, "Show them to me, and, perhaps I may believe them, too." We reply, put yourself in the way and manner in which we received them, and you will then know them.

These are some of the reasons for my belief, that our Institution is immediately derived from King Solomon. It carries in its features a Hebrew lineage, strong as the visage of that exiled people, on whose physiognomy the Israelite is written, in all climates and among all nations. The use of the right hand, the burial of the dead with their feet to the East, the solemn laying of corner stones for churches, chapels and public edifices, the easterly fronting of those buildings, the form of a lodge, between the rising and setting sun, on a mountain or in a valley, the minuteness of our traditions, and every usage, emblem and ceremony confirm this opinion. As none but the Israelite, who was duly qualified, could enter the interior of the Temple, so none but a worthy candidate, or a brother can be admitted into a lodge. The stones, say the Scriptures, were all hewn and squared; they were also numbered, and a *mark*, says Masoury, was put upon them; and the examination of ancient Gothic churches, of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, proves this fact. These *marks* have been recently found in the celebrated Cathedrals of Strasburgh and Rheims, in Germany, and St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, in London. When the church and tower of St. Mary's, at Shrewsbury, was repaired about sixteen years ago, the distinguishing *marks* of several operative Masons were discovered: and "it is a singular fact (says the author*) that some of these marks, though used many centuries ago, are similar to those used by Masons in the present day." Hulbert Philips, in his History, says this church was founded by King Edgar; if so, these marks are nearly nine hundred years old. And Mr. Gliddon tells us that the stones of the Pyramids of Egypt, and other stupendous structures in that primeval country, still bear the Mason's marks upon them, apparently as fresh as if made but yesterday.

Again: The Temple was erected without noise, so that "there was neither hammer, nor axe, nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was in building!"† Was there no hidden meaning in this Scriptural fact? Was there no *spirituality* among men who could work in this manner? In a word, everything touching this building shows that there was, at the same time, the formation of a *spiritual* Temple going on, destined to live in the mind of the true Mason forever. And as every material, and every working tool conveyed moral emblems to the craftsmen, so the whole edifice, fitly framed together, and completed without noise or discord, is emblematical of a Society united

* Salopian Journal. See Freemasons' Monthly Magazine, Vol. II, p. 368.

† 1 Kings vi. 7.

by brotherly love, walking in the paths of uprightness, and whose members, being *partakers of the heavenly calling*, have an anchor of the soul, sure and steadfast within the veil, where our Great High Priest, the Lord of Glory dwells!*

No argument can be drawn against us from the silence of history. Records of our mysteries were never kept. They are traditionary, from their very nature; though I have gleaned some interesting facts from the rich armory of literature at Harvard University. I would ask, however, with profound respect, of those learned in theological lore, whence do we get the history of a change of the Jewish Sabbath to the Lord's day? There is no such memorial in the New Testament. The early Jewish converts kept both days holy, and Constantine, in the fourth century,† first commanded that this day should be observed with peculiar solemnity. Yet no Christian entertains a doubt of its Divine appointment. The persecution of our enemies has, nevertheless, done us some good. It has occasioned research into the alcoves of antiquity; and every year is bringing forward fresh evidence of our ancient standing, as appears by *marks*, obsolete charters and writings, which for ages have lain hid, on the other side of the water. Another Harleian manuscript in the British Museum, vol. 1942, and an antique poem, which needs a glossary, and is more than five hundred years old, add to the cumulative mass of evidence. Nor am I without hope, that a future investigation of the hieroglyphical writings of Egypt, made by some learned brother, may yet throw more light on our primeval origin, than even the charters and Mason's *marks* already referred to. The key of Champollion has unlocked those treasures; and while the indefatigable Gliddon, and the savans and literati of Europe are luxuriating in such valuable discoveries, Freemasonry may yet come in for a share of the spoils. In the mean time, despised and calumniated as our Institution has been by some of the scholars of our own country, it will be a consolation to remember, that the profound Dugald Stewart and Sir Walter Scott were members of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and cherished it with unabating attachment. Nor would I forget the revered and excellent Thaddeus Mason Harris, nor the late pious and lamented Bishop Griswold, on whose graves the Cassia will be green forever! They were members of the Encampment; some account of which will finish my history of Masonry, if it have not already exhausted your patience.

There is a splendid epoch in the history of Freemasonry. It shed a halo on the age of chivalry, before that change from the Heroic to the Commercial, from tournaments to the exchange, when Burke so enthusiastically declared, that "the glory of Europe was extinguished forever!" The dark ages were passing away, a revolution in the minds of men had begun, and the revival of letters, of invention and of enterprise, was dawning on the world. Troubadors, like the Highland harpers of Scotland, wandered over the cities and

* Heb. iii. 1, vi. 19, 20. † Greg. Ch. His. v. 1, pp. 52, 190.

villages of Christendom, singing the praises of warriors and describing those scenes, when the Mediterranean was covered with fleets, transporting armies to the shores of Palestine, when the Saracen and the Christian banner, the crescent and the cross, alternately waved on the towers of Jerusalem, and the grim Moslem and the stalwart Knight fought hand to hand and foot to foot, for the possession of the Holy Sepulchre. This was a period, of which Hume says, "Europe was loosened, as it were, from its foundation, and seemed to precipitate itself in one united body on the East;" a period immortalized in the beautiful Epic of Tasso, splendidly portrayed by historians, and brought to view in graphic colors, in the enchanting romances of Walter Scott. With pleasure would I rove, on this occasion, among the Oriental scenery and daring exploits which a panorama of the crusades would present; and, amidst the glittering arms and fiery chargers of Cavaliers, lead you into an amphitheatre of jousts and tournaments, and rouse your attention to thrilling scenes, so different from this age of tariff, and of cotton and woolen manufactures; but I am reminded of a sterner duty, and must leave chivalry, which, like a meteor, lured men into the wildest adventures, and confine myself to the Orders of Knighthood to which, Mosheim in his Ecclesiastical History informs us the Crusades gave rise—the Knights of St. John, the Knights Templar, and the Teutonic Knights, or Knights of St. Mary at Jerusalem.

The first two were the most important. The Knights Hospitallers of St. John were a Military Order, established on the religious principles of that period. A church and a monastery had been built by some pilgrim merchants, about A. D. 1048, near the Holy Sepulchre. These were dedicated to St. John the Baptist. In peace, the brethren wore the black habit of the hermits of St. Augustine, with a red cross on the left breast; in war, crimson, with a white cross. Vows of celibacy, poverty and obedience, united them in the church and tent; and they devoted themselves to the care of the sick and to deeds of charity. At the beginning of the next century they were organized as a Military Order, by Raymond du Puy; and Pope Paschal II. granted them many privileges. They increased rapidly in power and wealth, and defended the numerous pilgrims, who visited Jerusalem, from the Turks and Saracens, until, in 1191, they were driven from Palestine by the Infidels. They repaired to Rhodes, and took hence the title of "Knights of Rhodes, of the Order of St. John." For two hundred years this brotherhood held that Island, and those in the vicinity.

This celebrated Island, the siege and surrender of which the Abbe Vertot has immortalized in his "History of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem," is situated in the Mediterranean, near the southwestern extremity of Asia. The capital, Rhodes, lies on the side of a hill facing the sea; is full of gardens, towers, domes and churches; and has a strong fortress and excellent harbor, with an entrance between two high rocks, on which are castles to defend the passage. Near this spot stood the famous Colossus of bronze,

said to have been one hundred and thirty feet in height, between whose legs the ancient galleys could pass to the inner haven.

The Knights fortified this island with great strength, and remained there in security until A. D. 1522, when they were invaded by the Turks under Soliman II, who attacked them with a fleet of four hundred sail and a land force of one hundred and forty thousand troops, besides sixty thousand pioneers, which Soliman had drawn out of the frontiers of Hungary, and the mountains of Servia, Bosnia, and Wallachia, where most of them had been bred to digging under ground and working in mines. The resolute and brave defence made by the Knights; the intrepid conduct of their Grand Master, Philip de Villiers de l'Isle Adam, a native of France, who for thirty-four days stood fighting in the intrenchment, with only a mattress for momentary rest; the reduction of the city to ashes; and the treachery of a recreant Knight;—are all eloquently described by the Abbe. The Knights who survived were permitted by the Sultan honorably to retire; and after various wanderings they at last went to Malta, which was given them by the Emperor Charles V, on condition of eternal war against the Infidels and the pirates. This was in 1530; from which time they took the title of Knights of Malta.

Malta is situated in the Mediterranean, between Sicily and Africa, being the most southern island in Europe. It is about sixty miles in circumference, twenty long and twelve broad, and has always been a strong hold. The flavor of its oranges and fragrance of its flowers are much noted. Its capital is Valetta, where the fort St. Elmo stands, situated on a narrow neck of land which divides two ports. The first stone of this city was laid by the famous John de la Valette, Grand Master of the Knights of Malta, in 1566. It contains a superb building, the residence of the Grand Masters; the vast cathedral of St. John, whose walls are adorned with rich paintings by Matthias Preti and Michael Angelo; and a library of the Knights, which once contained sixty thousand volumes. Catacombs, grottoes, the ruins of the Giant tower, and many antique curiosities attract the eye of the stranger.

When these Knights first took possession of Malta, it contained only fifteen thousand inhabitants and a small fort with one cannon and two falconets. It soon became the terror of the corsairs and protector of the commerce of the Mediterranean. Never to reckon the number of the enemy, and to conquer or die at their posts, was their oath. But scarcely had a generation passed away, before the Ottoman empire again disturbed them, and thirty-five thousand Turkish veterans besieged their capital. They took possession of the open country, and the Knights placed their dependence on the fortress of St. Elmo—upon which the enemy soon opened a tremendous cannonade. The history of this siege, like that of Gibraltar towards the close of the last century, forms a sublime picture in the annals of war. The most daring courage, unparalleled endurance, keen sufferings day after day, heroic achievements, the destruction of the outer defences, the diminution of the brave band

of defenders, the terrible fire of Turkish artillery, the desperate sortie, the retreat to the last citadel, the grim and emaciated forms and ghastly visages of the survivors on the battlements, were all known by La Valette and the citizens, as they stood in the tower and castle of St. Angelo, gazing on the heights of St. Elmo, which overlooked the opposite shore of the port; until at last, from overpowering numbers, the incessant blaze of cannon and musketry, and the scaling of the bastion, all communication with the city was cut off, and St. Elmo was taken. So desperately did those intrepid Cavaliers maintain their vow, that "the last Knight of the noble garrison was dying in the breach," when the Crescent rose on the ruins of the fortress. Succors, however, soon arrived from Sicily, St. Elmo was retaken, the city was rescued from the invaders, and the brave La Valette triumphed, leaving a name of deathless memory. Frequent naval battles with the Turks have followed, but the Ottoman power obtained no foothold in Malta.

In the year 1783, an event occurred, which displayed the truly Masonic character of these immortal Knights. A dreadful earthquake desolated the shores of Calabria and the opposite port of Messina, in Sicily. In thirty-six hours after the disastrous news reached this Island, the Knights of Malta fitted out numerous galleys with supplies for the miserable sufferers; and the first hope of relief which dawned upon them was the Red Cross banner waving in their harbors. These brethren found at Cape Reggio *fifteen thousand*, and at Messina *forty thousand* human beings in utter wretchedness, whom they relieved with food, medicines and clothing. The sight of the wounded, the pictures of starvation and nakedness, the spectacle of parents and children, half buried in the ruins, and mothers, with their babes at their breasts, famishing for nourishment, in the midst of the awful ravages of the earthquake, no tongue nor pen can describe. Let even our bitterest enemy read the story of their sufferings in the History of Malta, by Louis De Boisgelin, a Knight Hospitaller, and an eye witness of the scene, when, with his companions, he rushed to the rescue; and, if he have any charity left in his bosom, his tears will fall and blot out forever from his memory, that *nameless name* our opponents have chosen!

In 1798 Malta was attacked and treacherously taken by Bonaparte, after having resisted the Ottoman empire for two hundred and thirty-eight years. In 1800 it was conquered by the British, and is now one of their naval depots in the Mediterranean. In 1841, Ferdinand I, Emperor of Austria, issued a decree, recognizing the Knights of Malta and confirming their Order, "which (as it states) did such good service to a large portion of Europe."

But the stranger may ask, "Were these noble Knights your brethren?" I reply, we know them to be such. The proof is plenary. In the time of Henry VIII, Masonry, for a season, revived in England, under the care of the Knights of Rhodes; though afterwards, in 1534, that King abolished the Order in his dominions, and persecuted some of them to the dungeon and to death.

A Knight of Malta from abroad, a few years since, was present at an Encampment in this country, and stated to a member, that our ceremonies and theirs were essentially alike. And a naval officer of the United States remarks in his *Journal*, published in 1837, that he visited the Governor's palace in Malta; where the apartments are hung round with mouldering portraits of the Grand Masters of Malta, in Masonic dresses."

The Order of Knights Templar was founded by Hugh de Payens, and Godfrey de St. Omer, Uldemar or Adelmarr, men who were signalized in the Crusades. With seven gentlemen from France, they formed an escort for the Pilgrims to the Holy Land. Baldwin II, of Jerusalem, assigned them a church called the Church of the Holy Temple, from which they derived their appellation of Templars. Their vows were similar to those of the Knights of St. John. In 1127, Pope Honorius II confirmed their Order. A white garment, with a red cross, was their original dress; and their banner was white, with a red cross in peace, and with black stripes in war. They became a great military brotherhood, immensely rich, and the best lances in Europe. At the battle of Tiberias their Grand Master, with several Knights, was taken captive and carried to the tent of Saladin. He demanded of them to embrace Islamism or die by the cimeter; they preferred death, and not a Knight abjured his creed. The deeds of this Order were daring, heroic and worthy the days of Chivalry. At the siege of Acre, by two hundred thousand Moslems, the Masters of the Templars and of St. John made their last effort in defence of Syria. Nearly all the Templars died fighting where they stood; the Knights of St. John, having made a sortie, were all slain except seven, who, with about an equal number of Templars, escaped, and Syria became a Turkish province.

The history of this brotherhood is illustrious, and rife with romantic exploits. Their vast opulence and power, after the acquisition of Cyprus, excited the jealousy of Philip the Fair, King of France, and Pope Clement V. Their Grand Master, Jacques de Molay, was summoned to France, and repaired there with sixty Knights. They were treacherously arrested, put to the torture, and then martyred by a slow fire. De Molay and his brethren were accused, most unjustly, of blasphemy, horrid mysteries and insatiable ambition; but they died valiantly, protesting their innocence on that very spot where now stands the statue of Henry IV. Molay, from his funeral pyre, summoned the King and the Pope to appear at the judgment seat within twelve months; and, though "they both outlived that period, Philip died so soon after as to occasion some doubt, in the minds of the believers in the marvellous, whether his sudden death was not a fulfillment of the Grand Master's prediction."*

There is a chronological tablet† of all the Grand Masters of this Order

* Chambers's Journal. † Freemasons' Monthly Magazine, vol. i. p. 179.

from De Payens, in 1108, to Sir William Sidney Smith, late Admiral in the British Navy, in 1838. In this list are some memorable names, including three princes of the House of Bourbon. Among all the numerous Orders conferred on Sir Sidney, that of the Templar's Cross was the most remarkable. "*It is the self-same ornament which hung suspended from the neck of the chivalrous and adventurous Richard, the lion-hearted, during his crusade against the Infidels in the Holy Land.*" Sir Sidney wore it before his death, pendant to a gold chain. It was of pure gold, adorned with rubies and gems, and beautifully wrought; so that the emeralds and precious stones hung like "the glass drops of chandeliers." A number of Knights of St. John, and Templars, returned with Richard from Jerusalem, and located themselves in Bristol, where they erected the Temple Church, and formed the Encampment of Baldwin, which has regularly held its meetings and preserved the costume, usages and ceremonies of the Order to this day. There is also one at Bath, and another at York, of ancient standing; from England the Encampments in this country derived their origin about A. D. 1767.

As this Order was similar, in its foundation, to that of the Knights of Malta, our identity with them as a Masonic Fraternity, would be equally clear. A reference to the reign of Henry II, A. D. 1154, confirms this fact; for the lodges in England were then superintended by Knights Templar. Indeed, this was the principal cause of Papal jealousy, and the hostility of some monarchs. The Pontiffs regarded with suspicion their secret meetings and influence. This Order flourished in Scotland at an early period; and the memory of Walter de Clifford, the companion of Robert Bruce, who fought by his side at the battle of Bannockburn, is still dear to every Scottish Knight; and I notice in the account of a recent celebration, by the Encampment in Edinburgh, that the assembled brethren were arrayed "with the ruddy cross blazoned on their mantles and tunics of white"—a badge of the Templars for more than seven hundred years.

If time permitted, it would be a pleasing task to trace the influence of Associations at this day, on society. I might show their connection with Religion, with the Arts and Sciences, with good government, and with every thing which adorns, enlightens and blesses the human race. Commercial associations first weakened, and then broke down, the iron despotism of the Feudal system. To the strength and union of many minds, confederated for one grand object, the civilized world owes much of its present prosperity. Look at the doings of the Royal Society in England, and the French Academy and Institute at Paris. Look at the mighty achievements accomplished by great companies at home and abroad, in canals, manufacturing villages, agricultural science, railroads, financial operations and innumerable improvements, which have elevated Christendom to such a height, that Millennial glory is no longer a dream of the saint. Let the same progress be made in the next five hundred years, which has marked the five preceding centuries, and will

not the morning star of the long predicted day—begin to shine? I might point to the great Bible societies of England and America; to the eleemosynary and missionary associations; the astonishing Temperance movements; the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge; and the desire which seems to pervade almost all nations for the government of the Prince of Peace. Compare these blessings with the barbarity of warlike ages, and then judge if these anticipations are not the result of sober reflection. Is it not in the power of England, France and the United States, even now to put an end to war in the civilized world by their example? It was an Arabian proverb, that a drop added to a drop constitutes the ocean; and well may the effect of so many drops of individual effort, falling into separate rills, uniting in larger rivulets, and at last flowing into one vast stream of influence, remind one of that river of the Apocalypse, pure as crystal, on whose bank was the Tree of Life, the leaves of which were for the healing of the nations! And has Freemasonry no part nor lot in these benevolent operations? Is her Institution—like some stupendous iceberg floating on the sea of human society, glittering with rainbow hues and dazzling the eye with the blaze of an orient sun on its steep and icy battlements—an object of wonderment to the ignorant, and of alarm to the wise and prudent? Far otherwise. She embraces members of all these associations in the arms of brotherly love and affection; and among her sons will be found soldiers, standard bearers and often leaders in every noble and benevolent enterprise.

From the history of Freemasonry, which has now been presented to you, it must be evident, my brethren, that it bears the marks of a very remote antiquity. As the Geologists have discovered in the secondary formation of the planet on which we dwell, the fossil remains and exuvie of animals, whose vast magnitude and comparative anatomy evince an era, long anterior to any annals of our race; so we may find in some of the usages and peculiarities of our Institution, the vestiges of a society, antecedent to any record or account; and we can trace, as it were, on the sandy shores of the past, the footsteps of a mighty brotherhood, which, at one time, wandered in the labyrinth of mythology; at another, worshipped, in Ionian temples, *The Unknown God*; in Jerusalem saw *“the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in his wings,* and were the adorers of *The Lord of Hosts*; and, under the vertical rays of Christianity, walked in the beauty and glory of the day. In every stage of its progress, it has embraced men of lofty intellect and virtue. It cast an eternal splendor on the Temple of Jerusalem; it clung, even in martyrdom, to the Holy Sepulchre; it sprung forward in the light of the Reformation, participated in the great renovation of the human mind, and filled Europe with architectural designs of Saracenic beauty; it laid the foundation of the Republican Institutions of England and America; and it is now the sacred retreat of men, as honorable as Europe or this country can boast. If distinguished or scientific names are needed to shield it from reproach or ridicule, I could summon a vast company from the dead and from the living. I could

name kings, warriors and scholars. I see on the rolls of Masonry, names as bright as ever blazed in the heraldry of renown. Sir Isaac Newton, the intellectual Locke, Frederic the Great, Lafayette, the flower of modern chivalry, Sir John Moore, the hero of Corunna, Lord Nelson, Napoleon Bonaparte and most of his Legion of Honor, Lord Wellington and Dugald Stewart, have rushed to my remembrance as Masons. The late illustrious Duke of Sussex, was for thirty years Grand Master of Masons in England. Sir Walter Scott, the great Unknown, was our brother, and brothers wept at his funeral obsequies. I might add, too, Thomas Moore, the poet of Lalla Rookh; but where shall I stop? Ireland would repeat, from her green mountains, the names of renowned Knights, which Scotland would echo back again with the fame of her Highland and Lowland heroes!

If our ceremonies were so ridiculous and our principles so corrupt as some have represented, I would ask, how came such names as these on our roll? How happens it, that in England, Ireland and Scotland, Masonry was never more vigorous and honorable than at this very day? That in the United States there are more than *fourteen hundred lodges*, and *seventy thousand Masons*, many of whom are among the most eminent and pious men in the community? Look at the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence, only four were not Masons; at the list of past Presidents of the United States, and but three were strangers to the Order. Go into the Courts, the Council Chambers and Legislative halls of the nation, and we shall find Patrick Henry, Judge Marshall, De Witt Clinton, the immortal Franklin, the learned Gridley, Livingston, the accomplished civilian, the erudite Story, and how many more the time would fail me to point out, as the ornaments of the Fraternity. Go to the grassy mound, where stands the monument of New England's glory, and of the first conflict in the Revolution; and the very ground you tread upon was hallowed by the blood of Warren, our intrepid brother; or muse on the battle fields which gave us the victory, and you will see Washington and all his principal officers, *except Benedict Arnold, the traitor!* were true and faithful Masons.

And if you still doubt the value of our Institution, visit the anxious, brave and suffering army which Washington commanded; enter that traveling lodge in the tented field; draw aside the curtain of that pavilion of the Brotherhood; and then gaze on the picture of chivalric, immortal Masonry! There stands the angust form of the saviour of his country, in the midst of his gallant officers, with the noble Lafayette by his side, cheering each other's sorrows by those tokens, which can only be realized in the hour of danger; consecrating their talents and their lives anew to the service of a bleeding land; and embracing, for aught they knew for the last time, on the eve of to-morrow's battle.

What would have been the feelings of that band of brothers, if some one, filled with the spirit of prophecy, had then risen in their lodge, and, drawing

aside that awful veil which hangs over futurity, had said, "The vista of coming years is before me. You will save our country. The God of battles is with you. A great empire is starting into life. Swelling millions are spreading over the hills and valleys, from the highlands of Quebec to the Rocky Mountains. The stars of our Republic are increasing; twenty-six States I see already, as their astral banner waves on the Capitoline mount by the banks of the Potomac. On the shores of the ocean, rivers and lakes, cities are looming up of magnificent dimensions. Our flag soars on every sea. I hear the sound of the steam engine rolling over land and water; and already, on the telegraphic wire, thought has begun to travel, with the speed of the lightning, from one end of this Continent to the other. But pause:—dark shadows are before my eyes. Fifty years will not have passed away before our ancient and noble fraternity will be persecuted, reviled and set at naught. The lodge will be despised, and the badge of Masonry deemed a reproach. Apostates, enemies and fanatics will gather all their forces in one sweeping torrent of extermination of the brotherhood! The end I know not. The veil is closed. I can see no further."

What would have been the reply of that exalted brother, whom no danger could appal, no adversity dismay? Would he not have calmly said: "Fear not my brethren. Masonry may again, as it has in times past, suffer persecution. It is the fate of everything on earth that is excellent. The conflict, when public opinion becomes perverted by prejudice and ignorance, may be terrible; but time will correct such errors. Our fraternity must and will survive the shock. I have no fears concerning its duration. I know its mysteries. I venerate the virtues of an Institution 'whose liberal principles are founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice.' Others may wax cold, or even become hostile to its interests; but 'my attachment to the society of which we are members, will dispose me always to contribute my best endeavors to promote the honor and interest of the craft.'"

Would not such have been the answer of that illustrious man, who, in 1788, was Master of the Alexandria Lodge, and a lock of whose hair is now cherished, as a sacred relic, in a golden urn, by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, to whom he addressed some of the very sentiments I have just quoted?

And now, M. W. Master and Brethren, let me congratulate you on the prospect before us. Freemasonry was never more prosperous, at home or abroad, than at this time. Let us preserve inviolate the ancient landmarks of the Order, and endeavor so to live, that we may die *good men and true*. Many and happy have been the hours, in a more gladsome day of my life, which I have spent with the Fraternity, long, long ago. I know not that they will ever return, for my destiny leads me to dwell among strangers. But it will ever be a consolation to me, to reflect, that, through "evil report and good

* See Washington's Letters to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in 1792 and 1797.

report," I have stood by the Institution, and never had one jot or tittle of doubt as to its utility and excellence. Whatever may be my fortune in life, I shall always look back with satisfaction on those days when I felt the *mystic tie* in the sacred retreat of friendship, as among the sunny spots of an existence, which has not passed without some trials "where the heart knoweth its own bitterness."

Though my remarks have been lengthened beyond my expectation, by the importance of the subject, and though I have omitted many facts in our history, which I would gladly have presented to your notice, yet I cannot close this address, better than in the exquisite lines of Burns, a brother, and the sweetest poet of Scotland :

* "Adieu! a heart-warm, fond adieu!
Dear Brothers of the mystic tie!
Ye favor'd, ye enlighten'd few,
Companions of my social joy!
Though I to foreign lands must hie,
Pursuing Fortune's slidd'ry ba',
With melting heart, and brimful eye,
I'll mind you still, though far awa'!"*

Hymn. "Mark where friends united stand."

Benediction.

The services were all of a very high order, and commanded the unqualified approbation, not only of Masons, but all others who were auditors on the occasion.

On the conclusion of these exercises the procession was re-formed and proceeded to the Exchange Hall, where the brethren partook of a sumptuous dinner, provided by O. P. Thorp of the Elm House. This was truly a warm-hearted, *cold water* celebration, and seemed unusually happy.

There were several sentiments and addresses on the occasion.

R. W. JAMES L. CHILD, presiding, after congratulating the brethren on the auspicious circumstances of the occasion, remarked—

That the storm of persecution, which for many years had been howling in the land against our peaceful institution, had at length gone over. We bowed our heads and let it pass. We did not enter into the strife—did not retaliate—this would not have been consistent with our principles. We meekly waited

*NOTE. As originally published there were appended to this address many valuable, learned and interesting notes, which not having been delivered, it has been deemed expedient to omit in this reprint.

for the blast to be spent. Humanity suffered, but not the principles of Freemasonry. The benevolent operation of the Society necessarily became more limited. Hearts bled that might have been comforted. Orphan cries were heard that might have been hushed—widows' tears were shed that might have been dried up—but our principles came out as gold from the refiner's crucible—unscathed, unharmed. All this, however, has not been without some benefit—it has read us a lesson of caution, as to our *admissions*, which we shall be wise to heed. Our march is now onward. Of this fact we have the most gratifying evidence from all quarters. Many of our lodges are in active operation—many pressed with applications which they can scarcely find time to attend to. Our Foreign Correspondence is full of encouragement for the present and bright hopes for the future. Let us all be active and diligent in our respective spheres of Masonic influence, and not deprive ourselves of the high enjoyments and blessed hopes that are within our reach. Among the pleasant incidents of this occasion, is the presence of several distinguished brethren from other States, and one from the "lone star" of Texas; all of whom we heartily welcome among us, and from whom we hope to hear in the course of the afternoon.

He then gave the following sentiment:

Our Masonic Brethren of Texas.—No political or legislative act of *annexation* is necessary to bind us together as brethren.

R. W. Bro. TEULON, a member of the Grand Lodge of Texas, replied as follows:

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren:—Permit me, in the name and in behalf of the Masonic Fraternity of the Republic of Texas, to respond to those noble sentiments we have just heard so eloquently expressed by the Chair. In so doing, I may, perhaps, be allowed to congratulate Freemasonry on its extension with and prevalence in almost every portion of the habitable globe. As its language is universal, so are its principles general. Its doctrines are pure and moral. Its charities are without parade or ostentation, but no less certain. The formidable prejudices, which were of old arrayed against our Order, are rapidly giving place to better and more generous feelings; the gloom which so long pervaded our Temple has been dissipated, and the *craftsman* is again enabled to pursue his *labors*; even the female portion of the community is becoming reconciled to an Institution, which, while it excludes them from a participation in its peculiar mysteries, they now perceive enlightens the minds of their husbands, fathers and brothers; an Institution which rebukes the drunkard, renounces the gambler, discountenances the profane swearer, and discards him who would pollute woman's innocence, or lessen her moral worth; an Institution which comforts the mourner, soothes the afflicted, supports the widow and protects the orphan. As our principles become more generally known, they will be better appreciated; and I trust

the time is near at hand when the proud triumphs of Freemasonry will be visible wherever the laws are respected, and a just and liberal government exists; for there only can we expect it to flourish—despotism and Masonry never can long agree, nor both prosper in the same land, for their principles are opposed. It is true the Institution of Freemasonry does not interfere with the political institutions of any country, and we hold every Mason who does not obey the laws and strictly perform all the duties of a good citizen, as unworthy of the name of “brother;” but, it is no less true, the Masonic virtues of justice, equality and integrity, as typified by the square, the level and the plumb, can never flourish in the same atmosphere with tyranny; hence it is that we so often find despots waging war against our Order—attempting the demolition of its temples, the suppression of its principles—the dispersion of its members.

On the present occasion I would allude to another benefit conferred by Freemasonry—one, that to the citizen of the world is great and important. I came here a stranger, and have been in this city but little over twelve hours, and now behold the large circle of friends, of brothers gathered around me, ready to assist and protect me, should my necessities require either assistance or protection. Brethren, this is a great advantage;—wherever we meet a Mason—we meet a brother and a friend.

To most of you the actual condition of Freemasonry in Texas is unknown. In fact I have found some of my brethren ignorant of the existence of a Grand Lodge in that Republic; yet, there is not only a Grand Lodge of Texas, but also a Grand Royal Arch Chapter. The former has under its jurisdiction thirteen lodges in good standing. The latter four Chapters. There is also one Chapter working under the General Grand Chapter of the United States. It is computed that there are five hundred Masons in Texas, two hundred of whom belong to the Royal Craft; certainly a large number, when we consider that the total population of the Republic does not much exceed one hundred thousand. Texas is emphatically a Masonic country; all of our Presidents and Vice Presidents, and four-fifths of our State officers, were and are Masons; our national emblem, the “Lone Star,” was chosen from among the emblems selected by Freemasonry to illustrate the moral virtues. It is a five-pointed Star and alludes to the five points of Fellowship; may it ever bind us in the holy bond of Fraternal Union, and govern our social, Masonic and political intercourse!

The subject of “annexation” has been alluded to; but this is to me on the present occasion, a sealed question; for, as Masons, we cannot discuss or entertain politics.

In conclusion permit me to offer as a sentiment—

The Grand Lodges of Maine and Texas.—May the Masonic Fraternity of the two countries never lose sight of the Five Points of Fellowship, and be ever governed in all their relations by the Square, the Level and the Plumb.

M. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON, Past Grand Master, after making some appropriate and very acceptable remarks, gave as a sentiment—

The Orator of the Day.—Elaborate, eloquent and chaste, his address has done equal honor to himself and the Fraternity.

R. W. JOHN H. SHEPPARD, after replying in his usual felicitous manner to the toast, made some very interesting and touching allusions to the character of our late venerated and excellent Brother, the lamented Rev. Dr. THADDEUS MASON HARRIS. He described him not only as an ornament to the fraternity for which he so long and usefully labored by his numerous addresses and published writings, but in all the walks of private life, as well as in the sacred office of a Christian Minister which he sustained until his decease, and called upon all the brethren to follow his footsteps, in his laborious zeal and unceasing efforts to diffuse the blessings of the Order. He spoke of the importance of diffusing more widely a knowledge of our principles, and with this view recommended the brethren to contribute to the circulation of that useful and well conducted periodical, "The Freemasons' Monthly Magazine," published in Boston by Bro. Charles W. Moore.

He then gave a sentiment—

Our lamented Brother, the Rev. Doct. Harris.—His life was a living epistle of all that is good, and we cannot better cherish his memory than by imitating his virtues.

W. C. GAYTON PICKMAN, Master of St. John's Lodge, Boston, responded also to the eulogium pronounced upon Dr. Harris, in the following remarks:

You could not have called on me, M. W., in a manner more gratifying to my feelings, than to afford me an opportunity of alluding to the character of our late Brother, Thaddeus Mason Harris. He was in truth through life, faithful to his sense of duty; his last faltering footsteps leading him to the Masonic temple in the city, thus following out even unto the end his true principle of love to God and love to man. After expressing to you my thanks for the kindness with which I have been received, you will allow me, as Master of the oldest lodge in the United States, and not a young man myself, to express to you my opinion of our Institution. The leading characteristics of religion and benevolence are most peculiar and strong. It is in the first place an attempt to bring together on one common level, those who believe in the

existence of Deity. It has sometimes been contrasted with Christianity; there is no occasion for this; since the Institution of Christianity, Masonry has shown her reverence for it, by adopting as her patron saints two most eminent men, one, the immediate forerunner of the Saviour, and the other, the most eminent example of Christian virtue which the world ever beheld. Masonry is peculiar in its religious character. It is so, in the second place, in its benevolence; its benevolence being exerted in bringing forward the strongest individual effort of its members upon their fellows, instead of the concentrated effort of common charities; and the ceremonial of the society is calculated to draw forth these exertions in the highest degree. This distinction is important. You will allow me, M. W., before I conclude, to use one word of exhortation to our younger brethren; earnestly urging them to walk worthy of the vocation whereby they are called, *as children of light*; to let not their good be evil spoken of; and to follow out, in action and detail, those high principles, which marked the course of that distinguished brother, to whom I first alluded, and which lead most directly to the only source of light and truth. I give you as a sentiment—

Masonry in Maine and Massachusetts.—Separated by territory, may it ever remain united in affection.

R. W. JOHN T. PAINE, Esq., also addressed the meeting in a short but pertinent speech, and gave a sentiment which was well received.

Our venerable Brother THOMAS, of Concord, N. H., responded with much feeling to the memory of Dr. Harris, and spoke of other bright luminaries who had shed equal lustre upon the Masonic Fraternity and the age in which they lived, whose labors had ceased among men, and gave as a sentiment—

Washington, Franklin and Lafayette.—Three Great Lights in the Masonic Temple.

Sentiments were given and remarks made by others, but not taken down at the time. The weather was delightful, and the whole celebration honorable to the fraternity. The Address occupied nearly two hours, and yet was so full of interesting facts, couched in language so elegant, accompanied by a manner so eloquent that none seemed weary, and all went away highly delighted.

After the services of the table were over, the Grand Lodge returned to their Hall and resumed labor.

On motion of R. W. A. B. Thompson,

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Bro. JOHN H. SHEPPARD, for his able and appropriate address to-day, and that Fifty Dollars be appropriated toward its publication in connection with the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, at this adjourned Communication; three hundred copies thereof to be delivered by the publisher to the Grand Recording Secretary for distribution, and the money to be paid by the Grand Treasurer when the same shall be so delivered.

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the proprietors of the First Parish for the use of their church—to the Rev. Brethren who have officiated so ably as Chaplains—to the choir of singers who have given us their services to-day—to the several Masonic bodies whose attendance has contributed largely to the interest of the occasion.

R. W. Bro. TEULON presented to the Grand Master, which was read to the Grand Lodge, credentials from the Grand Lodge of Texas, duly authenticated, appointing him as a delegate to the Masonic bodies in England and America, and authorizing him to enter into arrangement for the establishment of a more frequent and intimate correspondence, and appointment mutually of resident proxies. He made some interesting remarks upon the benefits to be derived from such an arrangement, and asked this Grand Lodge to take some action upon the proposition which he now made.

The subject was referred to R. W. James L. Child, R. W. Abner B. Thompson and W. A. H. Putney, with instructions to report this evening.

Adjourned to half past 7 o'clock this evening.

EVENING—Met according to adjournment.

The following report was presented:

The Committee to whom was referred the proposition of the Grand Lodge of Texas, made in the person of their accomplished and intelligent representative and proxy, R. W. George K. Teulon, for a more perfect and fre-

quent inter-communication, have had the subject under consideration, and report that this Grand Lodge have been highly gratified with the intelligence of the flourishing condition of Masonry in our sister Republic of Texas, and most cheerfully respond to the proposition to hold intimate and frequent intercourse with its Grand Lodge, and that this Grand Lodge will forward to it from time to time its printed documents, and such other papers as may be deemed useful or interesting, and that the Worshipful Grand Master from time to time be authorized and requested to appoint a resident Past Master of Texas, as proxy to the Grand Lodge of that Republic, whose duty it shall be to represent the interests of the Grand Lodge in that Most Worshipful body, in accordance with masonic usage.

JAMES L. CHILD,
ABNER B. THOMPSON, } *Committee.*
ALEX. H. PUTNEY,

Read and unanimously adopted.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to defray the personal expenses of the Orator of the day in traveling from Boston to this city, during his stay here, and while returning home.

On motion of R. W. A. B. Thompson,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the incidental expenses attending the use of the Masonic Hall, and also of Rev. Dr. Nichols' Church, on this occasion.

On motion,

Voted, That R. W. James L. Child, A. H. Putney and H. H. Boody, be a Committee to ascertain what working tools and regalia of the Grand Lodge are deficient, and supply the same, and to procure a suitable Standard for the use of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Treasurer pay for the same.

Attest,

CALEB CHASE, *G. Sec. pro tem.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1845.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on Thursday, the 16th day of January, A. D. 1845.

PRESENT—R. W. JAMES L. CHILD,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ABNER B. THOMPSON,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
“ CALEB CHASE,	Rec. G. Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Marshal.
“ WILLIAM A. DREW,	Grand Chaplain.
“ CYRUS CUMMINGS,	“ “
“ LORY BACON,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ LEVI P. LEMONT,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ NELSON RACKLYFT,	Grand Steward, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN B. HUDSON,	“ “ “
“ EPHRAIM BROWN,	G. Sword Bearer, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JAMES McARTHUR,	Grand Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN HATCH,	“ “ “
“ STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>
“ SIMON FOSS,	D. D. Grand Master.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. CHARLES FOX, Past G. Master.

“ REUEL WASHBURN, Past G. Master.

“ ASAPH R. NICHOLS, Past D. G. Master.

Lodges represented :

1. PORTLAND, by Samuel Chase, M.; James McArthur, S. W.; Isaac Ingersoll, J. W.

- 8. UNITED, by J. C. Humphreys, M.; Abner B. Thompson, S. W.
- 12. CUMBERLAND, by William Stevens, M.; John Hatch, S. W.
- 14. SOLAR, by Levi P. Lemont, S. W.; Richard P. Smith, J. W.
- 17. ANCIENT LAND-MARK, by Daniel Winslow, M.; Charles Fobes, S. W.;
William Allen, J. W.
- 21. ORIENTAL STAR, by Joseph S. Sargent, Proxy.
- 23. FREEPORT, by Asa Bailey, J. W.
- 27. ADONIRAM, by Arthur McArthur, M.; Robert Cole, J. W.; J. B. Cahoon,
Proxy.
- 35. BETHLEHEM, by Lory Bacon, M.; William A. Drew, Proxy.
- 58. UNITY, by Cyrus Cummings, Proxy.

A number of visiting brethren were present.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form; a prayer was offered up by Bro. William A. Drew, of Augusta.

The Committee of Finance presented their Annual Report on the Grand Treasurer's account, exhibiting his receipts and disbursements:

By which it appears that the amount of the receipts from all sources into the Treasury the past year was	\$449.86
And the amount paid out was	267.36

Leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer, of	\$182.50
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It also appears by said report, that the available property belonging to the Grand Lodge, consisted of

20 shares of the capital stock of the Canal Bank in Portland.

10 shares of the capital stock of the Casco Bank in Portland.

5 shares of the capital stock of the Freeman's Bank in Augusta.

Also a small dividend yet to be received on the stock owned by the Grand Lodge in the Bank of Portland, on a final adjustment of the concerns of said Bank.

The communications relating to the Foreign Correspondence, were, on motion referred to a Committee, consisting of R. W. Bros. Samuel Fessenden, James B. Cahoon and Arthur McArthur, with instructions to report at the adjournment of this meeting.

A communication was received from Bro. West, of Alna, acknowledging the receipt of a donation from the Grand Lodge, by the hands of Bro. Daniel Carleton, Jr.

The Committee, consisting of R. W. Bros. James L. Child, Charles Fox and John C. Humphreys, to whom was referred the

petition of Bros. Thomas S. Bowles et als. of Bath, praying for the restoration of the charter of Solar Lodge; also the petition of Nathaniel Stevens et als. of Hallowell, praying for the restoration of the charter and jewels of Kennebec Lodge—which charters had some years since been surrendered to the Grand Lodge, reported, recommending that the prayer of the said lodges, respectively, be granted.

The same Committee, to whom was referred the petitions of St. Croix Lodge, at Calais, and Rising Virtue Lodge, at Bangor, and Lygonia Lodge, at Surry—representing that their charters had been lost, and praying for a renewal of said charters, reported—that they recommend that the prayer of said petitions be granted.

The same Committee, to whom was referred the petition of Mosaic Lodge, at Sangerville, for the removal of said lodge to Dover or Foxcroft, as they may deem advisable; and of Penobscot Lodge, at Garland, for leave to remove said lodge to Dexter; and said petitions having received the approbation of the District Deputy Grand Master of that Masonic District—the Committee reported, recommending that the prayer of said petitions be granted; which report was accepted.

Communications were received from R. W. Joseph Hockey, D. D. G. Master of the 5th Masonic District; and also from R. W. Simon Foss, D. D. G. Master of 7th Masonic District, and from R. W. Cornelius Holland, D. D. G. Master of the 2d Masonic District, and placed on the files.

Returns were received from the following lodges and placed on file, viz:

Adoniram Lodge, at Limington; Bethlehem Lodge, at Augusta; Unity Lodge, at Freedom; Orient Lodge, at Thomaston; Penobscot Lodge, at Dexter; Rising Virtue Lodge, at Bangor.

The Grand Treasurer was authorized to pay the bill of Messrs. Severance and Dorr, against the Grand Lodge, for printing, without deduction, if none could voluntarily be obtained.

The following Resolution was submitted by M. W. Bro. Reuel Washburn:

Resolved, That the alteration of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, adopted in January, A. D. 1842, authorizing the Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge to appropriate and apply, annually, for the purposes of Masonic Charity, a sum not exceeding two hundred dollars from the principal of said fund, be rescinded.

The consideration of which resolution was referred to Bros. Reuel Washburn, Charles Fox and Wm. A. Drew, with instructions to report at the next communication of this Grand Lodge, in June next, and to be sent out to the several lodges in the mean time, in compliance with the By-Laws.

R. W. Alex. H. Putney, from the Committee on the Reduction of Fees, stated that the Committee had not attended to the subject referred to them;—that two of the members of said Committee were then absent. Whereupon, on motion, it was voted to add two other brethren to serve on said Committee; and Bros. Reuel Washburn and Richard Smith were added.

The Committee on the Reduction of Fees, reported—

That the interest of Masonry would be best promoted by reducing the fees for the first three degrees of Masonry to the sum of sixteen dollars.

Which report was thereupon debated; and, it being suggested that the record was not in accordance with the views of the original mover of the resolution for a diminution of fees (the record stating the maximum, instead of the minimum sum to be received), the report, on a vote being taken, was negatived. Whereupon, M. W. Bro. Washburn offered the following Resolution:

Resolved, That the 8th Section of 4th Chapter of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be altered, by substituting "*Sixteen*" instead of "*Nineteen*," so that the fees to be required for conferring the first three degrees in Masonry, shall not be less than *Sixteen dollars*.

And R. W. Bro. Asaph R. Nichols offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the 8th Section of 4th Chapter of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be so amended, that the fees for conferring the first three degrees in Masonry, shall not be less than *fifteen dollars*.

Which several resolutions were referred to Bros. John C. Humphreys, of Brunswick, Wm. A. Drew, of Augusta, and

Samuel Chase, of Portland, with instructions to report thereon at the communication of the Grand Lodge in June next—previous thereto that they be sent out to the several subordinate lodges, in conformity with Chapter 2, Section 9, of the By-Laws.

The Committee who had under consideration the resolution offered by R. W. Bro. Putney, at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, January, 1844—to amend the By-Laws, Chapter 1, Section 3, by striking out the third Thursday of January, and inserting therefor the 23d of June, except when that day comes on the Sabbath, in which case the Annual meeting shall be held on the 24th day of June. Also, that Chapter 2, Section 4, be so altered as to be in conformity thereto—

Report, That having considered the same, they do recommend to the Grand Lodge its adoption.

Which report was accepted.

On motion of Bro. A. B. Thompson, it was

Voted, That the time of meeting of the Grand Lodge, be altered to 9 o'clock A. M., until otherwise ordered.

On motion, it was

Voted, That the Grand Lodge now proceed to the choice of officers.

Bros. Charles Fox and James McArthur, were appointed a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes for Grand Officers, to be elected by ballot, who having attended to the duty assigned them, reported the unanimous election of the following Brethren, viz:

M. W. JOHN T. PAINE, of Sanford, Grand Master.

R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY, of Portland, Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. HENRY H. BOODY, of Portland, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. CHARLES FOX, of Portland, Recording Grand Secretary.

Bros. Charles Fox, Joseph M. Gerrish and Daniel Winslow, were chosen a Committee of Finance for the ensuing year.

Voted, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it adjourn to meet at Masons' Hall, at 7 P. M., on Thursday, January 30, 1845.

Voted, To adjourn.

Attest,

CHARLES FOX, *R. G. Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, Portland, Jan. 30, 1845.

The Grand Lodge met according to adjournment.

PRESENT—M. W. JOHN T. PAINE,	Grand Master.
R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	S. G. Warden.
" THOMAS S. BOWLES,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
" CHARLES FOX,	Rec. G. Secretary.
" JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal.
" CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon.
" CHARLES FOBES,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Grand Steward.
" ISAAC INGERSOLL,	" "
" STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler.

PAST OFFICER PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN MILLER,	P. D. G. Master.
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A large number of visiting brethren were present.

Lodges represented :

PORTLAND,	by	James McArthur, S. Warden. Isaac Ingersoll, J. Warden.
CUMBERLAND,	by	William Stevens, Master. John Hatch, J. Warden.
ANCIENT LAND-MARK,	by	Daniel Winslow, Master. Charles Fobes, S. Warden. William Allen, J. Warden.
ORIENT,	by	James F. Young, Proxy.
ST. GEORGE,	by	John Miller, Proxy.
AURORA,	by	John Miller, Proxy.
SOLAR,	by	Thomas S. Bowles, Master.
UNITY,	by	Cyrus Cummings, Proxy.
ADONIRAM,	by	Arthur McArthur, Master.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The M. W. Grand Master returned his thanks to the members of the Grand Lodge, in a very appropriate address, for the honor they had conferred in electing him to preside over their meet-

ings for the ensuing year; and in accepting the office of Grand Master, he tendered to them his best services and utmost efforts to promote the cause of Masonry.

M. W. Charles Fox, P. G. Master, being the oldest Past Grand Officer present, was called on to officiate in the ceremonies of inducting our M. W. Bro. John T. Paine to the chair and installing him Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine; which was done in due and ample form, according to ancient usage.

The M. W. Grand Master then proceeded to install the other officers that had been elected by ballot, to their respective offices.

The M. W. Grand Master was then pleased to make the following appointments, which were announced by the Grand Marshal:

- R. W. ASAPH R. NICHOLS, of Augusta, Deputy Grand Master.
 " NATHAN C. FLETCHER, of East Thomaston, C. G. Secretary.
 " JONATHAN SMITH, of Westbrook, Grand Marshal.
 " ALLEN H. COBB, of Durham, Grand Chaplain.
 " CYRUS CUMMINGS, of Westbrook, " "
 " WILLIAM A. DREW, of Augusta, " "
 " CYRIL PEARL, of Harrison, " "
 " NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, S. G. Deacon.
 " FRYE HALL, of Belfast, J. G. Deacon.
 " CHARLES B. SMITH, of Portland, Grand Steward.
 " MATTHEW HASTINGS, of Calais, " "
 " THOMAS S. BOWLES, of Bath, " "
 " OLIVER HALE, of Bridgton, " "
 " ASA BAILEY, of Freeport, G. Sword Bearer.
 " JOSIAH PIERCE, of Gorham, Grand Pursuivant.
 " SAMUEL BRADLEY, of Hollis, " "
 " STEPHEN SWETT, of Portland, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. Joseph Smith, of Cumberland.

Second District—R. W. Henry C. Buswell, of Fryeburg.

Third District—R. W. Joseph R. Abbott, of Augusta.

Fourth District—R. W. Elisha Harding, of East Thomaston.

Fifth District—R. W. Joseph Hockey, of Freedom.

Sixth District—R. W. Jeremiah Fowler of Lubec.

Seventh District—R. W. Simon Foss, of Dexter.

Eighth District—R. W. Arthur McArthur, of Limington.

All of whom were presented, themselves or by proxy, and duly installed to their respective offices by the M. W. Grand Master.

Bro. Alexander H. Putney, from the committee who had been appointed at a former meeting to procure a Grand Lecturer, reported, that Bro. John Miller, of Warren, had been engaged for this purpose.

Bro. Miller being present, informed the G. Lodge that he would attend to the duties of Grand Lecturer, and use his utmost endeavors to preserve the ancient land-marks and promote the cause of Masonry—and that he would visit all the lodges under his jurisdiction, when seasonably notified; but if he could not conveniently attend at the time required, he would do so as early as possible, or send some suitable person for that purpose.

On motion, it was

Voted, That the Grand Lecturer be authorized to employ some proper person as a Sub Grand Lecturer, to occasionally attend when he himself should not be able—upon terms not exceeding those of his own appointment.

R. W. Bro. Putney offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the vote passed by this Grand Lodge, in January, 1842, whereby the dues from the several subordinate lodges were remitted until otherwise ordered, be so far rescinded as to require the subordinate lodges to pay the fees required of them by the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, for each candidate initiated, from and after this date.

Which resolution, on being seconded, was adopted by the Grand Lodge.

On motion, it was

Voted, That there be paid to Bro. Caleb Chase, out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, the sum of six dollars, for his services as Grand Secretary *pro tem.* in June last, and on the 16th inst.

Bro. Daniel Winslow offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the 4th Chapter, 11th section, of the By-Laws be amended, by striking out "*two dollars for every person initiated therein,*" and inserting "10 per cent. upon such amount as shall be received for initiation, crafting and raising."

Which, in conformity to the By-Laws, was referred to Bros. John C. Humphreys, Wm. A. Drew and Samuel Chase, being the same Committee who now have under consideration other contemplated alterations of said laws respecting the reduction of fees, with instructions to report at the next communication of this Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their report—which, on motion, was accepted and ordered to be printed with the Communications of this Grand Lodge.

REPORT.

We have examined communications containing a journal of their proceedings for the past year of the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, Virginia, New Hampshire, Indiana, Maryland, Connecticut, Kentucky, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa, Florida and of the republic of Texas: from the Grand Royal Arch Chapters of Tennessee, Virginia and Kentucky: and a communication containing the proceedings of the National Masonic Convention, held at Baltimore, May, 1843, upon which communications, except the latter, no action seems to your Committee to be required, except to reciprocate these courtesies and seek to extend our correspondence by causing our Secretary, promptly to forward our proceedings, not only to the above, but all the Grand Lodges in the Union, and thereby elicit their correspondence. Much valuable information calculated to give impulse to our cause, is derived from extensive correspondence with other Grand Lodges, through the medium of which we avail ourselves not only of their own, but the most important facts of those with whom they are in correspondence.

We have examined the proceedings of the National Masonic Convention, held at Baltimore, in May, 1843, which was held in pursuance of a recommendation of the Masonic Convention, held at Washington, D. C., in March, 1842.

The Convention at Baltimore was organized May 8, 1843, and twelve Grand Lodges of the United States were there represented with one delegate each. The alleged object of this convention was two fold.

1. To produce uniformity of Masonic work.
2. To recommend such measures as shall tend to the elevation of this order to its due degree of respect throughout the world at large.

The Convention adopted a code of By-Laws composed of eight sections; one of which was—

SECTION 3. The several Grand Lodges, which may adopt the foregoing rules, shall, at their Annual Communication, next before the last of March, 1846, and at corresponding meetings, every third year thereafter, elect or

appoint, in such manner as they each, respectively, may think proper, one trusty, well skilled Bro. Master Mason (a resident of the State within which the Grand Lodge is held of which he is a representative), a representative in said Convention. And it was by a resolution of the Convention, "recommended to the several Grand Lodges of the United States, that if they think proper to adopt the foregoing rules for establishing the Convention, that they will do so by adopting the following form of Resolution:

Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the State of ———, that the "Rules for the organization and establishing a Grand Convention of Ancient, Free and accepted Masons, as passed by the Convention of Masons at the meeting in May, in the year 1843, in the city of Baltimore, composed of eight sections, as the same are set forth in the printed proceedings thereof, be, and the same are hereby adopted by this Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Work, at the National Convention, reported a system called the Masonic Trestle Board, which has been published and promulgated. Concerning this system we find, by examination of the proceedings in several Grand Lodges, there is a discrepancy of opinion as to the propriety of its adoption. Without expressing an opinion as to the merits of the system, we can only say that the Grand Lodge of Virginia, who were associated with this Convention, have given their decided reprobation of the Masonic Trestle Board, and have issued circulars to suppress its use. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania disapproves of the system; denies the authority of the Convention to establish one, and contends that as Masonry is co-extensive with the nations of the earth, nothing short of a representation from each and all should attempt to revise the system. Several other Grand Lodges of the United States have approved what some have rejected. This apparent want of unanimity on a subject of such vital importance, is to be deeply regretted. The subject of this Grand Lodge becoming a member of the National Masonic Triennial Convention, must necessarily be decided at our next Annual Communication.

We have examined a communication from the Grand Lodge of Georgia, proposing, in conformity to a recommendation of the Baltimore Convention, that a delegate be sent to Europe for the purpose of closely and thoroughly examining the differences existing in Masonic work, in the Grand as well as Subordinate Lodges of this country, and of the different countries of Europe; and after such examination, reporting to a General Grand Convocation, and that they recommend Bro. John Delafield, Jr., of Memphis, Tennessee, as qualified to perform the duties of this appointment; and that should a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States agree to appoint him, he is appointed; that he be requested to make all diligent search after archaeological documents bearing upon Masonry; digest, and throw the same into the form of a treatise, and present the copyright for it to the Triennial Grand Convention, to dispose of the proceeds thereof to the Grand Lodges of the

United States who may concur in sending such delegate: which communication we submit for the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

We have examined a communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, appointing Bro. Howell Cobb, of Athens, to be its representative near this Grand Lodge; and we would call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the propriety of adopting the Representative system, as practiced by other Grand Lodges.

A most interesting feature appears in the benevolent enterprises of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, in the establishment of a Masonic College for the education of indigent youth. The Grand Lodges of Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama and Virginia, have also had the subject of the education of orphan children under consideration. Such enterprises are too glorious to be appreciated.

We regret that the short limits of a report does not enable us to spread before you in detail, the many interesting Masonic facts with which the communications to this Grand Lodge abound; but our report, although a mere outline of the rich treasures which we consign to the archives of the Grand Lodge, is the result of much reading, selection and condensation. It was a laborious, but a most delightful task.

In all the communications submitted to our consideration, we have discovered the most satisfactory and cheering proofs of the increased prosperity of our ancient and honorable institution. The dark clouds which had long hung over us have disappeared, and our paths are again illumined by the glorious orb of day. The places laid waste by the cruel and unrelenting spirit of persecution which lately pervaded our country and dealt destruction to our Order with an unsparing hand, have survived the oppression of her enemies, and again appear in their wonted strength and beauty.

The implements of our profession are resumed and the craft is set to work. It must be the subject of sincere congratulation to every worthy brother, that this martyr-like test of the Masonic integrity of our fraternity, adds another to the many guaranties, that the Great Architect of the Universe has us in his holy keeping; that he will permit no weapons formed against us to prosper; that he will set us to work, give us proper instruction in our labor, and perpetuate our glorious and time honored institution to the end of time.

ARTHUR McARTHUR, *per order*

At the last Communication of this Grand Lodge, a letter was received from Bro. Joseph Hockey, D. D. G. M. of fifth Masonic district, and placed on the files.

On motion, it was

Voted, To take said letter from the files, and that so much thereof as relates to the proceedings of Amity Lodge, at Camden, be referred to a committee consisting of Bros. Jos. Hockey, of Freedom, John Miller, of Warren, and Frye Hall, of Belfast, to investigate the same, and report to the Grand Lodge.

Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

Attest,

CHARLES FOX, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1845.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on the 23d day of June, 1845.

PRESENT—R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" ABNER B. THOMPSON,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
W. HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
" CHARLES FOX,	Grand Secretary.
" LORY BACON,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ROBERT R. KENDALL,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Grand Marshal, <i>p. t.</i>

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form.

Lodges represented :

1. PORTLAND, by Samuel Chase, Master.
8. UNITED, by John C. Humphreys, M.; Abner B. Thompson, S. W.
12. CUMBERLAND, by John Hatch, S. W.; Charles Megquier, J. W.
16. ST. GEORGE, by John Miller, Proxy.
17. ANCIENT LAND-MARK, by Daniel Winslow, M.; Charles Fobes, S. W.
23. FREEPORT, by Robert R. Kendall, M.
27. ADONIRAM, by Arthur McArthur, M.
31. UNION, by C. B. Smith, Proxy.
50. AURORA, by Charles W. Snow, Proxy.

A Letter of Invitation was received from a Committee of King Solomon's Lodge, in Charlestown, Mass., in which a Committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts unite, inviting this Grand Lodge to attend a Masonic Celebration, and the Dedication of a

Model of the Old Monument, erected by said Lodge in 1794, to the memory of Gen. JOSEPH WARREN and his Associates; which Model has been placed within the Bunker Hill Monument, at Charlestown.

Accepted and ordered to be placed on file.

The following Resolution was then submitted for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, viz:

"Resolved, That the 3d Section of Chapter 1st, and the 4th Section of Chapter 2d of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, be so altered and amended as that the Annual Communication for the choice of officers and the trans-action of business, shall be on the *first* or *third* Wednesday of May, at 9 o'clock A. M."

Committed to Bros. Harding, of Thomaston, Bacon, of Augusta, and Thompson, of Brunswick, who subsequently reported, "That in their opinion, the time for the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge should be altered to the *first* Wednesday in *May*, instead of the 23d day of June."

This Report was accepted, and ordered to be placed on file, and it was further ordered that the subject matter be published and forwarded to the several lodges in this State for their consideration.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Lodge do not deem it expedient to proceed, at this time, to the election of officers, but that the present officers hold over to the Annual Communication in June next.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure printed copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge heretofore published, as far back as he may be able, and cause them to be bound up for the use of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That a Committee of three be appointed to correspond with the several D. D. G. Masters, and ascertain if they are severally in possession of their appropriate Regalia: and Bros. Harding, of Thomaston, Miller, of Warren, and Putney, of Portland, were appointed accordingly.

On motion,

Voted, That the subject of procuring an additional number of diplomas for

the use of lodges under this jurisdiction, be referred to Bro. Henry H. Boody, to report at the next Communication.

The Committee of Finance made a report, which was read, and thereupon, on motion,

Voted, That it be recommitted, with instructions to report fully at the next Annual Communication.

Bro. John C. Humphreys, in behalf of the Committee appointed for that purpose, submitted the following report, viz :

"The Committee of the Grand Lodge chosen at the Annual Communication in January last, to consider the proposition submitted by Bro. Washburn to alter the 8th Section of the 4th Chapter of the By-Laws, by substituting Sixteen dollars instead of Nineteen dollars, so that the fees to be required for conferring the first three degrees of Masonry, shall not be less than Sixteen dollars; report, that in their opinion said alteration should not be adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The Committee have also considered the proposition submitted at that Communication by Bro. Nichols, to alter said Section of the By-Laws so that the fees for conferring the first three degrees in Masonry shall not be less than Fifteen dollars, and report, as their opinion, that said proposition should be adopted by the Grand Lodge.

They have also considered the proposition submitted at an adjournment of Communication, Jan. 30, 1845, by Bro. Daniel Winslow, to alter the 4th Chap., 11th Sect. of the By-Laws, by striking out "*Two dollars for every person initiated therein,*" and inserting "*ten per cent. upon such amount as shall be received for Initiating, Crafting and Raising,*" and report, that in their opinion said alteration should not be made.

JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, *Chairman.*

Which report was read and accepted; and thereupon the proposition to amend the 8th Section of the 4th Article of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, so that the fees for conferring the first three degrees of Masonry shall not be less than *Fifteen Dollars*, was adopted.

On motion,

Voted, That all the dues from subordinate lodges to the Grand Lodge be remitted up to this time, and that to all such lodges as have not yet resumed work, one year's dues be remitted from and after the time when they shall commence work.

On motion,

Voted, That a Committee of three be raised to revise the By-Laws of the

Grand Lodge, and to make their report thereon at the Annual Communication in June next.

And Bros. John T. Paine, of Sanford, and William A. Drew and James L. Child, of Augusta, were appointed for that purpose.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

This record of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge is made up from documents on file, and from memoranda left by the late Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Charles Fox,* deceased, by

C. B. SMITH, *R. G. Sec. pro tem.*

*Bro. Fox died in Boston, July 27, 1845, having gone there to consult the Medical Faculty of that city, in reference to his disease, which was pulmonary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall in Brunswick, on Wednesday, July 16, 1845.

PRESENT—M. W. JOHN T. PAINE,	Grand Master.
R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	S. G. Warden.
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	J. G. Warden.
W. HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
" JOSIAH W. MITCHELL.	G. Secretary, <i>p. l.</i>

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

The following preamble and resolution were then offered by R. W. Bro. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, and unanimously adopted, viz :

" *Whereas*, The President of Bowdoin College has requested the Grand Lodge of Maine, to lay in ample form the Corner Stone of King Chapel, about being erected in Brunswick, on the 16th of July inst., with which request the Grand Master has consented to comply : therefore,

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge will now proceed in Grand Procession, to the College grounds, accompanied by the several Masonic Lodges and Chapters in attendance, and under the escort of the Boston and Maine Encampments of Knights Templar, there to lay, in ample form, the Corner Stone of the Chapel about to be erected for the use of said College."

In accordance with this resolution, a Grand Procession was then formed, and marched to the College grounds, where they were joined by the Government, Officers and Students of the College; and having arrived at the site of the new edifice, the

interesting ceremony of laying the Corner Stone was ably conducted, agreeably to ancient Masonic usage, by the M. W. Grand Master, assisted by the M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Past Grand Master, and the other officers of the Grand Lodge; and in a manner highly gratifying to a very large multitude of spectators assembled to witness the same.

The ceremonies having been completed, the Procession was reformed, and returned in due order, when, on leaving the College grounds, they were greeted with three hearty and enthusiastic cheers by the numerous body of students of the College; and having arrived at their place of meeting,

The Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

Recorded from the original minutes, by

CHARLES B. SMITH, *R. G. Sec. pro tem.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1846.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the 23d day of June, A. L. 5846, and was opened in due form at 9 o'clock A. M.

PRESENT—M. W. JOHN T. PAINE,	Grand Master.
R. W. ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY,	S. G. Warden.
" JOHN MILLER,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
" HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
" CHAS B. SMITH,	Rec. G. Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal.
" CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain.
" WILLIAM A. DREW,	" "
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	S. G. Deacon.
" CHARLES FOBES,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
" ASA BAILEY,	G. Sword Bearer.
" STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. ARTHUR McARTHUR, ELISHA HARDING and JOSEPH SMITH.

Lodges represented:

1. PORTLAND, by Freeman Bradford, M.
8. UNITED, by Abner B. Thompson, M.
9. SAGO, by Thomas P. Tufts, M; John Spring, J. W.
12. CUMBERLAND, by John Hatch, M.
14. SOLAR, by John Elliot, S. W.
15. ORIENT, by Arthur Shirley, Proxy.
16. ST. GEORGE, by John Miller, Proxy.

17. ANCIENT LAND-MARK, by Charles Fobes, S. W.; William Allen, J. W.
23. FREEPORT, by Robert R. Kendall, M; John Collins, J. W.
30. BLAZING STAR, by Erastus Hilborn, Proxy.
31. UNION, by John W. Lindley, Proxy.

Bros. Harding and McArthur were appointed a Committee on Credentials, who, having attended to the duties assigned them, reported—

That Bros. John Miller, Arthur Shirley, Erastus Hilborn and John W. Lindley were severally entitled to seats in the Grand Lodge, by virtue of letters of Proxy by them presented respectively.

Which report was accepted.

Bros. Bradford and Thompson were then appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

On motion,

Voted, That all Master Masons of regular standing, who may desire it, be admitted as visitors at this Communication of the Grand Lodge.

A communication and return was received from R. W. Simon Foss, D. D. G. M. of the Seventh Masonic District, showing a settlement by him with the lodges in his District, and that—

He has in his hands fees collected of Rising Virtue Lodge, at Bangor	
amounting to	\$28.00
And of Penobscot Lodge, at Dexter, amounting to	24.00
Total in his hands,	\$52.00
And that there is due from Meridian Splendor Lodge, at Newport,	
the sum of	\$18.00

Read and ordered to be placed on file.

R. W. Bro. Elisha Harding, D. D. G. M. of the Fourth Masonic District, presented returns from Orient Lodge, at Thomaston, St. George's Lodge, at Waldoborough, Union Lodge, at Union, and Solar Lodge, at Bath.

R. W. Arthur McArthur, D. D. G. M. of the Eighth Masonic District, presented the return of Saco Lodge, at Saco.

A return from Bethlehem Lodge, at Augusta, was received from R. W. Joseph Abbott, D. D. G. M. of the Third Masonic District, and dues paid to June 20, 1846, amounting to \$13.00.

A return was also received from Blazing Star Lodge, at Rumford, to Sept. 1, 1845.

On motion of Bro. William A. Drew,

Voted, That Bros. Drew, Thompson and Harding, be a Committee to wait upon the M. W. Joseph R. Chandler, Esq., Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, now in this city, and invite him to a seat in this Grand Lodge.

The Committee proceeded immediately in the discharge of the duty assigned them, and directly returned and introduced to the Grand Master the M. W. Bro. Chandler, who was thereupon duly presented to the Grand Lodge, and by them received with that high respect and friendly greeting which is due to so distinguished a brother.

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, reported :

That they had examined his account of receipts and expenditures for the past year, and find he has received the following sums, viz :

Amount in his hands at last Communication,	\$4.13
Dividends on Bank Stock,	220.00
Total,	<u>\$224.13</u>
That he has paid for the purposes of Charity,	\$15.00
Expenses,	42.50
Regalia,	46.41
Salaries,	45.90
	<u>\$149.81</u>
Balance in his hands,	74.32
	<u>\$224.13</u>

The accounts appear to have been carefully kept and legally vouched. The property of the Grand Lodge remains the same as at the last Annual Communication, and for an account thereof the Committee refer to the Grand Treasurer's report on file. Submitted by

June 23, 1846.	F. BRADFORD,	} Committee.
	A. B. THOMPSON,	

Report read and accepted.

Letters of invitation were received from Committees of the fraternity at Portsmouth, N. H., and Bethlehem Lodge, at Augusta, Me., inviting the Grand Lodge to the celebration of the 24th of June inst., at those places respectively. Read and placed on file.

Bro. William A. Drew, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a report, which was read and accepted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, residing on the Kennebec, and such others as may unite with them, be authorized to form and open a Grand Lodge at Augusta on the 24th inst., for the purpose of attending and participating in the Masonic festival then to be celebrated in that town; and that the Grand Treasurer be requested to forward the Grand Lodge jewels to Augusta, to be used on that interesting occasion.

On motion,

Voted, That all foreign communications be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

On motion,

Voted, Now to proceed to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

Bros. Harding and McArthur were appointed a Committee to receive, sort and count the votes, who, having attended to that duty, reported the several Grand Officers to be unanimously elected, as follows, viz:

M. W. JOHN T. PAINE, of Sanford, Grand Master.

R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY, of Portland, Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, of Brunswick, Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. HENRY H. BOODY, of Portland, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. CHARLES B. SMITH, of Portland, Recording G. Secretary.

R. W. Bros. Freeman Bradford, Jonathan Smith and Alexander H. Putney, were elected a Committee of Finance for the ensuing year.

The Grand Master then announced the following appointments for the ensuing year, viz:

R. W. ELISHA HARDING, of East Thomaston, Deputy Grand Master.

W. NATHAN C. FLETCHER, of East Thomaston, C. G. Secretary.

" JONATHAN SMITH, of Westbrook, Grand Marshal.

" Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS, of Westbrook, Grand Chaplain.

" " WILLIAM A. DREW, of Augusta, " "

" " CYRIL PEARL, of Harrison, " "

- W. Rev. GILES BAILEY, of Brunswick, Grand Chaplain.
 " NELSON RACKLYFT, of Portland, S. G. Deacon.
 " JOSEPH CLARK, of Waldoborough, J. G. Deacon.
 " THOMAS P. TUFTS, of Saco, Grand Steward.
 " MATTHEW HASTINGS, of Calais, " "
 " THOMAS S. BOWLES, of Bath, " "
 " JOHN PURINTON, of Portland, " "
 " ASA BAILEY, of Freeport, G. Sword Bearer.
 " JOSIAH PIERCE, of Gorham, Grand Pursuivant.
 " SAMUEL BRADLEY, of Hollis, " "
 " STEPHEN SWETT, of Portland, Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- First District*—R. W. Joseph Smith, of Portland.
Second District—R. W. Hezekiah Hutchins, Jr., of Rumford.
Third District—R. W. Lory Bacon, of Augusta.
Fourth District—R. W. John W. Lindley, of Thomaston.
Fifth District—R. W. Frye Hall, of Belfast.
Sixth District—R. W. Jeremiah Fowler, of Lubec.
Seventh District—R. W. Joseph Prescott, of Garland.
Eighth District—R. W. Arthur McArthur, of Linington.

On motion,

Voted, That when the Grand Lodge adjourn, they will adjourn to Monday evening next, the 29th inst.

A communication was received from a Committee of Arrangements, appointed by the City Government of the city of Portland, inviting this Grand Lodge to unite with their fellow citizens, and participate in a public celebration of the 4th of July proximo, which they are making arrangements to get up in connection with the "breaking ground" of the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad. Read and laid upon the table.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of \$12.50 be and is hereby appropriated to pay in part the expense of a band of music, which is to accompany the numerous body of Masons, who have engaged to attend the Masonic Festival at Portsmouth on the 24th inst.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Lodge will hold a session for business on the Tuesday next preceding the first Thursday in November next.

R. W. Bro. Joseph M. Gerrish was elected a Trustee of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bros. William A. Drew, Alexander H. Putney and Charles B. Smith, were elected a Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the ensuing year.

The meeting of the Grand Lodge was then adjourned.

Attest, CHARLES B. SMITH, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, Portland, June 29, 1846.

The Grand Lodge was duly opened according to adjournment.

PRESENT—R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ FREEMAN BRADFORD,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ASA BAILEY,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary.
“ JONATHAN SMITH,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ CHARLES FOBES,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler.

The communication of the Committee of Arrangements of the City Government of the city of Portland to this Grand Lodge, inviting us to participate in the celebration of the 4th of July, in connection with the object of “breaking ground” of the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad, was then taken up and considered; and after due deliberation, it was, on motion,

Voted, That the Grand Lodge do accept the invitation of the city authorities as aforesaid, and that we will attend and participate in the ceremonies and festivities of the day.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Boody,

Voted, To reconsider the vote whereby the Grand Lodge accepted the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence; and that the same be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence just appointed for the ensuing year, with instructions to expunge any such portion thereof as they may deem improper or inexpedient to publish.

On motion,

Voted, That R. W. Bros. Putney, Bradford, Bailey, Jona. Smith and Winslow be a Committee to confer with the Chief Marshal appointed by the City Government, in relation to the position of the masonic bodies in the procession to be formed on the 4th; and to make all necessary arrangements in reference to the same. And that said Committee, with the Grand Secretary, be requested to give due notice of such arrangements, by publishing a programme of the same so far as relates to the formation of the several masonic bodies in the procession.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be requested to procure, as early as convenient, an additional number of diplomas for Master Masons.

On motion,

Voted, That the Recording Grand Secretary be instructed to require all lodges, which do not pay fees to the Grand Lodge, to pay the cost of all diplomas furnished them.

On motion,

Voted, That when the Grand Lodge adjourns, it be for two weeks from this evening, viz., to Monday evening, July 13th.

On motion,

Voted, That the Maine Encampment of Knights Templar be invited to perform escort duty to the several masonic bodies on the 4th.

The Grand Lodge was then adjourned.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, Portland, July 4, 1846.

In accordance with previous arrangements, the Grand Lodge assembled at 9 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of participating in the ceremonies and festivities of this National Anniversary, in connection with the cherished act of "breaking ground," as the commencement of a great and highly important enterprise, the construction of a Railroad from the City of Portland to the City

of Montreal, in the province of Canada. Having formed a Grand Procession, attended by the Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges, and Mount Vernon Royal Arch Chapter, escorted by the Maine Encampment of Knights Templar, the Grand Lodge proceeded to join the procession of their fellow-citizens, composed of several other organized societies, the Directors of the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad Company, the officers of the City Government of the City of Portland, a delegation of gentlemen from Montreal, in Canada, being Directors of the Canadian portion of the road, the Governor and Council of the State, the members of the Senate and House of Representatives of Maine, and citizens and strangers from various parts of the State.

The general procession being thus formed, moved through several of the principal streets of the city, and thence to a mammoth pavilion on Munjoy's Hill, where a generous and well provided collation had been prepared for their use by the City of Portland; after partaking of which, the procession was re-formed and proceeded to the line of the contemplated Railroad, near the shore of Portland Harbor, upon the eastern side of Munjoy's Hill, where, in the presence of an immense multitude of spectators, the interesting ceremony of "breaking ground" was performed by the President and Directors of the Corporation, assisted by a portion of the Montreal delegation, the Governor of the State, the Mayor of the city, and others, accompanied by the discharge of guns and the ringing of the city bells. A number of interesting and animated speeches were then made by the President of the Corporation, the Governor of the State, the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and several other distinguished speakers. After which, the Grand Lodge and other masonic bodies returned to their respective places of meeting, and then separated.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Rec. G. Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, Portland, July 13, 1846.

The Grand Lodge met according to adjournment, and was opened at 7½ o'clock P. M.

PRESENT—R. W. ALEX. H. PUTNEY,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
“ ASA BAILEY,	S. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ JOHN PURINTON,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
“ HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer.
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. G. Secretary,
W. DANIEL WINSLOW,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ CHARLES FOBES,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
“ STEPHEN SWETT,	Grand Tyler.

The following bills were presented, examined and approved, and ordered to be paid, viz:

Asa Cummings' bill for	\$00.75
Holden & Sanborn's bill for	10.37
Gerrish & Edwards' bill for	4.50
William R. Smith's bill for	1.00
Elisha Harding's bill for	8.05
C. B. Smith's bill for	3.03
——— Berry's bill for	4.00

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to settle with Mr. Sands, of Brunswick, for services on July 16, 1845.

Bro. John Miller's bill for expenses incurred by him as Grand Lecturer, was presented; and

On motion,

Voted, That the same be allowed; and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to advance the sum of \$50 on said bill, and to pay the balance thereof as soon as Bro. Miller shall make his official return, specifying what lodges he has visited in his capacity of Grand Lecturer, together with the condition and prospects of said lodges.

The Committee of Finance made a report, recommending that the usual sum of Thirty Dollars be allowed to the Recording Grand Secretary for his services the past year. Read and accepted, and the Grand Treasurer was authorized to pay the same.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was re-

committed their recent report, with instructions, now submitted the same with amendments, and the same was accepted as amended and ordered to be published with the other proceedings of the Grand Lodge as follows, viz :

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the present masonic year, respectfully report :

That all the communications made to this Grand Lodge, and which have been placed in their hands for examination, are only those received previous to June 23, 1845, and that consequently they are not able to report upon any communications that may have been received by and for the Grand Lodge within the year now just closed. The communications alluded to, embrace the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, Texas, Illinois and Wisconsin ; and an address in pamphlet form, delivered before the Grand Lodge of Illinois, October, 1844, by R. W. Bro. H. S. Cooley, Grand Orator of said lodge, formerly a citizen of Augusta, in our own State. By all these communications, your Committee are happy to learn that Masonry is in a flourishing condition throughout the bounds of these several Grand Lodges ; nor can they doubt that it is in circumstances of equal prosperity throughout the United States generally. In Europe, particularly in England, Ireland, France, Germany, Switzerland and Prussia, we know from the correspondence which the Grand Lodges of New York and Texas have had with the Grand Lodges of those kingdoms, the ancient order of Freemasonry is extending itself with great rapidity. Indeed, to no part of the civilized world can a Mason now go, where he will not find a *brother* and a *home*, according to his need. An institution so universal, is the more valuable on account of its universality.

Your Committee find in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges in their possession, much said and something done, in relation to the establishment of a Triennial Convention of the Grand Lodges of the United States, or what is the same thing, the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the American republic. This subject will come before the Grand Lodge of Maine for its action during the present session, which is referred to the able report of its Committee of Correspondence for the last year, in which the facts are presented for the consideration of the Fraternity in Maine.

It is not possible, in the present paper, to review all the interesting subjects suggested by the pamphlets in the possession of your Committee. They will, therefore, content themselves with calling the attention of the Grand Lodge to such parts of their proceedings as they may find time and room to notice, which they deem of special importance. Appended to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, we notice a list of all the lodges in the State, with the names of their Past Masters and present officers, the names of all the Master Masons, Fellow Crafts, and Entered Apprentices, who have received either or all of these degrees within the preceding year ; also

the names of all the members of the lodges, together with the publication of all who have been suspended or expelled, and *for what cause*. This information is important to the fraternity, not only within the bounds of a Grand Lodge itself, but also to the whole brotherhood throughout the land; and we could wish that such a list of lodges, officers and brethren might be prepared and published in connection with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodges of New York, Kentucky and some other States publish and transmit to their subordinate lodges, annually, and to all the Grand Lodges in the United States, not only a list of all the masons in the State, belonging to lodges, but also the names of suspended and expelled members, and the causes of such suspensions and expulsions. The pamphlet from the Grand Lodge of Maryland, embracing its own proceedings, contains the whole list of these names from New York. And as it shows how Masonry regards no man for his worldly wealth or honor, for the profession he makes, or the position he occupies, and how impartially it enjoins the fulfillment of the *four cardinal virtues*, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice, your Committee presume it will not be uninteresting if we repeat a few examples of fidelity in such Masonic labors. Union Lodge, No. 95, New York, suspended a member for six months for intemperance. Jerusalem Lodge, No. 9, Kentucky, expelled a member for swindling. Springfield Lodge, No. 50, expelled a member for selling a free negro and absconding. Washington Lodge, No. 79, expelled a member for drunkenness and profanity. Good Faith Lodge, No. 95, expelled a member for official swindling, while acting as an officer. Cowan Lodge, No. 98, expelled a member for adultery. By these things the fraternity are not only warned against unworthy brethren, but the world can see *what are the moral principles of Masonry*, and how promptly it does, or should, discountenance in *any* member, intemperance, fraud, licentiousness, profanity, and unfaithfulness to the government of the land. In connection with this matter, your Committee would take occasion to say that, as Freemasonry is a *moral* work, directed to the rearing of a moral and Masonic edifice or temple, by the aid of its appropriate tools, the grand object of all Masonic lodges should be to knock off the rough corners, hew, square, level and plumb the moral character of every member, in order that he may be fitted and prepared for the place designed for him in the celestial Temple above, by the Grand Architect of the Universe. The Masters of all our lodges, Grand and subordinate, should set the craft to labor in relation to this high design, and give them proper instruction accordingly. The Grand Lecturer of Virginia, R. W. J. D. McCabe, seems to have a just view of this matter. In reporting the results of his mission amongst the lodges of the State, he says:

"Every day's experience and observation tends to confirm me in the belief, that it is not only necessary that the *presiding officers* of our lodges *teach*, but also *practice* as well as teach, the pure lessons of our ritual, in order to make the institution what it was designed to be—a blessing to hu-

manity. I have endeavored to instruct the lodges which I have visited, not only in '*the form of sound words*' transmitted from our fathers, but also by *precept and practice*, to enforce the duty of reverence for Deity and his Sabbath—brotherly love, relief and truth; temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice, without the observance of which, and their constant practice, no man, however *perfect in mere forms*, can ever claim the high and distinguished appellation of Mason. And I am happy in being able to state, that these efforts have been blessed by the Supreme Grand Master, to individuals in the correction of their moral character, and to communities in removing reproaches, and allaying the most violent prejudices."

We notice that in most of the Grand Lodges in communication with this Grand Lodge, the M. W. Grand Masters of the same, at the Annual Communications, make an address to the G. Lodge, reviewing the condition of the cause throughout its jurisdiction, and making such suggestions, and offering such advice and counsel as circumstances seem to require. These addresses are published in the minutes, and the several topics treated on by the official head, are referred to appropriate committees, by whom they are considered and reported upon. Your Committee highly approve of this practice, and are the more anxious to see it established in Maine, since it is our peculiar good fortune to have a Grand Master so competent to his duty, and so ready and zealous in the discharge of it. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in his annual address, amongst other things, calls the attention of his Grand Lodge to the subject of systematizing Masonic charities and making them more efficient. The following is an extract from his communication:

"I learn with unmingled feelings of gratification, that some of our subordinate lodges have lately adopted a system of action, which secures to every sick brother, during his illness, the constant attendance of a Master Mason. The Masters of these subordinate lodges are required to appoint monthly a Committee, whose sole duty consists in ascertaining the invalids among them, and appointing daily two Master Masons to attend each indisposed brother. The unparalleled mortality of the past year has convinced us all, not only of the utility, but of the absolute necessity of some general permanent system of this character, and I should prove recreant to duty, did I not urge upon this Grand Lodge the propriety of adopting effectual measures to secure this desirable end. To visit the sick, and to supply their wants and administer comfort, is one of the *grand charities* of our order; but to effect this, organization and system are absolutely necessary. Divided duty is seldom performed, and that which should be the duty of all, usually receives the attention of none. Let us, Brethren, adopt effective measures to free ourselves from the charge of negligence in this particular. Let us not apply the *speculative* character of our work to our *charity*, but rather let us practice out of our lodges the excellent lessons of brotherly love, relief and charity, which are taught in them. Let us look through the emblems and symbols of

Freemasonry, to the discharge of great moral duties which they inculcate, and we may confidently anticipate the day when the uniform and salutary, though silent and unseen influence of our principles, will effectually silence the tongue of calumny, and weaken, if not forever extinguish the unjustifiable rancor and hatred of our enemies."

It is the certainty of aid and assistance, in case of sickness and distress, provided for by the lodges of Odd Fellows, that may have, within the past three or four years, caused such a rush for their doors, as we all have witnessed. Masonry professes to be more emphatically a *charitable* institution. Should she not offer as great a certainty of brotherly love, relief and truth to every one who enters her sanctuaries, as can be secured elsewhere? A brother's relation, established by the admission of every individual into this fraternity, should secure, beyond failure, a *brother's forgiveness* of errors, *sympathies* for his misfortunes, and *relief* in the time of danger and of need, *at home or abroad*. If anything can be done, by the revision of our By-Laws, to systematize Masonic charities, your Committee think much prosperity to the order would be the result.

Your Committee notice that by the regulations of the Mississippi Grand Lodge, *all* Masons within its jurisdiction, whether they are members of subordinate lodges or not, are taxed annually, have to pay the tax to the nearest local lodge, and the funds so collected are expended under the direction of proper officers, appointed by the Grand Lodge, in the gratuitous education of orphan children of deceased brethren. Thus, the obligations of Masonry are made binding even on those who, for any cause, choose not to connect themselves with a subordinate lodge. If the *penalty* of being a lodge member now is that he is liable to be taxed, and the *privilege* of *not* being a lodge member is, that he is therefore *free* from the pecuniary obligations involved in his general Masonic duties, we submit whether it may not be right and useful that this and other Grand Lodges adopt some such rule, to reach the whole fraternity, as the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has established.

The Grand Lodge of Texas have appointed our M. W. Grand Master, John T. Paine, Esq., as its official representative near this Grand Lodge, and have recommended our worthy Bro. E. Allen, of Washington, of the (then Republic, now) State, as a suitable person to represent this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Texas. Bro. Allen formerly resided in Norridgewock, in our State; and in the proceedings we are happy to notice the prominent activity of the late citizens of Maine, particularly of Bro. Timothy Pillsbury, formerly of Eastport, Bro. M. P. Norton, formerly of Canaan, and Bro. Henry J. Jewett, of Bangor. It will be recollected that two years ago, this Grand Lodge received an official visit from R. W. George K. Teulon, a delegate from the Texas Grand Lodge to Masonic Bodies in America and England. His communication was made the subject of a special report to this Grand Lodge, by Bros. Child, Thompson and Putney, reciprocating the fra-

ternal wishes of the Texas brethren to establish a correspondence with us. It seems due to this matter that the following action of the Grand Lodge of Texas, at its next subsequent meeting, be incorporated in this Report:

"The select Committee to whom was referred the communication of R. W. Bro. G. K. Teulon, made the following report:

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

"The special Committee to whom was referred so much of the communication addressed under date of the 28th July last, to this Grand Lodge, by our worthy brother and representative, G. K. Teulon, as relates to his recent visit to the Grand Lodge of Maine, and its proceedings on his proposition in behalf of this Grand Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report—That the latter acknowledges, with feelings of no ordinary satisfaction, the receipt of their proceedings on the proposition made to them by our worthy representative before named; announcing their cheerful co-operation in establishing, between these institutions, separated by distance, but united in purpose, those intimate but frequent intercommunications which their joint labors in the erection of that common moral and Masonic edifice, whose foundations are commensurate with the world, demands. The gratification which our brethren of that Grand Lodge experienced at the intelligence, announcing to them the flourishing condition of Masonry in Texas, reacts with powerful and cheering influence upon the interests and progress of the institution here. We hail the *sign* from afar, which cheers us onward in the struggle of virtuous effort, and in the path of charity, to the goal of distinguished success; and while we reciprocate, in a spirit of fraternal sympathy, with our brethren of the '*Mystic Tie*,' in the East, those sentiments of congratulation and friendship so happily expressed in their response to our overture, we feel that we should not act up to the spirit of that *response*, should we fail to cultivate and enlarge the *system of intercourse* which this propitious connection with our eastern brethren suggests, by instituting a like connection, so far as practicable, with our brethren throughout the world; to which end, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, as initiatory and introductory to the accomplishment of the design suggested.

M. P. NORTON,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
EBEN. ALLEN,		
HENRY J. JEWETT,		
TIMOTHY PILLSBURY,		

Washington, A. L. 5845, Jan. 15.

"*Resolved*, 1st, That the M. W. Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, be requested to appoint our worthy Bro. John T. Paine, of Sanford, in the State

of Maine, as the resident delegate of this Grand Lodge, to the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Maine.

"Resolved, 2d, That our worthy Bro. E. Allen, of Washington, be recommended to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, as eminently worthy of the confidence of that M. W. Grand Lodge; and that his appointment, as resident delegate to this Grand Lodge, be respectfully invited."

It would afford your Committee pleasure to notice the topics suggested by the correspondence with other Grand Lodges, but both time and room forbid.

On the whole, the Fraternity has reason to rejoice in the present prospects of Masonry. The wild tornado which prejudice and passion had raised against the institution, has spent its force, and died from the very acts of its own violence. It was not becoming in Masonry, a purely moral and charitable institution, to stand up and fight a—wind. It was more suitable that it should, for a time, bend to the storm till its fury should have passed. That time has come. The storm is over, the cloud has passed, the sun shines out again in the beauty and glory of high twelve; the calm is auspicious of peace and good fellowship. In resuming the implements of the craft, let them be kept bright and polished by the constant work of love, directed to the erection of that Temple of which all good Masons may hope to be a part, in that "Jerusalem which is above, and which is Free, and which is the Mother of us all."

All which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM A. DREW, *Per order*.

On motion,

Voted, That the several D. D. G. Masters be requested to cause proper returns to be made from the several lodges in their districts respectively, and the dues from said lodges for initiations for the year ending on the 23d of June ult., to be paid over to the Grand Treasurer without delay.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Rec. G. Secretary*.