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R. P. Dunlap.

HON. ROBERT P. DUNLAP.

LATE GOVERNOR OF MAINE, MEMBER OF CONGRESS &c.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

M. M. Grand Lodge

OF

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

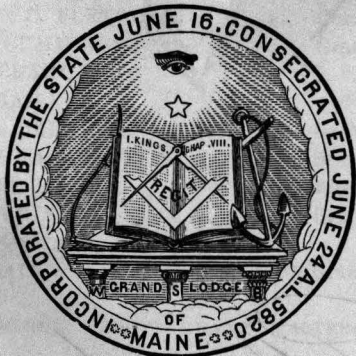
OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

VOL. II.

1848-1854.

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PORTLAND:

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1887.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Lodge

OF

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

OF THE

STATE OF MARYLAND

VOLUME

1883-1884

Published by the Grand Lodge



FOR THE YEAR

1884

Grand Lodge of Maine,

1848.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the third day of May, A. L. 5848, and was opened in ample form at 9 o'clock A. M., by Most Worshipful ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY, Grand Master, assisted by

R. W. SAMUEL L. VALENTINE,	Deputy Grand Master;
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	S. G. Warden;
" JOHN MILLER,	J. G. Warden, <i>pro tem.</i> ;
" HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary;
" NATHAN C. FLETCHER,	Cor. Grand Secretary;
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain;
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "
" GILES BAILEY,	" "
W. JOSHUA HERRICK,	Gr. Marshal, <i>pro tem.</i> ;
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	Senior Grand Deacon;
" CHARLES FOBES,	J. G. Deacon, <i>pro tem.</i> ;
" JOHN PURINTON,	Grand Steward;
" GEORGE SMALL,	" "
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. DANIEL WINSLOW,
" LORY BACON,
" JOHN W. LINDLEY,
" THOMAS P. TUFTS.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, P. G. Master,
 " ABNER B. THOMPSON, " "

Prayers were then offered by the Grand Chaplain.

On motion,

Voted, That all Master Masons of regular standing, who desire it, be invited to take seats as visitors during the present communication of the Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bros. Joseph C. Stevens and Wm. Kimball were appointed a Committee on Credentials, who subsequently reported that the following Lodges were duly represented :

- 1 *Portland*, at Portland, by William Kimball, WM ; James R. Milliken, SW ; Henry C. Lovell, JW.
- 2 *Warren*, at Machias, by Warren E. Hovey, Proxy.
- 5 *Kennebec*, at Hallowell, by Nathaniel Gunnison, Proxy.
- 6 *Amity*, at Camden, by Abraham Ogier, Proxy.
- 8 *United*, at Brunswick, John D. Lincoln, JW ; Octavius A. Merrill, Proxy.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, at Bangor, by Joseph C. Stevens, WM ; John Williams, SW.
- 12 *Cumberland*, at New Gloucester, by Charles Megquier, SW.
- 13 *Oriental*, at Bridgton, George Peirce, JW.
- 14 *Solar*, at Bath, by Thomas S. Bowles, Proxy.
- 16 *St. George*, at Warren, by John Miller, WM.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, at Portland, by Charles B. Smith, WM ; Charles Fobes, SW ; William Allen, JW.
- 19 *Felicity*, at Bucksport, by George W. Newbegin, Proxy.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, at Livermore, by Joseph S. Sargent, Proxy.
- 22 *York*, at Kennebunk, by Joshua Herrick, SW ; James Larrabee, JW.
- 23 *Freeport*, at Freeport, by Samuel Thing, SW ; R. R. Kendall, Proxy.
- 24 *Phoenix*, at Belfast, by H. G. O. Washburn, JW ; D. G. Plummer, Proxy.
- 28 *Northern Star*, at North Anson, by Joel Fletcher, WM.
- 29 *Tranquil*, at Danville, by Josiah Little, Jr., Proxy.
- 31 *Union*, at Union, by Lewis Andrews, WM ; Gilbert M. Blackington, JW ; William Gleason, Proxy.
- 32 *Hermon*, at Gardiner, by Stephen Webber, WM ; George H. Cook, JW.
- 33 *Waterville*, at Waterville, by Jacob M. Crooker, JW.
- 40 *Lygonia*, at Ellsworth, by Wm. Somerby, WM ; E. L. M. Allen, JW ; Asa A. Pond, Proxy.
- 46 *St. Croix*, at Calais, by J. Judson Ames, Proxy.
- 50 *Aurora*, at Thomaston, by Hiram Sprague, WM ; Samuel Libby, SW.
- 58 *Unity*, at Freedom, by Seth Webb, Proxy.

Which report was accepted.

Bros. Samuel L. Valentine, Abner B. Thompson and Joshua Herrick were appointed a Committee on Warrants and Charters.

The M. W. Grand Master then made to the Grand Lodge the following address, which, on motion, was referred to Bros. John Miller, Nathan C. Fletcher and Wm. Kimball :

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :

Allow me to congratulate you that the return of another annual Grand Communication brings with it its usual happy meeting. And as we thus meet and grasp the fraternal hand, animated by the living current which flows from the heart warmed by the principles of brotherly love and friendship, I trust we all most devoutly unite in rendering thanks to our Divine Master and Preserver, for the unremitting goodness with which He has crowned our lives, and the blessings He has bestowed on our cherished Institution. How full, even to overflowing, should be our grateful hearts, when we contrast our present prosperous and happy state as a fraternity, with what it was when, only five years since, less than a score of us met within these walls to mourn over our almost deserted altars, during the dark reign of Anti-Masonic calumny and persecution, and, if possible, devise some means of leaving in competent hands the treasure confided to our care. Some of you, my brethren, must well remember that occasion with the most lively emotions, for it was the organizing, as it were, of the "forlorn hope." Clouded, indeed, was our "canopy;" thick darkness covered all our skies, from the zenith to the horizon. All was dark, save the faint glimmer from the altars of *three only* of our fifty-eight lodges.

Yet though all was disheartening, though in a less sacred cause the stoutest heart would have quailed, I must bear you testimony that your faith failed not. Though but three glimmering tapers remained, the mystic number was unbroken. You resolved to trim your lamps and let the light shine; your banner was unfurled, your sails loosened to the breeze, and the ark confided to the care of Him who doeth all things well. Behold your ample reward! More than forty of our old lodges have revived, and new ones have been instituted, from whose altars the illuminating ray shoots forth. Well may we rejoice, my brethren, that the "winter of our discontent" is made "glorious summer" by the Son of Righteousness in whom we trust.

We rejoice as Masons in the prosperity and extension of our sacred rite, whose effect is to make most men better and no man worse. We rejoice as citizens, that, with the revival of Masonry, vice, which had so run riot over our land during the suspension of Masonic labor, has evidently received a check, and the cardinal virtues, so impressively taught in our ritual, are no

longer in danger of being submerged in the torrent of intemperance and ruin that had so deluged our beloved land. We rejoice to see our brethren engaged, and in the front ranks of every good work calculated to ameliorate the condition of man, as well as in their readiness to attend at the well known sound of the Gavel, and assist in bringing to the true masonic light "good men and true," to whom we may with safety commit the keeping of our Masonic Tabernacle on earth, when we shall be called to put off this tabernacle of clay, and ascend, as we humbly hope, to that spiritual tabernacle—"that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

I am happy to acknowledge the receipt of, and to lay before you, communications in the form of printed proceedings and circulars, received during the recess from all the Grand Lodges in our Union, and also from our sister Grand Lodge in the neighboring Province of Canada, together with the proceedings of the Masonic Convention held in the city of Baltimore in September last to form a Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States.

The transmission of these documents to each sister Grand Lodge annually, evinces that true courtesy and consideration which ever have been, and I trust ever will be a characteristic of the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons. It also affords me pleasure to say that we learn from these acceptable messengers that the craft is everywhere flourishing, even to the extent that the most ardent Mason could desire, and that peace, harmony and union almost universally prevail. True, an unhappy dispute has arisen between our sister Grand Lodges in Mississippi and Louisiana, which I trust the good sense and sound discretion of the brethren of those two states will soon overcome. But believing that little, if any, good is ever done by others taking part in a dispute, whose greatest merit must be its end, I shall express no opinion upon the merits of the question at issue, trusting that, if left to themselves, they will each and all soon commence looking for the ancient landmarks of the Order; and while engaged in thus searching for authorities to sustain their own particular views, each may become convinced that the other has rights which must be respected, and thus harmony be restored.

In addition to the usual amount of local and peculiar business in our sister Grand Lodges, many matters of interest to the fraternity at large have received considerable attention. I have neither the time nor ability to examine into and lay before you a digest of these matters in such manner as I could wish; but trusting that our Committee on Foreign Correspondence will make up for my deficiency, I will glance at some points which I deem most important.

First in order, perhaps, is the project of forming a Grand Lodge of the United States. We have heretofore held this Grand Lodge aloof from this important matter; but, as a convention has been held, a Constitution reported, and forwarded to the several Grand Lodges, the subject seems now, if never before, to require calm and deliberate action. Differences of opinion

exist as to the usefulness of such a general Grand Body. These should be examined with great care, or evil instead of good may come of the agitation of the question. For myself I regard the formation of such a Body as proper and advantageous to the cause, provided all will come into the arrangement harmoniously, but not otherwise.

The subject of Grand Lodge certificates has for several years been discussed in different Grand Lodges, and our sister Grand Lodge of New York, if I understand the matter correctly, requests all lodges to refuse admission to any one hailing from that state who is not furnished with such document. I therefore recommend to our brethren in the subordinate lodges in this state to govern themselves accordingly, as no doubt can exist of there being some good grounds for the request. As this Grand Lodge has deemed it inexpedient to grant such certificates, I suggest that brethren who contemplate traveling should be advised to take with them their diploma; for while, as a general principle, I cannot for a moment recognize a paper or parchment voucher as entitling a man to, or a want of it debarring him from Masonic privileges, yet I hold it a duty of every brother to furnish all the evidence in his power to satisfy the lodge he seeks to visit, that he is no impostor.

Of all subjects most likely to be injured by too much legislation, I believe Masonry to be emphatically the one; for, having had the benefit of the wisdom of the good and great of old, its landmarks are so clearly defined, its duties so well settled, that it would seem to me next to impious to lay hands on it with the attempt to improve it. And I cannot but fear that the practice of the day is tending towards an excess of legislation which may in the end prove truly disastrous. Nevertheless, I would not be understood as opposed to the doings in general of our annual sessions. It may be and probably is the case, that during the suspension of Masonic labor in some parts of our country, the landmarks have been suffered to be partially hid among the dirt and rubbish, which require a careful removal in order that they may appear as of old. This done, I should say let things remain as they were "before the fathers fell asleep." As connected with the same idea, I would also deprecate the multiplication of books designed as manuals; for, though true it may be that one brother has as good an abstract right to make a book as another, I hold that no one has such a right at all unless he be appointed by competent authority, which authority must and will of course, restrict him to the old landmarks. But the great evil of the day in book making in all departments, in my estimation, lies in the fact that each new edition must be "revised, improved, enlarged, corrected, embellished," &c. Impressed with a sense of danger from innovations, I would respectfully suggest that Masons should beware, and abide by the truth taught in the homely adage, "Let well enough alone."

The subject of education, the moral engine above all other human institutions calculated to raise man to his proper sphere, has ever engaged the attention of our fraternity; and our sister Grand Lodges in Missouri and Ken-

tucky have each set a noble example in the establishment of Masonic Colleges, which are shown by their late reports to be in a flourishing condition. Would, my brethren, that we could follow their example!—but, while we cannot, may we not make a beginning, even though the completion of the project be left to after ages? I make the suggestion for your serious consideration.

For the state of our several lodges, I refer you to their returns, together with the reports of our several District Deputy Grand Masters, my own engagements having been such that I have not been able to visit the lodges as my inclination would have led me to do. I have, however, frequently visited the two lodges in this city, and take pleasure in saying that they are prosperous and their work well done. I also had the pleasure, in February last, of being present and installing the officers of York Lodge, No. 22, at Kennebunk, which has revived and commenced work under favorable circumstances.

Soon after the close of the last annual communication, it was made known to me that Tranquil Lodge, No. 29, which had been authorized to be held at Auburn, was unable to procure a suitable place in Auburn to hold their meetings, but would be convened, if they could be permitted, in Danville, near the line of Auburn. I therefore granted a dispensation to authorize said lodge to be holden in Danville until the meeting of this Grand Lodge.

I have granted a dispensation to Freeport Lodge to hold their regular meetings and pursue their labors, they having lost their charter, as well as all their furniture and regalia, by fire. I recommend them to the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge. I have granted a dispensation to a competent number of brethren to form a lodge at Hope, to be called "Mount Hope Lodge"; and also to a competent number of brethren at Old Town to form a new lodge there, to be called "Star in the East Lodge," which dispensations are all returnable to this communication for the action of this Grand Lodge.

I perceive that controversies have arisen between some of our sister Grand Lodges, in consequence of conferring the degrees in a subordinate lodge upon those who were mere sojourners at the time and place when and where accepted. That this, in some cases, may have been done inadvertently, may readily be supposed; and I take this occasion to put my brethren of our subordinate lodges on their guard against a practice so manifestly wrong.

On another important matter I must earnestly advise the craft in this jurisdiction. Though it is with regret that I feel myself compelled to differ with distinguished craftsmen, who hold a high rank in my estimation, I deem it necessary to urge them to be extremely cautious in their inquiries into the character of applicants; after which, the result being satisfactory, to proceed to take a ballot upon his application, and, if the ballot is a clear one, to make him a Mason, in fact, thus fulfilling the language of our ritual.

With a strong deference to the opinions of others, I must and do most unequivocally repudiate the doctrine that a lodge is doing right to deny advancement to an E. A., provided he shall not be impeached for any offence committed subsequent to his acceptance. I can find no principle of ancient Masonic law or justice to support such a position. On the contrary, it is well known that the character of a candidate is subjected to the most rigid scrutiny, and if he does not successfully pass, he is rejected and his deposit money is restored to him; so that he is not subject to any loss, either of character or money. But if he is accepted, and, upon payment of a further sum, is initiated, and afterwards refused advancement to the degree of M. M., he is, to all intents and purposes, no Mason at all—entitled to no privileges as such, and therefore totally defrauded of the money he has paid. If there is any rule of Masonic justice which will sustain such practice, I confess my ignorance.

Another doctrine of the day, which I am happy to believe prevails but to a limited extent, is that expulsion from a chapter or encampment is an expulsion from all the privileges of Masonry. I trust that our brethren, before adopting any such sentiment, will look well to their by-laws, which guarantee to every member of a lodge a fair and impartial trial by his lodge before he can be deprived of any one privilege which he became entitled to when he became a member of it. And while I cherish a most ardent attachment to what is called the higher degrees and orders of Masonry, far be it from me to suppose that Master Masons are so incompetent to the management of their lodges and members as to require it to be done for them by proxy.

But while I find some practices growing up in some parts of our country which I feel constrained to caution you against, I am happy to find many things which I can cheerfully recommend to you as worthy the most exact imitation. Especially would I recommend the requirement of a monthly assessment, upon the payment of which should depend the privilege of membership. I would also recommend that full and complete annual returns of members of lodges, with their names and rank, together with a list of resident Masons who are not members, with the reasons why they are not, be required of each lodge. These returns being published with the minutes of our annual communications will afford information of importance to every lodge in the state. Such I find is now the practice in most of the state Grand Lodges; and from the perusal of these details, published and sent us with their annual proceedings, we may form some estimate of the immense sacrifice of blood and toil which our brethren of the south and west have cheerfully made to sustain their country's cause in the war with Mexico. One lodge alone, in Kentucky, of less than fifty members, reports the death of six of her members within the past year in the army of Mexico—three of them on the bloody field of Buena Vista. We also learn that our brethren who still survive are there in great numbers, filling every useful station,

from the General of Division to the rank and file, who have so faithfully and fearlessly stood by their colors, proving themselves worthy brethren of our patriot Washington and his Generals (save one) who led our fathers to victory and liberty in days of yore, and forever putting to silence the slanders of political anti-Masonic demagogues, who have represented our principles as dangerous to liberty and good government.

I perceive that many of our Grand Lodges adopt the practice of publishing the names of candidates who have been rejected. With much respect for their opinions, and without assuming any right to dictate, I must take this occasion to say that I think such a practice decidedly wrong. I believe it to be a well settled rule among Masons, not to do any man harm if we cannot do him any good. And it would indeed be a work of supererogation to arrogate to ourselves so much perfection as to say that we always judge rightly, and never reject a worthy candidate. I believe that every son of Adam, who knocks at our lodge doors with the pre-requisites of our ritual—having the capacity and age of a man, and of a good moral character, acknowledging his dependence on the God who made and upholds all things, has a perfect *right* to admission. I believe that an objecting party should give his reasons for so doing—that no man should be so branded as forever to bar his admission to our Order, unless the specific cause be alleged, and well substantiated. This view may seem to some to conflict with the right of secret ballot; yet, inasmuch as it is—as all admit—decidedly unmasonic to reject any one from mere private pique, I see no good reason why a brother should not, within the sanctity of a lodge room, be perfectly willing to show to his brethren that he is not actuated by any such unworthy motive. But while I repudiate the practice of publishing rejections, I would earnestly recommend that this Grand Lodge adopt the custom of our sister Grand Lodges, who publish with their annual proceedings the returns of their subordinate lodges, including the names and rank of all their members, deaths, dismissions and expulsions.

I would also suggest the propriety of this Grand Lodge taking some measures to induce all our subordinate lodges to revive the practice of requiring from each member a small monthly or quarterly assessment. That much good and no evil would follow the adoption of that practice, I have not a doubt.

In connection with the question of requiring monthly or quarterly dues of our members, I would respectfully suggest, that, of those brethren who reside permanently within our limits, and who belong to no lodge, there be required a specified sum for each meeting they shall attend, and in default of payment they be debarred the privilege of meeting in any lodge, unless in the opinion of the majority of the lodge, the brother applying to visit be unable to pay the same, in which case he should have the right to visit without prejudice.

The question has arisen in some of our lodges, whether business should be

MAY 3, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Reports were received from the following District Deputy Grand Masters:

First District—R. W. Daniel Winslow,

Third District—R. W. Lory Bacon,

Fourth District—R. W. John W. Lindley,

Sixth District—R. W. Jeremiah Fowler,

Eighth District—R. W. Thomas P. Tufts.

Read and accepted; and so much of the report from the eighth district as relates to St. John's Lodge at South Berwick, was referred to Bros. Herrick, Thompson and Somerby.

A petition was then presented from the officers and members of Mount Hope Lodge, U. D., at Hope, praying for a charter.

And on motion,

Voted, That said petition be referred to the Committee on Warrants and Charters.

Cumberland Lodge having asked for a remission of their dues, and the condition of said lodge having been fully stated in the D. D. G. Master's report, it was,

On motion,

Voted, That the dues of said lodge to the Grand Lodge be remitted up to this time.

Bro. Seth Webb, proxy of Unity Lodge, at Freedom, presented a statement of the condition of said lodge, and asked for a remission of their dues.

Whereupon, on motion,

Voted, That the dues of said lodge to the Grand Lodge be remitted to this time.

The Committee of Finance made a report on the accounts of the D. D. G. Masters, which was read and accepted, and placed on file.

The Committee of Finance also reported as follows :

PORTLAND, May 3, 1848.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The Committee of Finance have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find that there was a balance in his hands at the close of the last annual communication of.\$294.99

Since which time he has received from all sources,..... 252.75

Total,\$547.74

That he has paid out for various purposes,.....215.32

Leaving a balance in his hands of.....\$332.42

The committee also find that the Grand Treasurer's accounts are properly vouched and correctly cast, and that all the disbursements have been made for legal Masonic purposes.

Per Order,

F. BRADFORD.

The Grand Treasurer then submitted his annual report in detail, exhibiting the same state of the finances of the Grand Lodge as is reported above by the Committee of Finance, and showing also that the vested funds of the Grand Lodge consist of

5 shares in the Freeman's Bank, at Augusta, valued at \$ 500					
10	do.	"	Casco	do.	Portland, " 1,000
20	do.	"	Canal	do.	do. " 1,500
Total,					\$3,000

Read and accepted.

A petition was received from the members of King Hiram Lodge, at Dixfield, setting forth that they have unfortunately lost their charter, and asking for its renewal. Read and referred to the Committee on Warrants and Charters.

On motion,

Voted, That we now proceed to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

And for this purpose the Grand Lodge resolved itself into a committee of the whole, M. W. Bro. Thompson in the chair. A sub-committee, consisting of R. W. Bros. Bradford, Stevens and Kendall were appointed to receive, sort and count the votes. The votes were then received and counted, and the following Grand Officers elected :

FOR GRAND MASTER.

Whole number of votes,	-	-	-	-	-	35
Necessary to a choice,	-	-	-	-	-	23
M. W. Alexander H. Putney had	-	-	-	-	-	30

And was declared elected.

FOR SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.

Whole number of votes,	-	-	-	-	-	28
Necessary to a choice,	-	-	-	-	-	18
R. W. John C. Humphreys had	-	-	-	-	-	28

And was declared elected.

FOR JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.

Whole number of votes,	-	-	-	-	-	32
Necessary to a choice,	-	-	-	-	-	20
R. W. Joseph C. Stevens had	-	-	-	-	-	24

And was declared elected.

FOR GRAND TREASURER.

Whole number of votes,	-	-	-	-	-	24
Necessary to a choice,	-	-	-	-	-	13
R. W. Henry H. Boody had	-	-	-	-	-	23

And was declared elected.

FOR GRAND SECRETARY.

Whole number of votes,	-	-	-	-	-	32
Necessary to a choice,	-	-	-	-	-	17
R. W. Charles B. Smith had	-	-	-	-	-	23

And was declared elected.

FOR COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.

Whole number of ballots,	-	-	-	-	-	9
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R. W. Bros. Freeman Bradford, Jonathan Smith and Abner B. Thompson had each nine votes, and were declared elected.

The committee then rose and reported to the Grand Lodge the result of the elections, which report was accepted.

R. W. Bro. Humphreys submitted to the Grand Lodge the question "whether a man deprived of his right hand, can properly be initiated into Masonry?"

Referred to Bros. Thompson, Williams and Winslow, who subsequently reported, in the language of a Committee of the Grand Lodge appointed last year to consider a similar question :

“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 landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institution.”

The report was read and accepted.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence then made the following report, which was read and accepted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Lodge, in presenting their Annual Report, have great pleasure in acknowledging the favors of a benignant Providence, which the correspondence of the year discloses in the prosperity of our beloved institution.

This is a day of joyous greeting for our fathers and brethren who laid the foundations of this Grand Lodge, who nursed its early growth, who stood by their ancient landmarks in the day of trial, and bore meekly the tempest of passion and the tide of scorn which swept over our prostrate altars, and swept from those altars such as could not bear reproach for the exhibition of Faith, Hope and Charity in connection with our cherished symbols.

Some of these fathers and brethren still linger on the shores of time, and are here with us to rejoice in the new era of progress which we now behold. What but the favor of Him in whom every Mason pledges his trust and to whose sacred name every lodge is dedicated, could have removed the pressure of popular prejudice, and given to our order the stability, strength and beauty now everywhere apparent ?

It is not yet a quarter of a century since a storm of persecution burst suddenly upon the Masonic institution, unequalled in the history of our country. The press, the pulpit and the force of public opinion, organized and aroused by every appliance of political party, ecclesiastical and civil tribunals arrayed against the rights of conscience, all conspired to crush the institution, and coerce its members into an abandonment of principles and usages and rights rendered dear by intrinsic excellence, by a hearty and intelligent reception, and by venerable associations linking the present with the past in delightful fellowship.

So resolute and relentless was the warfare—so quietly did the fast friends of our principles bear the onset—even relinquishing for years the privileges of their fraternal meetings, that the proud boast swept over the world that in the free republic of America, Free Masonry was dead and its funeral obsequies performed, as if it were buried past the possibility of resurrection. What a comment on such boastful predictions does the world now behold in the condition of Masonry in this country!

The correspondence of this Grand Lodge the past year brings us the published proceedings of twenty-two Grand Lodges. These proceedings are embodied in some *thirty* closely printed reports of from thirty-five to one hundred and thirty-five pages each. The Grand Lodges thus represented either in annual, semi-annual or biennial reports are as follows: New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Alabama, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Missouri, Mississippi, Florida, District of Columbia and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry in Canada. From the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Delaware, Virginia and Texas, there have been no communications for the past year.

The committee feel assured of the fraternal response of this Grand Lodge to all the communications from corresponding bodies and the friendly notices of this lodge appearing in many of them, and hereby assure those lodges of our joy in their prosperity, and our desire to maintain a friendly correspondence with all the Grand Lodges throughout this continent. The Grand Lodge of Maine will certainly receive with high satisfaction the acceptable communication from the Grand Lodge of Montreal and William Henry of Canada. This Grand Lodge was constituted by authority of the Grand Lodge of England, in May, 1846, and we have a report of its proceedings up to St. John the Evangelist's day, Dec 27, 1847. Returns are given of seven subordinate lodges in a healthful state of progress, yielding revenue to the Grand Lodge for the year, of 63£, 19s., 2d. In the prosperity of the Order in Canada, and of its Grand Lodge, we shall feel a lively interest, and cherish the hope that her youthful energies will be developed into full maturity and fair proportions, corresponding with the extent and resources of her country and the genius and energy of her people. Our brethren in Canada may rest assured that we shall be happy to continue the correspondence so happily begun, and that *it is our purpose to send our annual and fraternal greetings through by steam, as soon as we can clear the track and harness the Iron Horse.*

The proper limits of this report forbid a detailed examination of all the subjects of interest embraced in the several communications from corresponding bodies. There are, however, some things which claim particular attention.

1. The rapid extension of the principles of Free Masonry and the increase of members. There are now in the United States some thirty Grand Lodges with about two thousand subordinate lodges.

The number of members is supposed to be more than SIXTY THOUSAND. The returns to the Grand Lodges of the several states show that in nearly all of them there has been a large increase of members. Many of the old lodges which had long lain dormant, have revived and resumed their work with zeal, and are now in a state of healthful progress. Many new lodges have been established and have commenced a career of active usefulness.

2. Another pleasant feature of this correspondence is the evidence it affords of progress in what must ever constitute the essential strength and beauty of our order. There is a manliness of tone, a business like, vigorous style in the official communications and reports of the R. W. Grand Masters and the several committees—a clear perception and able discussion of the principles and interests of the craft, which show a substantial progress in the several lodges in what is more important to Masonry than mere increase of members.

3. Another feature deserving notice is the desire manifested to remove whatever defects, sources of irritation or alienation may still remain in the lodges. All institutions in human hands have defects to be remedied or diminished by time and experience. It would be strange, indeed, if our beloved order were an exception to this general law, and especially when we consider that it had lain for so long a time in comparative inaction. So many of our brethren have lived for years without the sound of the gavel—the working tools of our craft lying in disuse and wasting by “the tooth of time”—it would be strange indeed if they were all at once in perfect working order, or if the workmen and overseers should all without experience be prepared to work in perfect harmony and with the skill of master builders. Since the reign of bitterness which sprang up in the effort to destroy our own temple, and the succession of *anti-isms* which have followed in its train, and swept the bosom of society, it would be passing strange that there should be no discord and no diversity among the materials gathered hastily from all the diversities of the human family, scattered through some thirty states, and from all sections, sects, professions and parties. In some of the states, since the revival of Masonry, there have arisen questions of jurisdiction, diversities of manner and discrepancies in the instruction and work of the order, which have given rise to some dissension and want of harmony in action. It is pleasant to find evidence that the ancient pillars and landmarks are strong and stable enough to bear something of this action of conflicting waves; and that there is a healthful progress in removing the rubbish, and the causes of friction and annoyance in the working of the craft.

The committee regret to find that the unhappy controversy in regard to jurisdiction, between the sister Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, is not yet terminated. Whatever may be the merits of the argument on either

side of this controversy, there are manifested by each party some of those excrescences of human frailty and passion which suggest the necessity of a more free use of the gavel, and a more liberal exercise of faith, hope and charity. The existence of such a protracted controversy between the Grand Lodges of two adjacent states, as well as other valid reasons, is fitted to urge upon the attention of the several Grand Lodges of the United States a full and immediate consideration of the expediency of the establishment of a GENERAL GRAND LODGE. This subject has already engaged the attention of several Grand Lodges, and been partially discussed and passed upon by some of them, and has already been commended to your notice by our M. W. Grand Master in his annual communication, and your committee would express their conviction that this subject deserves to be carefully examined at this session of the Grand Lodge.

A brief statement of the position of this question may be deserved. It may perhaps be generally understood by the members of this body, that a convention was called to meet in the city of Baltimore on the 23d of September, 1847, by a circular issued by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maryland to consider the expediency of forming a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and take such action thereupon as should seem to be desirable.

In that convention there were delegates from the Grand Lodges of North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas and Maryland, and letters were read from the secretaries of several other Grand Lodges in reply to the circular which called the convention, stating that their Grand Lodges had approved the objects of the convention and assigning reasons why it was not convenient to send delegates. The convention was in session two days, and the results of their deliberations appear in their published proceedings, a copy of which is herewith submitted as a part of this report.

It will be seen by this document that a CONSTITUTION FOR A SUPREME GRAND LODGE OF THE UNITED STATES was submitted, discussed and adopted by the convention. The first Article of the Constitution declares the Grand Lodges of the United States united under one Supreme Grand Lodge, *provided* that before the 1st day of January, 1849, sixteen of the Grand Lodges shall have ratified this Constitution, and not otherwise; and is to take effect only on such Grand Lodges as shall ratify and adopt this Constitution or may be formed under it. The several Articles of the Constitution seem to be carefully drawn, and, in general, well adapted to secure the end proposed, and the committee would refer to the document itself for a full view of its particular features. The Constitution is accompanied by an address to the officers and members of the several Grand Lodges, setting forth in condensed form the leading motives for creating a Supreme Grand Lodge, and replying to certain objections which have been urged against it. Should this Grand Lodge take action on the question thus submitted, your committee recommend the reading of that address as preliminary to such

action. If the voice of this Grand Lodge is to be heard on this question prior to its decision, in January, 1849, it is necessary that we should consider and act upon it at this session. The subject is one of vital and commanding importance to the welfare of the order now, and will be increasingly so in view of the multiplication of lodges and the rapid increase of members. Such a confederation of the Grand Lodges of the states of our American Union would have a happy influence in extending the fraternal intercourse of good men in all sections, and contributing to the harmony and stability not only of Freemasonry, but of all the social, civil and religious institutions of our common country. Such an organization would put the lodges of this country on a similar basis with that of the chapters and encampments; and afford the most direct and practicable mode of correspondence with the *ancient and honorable Masonic bodies* in other countries, thus bringing into actual and early communication all the branches of the Masonic fraternity throughout the world. Would not such an intercourse, endeared by the cement of fraternal affection, be a delightful spectacle in an age like this? And is not the way preparing for it, in the providence of God, even in the convulsions and revolutions which now shake the eastern hemisphere? Such an affiliation and intercourse of the Masonic bodies throughout the world might contribute largely to the progress of humanity, the diffusion of light and love, the peace of the world, and the reign of universal benevolence. It would tend to these results by its influence in settling disputed questions of jurisdiction, harmonizing discrepancies in the symbols, languages and usages of the order, and removing the remaining rubbish around our temple walls, accumulated during years of inaction and neglect, or by which vandal hands have sought to hedge up the way of access to our doors, and make them inaccessible to "poor, blind candidates," or cause to stumble those of our craft who should presume to pass and repass without the necessary due-guards and appropriate qualifications.

The limited time afforded the Committee, and the length of this report, prevent a particular notice of several questions and usages of some importance which have been discussed in some of the Grand Lodges, and which the judicious action of a Supreme Grand Lodge might happily remove or diminish. Such questions may properly claim the attention of those who shall hereafter be intrusted with the correspondence of the lodge.

In conclusion the committee would congratulate the members of this Grand Lodge, and through its channels of communication, all good men and Masons throughout the world, on the rapid spread of our principles and the extension of the Mystic tie that binds the worthy and the true in fraternal affection, too strong to be permanently severed by the force of sectional or selfish interests, the conflicts of party or of sect, or destroyed in the agitations and revolutions with which the civilized world is now convulsed. All the aspects of the age now concur with the prophetic visions unfolded in the

first Great Light of Masonry in the assurance that revolution shall succeed revolution, "till He shall come whose right it is to reign," and the triumph of liberty and law, of human rights and human happiness shall be secured to all our race.

From these revolutions Freemasonry has nothing to fear. Her principles are based upon foundations which cannot be destroyed by the violence of open enemies or the treachery of false friends. Whatever may become of its *external organization*, the principles which are its essential life are imperishable, and will survive the wreck of all human organizations.

"Truth crushed to earth revives again;—
The eternal years of God are hers."

Freemasonry claims as its foundation the principles of TRUTH—truth adapted to the *nature* and *necessities* of man, and not merely to a particular age or nation, or any peculiar state of society. The distinctive and original elements of the human soul are such that the truths and principles inculcated in our Order, are adapted to afford a salutary restraint, discipline and development. Our symbols and ceremonies are fitted to enforce these truths and give them control over the heart and the life. It remains then for those who embrace these principles, and cherish the symbols and rites which illustrate and enforce them, to show to the world the excellence of their principles, and the fruits of their masonic labor in noble examples and worthy deeds. May it be the high privilege as well as the exalted purpose of all who have shared the toils, and reproaches, and persecutions through which our Order has been called to pass, and all who have more recently come in to share the labor and the honor of repairing and beautifying the walls of our ancient temple, to guard well the ancient landmarks and transmit in all their purity, the privileges we have inherited, to those who shall succeed us when called from our earthly labors. May we all, under the eye of the Divine Master, encircled by his Providence, sustained by his grace and purified by his truth, so discipline our hearts and lives—so fulfill the appropriate duties of life, and finish the work here assigned us, that when our earthly tabernacle shall be dissolved, we may be admitted with all the faithful to the upper temple, that building of God, eternal in the heavens, and hear the cordial greeting of our Supreme Grand Master—"Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,
JOSIAH PIERCE, } Committee.
F. BRADFORD, }

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Master be authorized and requested, through the District Deputy Grand Masters, or otherwise, to cite any such lodges as have made no returns to the Grand Lodge within five years past, to appear

at the next communication of the Grand Lodge, to show cause why their charters should not be declared forfeited; excepting, however, such lodges as he shall be satisfied are taking active and effectual measures to resume their masonic labors. And that he be further authorized and requested to take such other measures as he may deem expedient, to collect from the several dormant lodges that have no prospect of resuming work, their charters, records, regalia and other property, and cause the same to be deposited with the Grand Treasurer.

A communication was received from the Secretary of Union Lodge, at Union, stating the delinquency of a member.

On motion,

Voted, That the subject thereof be referred back to said lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That when the Grand Lodge calls off, it be until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Grand Lodge was then called off.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 4, 1848.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at eight o'clock A. M.

The committee, to whom was referred the Grand Master's address, made a report on so much thereof as relates to the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, and recommended that the Grand Lodge approve the measure.

Which report was read and accepted.

Whereupon, after due deliberation, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge ratifies and approves the Constitution for a Supreme Grand Lodge, reported by the convention holden at Baltimore, Md., on the 23d day of September, 1847.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary forthwith communicate notice of the

adoption, by this Grand Lodge, of the Constitution aforesaid, as prescribed by the second section of the fourth article thereof.

The Committee on Warrants and Charters, to whom was referred the petition of the members of King Hiram Lodge, reported that the prayer thereof be granted.

Report read and accepted.

The same committee, to whom was referred the petition of Mount Hope Lodge, v. D., reported that the prayer thereof be granted.

Report read and accepted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the consideration of the new Constitution and By-Laws reported at the last annual communication; and voted to consider and pass upon the same, article by article. And after considering and passing upon the whole of *part first* and *part second*, and to the *third article* of *part third*, the further consideration thereof was suspended for the present on account of other business.

The Committee on Warrants and Charters, to whom was referred the petition of Star in the East Lodge, v. D., reported that the prayer thereof be granted.

Report read and accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That the new lodges to whom charters have this day been voted, be required to pay therefor such fees only as are prescribed in the new constitution.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 2 o'clock P. M.

MAY 4, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Dis-

trict Deputy Grand Master of the eighth district, in reference to the withholding of the regalia, &c., of St. John's Lodge, by Bro. J. Clark, reported that the Grand Master be requested to cause another call to be made upon Bro. Clark to deliver up the property of said lodge, and if he still refuses, the Grand Lodge may take further action thereon.

Report read and accepted.

The Grand Master then reported to the Grand Lodge that in August last he had received a petition from Tranquil Lodge, setting forth that the village in the town of Auburn, where said lodge was holden, is nearly equally divided by the line separating said town from the town of Danville; that they have not and cannot, at present, procure a suitable hall on the Auburn side in which to hold their meetings, but could be well accommodated within a few rods of the Danville side of the line; and praying for a dispensation to hold said lodge in that part of Danville connected with the village aforesaid. That he had, on the 31st day of August last, granted to said lodge a dispensation to hold their meetings in Danville, as prayed for, until the present communication of the Grand Lodge. And that said lodge are desirous of having this privilege extended to them by the Grand Lodge:

Whereupon, on motion,

Voted, That Tranquil Lodge be authorized to hold their meetings in that part of the village of Danville, which is immediately connected with the village of Auburn, until the further order of the Grand Lodge, *provided*, however, that all other lodges in the state shall have and retain the same jurisdiction over said town of Danville, so far as relates to receiving candidates from said town, that they previously possessed.

Bros. Miller, Williams, Tufts and Boody were then appointed a Committee on the Pay Roll of Members.

The Grand Lodge then resumed the consideration of the new constitution, and passed upon the remaining portions thereof; and said new constitution having been considered in all its parts, several provisions stricken out and other amendments made, was adopted, article by article, as amended.

On motion,

Voted, That thirty dollars be allowed and paid to the Grand Secretary for his services the past year.

The Committee on the Pay Roll then made a report, which was read and accepted, and the Grand Treasurer was directed to pay the delegates pursuant thereto.

Bro. Smith then proposed in writing sundry amendments to the new constitution this day adopted, when

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Lodge will entertain the proposition for amendments, thus submitted.

The same were accordingly referred to Bros. Freeman Bradford, Wm. Somerby and Joshua Herrick.

On motion,

Voted, That when the Grand Lodge calls off, it be for two weeks from this day, at 7 o'clock P. M., for the installation of the Grand Officers, &c.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure such number of blank diplomas as may be necessary for the ensuing year; and also such other blanks as may be needed for the use of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address made a further report, recommending that the same be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, under the supervision of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was then called off.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 18, 1848.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor by the Grand Master at eight o'clock P. M.; when, but a thin attendance of members ap-

pearing, and several of the Grand Officers being absent, the Grand Lodge was again called off until Wednesday, the 24th inst., at 7½ o'clock P. M., then to convene for the installation of the Grand Officers.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 24, 1848.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 7½ o'clock P. M., by the Grand Master, who presided, assisted by a competent number of Grand Officers and members.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers, when there being no Past Grand Master present, R. W. Charles B. Smith, the oldest Past Master in attendance, by request, installed M. W. Alexander H. Putney, Grand Master, and conducted him to the 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,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Bangor.
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
" DANIEL WINSLOW,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District,</i>	Portland.
" HEZEKIAH HUTCHINS, JR.,	" 2d "	Rumford.
" LORY BACON,	" 3d "	Augusta.
" JOHN W. LINDLEY,	" 4th "	Union.
" ASA A. POND,	" 5th "	Ellsworth.
" WILLIAM GOODWIN,	" 6th "	Calais.
" JABEZ TRUE,	" 7th "	Bangor.
" THOMAS P. TUFTS,	" 8th "	Saco.
" FRYE HALL,	" 9th "	Belfast.
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Westbrook.
" WILLIAM A. DREW,	" "	Augusta.
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "	Gorham.
" BENJAMIN MANSON,	" "	Scarborough.
" NATHAN C. FLETCHER,	" "	Belfast.

W.	JONATHAN SMITH,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Westbrook.
"	NELSON RACKLYFT,	<i>Grand Senior Deacon,</i>	Portland.
"	EDWARD S. MOULTON,	<i>Grand Junior</i> "	Saco.
"	JOHN PURINTON,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Portland.
"	THOMAS S. BOWLES,	" "	Bath.
"	WILLIAM SOMERBY,	" "	Ellsworth.
"	GEORGE SMALL,	" "	Westbrook.
"	ASA BAILEY,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Portland.
"	SAMUEL B. STEVENS,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Westbrook.
"	EBENEZER G. EATON,	" "	Saco.
Bro.	JOHN DAIN,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

The Grand Master then proceeded to install, in ample form, the several subordinate Grand Officers for the ensuing year—those who were absent being installed by proxy—and the Grand Marshal made the usual proclamation accordingly.

R. W. Bros. Cyril Pearl, Freeman Bradford and John Williams were then appointed by the Grand Master, a Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the ensuing year.

On motion,

Voted, That the Recording Grand Secretary publish, with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, an abstract from the returns of the several subordinate lodges.

This annual communication of the Grand Lodge was then duly closed.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Rec. Grand Secretary.*

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF LODGES,

UP TO APRIL 1, 1848.

Portland, 1, Portland. William Kimball, M; James R. Milliken, sw; Henry C. Lovell, jw; Arthur Shirley, tr; Elias M. Plimpton, s; Richard W. Kennard, sd; Jonathan Swett, jd; Lemuel Bryant, ss; Thomas J. Sanborn, js; Isaac Davis, t. Members, 80; initiates, 11. District 1

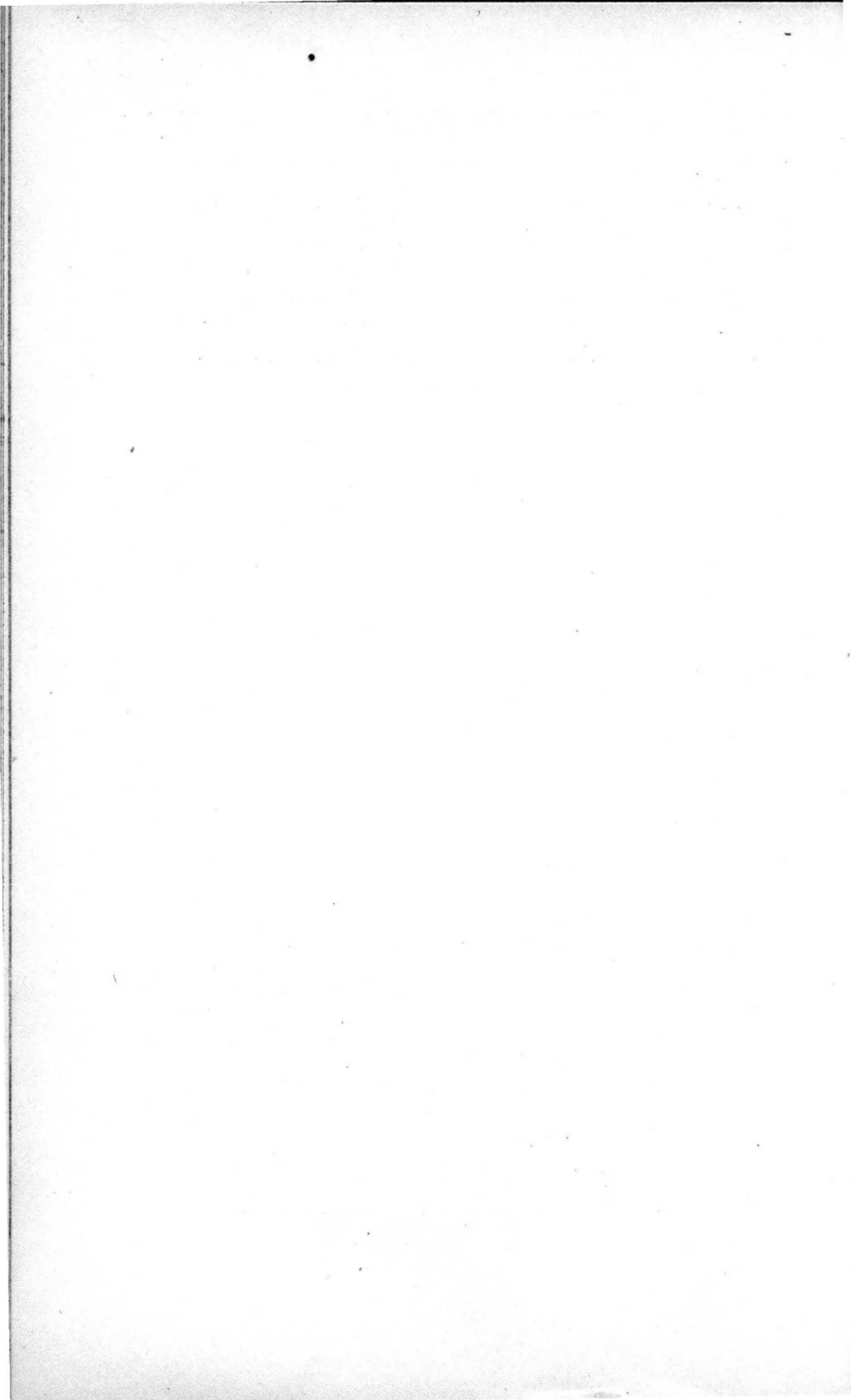
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. William Nye, m; Francis J. Day, sw; Stephen Lord, jw; William S. Marshall, tr; Calvin Spaulding, s; Leverett Lord, sd; Ira Cass, jd; Stewart Foster, ss; Benj. L. Hinkley, js; John A. Ewers, t. Members 22; initiates, 3. District 3
- Amity, 6, Camden. Frederick Conway, m; Josiah Hobbs, sw; John Glover, jw; Benjamin Crabtree, tr; Austin Sweetland, s; Thomas Annis, sd; J. R. Glover, jd; Samuel Chase, ss; Benjamin Crabtree, Jr., js; Isaiah Barbour, t. Members, 45; initiates, 25. 9
- Eastern, 7, Eastport. Samuel Rice, m; Lucius Bradbury, sw; Thomas Haycock, jw; Thomas Parker, tr; Benjamin Snow, s; Joshua Hinkley, sd; Jonas Gleason, jd; Peter Wempley, ss; Samuel Smith, js; James Norwood, t. Members 57; initiates, 7; deceased, 1. 6
- United, 8, Brunswick. James Colbath, m; Samuel S. Wing, sw; John D. Lincoln, jw; Benj. Furbish, tr; G. Clinton Swallow, s; T. S. McLellan, sd; Horace P. Hubbard, jd; Octavius A. Merrill, ss; Artemas Coburn, js; Moses M. Marsh, t. Members, 42; initiates, 4. 1
- Saco, 9, Saco. Frederick D. Edgerly, m; Nathan Leonard, sw; Thurston Libby, jw; Elijah Smith, tr; John Elden, s; James Smith, sd; James W. Wiggins, jd; James Hunt, ss; Trist. Scammon, js; John Harmon, 3d, t. Members, 32; initiates, 1; deceased, 2. 8
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Joseph C. Stevens, m; Jonathan Burbank, sw; John Williams, jw; William H. Mills, tr; Isaac W. Patten, s; John W. Sherwood, sd; Silas Alden, jd; Samuel B. Brown, ss; Herman Fisher, js; Simeon Everton, t. Members, 41; initiates, 14; rejected, 2. 7
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. John Hatch, m; Charles Megquier, sw; William Hatch, Jr., jw; Ezra Tobie, tr; William J. Bradbury, s; Benjamin Morse, sd; Daniel W. True, jd; Nathaniel Bray, ss; David Allen, js; Pelatiah Lyon, t. Members, 13; initiates, 3. 1
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. A. M. Savage, m; Edwin F. Quimby, sw; George Peirce, jw; James Flint, tr; Samuel Andrews, 2d, s; Ebenezer Kilborn, sd; Benj. Chaplin, jd; Austin S. Frisbee, ss; C. J. Adams, js; John Burnell, t. Members, 16; deceased, 1. 2
- Solar, 14, Bath. Jeremiah Ellsworth, m; Scott J. Tallman, sw; Elisha Clarke, jw; Davis Hatch, tr; A. J. Fuller, s; J. T. Gilman, sd; E. S. J. Nealley, jd; Wm. H. Harrison, ss; Geo. Marston, Jr., js; John Young, t. Members, 28; initiates, 4. 4
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. Benj. Carr, m; Edward Boyles, sw; Rufus C. Counce, jw; Peter Williams, tr; Edmond B. Leonard, s; J. D. Barnard, sd; Joel Miller, jd; Enoch Carlton, ss; Isaac Bunker, js; Luther Lincoln, t. Members; 19 initiates, 4. 4
- St. George, 16, Warren. John Miller, m; John Andrews, sw; Edward Weston, jw; Robert Jarvis, tr; Stoddard Bosworth, s; Samuel Hinkley, sd; Francis Spear, jd; James Coburn, ss; John Miller, Jr., js; Lewis S. Kirk, t. Members, 35; initiates, 7. 4
- Ancient Land Mark, 17, Portland. Charles B. Smith, m; Charles Fobes, sw; William Allen, jw; Henry H. Boody, tr; Caleb Chase, s; James F. Young, sd; David G. Plummer, jd; Lorenzo Stowell, ss; Amos E. Howell, js; John Duin, t. Members, 91; initiates, 1; rejected, 3; deceased, 3. 1
- Maine, 20, Farmington. Josiah Prescott, m; Henry Johnson, sw; Henry Stewart, jw; James Butterfield, tr; Joseph D. Prescott, s; Cotton Webster, sd; Isaac Eaton, jd; Moses Butterfield, ss; Wm. Morgridge, js; Nath'l Maddox, t. Members, 26; initiates, 4. 3
- York, 22, Kennebunk. Samuel Mendum, m; Joshua Herrick, sw; James Larrabee, jw; Paul Junkins, tr; Isaac Downing, s; Enoch Hardy, sd;

- Christopher Coats, *JD*; Abiel Kelly, Jr., *ss*; Benj. F. Mason, *js*; Members, 10; initiates, 1. District 8
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast, (for 1847.) Wm. G. Crosby, *m*; Daniel Haraden, *sw*; H. G. O. Washburn, *fw*; James P. Furber, *tr*; Orhea Page, *s*; Hiram Chase, *sd*; Samuel Locke, *JD*; Calvin Perkins, *ss*; L. B. Wetherbee, *js*; Robert Thompson, *t*. Members, 27; initiates, 18. 9
- Adoniram, 27, Linington. Arthur McArthur, *m*; Ammi Lord, *sw*; Benj. C. Libby, *fw*; Robert Cole, *tr*; Stephen C. Watson, *s*; Jabez Hobson, *sd*; Wm. D. Boulter, *JD*; Peter McArthur, *ss*; Emerson Smith, *js*; Benj. Blake, *t*. Members, 33; initiates, 1. 8
- Northern Star, 28, Anson. Joel Fletcher, *m*; Moses Moore, *sw*; John Pierce, *fw*; Benj. Steward, *tr*; James Y. Cleaveland, *s*; Lewis Cross, *sd*; Andrew McFadden, *JD*; Elbridge G. Savage, *ss*; John A. Fletcher, *js*; Chris. Thompson, *t*. Members, 37; initiates, 15. 3
- Tranquil, 29, Danville. William Bickford, *m*; Joseph Keith, *sw*; William White, *fw*; Archibald Lindsay, *tr*; Jacob Herrick, *s*; George W. Chase, *sd*; Hiram Adams, *JD*; William Parcher, *mar*; Joseph Hutchinson, *c*; Daniel Reed, Jr., *t*. Members, 28; initiates, 9. 2
- Union, 31, Union. Lewis Andrews, *m*; Nelson Cutler, *sw*; Gilbert M. Blackington, *fw*; Eben'r Cobb, *tr*; John Lindley, *s*; Joseph Vaughan, *sd*; Story Thompson, *JD*; John Pardoe, *ss*; John Williams, *js*; Philo Thurston, *t*. Members, 43; initiates, 8. 4
- Hermon, 32, Gardiner. Stephen Webber, *m*; Benjamin Cook, *sw*; George H. Cook, *fw*; Benj. Shaw, *tr*; William Sargent, *s*; James McCurdy, *sd*; James Tarbox, *JD*; Peter Vigoureux, *ss*; George Gay, *js*; Joseph Y. Gray, *t*. Members, 38; initiates, 8. 3
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Jeremiah Arnold, *m*; Hall Chase, *sw*; Jacob M. Crooker, *fw*; John Ransted, *tr*; Wm. M. Phillips, *s*; Wadsworth Chipman, *sd*; David Burbank, *JD*; Abner Chick, *ss*; James M. Palmer, *js*; Stephen Tozer, *t*. Members, 38; initiates, 5. 3
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Benj. A. G. Fuller, *m*; Bartlett Lancaster, *sw*; Jonas G. Holcomb, *fw*; Solomon T. Houghton, *tr*; Wm. Caldwell, Jr., *s*; Israel G. Johnson, *sd*; J. Edwin Ladd, *JD*; John Varney, *ss*; J. H. Patterson, *js*; Joshua Rollins, *t*. Members, 49; initiates, 11. 3
- Washington, 37, Lubec. ———, *m*; Levi Caswell, *sw*; Head Davis, *fw*; Theophilus Doe, *tr*; Jabez Mowry, *s*; Taft Comstock, *sd*; Daniel Havery, *JD*; George Comstock, *ss*; Rufus Godfrey, *js*; John Davison, *t*. Members, 28; initiates, 18. 6
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. Simon Foss, *m*; Reuben Flanders, *sw*; Levi C. Morgan, *fw*; Thomas E. Rogers, *tr*; William Morgan, *s*; Samuel Copeland, *sd*; Miles Doyle, *JD*; Tristram P. Sawyer, *ss*; Nathan B. Folsom, Jr., *js*; ———, *t*. Members, 44; initiates, 3. 7
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. Calvin Peck, *m*; William Somerby, *sw*; Stephen G. Woodward, *fw*; Nathaniel A. Joy, *tr*; George W. Newbegin, *s*; Asa A. Pond, *sd*; Daniel P. Lake, *JD*; Hazael Varnum, *ss*; Spofford P. Thomas, *js*; Samuel Buckner, *t*. Members, 34; initiates, 17; rejected, 1. 5
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Edmund Pillsbury, *m*; James Hawes, *sw*; Edward Rowe, *fw*; Hiram Rose, *tr*; Benj. F. Furber, *s*; Greenville Flint, *sd*; William Smith, *JD*; William Southard, *tr*; Hezekiah Lancaster, Jr., *js*; John Robbins, *t*. Members, 32; initiates, 4. 7
- Aurora, 50, East Thomaston. Hiram Sprague, *m*; Sam'l Libby, *sw*; Sam'l B. Perry, *fw*; Constant Rankin, *tr*; William A. Farnsworth, *s*; David M. Mitchell, *sd*; Jonas Colby, *JD*; Ephraim Hall, *ss*; John W. Hunt, *js*; James Kaler, *t*. Members, 54; initiates, 12; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 4

Mosaic, 52, Dover. Elihu B. Averill, m; Luther Chamberlain, sw; Judah M. Hackett, jw; James S. Holmes, tr; George W. Blethen, s; Richard R. Rice, sd; William P. Brown, jd; Benj. Hassell, ss; Salmon Holmes, js; Daniel Chase, t. Members, 16; initiates, 1; dimitted, 1. 7

Mount Hope, 59, Hope. Henry Hobbs, m; Josiah Hobbs, sw; John Lermond, jw; Moses Dakin, tr; John S. Chitman, s; David Hull, t. Members, 9; initiates, 7. 9

Star in the East, 60, Oldtown. Otis H. Johnson, m; Ephraim R. Lamos, sw; Arad Dudley, jw; Foster Wood, tr; Samuel W. Hoskins, s; Eli Hoskins, sd; Ira Wallace, jd; Solomon Moulton, ss; Charles Milliken, js; Joseph Moulton, t. Members, 17; initiates, 5; rejected, 2. 7



Grand Lodge of Maine,

1849.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the third day of May, A. L. 5849, and was opened in ample form at 9 o'clock A. M., by M. W. Alexander H. Putney, Grand Master, assisted by

R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	S. G. Warden;
" JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	J. G. Warden;
" HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary;
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Cor. Grand Secretary;
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain;
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	Gr. Marshal;
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	Senior Grand Deacon;
" HENRY C. LOVELL,	J. G. Deacon, <i>pro tem.</i> ;
" GEORGE SMALL,	Grand Steward;
" WM. SOMERBY,	" "
" ASA BAILEY,	G. Sword Bearer;
" EBENEZER G. EATON,	G. Pursuivant;
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. DANIEL WINSLOW.

Second District—R. W. HEZEKIAH HUTCHINS, JR.

Third District—R. W. LORY BACON.

Fourth District—R. W. JOHN W. LINDLEY.

Fifth District—R. W. ASA A. POND.

Seventh District—R. W. JABEZ TRUE.

Eighth District—R. W. THOMAS P. TUFTS.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Past Grand Master.

“ ABNER B. THOMPSON, Past Grand Master.

Prayers were offered by Rev. Bro. Cummings, Grand Chaplain.

Copies of the printed proceedings of last year were then distributed among the members, and the reading of the records dispensed with.

On motion,

Voted, That Master Masons in regular standing, who may desire it, be invited to take seats as visitors during this communication.

Many visiting brethren were then admitted.

R. W. Bro. Bradford offered a resolution,

That the following standing committees be appointed by the Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to consider and report upon all such matters as shall be referred to them during the present communication, viz:

1. A Committee on Credentials.
2. A Committee on Dispensations and Charters.
3. A Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.
4. A Committee on Returns.
5. A Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Each to consist of three members.

Resolution read and passed.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed as a Committee on Credentials, R. W. Bros. Williams of Bangor, Ellsworth of Bath, and Tufts of Saco.

Which committee subsequently reported the following lodges to be duly represented, as follows:

- 1 *Portland*, at Portland, by Henry C. Lovell, SW; R. W. Kennard, JW;
Samuel R. Leavitt, Proxy.
- 2 *Warren*, at Machias, by W. F. Hovey, Proxy.
- 5 *Kennebec*, at Hallowell, by Francis J. Day, M.
- 6 *Amity*, at Camden, by John Glover, M.
- 7 *Eastern*, at Eastport, by Lebbeus Bailey, Proxy.

- 8 *United*, at Brunswick, by Samuel S. Wing, M ; Joseph Hutchinson, Proxy ; O. A. Merrill, Proxy.
- 9 *Saco*, at Saco, by T. Libby, SW.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, at Bangor, by T. H. Morse, M ; J. Williams, Proxy.
- 12 *Cumberland*, at New Gloucester, by Charles Megquier, M ; W. Hatch, SW ; D. W. True, JW.
- 14 *Solar*, at Bath, by J. Ellsworth, M ; S. J. Tallman, SW.
- 16 *St. George*, at Warren, by John Andrews, SW.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, at Portland, by John B. Coyle, M ; Benjamin C. Fernald, SW ; Charles F. Safford, JW.
- 19 *Felicity*, at Bucksport, by Joshua Dunn, Proxy.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, at Livermore, by Robert Blackler, M ; Joseph Covell, SW ; Joseph S. Sargent, Proxy.
- 22 *York*, at Kennebunk, by C. M. Swett, Proxy.
- 23 *Freeport*, at Freeport, by Samuel Thing, SW.
- 24 *Phoenix*, at Belfast, by Timothy Chase, Proxy.
- 27 *Adoniram*, at Limington, by Arthur McArthur, M.
- 28 *Northern Star*, at Anson, by Benjamin Steward, Proxy.
- 29 *Tranquil*, at Danville, by George W. Chase, M ; Josiah Little, SW.
- 31 *Union*, at Union, by L. Andrew, M.
- 32 *Hermon*, at Gardiner, by Stephen Webber, SW ; F. P. Theobald, Proxy.
- 33 *Waterville*, at Waterville, by J. M. Crooker, SW.
- 34 *Somerset*, at Skowhegan, by E. Weston, SW ; A. Wyman, Proxy.
- 35 *Bethlehem*, at Augusta, by W. T. Johnson, Proxy.
- 40 *Lygonia*, at Ellsworth, by William Somerby, M ; D. P. Lake, JW ; G. W. Newbegin, Proxy.
- 46 *St. Croix*, at Calais, by Sewall Waterhouse, Proxy.
- 50 *Aurora*, at East Thomaston, by D. M. Mitchell, M.
- 52 *Mosaic*, at Dover, by L. Chamberlain, SW ; Amory Otis, Proxy ; Paul Douglass, Proxy.
- 58 *Unity*, at Freedom, by Seth Webb, Proxy.
- 59 *Mount Hope*, at Hope, by Josiah Hobbs, M.
- 60 *Star in the East*, at Old Town, by Eli Hoskins, SW ; Seth Paddleford, Proxy.

Report read and accepted.

The M. W. Grand Master then proceeded to fill up the standing committees, as follows, viz :

On Dispensations and Charters,—Bros. Bradford, Chase of Belfast and Covell.

On Doings of the Grand Officers,—Bros. Dunlap, Small and Swett.

On Returns,—Bros. Somerby, Boody and Webber.

On Grievances and Appeals,—Bros. Chase of Danville, Elliot and Leavitt.

On motion of Bro. McArthur,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to consider and report what business ought to be considered by this Grand Lodge, not connected with the duties of the standing committees aforesaid.

Whereupon the Grand Master appointed on said committee, Bros. McArthur, Bacon and Coyle.

A motion was then made that Bro. George Crawford, a member of Orient Lodge, be admitted to a seat as a representative of said lodge.

Which motion was thereupon referred to a committee of five, consisting of Bros. McArthur, Somerby, Chase of Danville, Lindley and Bailey.

Which committee subsequently reported,

"That without a strict compliance with the by-laws of the Grand Lodge, no brother can be admitted to represent any lodge under this jurisdiction as a proxy; and that inasmuch as Brother Crawford was not elected as proxy of Orient Lodge, nor has he the commission required by our by-laws, he is not admissible to represent Orient Lodge as their proxy; but being a regular member of said lodge, we recommend that he be invited to attend the Grand Lodge as a visiting brother."

Report read and accepted.

On motion of Bro. Ellsworth,

Voted, That 3 o'clock this afternoon be assigned as the time for the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

The following communication, addressed to the M. W. Grand Master, was received from Eastern Lodge, No. 7, at Eastport, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, viz:

EASTERN LODGE, No. 7,

Eastport, Me., April 12, 1849.

Most Worshipful Sir and Brother:—The following is an abstract of correspondence between Eastern Lodge, at Eastport, and Hibernia Lodge, No. 318, at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, and resolves passed by Eastern Lodge, Dec. 18, 1848, that have been forwarded to the lodges in this vicinity:

EASTERN LODGE, No. 7,

Eastport, Me., March 4, 1849.

Sir and Brother:—By direction of Eastern Lodge, I herewith transmit to you the following statement, with a copy of a letter received from Hibernia

Lodge, at St. Andrews, N. B., and an abstract of resolves passed by Eastern Lodge, Dec. 18, 1848 :

STATEMENT.

In August last, Mr. Alexander Boyd and James Molnoreux, citizens of Eastport, asked for initiation into Eastern Lodge ; and on a ballot being taken, September 4, they were rejected. In the early part of November following, it was reported to the lodge that they had been initiated at Hibernia Lodge, at St. Andrews, N. B. On the receipt of that information, the Secretary of Eastern Lodge was directed to address a note to Hibernia Lodge and ask if the information received was correct, and also to state to that lodge that Mr. Boyd and Molnoreux had applied for initiation into Eastern Lodge and were rejected.

REPLY.

HIBERNIA LODGE, No. 318,

St. Andrews, N. B., Dec. 6, 1848.

*Sir and Brother :—*Your communication bearing date November 17, 1848, was received and read in this lodge. A doubt existed as to its being properly authenticated, owing to the fact that no seal of Eastern Lodge had been affixed to it. However, after some discussion, it was determined that it should be regarded as such and answered by this lodge. As to the information you have received, respecting the initiation of James Molnoreux and Alexander Boyd in this lodge, I am directed to state to you that it is correct, and that they have since been raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. In reply to your inquiry, "by whom were they recommended?" I am directed to inform you that they were recommended by respectable citizens of Eastport, whose recommendation would not admit of a doubt ; and I understand that nothing appeared before the lodge against their character, consequently Hibernia Lodge could not, upon any just grounds, refuse them admission.

I am also directed to remark to you in this letter that yours of November 17th contained nothing against their reputation, but only the simple fact that they had been rejected, without showing any cause that would justify such a proceeding on the part of Eastern Lodge.

I remain fraternally yours,

J. E. CUMMINGS, *Secretary*.

R. W. Master of Eastern Lodge, Eastport.

EASTERN LODGE, No. 7,

Eastport, December 18, 1848.

On the receipt of the foregoing letter, the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That we can but regard the course of Hibernia Lodge, No. 318,

St. Andrews, N. B., in conferring the honors of Masonry upon Alexander Boyd and James Molnoureux, residents of this place, after their having been rejected by this lodge, and without any recommendation from the lodge or from Masons, to be unmasonlike, and as calculated in a high degree to impair the character and standing of the institution itself.

Resolved, That in our opinion no man should be made a Mason out of the place of his residence (if a lodge there exists), without some good and substantial recommendation from Masons, or the evidence of some reliable and substantial reason for doing the same, more especially in a case like this, where the lodges are so nearly in the same vicinity.

Resolved, That a lodge is the proper judge of the qualifications of its own members; it has no right to reverse the judgment of another lodge passed upon the qualifications of its own citizens, whom they may at least be supposed best to know.

Resolved, That we regard this act of Hibernia Lodge as an attempt not only to subvert and control the action of this lodge, but as in direct opposition to the principles and usages of the Masonic institution.

Resolved, That under no circumstances can we fraternize with Masons so made, nor can we fellowship with a lodge which so forgets its duties and obligations, as we understand them, until the Grand Lodge shall have settled the principles involved in what we conceive to be an outrage upon this lodge.

Resolved, That a statement of the facts from record, the correspondence of this and Hibernia Lodge, be laid before the Grand Lodge for its action, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to all the lodges in this vicinity.

A true copy: Attest,

BENJAMIN SNOW, *Secretary*.

M. W. Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Maine.

The committee to whom were referred the foregoing statement, correspondence and resolutions, after duly considering the same, submitted the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals, having taken into consideration the statement of facts, correspondence and resolutions presented by Eastern Lodge, No. 7, respectfully ask leave to report:

That your committee are unwillingly compelled to the belief that Hibernia Lodge, No. 318, of St. Andrews, N. B., (said lodge being under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland,) have violated the rights and jurisdiction of said Eastern Lodge, as recognized and established by the immutable and established principles, usages and landmarks of Masonry, in accepting, initiating, crafting and raising Mr. Alexander Boyd and Mr. James Molnoureux, citizens of Eastport, who had been previously regularly rejected by said Eastern Lodge, within whose jurisdiction they resided, without the consent

of said Lodge, or the recommendation of its Master and Wardens, as required by the by-laws of this Grand Lodge in such case. Your committee can conceive no reason justifying Hibernia Lodge in the course it has pursued; for admitting that in the present instance Eastern Lodge had improperly rejected worthy applicants, it would be a most dangerous precedent to recognize the right of a sister lodge, acting under a separate and independent jurisdiction, to interfere with and reverse the decisions of said lodge, as in fact the said Hibernia Lodge, in the case above alluded to, has done. And your committee cannot believe that Eastern Lodge is required, under such circumstances, to recognize as regular members of the fraternity, those who have knowingly violated one of the most important and necessary rules of Masonry to obtain its benefits.

Neither can your committee believe that the recommendation of citizens of Eastport, as set forth in the communication of Hibernia Lodge, is any palliation for the course they have pursued, because the said candidates were from their place of residence, and the previous action of Eastern Lodge rendered them disqualified, let their character and standing be good or bad; and that disqualification could only be removed in the regular manner pointed out in our by-laws. Your committee trust, however, that our brethren of Hibernia Lodge will, upon reflection, with that frankness and spirit of love and harmony which has heretofore been manifested, make all the reparation in their power, and exert themselves to restore those friendly relations which they have thus interrupted. And your committee further believe that the Grand Lodge of Ireland will exert itself to prevent improper encroachments upon the jurisdiction and privileges of sister lodges.

Your committee, therefore, recommend that this Grand Lodge approve of the acts and resolutions of Eastern Lodge in the premises; and that a copy of the same, with the statement of facts and the action of this Grand Lodge in relation thereto, be transmitted by the Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, Hibernia Lodge, No. 318, at St. Andrews, N. B., and Eastern Lodge, No. 7, at Eastport.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. CHASE,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
JOHN ELLIOT,		
SAMUEL R. LEAVITT,		

Which report was read and accepted; and thereupon the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to transmit to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, to Hibernia Lodge, No. 318, at St. Andrews, N. B., and to Eastern Lodge, at Eastport, certified copies of the statement of facts, correspondence and regulations of Eastern Lodge, No. 7, at Eastport, together with the doings of this Grand Lodge in relation thereto.

A petition was received from Oriental Star Lodge, asking permission to change their seal.

Referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A communication from Bros. Hugh Curtis and others, relative to the establishment of a lodge at Richmond, was received and read; and, with their petition upon the same subject, from the files of last year, was referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A petition from Joseph Clark and others for a new lodge at Waldoboro', was received, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until two o'clock P. M.

MAY 3, 2 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

A petition was received from Central Lodge, at China, asking for a renewal of their charter.

Referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A petition was received from Bros. A. Getchel and others, asking for a renewal of the charter of Vassalboro' Lodge.

Referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A petition was received from Star in the East Lodge, asking aid for a blind brother. Referred to the Trustees of the Charity Fund, to be disposed of at their discretion.

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered to the Grand Lodge the following address, which was referred to the Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers:

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

R. W. Brethren :—Through the great goodness of our Grand Master above, we are again permitted to assemble in Grand Communication; and amidst our joyous and happy greetings let us render all thanks “to Him who hath governed our hearts undivided”—who hath in his inscrutable and merciful Providence spared and preserved so many of us, while one and another, on our right hand and on our left, have been called from this earthly lodge to that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns. And while many, with whom we have traveled the rugged paths of life, who have been co-workers with us in rearing and beautifying our beloved temple on earth, are now enjoying that glorious and blessed immortality consequent upon a well spent life, let us rejoice that our blessed institution still shines resplendent upon earth—still continues to aid in preparing, amidst tabernacles of clay, the human family for those spiritual joys which await the well doer in the glorious temple above.

I congratulate you, my brethren, that we meet under so favorable circumstances; that everywhere, throughout the length and breadth of our noble state, the sound of the gavel is heard, cheering a noble band of faithful craftsmen, ever diligent in the duties of their respective stations, and ever ready to exhibit specimens of their skill, which will command the approbation of the skillful craftsman of every clime, and stand the test of the Grand Overseer's square.

The various Grand Lodges in the different states of our Union and the neighboring Provinces have most of them kindly forwarded to us their annual proceedings as usual. Some few of these documents for which we always look with much interest, by miscarriage or some other cause, have not come to hand. I regret this, as they always furnish much useful as well as interesting matter. From those received we derive the pleasing intelligence that their various lodges are in a highly prosperous condition. They are growing rapidly, not only in numbers, but in weight of character. Men of virtue and piety are seeking and gaining admission within their portals; thus furnishing ornaments and supports to the institution, against which the powers of darkness shall not prevail.

I observe that the action in the different Grand Lodges upon the question of forming a General Grand Lodge has been various; some having adopted the constitution as proposed by the Baltimore Convention, and others, while they are in favor of uniting in forming such a General Grand Body, disapprove of the constitution as reported and accepted by the convention. As from this state of things, it is rendered quite uncertain whether the measure proposed will be accomplished the present season, it will be for this Grand Lodge to consider and decide upon the expediency of electing a delegate to attend the convention at Baltimore in July next, as proposed by the former convention.

I perceive that the decision of this and some other Grand Lodges, that a maimed man is not in all cases debarred the rights and benefits of Freemasonry, is freely and rather severely commented on by some Masonic writers. It may be judicious in this Grand Lodge to review their action in the premises and see if there be anything in the practice that will not stand the test of the true Masonic light. Yet with all due deference I can but believe that these writers are losing sight of the more weighty matters of the law as laid down in the great light of Masonry, while they discourse so profoundly upon what are, (as Masonry now exists, a great moral and benevolent Institution,) mere non-essentials, and which would never have had an existence but for the operative character of ancient Masonry. For one I do most devoutly revere the ancient landmarks of the order, yet do I as truly believe in the wisdom of the decision of our illustrious predecessors, who have virtually abrogated from the ancient regulations the provisions that the candidate must be true to the church, and be born of honest or lawful parents. Would one of these zealous brethren, who contend so stoutly for "ancient regulations," reject the application of an honest, accomplished fellow citizen, because his parents indiscreetly brought him into existence before they had plighted their faith at the hymeneal altar? I trust the response must be no! And if so, then away with the technical objection which would exclude the warmest heart and brightest intellect merely because they belong to one in the human form Divine, who, by some dispensation of Divine Providence, has lost a hand or a foot. I would by no means be understood to advocate what some call progressive Masonry; on the contrary I contend for that ancient Masonry which teaches us to shun the "errors of bigotry and superstition," and make a due use of reason "according to that liberty wherewith a Mason is made free," and by which we are also taught to "regard the whole human species as one family—the high and low, the rich and poor, who, as created by one Almighty parent, are to aid, support and protect each other." If "to soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries and restore peace to their troubled minds, is the grand aim we have in view," how, I ask, can we consistently reject from our communion one whose only demerit is the loss of a limb, not absolutely necessary to his instruction in Masonry, yet rendering him still more an object claiming our kindly sympathies? There are many important matters treated of in the documents received, for a more particular account of which I refer you to the report of our Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The progress made by our subordinate lodges during the past year will be made to appear by the reports and returns of the several D. D. Grand Masters, which I recommend be published with the proceedings of this communication of the Grand Lodge.

The report of your Committee on the Amended Code of By-Laws will of course receive that attention which its importance demands at your hands;

and as this subject has long been agitated, it seems particularly desirable that it should be fully disposed of at this time, and a committee appointed to superintend their publication, as all our lodges need copies for their government.

I would also take the liberty to suggest that the Grand Lodge take some measure at the present session more effectually to preserve its records and doings, from its formation to the present time. It may be judicious to col- late and publish them in one volume, under the direction of a proper committee; as doubtless all our subordinate lodges and many of our individual brethren would be glad to obtain copies at a fair price, which would nearly or quite cover the expense of publication. As our annual proceedings have not heretofore been carefully preserved, and our books of record are liable to be lost by accident, it will be for you to consider whether some more effectual measures ought not at once to be taken for their preservation.

I have recently granted a dispensation to a competent number of brethren at Waldoboro' to form and open a lodge to be called King Solomon's Lodge; which dispensation is to be returned to this Grand Lodge for their action thereon at the present session.

And now, my brethren, as I have been twice honored through your friendly suffrages with a seat in this exalted chair, and am about to resign it to some worthy brother whom you shall elect to fill it, I beg of you to accept my warmest thanks for the many tokens of your respect and confidence so repeatedly expressed in your vote electing me to the various stations I have filled in this honorable body. That I could not bring to this chair the distinguished ability which has heretofore characterized its illustrious occupants, was known to you all as well as myself; for truly no Grand Lodge has been more highly favored in the character and talents of its Grand Masters than has this from the period of its formation to the election of the present incumbent. But I need not, neither can I, attempt any eulogy upon their virtues; their fair fame is written in the annals of our state and nation, and will live when the rest of us shall have followed those who have gone before to the house appointed for all the living. Having accepted a responsible station in the Grand Lodge at a time when many were weak and weary, and our beloved Institution seemed in danger of annihilation, I have endeavored to exercise my little talent to promote the greatest good of the craft; and if, as is very likely the fact, I have, in my ardent temperament, in the heat of debate or otherwise, overstepped the proper bounds of discretion, and wounded the feelings of any brother, I would humbly ask him to attribute the error to the head and not to the heart, and forgive accordingly. My only regret in leaving the chair is that I have not been able to be more useful during the two years that I have occupied it; and approving most fully as I do, of the tenure of office fixed by our new code of by-laws at two years, I must, with renewed assurances of my regards for past favors, respectfully decline being considered a candidate for any office in the gift of

the Grand Lodge. Yet so long as I shall remain a member, it will be my pleasure to labor in promoting its best interests; and that each of you, my brethren, may receive that light from above which shall lead you into all truth, and so guide your deliberations and actions during this session, as to promote the interest of the craft in our state, and the cause of truth, justice and humanity generally, is the ardent prayer of your fellow laborer.

ALEX. H. PUTNEY.

The following reports were received from D. D. Grand Masters; and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers, viz :

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FIRST DISTRICT.

PORTLAND, May 4, 1849.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

Having served the past year as D. D. G. Master of the First District, I ask leave respectfully to report :

That in performing the duties of the office, I have granted three dispensations for conferring the degrees under emergencies, viz : one to the Cumberland Lodge, at New Gloucester, and two to the Portland Lodge, at Portland. I have procured the books, charter and jewels of Harmony Lodge, Gorham. This lodge has been inactive for a great number of years; and from the best information I can gain, there was, at the time this lodge ceased work, a very respectable fund belonging to the lodge, but I can discover no signs of any property now remaining, of any description. I have visited officially, twice during the year, the Cumberland Lodge at New Gloucester. At one visit I assisted in work on the three degrees, and am happy to state that this lodge exhibits a deep interest in the cause of Masonry. This lodge has fifteen members, and has, during the last year, initiated six and crafted and raised four.

The Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges, both at Portland, I have visited frequently, and hesitate not to say that their work and lecturing is of a high order. The Portland Lodge returns ninety-three members and twelve initiates. Ancient Land-Mark Lodge, ninety-six members and ten initiates.

The Freeport Lodge, at Freeport, from repeated misfortunes, have not been able to do much by way of work, and have made no returns. The W. Master informs me that they now have a hall and meet regularly for lectures and instruction.

The United Lodge, at Brunswick, I have not had the pleasure of visiting for something over a year; but their well known industry and intelligence is a sure and safe guarantee that the "landmarks" of the order have not

suffered at their hands. This lodge returns forty-four members and eight initiates. Very respectfully,

DANIEL WINSLOW, *D. D. G. M. First Masonic District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF THIRD DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The duties of D. D. G. Master of the Third District have not been so arduous, nor has it been necessary to visit the lodges therein so frequently as in former years. There are seven lodges in this district now in active operation, and without any material deviation from the ancient forms, ceremonies, lectures and work, are doing a good share of business, as their returns will show. These are Kennebec, at Hallowell; Maine, at Farmington; Northern Star, at Anson; Hermon, at Gardiner; Waterville, at Waterville; Somerset, at Skowhegan, and Bethlehem, at Augusta. Central Lodge, at China, has been endeavoring to resume labor under a dispensation granted them by the M. W. Grand Master, having lost, among the rubbish, its charter, jewels and regalia. There are worthy brethren belonging to this lodge, who are desirous and anxious to have their charter renewed, if it can be done free of expense to them; and I would respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge that this favor be extended to them.

I have visited all these lodges once, and some of them twice, during the past year. They appear generally to be improving and prosperous in their work; but there is not that perfect uniformity in the manner of doing work, which it is desirable there should be. It seems necessary that the Grand Lodge should adopt some measures to produce a more perfect uniformity in the work and lectures in the several lodges under this jurisdiction, and cause the same to be observed. The lodges in this district, and especially those in the vicinity of Augusta, have received a new impulse from the resuscitation of Jerusalem Chapter, which is now in successful operation.

[In my report to the Grand Lodge at their last annual communication, I gave a brief account of the situation of each lodge, which is deemed unnecessary at this time. I will observe, however, that Bethlehem Lodge, at Augusta, held their first meeting January 8th, in their new, spacious and splendid hall, designed and finished by brother William Hunt, expressly for their use, and also for the accommodation of Jerusalem Chapter.

I visited Maine Lodge, at Farmington, October 11th, and installed their officers in due form, in the presence of many ladies, who, at a suggestion in my notice to visit them, were invited into the hall with a few gentlemen. They appeared to be much interested in witnessing the ceremonies, and left with apparent satisfaction and favorable impression.

Temple Lodge, at Winthrop, Morning Star Lodge, at Litchfield, Lafayette

Lodge, at Readfield,* Vassalboro' Lodge, at Vassalboro', and Rural Lodge, at Sidney, have lost their charters, records, jewels, &c., and have nothing left them but the name; and I would suggest the propriety of striking them from the list of lodges in the Third Masonic District.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LORY BACON, *D. D. G. M. Third District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FOURTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

There are six lodges in the Fourth Masonic District that are now in operation; all of which I have visited during the past year, and am happy to report them in a prosperous condition, doing a good business. They have generally held meetings weekly during the winter, and zeal and good feeling are manifested among the members, who are anxious to promote the good cause; the only contention being who best can work and best agree.

Lincoln Lodge, at Wiscasset, have resumed work within the last year, after lying dormant many years, and are now exerting themselves vigorously in the good cause.

St. George Lodge have formerly held their meetings alternately at Warren and Waldoboro'. But finding this arrangement inconvenient, the brethren of Waldoboro' have petitioned for a new charter for that place, and have recently obtained from the Grand Master a dispensation, but have not yet been able to organize, in consequence of the indisposition of the brother named as their Senior Warden. They are, however, holding meetings, preparing a code of by-laws, and are expecting to receive a charter from the Grand Lodge at the present session.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. LINDLEY, *D. D. G. M. Fourth District.*

REPORT OF D. D. GRAND MASTER OF SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The undersigned having been appointed District Deputy of the Seventh District for the past year, asks leave to report:

That he has visited all the working lodges in his district, and found them generally devoted to the cause of Masonry; but it is to be regretted that there are evident marks of rust remaining, which accumulated during the dark ages, and a great want of uniformity in work, which can only be remedied by having a competent lecturer visit and spend several days with each lodge, or at least with their officers. I would recommend that the Grand Lodge take some efficient measures to relieve the fraternity from this evil.

* May 4, 1849. Since the opening of the Grand Lodge this day, I received a communication purporting to be from Masons belonging to Vassalboro' Lodge, requesting a renewal of their charter, which was laid before the proper committee.

I would further report that Piscataquis Lodge, located at Sebec, has not resumed work, and probably will not; an effort is making to unite its members with Mosaic Lodge, at Dover, which, if accomplished, will, it is hoped, give more activity to Mosaic Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Bangor, April, 1849.

JABEZ TRUE.

R. W. Bro. McArthur, from the committee upon that subject, made a report relative to business necessary to be acted upon at this session.

Read and laid upon the table.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year. Bros. Tallman, Sargent and Webber were appointed to receive, sort and count the votes.

FOR GRAND MASTER.

Two-thirds of the votes being necessary to a choice, several unsuccessful ballots were taken, when upon the final ballot the whole number of votes cast was - - - - 60

Necessary to a choice, - - - - 40

R. W. Joseph C. Stevens, of Bangor, had - - - 41
And was declared elected.

FOR DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

The whole number of votes cast was - - - - 57

Necessary to a choice, - - - - 38

R. W. John C. Humphreys, of Brunswick, had - - - 38
And was declared elected.

FOR SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.

The whole number of votes cast was - - - - 52

Necessary to a choice, - - - - 35

R. W. Freeman Bradford, of Portland, had - - - 48
And was declared elected.

FOR JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.

The whole number of votes cast was - - - - 40

Necessary to a choice, - - - - 27

R. W. Stephen Webber, of Gardiner, had - - - 36
And was declared elected.

FOR GRAND TREASURER.

The whole number of votes cast was	-	-	-	-	22
Necessary to a choice, (a majority,)	-	-	-	-	12
R. W. Henry H. Boody, of Portland, had	-	-	-	-	22
And was declared elected.					

FOR RECORDING GRAND SECRETARY.

The whole number of votes cast was	-	-	-	-	23
Necessary to a choice,	-	-	-	-	12
R. W. Charles B. Smith, of Portland, had	-	-	-	-	23
And was declared elected.					

R. W. Bros. Freeman Bradford, Abner B. Thompson and Jonathan Smith were then elected by ballot a Committee of Finance for the ensuing year.

The Grand Secretary then reported to the Grand Lodge that two vacancies existed in the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to fill said vacancies by ballot.

The whole number of ballots cast was	-	-	-	-	18
Necessary to a choice,	-	-	-	-	10

R. W. Bros. Alexander H. Putney and Samuel S. Wing had each 18 votes, and were declared elected.

A circular from the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York masons was then laid upon the table by the Grand Secretary. Read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed a Committee on the Pay Roll, consisting of Bros. Bacon, Newbegin and Morse.

A communication from Union Lodge, stating the expulsion of a brother, was then laid upon the table by the Grand Secretary. Referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The Grand Secretary submitted the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The Grand Secretary reports, that in accordance with a vote of the Grand Lodge passed at the last annual communication, he procured, in July last, from George G. Smith, Esq., of Boston, Copper-plate Engraver and Printer,

300 blank diplomas for the use of lodges under this jurisdiction; 100 of which were impressed on parchment at 47 cents each, and 200 on paper at 12½ cents each—amounting to \$72.00. That on the first of April, finding the stock nearly exhausted, and presuming that a considerable number would be wanted to furnish the lodges at and prior to this annual communication, he ordered from the same source 500 more; of which 100 were on parchment at 48 cents each, and 400 on paper at 10 cents each; making for this second lot, a bill of \$88.00. These two bills, amounting to \$160.00, have been paid by the Grand Treasurer. Of the paper diplomas procured, one-half were impressed on drawing paper, being the best material for such as wish to preserve them in frames; the other half on bank note paper, which is found most convenient for persons traveling, as they can be safely folded and carried in a pocket-book. Of the last lot procured 100 were for Past Masters. It is deemed probable that the supply now on hand may be sufficient to furnish the lodges for the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted,

C. B. SMITH, *Gr. Sec.*

Report read and accepted.

A communication from members of Alna Lodge, surrendering their charter until they shall be able to use it with advantage to the craft, was laid upon the table by the Grand Secretary. Read and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A petition was received from Cumberland Lodge, holden at Gloucester, asking permission to hold their meetings a portion of the time at Mechanic Falls in Minot. Read and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The following report was then made by the Committee on Grievances and Appeals:

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, having considered the communication from Union Lodge in regard to the expulsion of William S. Clark from said lodge, respectfully ask leave to report: That said communication does not present the facts in the case, and that the committee were unable to recommend the approval or disapproval of the Grand Lodge thereof.

Your committee, therefore, respectfully recommend that said lodge be requested to furnish the Grand Lodge, at its next regular communication, with all the facts in the premises, so that action can be had understandingly thereon. All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEORGE W. CHASE,	} <i>Committee.</i>
JOHN ELLIOT,	
SAMUEL R. LEAVITT,	

Report read and accepted.

The Committee of Finance then made the following report :

The Committee of Finance have attended to the duty assigned them, and report :

That they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the past year and find that there has been received into the Treasury, from all sources, the sum of \$1,215.64; and that there has been disbursed, during the same period, the sum of \$460.46, for which sufficient and satisfactory vouchers have been exhibited; and that there is now in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, the sum of \$755.19.

The committee take great pleasure in expressing their approbation of the manner in which your Grand Treasurer has discharged his responsible duties for the past year.

F. BRADFORD, JONA. SMITH, A. B. THOMPSON,	}	Committee.
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Report read and accepted.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

MAY 4, 1849.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at eight o'clock A.M.

R. W. Bro. Bradford, from the committee to whom was referred certain amendments to the Constitution, which amendments were offered at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and had been sent out to the several subordinate lodges, then reported the same with amendments, and the same were read and discussed in part, and laid upon the table.

The Grand Treasurer's annual report was presented, and having been audited and approved by the Committee of Finance, was accepted and ordered to be placed on file.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. Weston, was read and passed:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommend to the members of the several lodges in this state to visit all contiguous lodges, and others as far as convenient, for the purpose of mutual instruction, and of acquiring as great a degree of uniformity as may be practicable.

The Committee on Returns made the following report :

The Committee on Returns of subordinate lodges respectfully report that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and find that the whole number of lodges that have made returns at this annual communication is thirty-five, viz :

Portland	Lodge.	Ancient Landmark Lodge.
United	"	Cumberland "
Oriental Star	"	Blazing Star "
Hermon	"	Kennebec "
Northern Star	"	Bethlehem "
Waterville	"	Maine "
Somerset	"	Eastern "
Warren	"	Unity "
Tranquil	"	Washington "
Phoenix	"	Amity "
Mount Hope	"	Lygonia "
Felicity	"	Lincoln "
Aurora	"	Orient "
St. George	"	Union "
Solar	"	Mosaic "
Rising Virtue	"	Meridian Splendor "
Penobscot	"	St. Croix "
Star in the East	"	

These returns the committee find to be generally correct, except, in a few instances, that dates of the times of conferring degrees are omitted. They, however, find an error, probably from misapprehension, in the return from St. Croix Lodge, for the year ending January, 1847, in reference to the fees accruing to the Grand Lodge. The Constitution provides that each subordinate lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge the sum of two dollars for each candidate initiated therein, and an annual fee of one-eighth of a dollar for each of its members. The returns from St. Croix Lodge not being in conformity with this provision, the committee recommend that it be re-committed to the D. D. Grand Master of that district for correction.

The committee also recommend that the fees accruing to the Grand Lodge from Lincoln Lodge, which has been in operation only six months since its revival, be remitted to this time.

From the foregoing returns it appears that the number of acting members of the aforesaid lodges is nine hundred and ninety-four; and that the num-

ber of candidates initiated therein during the past year is two hundred and twenty-eight.

All which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM SOMERBY,	} Committee.
STEPHEN WEBBER,	
HENRY H. BOODY,	

This report was read and accepted, and the recommendations therein contained were severally adopted.

The Committee on the Pay Roll made a report, which was read and accepted, and the Grand Treasurer directed to pay the delegates in accordance with the same.

On motion,

Voted, Now to proceed to the installation of the Grand Officers.

The M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Past Grand Master, having been invited to perform this ceremony, then took the chair and proceeded to install in ample form the several Grand Officers elect, as follows, viz :

M. W. JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	<i>Grand Master</i> ,	Bangor ;
R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	<i>Deputy Grand Master</i> ,	Brunswick ;
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	<i>Senior Grand Warden</i> ,	Portland ;
" STEPHEN WEBBER,	<i>Junior Grand Warden</i> ,	Gardiner ;
" HENRY H. BOODY,	<i>Grand Treasurer</i> ,	Portland ;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	<i>Grand Secretary</i> ,	Portland.

The M. W. Grand Master then announced the following appointments of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, who were also severally installed, by themselves or proxies, viz :

R. W. ALLEN HAINES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary</i> ,	Portland.
" DANIEL WINSLOW,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District</i> ,	Portland.
" GEORGE W. CHASE,	" 2d "	Danville.
" LORY BACON,	" 3d "	Augusta.
" JOHN W. LINDLEY,	" 4th "	Union.
" ASA A. POND,	" 5th "	Ellsworth.
" WILLIAM H. TOBEY,	" 6th "	East Machias.
" JABEZ TRUE,	" 7th "	Bangor.
" JOSHUA HERRICK,	" 8th "	Kennebunk-Port.
" *FRYE HALL,	" 9th "	Belfast.

* Since these appointments were made, Bro. Hall has deceased and R. W. Bro. Timothy Chase, of Belfast, been appointed to fill his place.

W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Portland.
" WILLIAM A. DREW,	" "	Augusta.
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "	Standish.
" JOSEPH HUTCHINSON,	" "	Brunswick.
" NATHAN C. FLETCHER,	" "	Belfast.
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Westbrook.
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	<i>Grand Senior Deacon,</i>	Portland.
" EDWARD S. MOULTON,	<i>Grand Junior "</i>	Saco.
" JOHN PURINTON,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Portland.
" SELAH G. DENNIS,	" "	East Thomaston.
" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	" "	Ellsworth.
" GEORGE SMALL,	" "	Westbrook.
" ASA BAILEY,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Portland.
" SAMUEL B. BROWN,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Bangor.
" EBENEZER G. EATON,	" "	Saco.
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

On motion,

Voted, That the consideration of the amendments proposed to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, be assigned for two o'clock this afternoon.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 2 o'clock P. M.

MAY 4, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Bro. Hobbs submitted a motion that the fees accruing to the Grand Lodge, from Mount Hope Lodge, for initiations during the past year be remitted. Motion laid on the table.

The Grand Lodge then resumed the consideration of the amendments of the by-laws, which had been submitted to the lodges, and reported upon by the committee to whom they had been referred. And the said amendments were severally considered and adopted, article by article, with further slight amendments by the Grand Lodge; when, on motion, it was

Voted, That the several articles reported by the committee, and as amended by the Grand Lodge, be adopted as constituent portions of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of M. W. Bro. Putney,

Voted, That *five hundred copies* of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, as revised and amended, be published, under the direction of the committee who reported the same.

On motion of M. W. Bro. Putney,

Resolved, That the standing order passed by this Grand Lodge on the 23d day of June, 1845, by which the dues of dormant lodges under this jurisdiction were to be remitted for one year after resuming work, be, and the same is hereby rescinded. This resolution to take effect from and after the first day of September next.

Bro. Bradford, from the Committee on Dispensations and Charters, then made the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The Committee on Dispensations and Charters, having had under consideration the various matters referred to them, ask leave to report :

That in January, 1848, the requisite number of masons at Richmond, in the fourth masonic district, presented a petition to the M. W. Grand Master for authority to open and hold a lodge in the town of Richmond, by the name and style of Richmond Lodge. This petition was approbated by the D. D. Grand Master of the fourth district, and the petitioners were recommended by Solar Lodge at Bath. The usual fee did not accompany the petition, and the Grand Master having some doubt whether the petitioners should not be recommended by Hermon Lodge at Gardiner, as being in fact somewhat nearer than Solar Lodge, caused the petitioners to be notified of his doubts in this respect, and also of the requisite fees as prescribed by the by-laws of this Grand Lodge at that time. There the matter appears to have rested ; and the same petition is now presented to this Grand Lodge.

Your committee are of opinion that the recommendation of Solar Lodge is sufficient in this case, and they are informed by the representatives of Hermon Lodge, that no objection is made on the part of that lodge, to the establishment of a new lodge at Richmond. The committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That a dispensation in the usual form be granted to the petitioners, on their paying the usual established fee, authorizing them to open and hold a lodge at Richmond, Maine, by the name and style of Richmond Lodge.

The committee further report, that they have examined the petition of certain brethren in Waldoboro', praying for a charter of constitution for a new lodge, to be named King Solomon's Lodge. The petition is signed by fifteen brethren, who are recommended by W. Master and Wardens of St. George Lodge, Warren, and the W. Master and Wardens of Union Lodge,

at Union, and approbated by the R. W. D. D. Grand Master. Though the recommendation is not in the form prescribed by the regulations of the Grand Lodge, still, the committee are satisfied that the act of the Master and Warden of the two nearest lodges was done by the consent and authority of their respective lodges. On this petition, the M. W. Grand Master issued his dispensation on the 4th of April last, and the same is now returned to this Grand Lodge, but not accompanied with any proceedings or by-laws. The reason for this omission, is, that said lodge, (owing to the short length of time since the dispensation was issued,) have not had time to complete their organization. The committee are satisfied that the Masonic skill and ability of the petitioners are a sure guarantee of their conforming to the usages and customs of the craft; and being assured that the petitioners will forward to the Grand Secretary an attested transcript of their proceedings, and of their by-laws, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That upon the reception of an attested copy of the proceedings and of the by-laws of said petitioners, a charter be issued to them agreeably to the regulations of the Grand Lodge, authorizing them to form and hold a lodge at Waldoboro', by the name and style of King Solomon's Lodge.

The committee further report, that they have examined the petition of certain members of Central Lodge, No. 45, at China, praying for a dispensation to resume their Masonic labors, and for a new charter, instead of one lost or destroyed. A dispensation has been granted agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners, and is now returned, under which they have re-organized and commenced work. Your committee, therefore, recommend that a new charter be granted to Central Lodge, agreeably to the provisions of the constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

The committee further report, That they have had under consideration, a communication from certain members of Village Lodge at Bowdoinham, setting forth that said lodge is about to re-organize, and requesting to be informed whether it is the pleasure of the Grand Lodge to continue to it its rights and privileges as a regularly constituted lodge. This Grand Lodge hails with pleasure and satisfaction, every effort that is made by dormant lodges to commence their Masonic labors; and its policy has been to continue to them all their rights and privileges. It relies on the judgment of the individual members of decayed lodges, whether they can sustain themselves as a regular lodge after re-organization. The valuable privileges that our venerable institution confers upon all worthy Masons are strong incentives to persevering efforts on their part, not only to secure and preserve those privileges to the initiated, but also to keep up the organization of their respective lodges, in which the principles of our order may be cultivated and diffused.

Your committee would therefore recommend to Village Lodge, and to all others similarly situated, to resume their Masonic labors, provided, they can sustain themselves as a lodge.

The committee further report: That they have had under consideration, the application of Cumberland Lodge, situated in New Gloucester, asking for a dispensation to hold its meetings a portion of the time at Mechanic Falls in Minot. This application is approbated by the representative of Tranquil Lodge, now located in Danville, and the committee being of opinion that it will be for the interest of Masonry that the request of Cumberland Lodge be granted, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That Cumberland Lodge be permitted to hold its meetings a portion of the time of the ensuing year at Mechanic Falls, in Minot, and that a dispensation be issued to said lodge, by the Grand Master for that purpose.

The committee further report: That they have had under consideration the subject matter of a communication from certain brethren of Vassalboro' Lodge in Vassalboro', setting forth that their charter, records and furniture are lost; and asking for a new charter. The petition is not approbated by the D. D. G. Master, for the reason that he has had no opportunity to learn the situation and condition of said lodge. The committee, however, recommend that a dispensation be granted to said brethren whenever they shall have complied with the requirements of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

The committee further report: That they have had before them the application of the W. Master and J. Warden of Oriental Star Lodge, at Livermore, requesting in behalf of said lodge, permission and authority to change and alter the seal thereof. The committee find that said lodge has an act of incorporation, and presuming that said act grants to said lodge the power to use a seal and to alter the same at pleasure, they recommend that this Grand Lodge leave the matter with the members of Oriental Star Lodge to do in the premises what to them shall be deemed proper.

The committee further report: That they have had before them, a communication from brothers John D. McCrate and others, members of Alna Lodge, in which they signify their desire to surrender their charter, reserving to themselves the privilege of having the same restored whenever they find that they can use the same for the benefit of Masonry.

The charter has been surrendered, and the same is now in the hands of the Grand Secretary.

This surrender is made agreeably to the provisions of the third article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and your committee regard it as a precedent worthy the imitation of all lodges under our jurisdiction similarly situated. They recommend this Grand Lodge to accept the same and hold it in trust for Alna Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted,

FREEMAN BRAFORD, Per Order.

The foregoing report having been read and considered, it was

Voted, The same be accepted, and that the several recommendations of the committee therein contained be adopted.

A circular was then received* from a committee of Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges, inviting this Grand Lodge to be present and unite with said lodges in a public celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, in Portland, on the 26th of June next.

Whereupon, on motion,

Voted, That the Grand Lodge do accept the invitation aforesaid and attend accordingly.

On motion,

Voted, That this Grand Lodge be represented by a delegate in the convention proposed to be holden in Baltimore, on the second Tuesday in July next, to form and organize a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States; *Provided*, said convention shall be convened in accordance with the terms and conditions submitted by a convention of delegates assembled at said Baltimore, on the 23d of September, A. D. 1847.

Voted, That the first four Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge be authorized and requested to appoint a delegate from this Grand Lodge to said convention; *Provided*, they shall ascertain that the same is to be holden as proposed.

On motion,

Voted, That the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be desired to make a report at the special session of the Grand Lodge to be holden at this place, on the evening of the 25th of June next.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until seven o'clock P.M.

MAY 4, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge was again called to labor.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Webber,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary's bill for postages, stationery, etc., amounting to \$18.29, be allowed and paid; and that the sum of forty dollars be also allowed and paid him for his services as Grand Secretary the past year.

R. W. Bro. Haines then submitted the following resolutions, which were read and passed.

Resolved, That it is expedient to collect and publish, in a single volume, the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from its institution to the present time.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolution be transmitted to each subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction, with a request that they will severally communicate their opinion upon the same at our next annual communication, together with a statement of the probable number of copies that will be taken by the members of their respective lodges.

On motion,

Voted, That the fees paid by Waterville Lodge into the Grand Treasury, for the initiation of two clergymen, be refunded to said lodge.

On motion of M. W. Bro. Putney,

Voted, That the sum of twenty dollars be allowed and paid to the Grand Treasurer for his services the past year.

R. W. Bro. Boody, Grand Treasurer, then tendered the afore-said sum of twenty dollars to the Grand Lodge, to be added to the Charity Fund.

Whereupon M. W. Bro. Putney offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to R. W. Bro. Henry H. Boody, Grand Treasurer, for his liberal donation to the Charity Fund; and also for his faithful services and successful efforts in managing the funds of the Grand Lodge committed to his charge as Grand Treasurer.

The following resolution was then submitted by R. W. Bro. Bradford, and passed unanimously :

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine be tendered to our M. W. Bro. Alexander H. Putney, P. G. M., for the able and faithful manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this Grand Lodge for the past two years; and that he carries with him the best wishes of the members for his health, usefulness and happiness.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be requested to publish, in the usual form, a suitable number of copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, with the Grand Master's address, reports of D. D. Grand Masters, &c. &c.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

JUNE, 1849.

A Special Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the 25th of June, 1849, and opened in due form, at 7½ o'clock P. M.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	S. G. Warden ;
" NELSON RACKLYFT,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" JOHN B. COYLE,	Grand Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Grand Secretary ;
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain ;
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "
W. CORNELIUS HOLLAND,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" DANIEL WINSLOW,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" JOHN COLLINS,	Grand Steward, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" ARTHUR McARTHUR,	" " "
" JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

With many other members and visiting brethren.

Prayers were offered by Rev. Bro. Pearl, G. Chaplain.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the past year then submitted their annual report, which was read and accepted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, as follows, viz :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence would respectfully report :

That the course of Freemasonry is onward with the progress of human events and flight of time. Each year is now a year of increasing prosperity

in all that pertains to the interests of this department of useful labor. The correspondence of the past year is fruitful in useful information, and gives promise of still higher results to be wrought out by the skill and fidelity of the increasing numbers now seeking admission to our order, and vowing allegiance to the principles of Masonry at our cherished altars. During the year we have received communications from the following corresponding bodies, viz: Provincial Grand Lodge from the District of Montreal and William Henry of Canada; the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, Texas, and from Louisiana we have communications from two bodies claiming to be Grand Lodges of that state.

The committee regret the absence of any reports from the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas and the District of Columbia. This Grand Lodge would be happy to exchange annual salutations with all the Grand Lodges of this Union, and learn the progress of the order from their own reports.

While progress, prosperity and harmony generally prevail, in the jurisdiction of all Grand Lodges reported, it is unpleasant to be obliged to report again that the conflicting claims of the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi still mar the symmetry of our National Masonic Edifice. The last year your committee chose to take no part in the controversy and forebore to express any opinions of its merits.

The present position of the question seems to demand a full statement for the consideration of this body, and especially as both the bodies now claiming to be Grand Lodges of Louisiana now submit the questions at issue to corresponding bodies for their adjudication.

The history of the difficulties in Louisiana is somewhat complicated, but may be thus stated: In 1812, "the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana" was formed and was acknowledged, and continued to be regarded as the legitimate Grand Lodge of the state by all corresponding bodies till within a short period. Eighty subordinate lodges have been under its jurisdiction, and twenty-eight of these in a state of activity were represented in the Grand Lodge for 1849. Within a few years, complaint has been made by some of the subordinates that the Grand Lodge had departed from the ancient landmarks by accumulating under its jurisdiction the Modern, or Scotch and French rites, along with the rites of Ancient York Masonry. The Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in view of this complaint, or of what they deemed unmasonic in Louisiana, assumed the responsibility of deciding that there was no Grand Lodge in that state and proceeded to exercise jurisdiction by establishing some seven lodges as Ancient York Masons. These lodges were chartered in February, 1848, having previously received dispensations from the Grand Master of Mississippi Grand Lodge. On the eighth day of March, 1848, these lodges assembled in the city of New Orleans and pro-

ceeded to organize a Grand Lodge, and we have their constitution and their proceedings at the said meeting, embracing the appeal of the committee of six lodges thus associated in forming the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. This appeal the committee submit as part of the history of this controversy, as follows :

CIRCULAR

To the Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of the United States.

The undersigned committees, appointed by George Washington Lodge, Lafayette Lodge, Warren Lodge, Marion Lodge, Crescent City Lodge and Hiram Lodge, of Ancient York Masons, working in the cities of New Orleans and Lafayette in the State of Louisiana, under dispensations from the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, to prepare a statement of the causes which impelled the members of these lodges to repudiate the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and to seek relief from their grievances, as Ancient York Masons, at the hands of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, respectfully report :

That the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, originally a regular body of Ancient York Masons, has forfeited all claim to the allegiance of regular Ancient York Masons, by flagrant departures from the ancient *landmarks* of our order in many essential particulars ; insomuch as to impose upon us the imperative duty of discontinuing all *Masonic communication* with that body.

Amongst the departures from our ancient usages, and the *innovations* in the body of *Masonry* introduced by that body, we enumerate the following :

1. She openly exercises the power of granting charters, authorizing lodges to work according to the *Scotch Rite*, and the *Modern or French Rite*—as they are called in her Constitution—and admits the officers of such lodges to sit and vote in her own body as members thereof. Thus compelling Ancient York Masons to hold Masonic communication with persons whom we have ever been taught to consider as clandestine Masons ; with whose usages and ceremonies we are unacquainted ; and whom we cannot recognize as Masons at all by those *means* which are the *only lawful tests* of Masonic privileges.

2. She has, in her own words, "*accumulated* under her authority and jurisdiction, the *three rites*," say "*York, Scotch and Modern*," by virtue of power granted her on the 14th day of January, 1833, by what she calls "the Grand Consistory of the Sovereign Princes of the Royal Secret, 32° ;"—a body of whose very existence we, as Ancient York Master Masons, are ignorant ; but which body, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana tells us, possesses *supreme* authority over the *first three degrees* of Scotch and Modern Masonry ; and all this is done by a body pretending to be a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

3. She expressly permits the sons of masons, of every rite, to be initiated

into our mysteries before they become men of lawful age, to wit: when they are only eighteen years old. [Constitution, Art. 4.]

4. She has established in her body "*a Council of Rites*," divided into two sections—one composed of three Scotch Rite masons, and the other of three Modern or French Rite masons, who have exclusive authority to inquire into all matters concerning those rites respectively; excluding the Ancient York Masons of the Grand Lodge, from participating in the action of that body in matters over which she, as a body, exercises jurisdiction; while these Ancient York Masons are as ignorant of the work of this Council of rites as we are of that of the Odd Fellows. [See Constitution, Arts. 15 and 16.] Moreover, this Council of rites is appointed annually by the Grand Master, who must, hence, necessarily be both a Scotch and French or Modern Mason, to be fully qualified for his office; and hence it also follows, that an Ancient York Mason, as such, is disqualified from being elected to preside as Grand Master of an Ancient York Grand Lodge. These principles are destructive of that *equality* which is essential to the continued existence of our ancient (not modern) and *unchangeable order*. [Constitution, Arts 54 and 56.]

5. She not only grants charters of three different kinds, to three different *rites* of masons, (as she calls them,) but she grants charters to lodges of Ancient York Masons, authorizing them to cumulate the Scotch and French Rites with their own, and to initiate, pass, and raise persons in the same lodge, according to the ceremonies of all and each of said three rites; thus, in fact, blending all three of the rites together; and this *is* true, notwithstanding her formal denial of such blending of rites together. [Sec. 2, Resolution passed 27th November, 1845.]

6. She has interfered with the religious opinions, and wounded the consciences of many true masons under her jurisdiction, and has changed one of our usages, by prohibiting the installation of the officers of the subordinate lodges on St. John's day, unless that day happened to fall on a *Sunday*, and *requiring* such installation, in all cases, to be performed on a Sunday. [Amendment to Constitution, Art. 63, adopted 27th January, 1846.]

7. She has violated the ancient Constitutions of the Order, by prohibiting all masonic processions and ceremonies, even for the purpose of discharging the sacred duty of burying a dead brother, who has desired to be so interred.

8. She has destroyed the secrecy of the ballot box, by ordering that the member casting a negative vote shall state his reasons to the Master of the lodge, and curtailed a long established right by empowering the Master to reject the vote if *he* does not deem the reasons sufficient. [Art. 68.]

9. She has abridged the rights of the subordinate lodges, by ordering that no Master elect shall be eligible to the Grand Offices, unless he shall have served a year as Master, by this means throwing the preponderance into the hands of the life members, since every Master may become such after one year's service. [Art. 7, Sec. 1.]

10. She has abridged the rights of the subordinate lodges by the admission

of life members, not being representatives, by means of which the representatives of subordinate lodges are outnumbered on every question regarding their interests, and the whole power is thrown into the hands of those whose sole aim is to aggrandize the Grand Lodge, and who often have no connection with any subordinate lodge. [Sec. 1, Arts. 7 and 8.]

11. She has abridged the privileges of the subordinate lodges by requiring the country lodges, when not represented by their officers, or a member of the lodge, to choose a proxy from among the existing members of the Grand Lodge, and who shall be a resident of the city of New Orleans. [See Art. 11, adopted 27th June, 1846.]

12. Worse than all this, she has permitted and encouraged in the subordinate lodges, working under her jurisdiction, *and in her own body*, an innovation in the body of Masonry, which it would be unlawful here to communicate, a procedure not only at variance with our *first* taught duty as Masons, but wholly subversive of one of the fundamental principles upon which our sacred institution is founded, and its principal safeguard.

Besides these, there are many other grievances and irregularities of which we have a right to complain and which we *cannot* commit to writing, but which we *know* to be subversive of the first principles of our beloved order.

Your committee believe that the foregoing facts speak for themselves, and the illegal measures of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana need only to be known to regular Ancient York Masons, to be generally reprobated. And they indulge a hope that when the true state of Masonry in Louisiana shall be known to the different Grand Lodges of the United States, the action of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Mississippi will be approved, and that the Grand Lodge of New York will rescind her resolution of the 7th September, 1847, and render justice to their oppressed but true-hearted brethren of Louisiana, whose only offence is an uncompromising resistance to the introduction of any "changes in the body of Masonry," by any power whatever, and a fixed and steady determination faithfully to discharge all the solemn duties imposed upon them as Ancient York Masons, without being blended together against their consent.

And we solemnly maintain, that French or Scotch Rite Masons, as such, have no greater right to intermeddle with or govern us, than the Sons of Temperance, Odd Fellows, or Knights of the Red Cross have, however good these societies may be.

All good societies should be sustained by good men; but this forms no reason why any two of them should be united, cumulated, or blended together, particularly against the will of either.

For the truth of the facts asserted in this report, we pledge our faith as Masons, and challenge a *personal* investigation of them by all regular and

enlightened Ancient York Masons throughout the world, to whose judgment alone we are both bound and willing most cheerfully to submit.

All which is respectfully submitted,

Willis P. Coleman, C. D. Lehman, John Gedge, *Committee of George Washington Lodge*. M. R. Dudley, John P. McMillin, R. Parkinson, *Lafayette Lodge*. Thomas H. Lewis, D. Blair, John Clariborne, *Warren Lodge*. W. H. Van Rensselaer, Fisher Rawson, E. Belleau, *Marion Lodge*. W. H. Howard, T. Greenfield, Joseph W. Carroll, *Crescent City Lodge*. Joseph Moss, N. Silverthorn, John Southwell, *Hiram Lodge*.

The Grand Lodge of Mississippi at the annual communication recognizes this new Grand Lodge of Louisiana and justifies its own agency in creating it. The committee, after vindicating their course in view of the censure and remonstrance of the Grand Lodge of New York, hold this language: "Yet we hope to be pardoned if we are not always hushed when New York speaks," but on the contrary, we do not hesitate to say that if New York, or even Ireland, should give the same just grounds for exclusion from our association, Mississippi would be as ready, though great would be her regret for the existence of the cause, to withhold her right hand of fellowship from them as she was from the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana. It is proper for us to add also, that Mississippi, prosperous almost beyond example in her own jurisdiction, had no ambition to extend it beyond her own state lines; money she did not want, for she refused to receive the dues of the lodges of Louisiana. She had no malice to gratify, and she has uttered no harsh word, nor has she anathematized any nor even interdicted intercourse with the Masons of Louisiana still acknowledging allegiance to the old Grand Lodge. Your committee, however, believe the latter a duty which she ought now to perform. She has always been ready and willing to recognize all regular Ancient York Grand Lodges. She knows no others, and does not desire to hold communion with any who do not properly and proudly bear this title." It is proper here to state that several of the Grand Lodges have spoken decidedly against the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi even before the Grand Lodge of Louisiana had fully explained and vindicated its position. Some of these have censured the course of Louisiana in accumulating the modern rites and for other alleged innovations, but all or nearly all censure Mississippi for invading her jurisdiction. The Grand Lodge of Missouri, at the communication in 1847, ably discussed the controversy as it then stood. In 1848, after copying the appeal of the several lodges united in the new organization, thus they close their notice of the old Grand Lodge: "Your committee ardently hope and recommend to this Grand Lodge to desist from their errors, review with calmness and reason their respective positions—and so amend their action as to make it comport with the established customs and principles of Free and Accepted Masons."

In this counsel all good Masons will doubtless be agreed, and it is also due to the parties that we should hear what the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has to say in defence of her course, and in reply to those who animadvert upon her conduct and invade her jurisdiction. In addition to her usual communications we have a labored report of a committee appointed to inquire into the rise and progress of Free Masonry in Louisiana, and the accumulation of rites in and by the State Grand Lodge. This document of twenty-eight pages is a full statement of the case as viewed by the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and whatever may be the merits of some of the reasonings of the committee, the historical facts are such as to deserve the most careful consideration by those who would censure that Grand Lodge or withdraw from it the hand of fellowship. Masonry was established in Louisiana before she became a state or a part of this Union.

In 1793, a lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina. In 1794, other masons who followed the French Rite applied for a charter to the Grand East of France, which failed in consequence of the revolution then raging; but a charter was granted by the "Sincerity Provincial Lodge of Marseilles," and the lodge installed by a delegation from that body according to the French or Modern rite. Thus the beginnings of Masonic light in Louisiana were the dawns of these two stars, rising from two distant parts of the Masonic horizon. The "Polar Star Lodge," using the Modern or French Rite, and the "Perfect Union Lodge," using the York Rite, yet lived in harmony and regarded the members of each as brethren. In the beginning of this century another lodge was formed receiving its charter from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, as Charity Lodge. At this time Masons were obliged to meet secretly in Louisiana owing to the political and religious interdiction of the reigning government. Charity Lodge was established in 1804. In 1806, another was chartered by the Grand Lodge of New York, styled Louisiana Lodge. In 1807, the Grand East of France chartered a chapter which was installed on the 24th of May. The same year another lodge was formed, and soon after another by Masons lately arrived from St. Domingo.

Thus of the six original lodges, one, and also the chapter, obeyed the Grand East of France; three the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; one the Grand Lodge of New York, and the other of South Carolina. But the committee say: "Nothing is more worthy of our admiration than the spirit of union and fraternity which reigned among them all." In 1809, two others were formed by masons coming from the French and Spanish colonies, which also were chartered by Pennsylvania. York as well as Scotch and French Masons united in the chapter established by France, no other being chartered till 1811, when two were chartered by the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. From this period the committee date "certain difficulties" which they say have never been well known by the fraternity. A difficulty arose between "Louisiana Lodge," chartered by New York, and "Harmony Lodge,"

which obeyed Pennsylvania, in which other lodges subsequently took part. About this time the Polar Star Lodge, which was constituted according to both the Scotch and French Rites, applied for a York charter, which was granted by Pennsylvania in 1811. This lodge thus accumulated the rites because it depended at the same time on the Grand Orient of France as well as on the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, but without mixing them or confounding them in any of their sessions or other labors. The committee say, "the whole city knew it, all the lodges of the state were cognizant of it—all masons were, or could be, witnesses of the same," and thus they date "the frank, open and loyal entry of the accumulation of rites in Louisiana from October 20, 1811."

In April, 1812, the proposal to establish a Grand Lodge was responded to by six of the seven lodges then existing, and at a subsequent meeting, July 11, 1812, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana was organized by five of the seven lodges, the Louisiana Lodge and the Harmony Lodge declining to co-operate in this measure.

From that time the Grand Lodge has instituted sixty-one lodges, the two which refused to unite in the Grand Lodge finally ceased their existence. The committee say that of the lodges of the state five follow the Scotch Rite and three the Modern or French Rite; and proceed to explain the cause of the mixture. One, the Polar Star Lodge had accumulated the rites prior to its incorporation into the Grand Lodge, and the first chapter as we have seen was connected with this, and was the only one till 1811, and embraced Masons of the different rites. In 1813, the Royal Arch Masons met in convention and formed the Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the State of Louisiana. This in five months constituted four subordinate chapters, which became highly prosperous. This rapid increase caused inquietude to many Scotch Masons then in the state who applied to the proper authority of their rite, and during the same year a Grand Consistory was formed in the southern part of the Union, and installed and proclaimed in New Orleans. Thus two Masonic authorities existed in Louisiana, that of York Masonry represented by the Grand Lodge, and that of Scotch and French or Modern branches by the Grand Consistory. It was seen that difficulty might arise from this divided jurisdiction, and the founders of the Grand Lodge early sought to avert such evils, and in seeking for an act of incorporation they took care to secure one which would admit of union, still preserving the rights of all concerned. This Act was passed and approved March 18, 1816, and is given at length in the report of their committee. It gives no preference to the York over the Scotch Rite, but both are equally protected by it. Several of the petitioners for the act are named as being at the same time both York and Scotch Masons. The committee assure us, however, that "the Grand Lodge has never ceased to work according to the forms and tenets of the York Rite, which it professed from the day of its installation, agreeably to the ritual laws of the same."

From 1821, the Grand Lodge had been informed that a reunion had taken place in England and France in the various Masonic Rites, and it accordingly decided that all regular Masons, to whatever Rite they belonged, should be admitted as visitors in all the lodges of its jurisdiction. The Grand East of France had entered into a concordate with the Supreme Council of the Scotch Rite in 1804, securing to each its appropriate honor, rank and privilege. The Grand Consistory in Louisiana was composed of Masons both of the York and Scotch Rites, and is described as maintaining a discreet silence and respecting the established order of things, till, weary of the agitations introduced yearly by York Masons, they desired at length either a fraternal separation or a clear and concise concordate which should secure the respective positions which Masons occupied in both Rites. Such a separation, it is supposed, would have taken place in 1833, had not a special effort by enlightened Masons secured overtures from the Grand Lodge which were responded to by the Grand Consistory, and a concordate thus established, which the committee give in full. This document is very explicit on the part of both the Grand Lodge from which the proposal came, and of the Grand Consistory in its reply. The document itself and the reasonings which sustain the Grand Lodge in its present position, are worthy of careful study, and are herewith submitted as part of this report.

“NEW ORLEANS, January 10, 1833.

“The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, To the Grand Consistory of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret in the State of Louisiana, Sovereign of Sovereigns, Great Prince and Illustrious Commander in Chief, —and ye all Sublime Princes :

“Motives of the highest kind for the welfare of the Masonic order have determined the Grand Lodge of this state to constitute in its bosom a special chamber for the symbolical degrees of Scotch Masonry.

“Consequently, it begs this Grand Consistory to divest itself of the right which it has to constitute Scotch Lodges here, to transfer the same to said chamber, and to give proper information of said transfer to the lodges now working under its jurisdiction, directing them to obey henceforth the commands and statutes of the State Grand Lodge in its said chamber.

“Please, illustrious brethren, to accept the sincere vows which the Grand Lodge makes for the prosperity of your august labors and for the happiness of each of you in particular.

“With these feelings, the members of the Grand Lodge have the favor to salute you with the numbers which are known to you.

“By order,

DISSARD, *Grand Secretary.*”

It is clear that the proposition to accumulate the rites came from the Grand Lodge, and that it was laid by it in terms most positive and precise. Its

authors acknowledged that the accumulation prayed for existed already in the Grand Lodge, and that its only object was to obtain at the hands of the Grand Consistory, the authorization of entertaining the same, and the confirmation of a power which it had in fact assumed before.

The Grand Consistory saw with a heartfelt pleasure the Grand Lodge take the first step, and more anxious to secure rights which had been contested, than to enter into minute details as to the why the accumulation of rites had taken place before in the Grand Lodge, and how it should be administered in future, it answered the above communication in the following forms :

“NEW ORLEANS, January 28, 1833.

“LUX EX TENEBRIS.

“*The Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Princes of the Royal Secret, 32°, of the Scotch Rite, To the most illustrious Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, in its Scotch Symbolical Chamber.*

ILLUSTRIOUS BROTHER

“I have the favor to inform you that the Sovereign Grand Consistory has received the communication which has been sent to it by the most illustrious Grand Lodge in its Scotch Symbolical Chamber. After having maturely reflected on the beneficial consequences which are to follow for Masonry in general, from measures which tend to unite the various rites of our fraternity, and which will more perfectly answer the spirit of our valuable institution, the Grand Consistory has given to all the lodges of its jurisdiction the necessary instructions in order that such a worthy enterprise on the part of the most illustrious Grand Lodge should be accomplished as speedily as possible.

“Consequently and agreeably to the direction sent, as above said, to each of the Scotch lodges here, we have the favor to inform you that they all submitted with joy to the orders given to that effect by the Grand Consistory, that they are prepared to receive new constitutions from the most illustrious chamber over which you preside, and that they have already sent back to the archives of the Grand Consistory, the charters which they had under its dispensation.

“The supreme authorities of Scotch Masonry in the state of Louisiana, have not hesitated to yield to a body so respectable as the most illustrious Grand Lodge is, the rights which it cannot fail exercising with splendor and justice:—And the Grand Consistory ardently wishes that the Grand Lodge find in this cession of a noble and so useful right, a new proof of the desire which the Princes of the Royal Secret had to perpetuate between the Scotch Rite and the others, such an alliance as will necessarily be for the glory and prosperity of Freemasonry, under whatever banner its disciples may decide to walk.

“Please illustrious and dear brother, to accept for yourself and for the

illustrious body over which you preside, the fraternal and sincere vows which the Sovereign Grand Consistory and all the Sublime Princes who compose it, will never cease to make for your prosperity, and believe,

“Illustrious Brother,

“In the true devotedness of your respectful brother,

“A. W. PICHOT, *Secretary pro tem.*

“By order of the Grand Consistory.”

Any commentary upon documents of this kind would be useless. The concordate is laid in terms most solemn and expressive; and supposing that it was a wrong to enter into it, the Grand Lodge alone is to be reprehended for it, because the accumulation of rites results from the very nature of the Scotch tenets in Masonry. The Grand Consistory, by assenting to it in the way proposed and carried out, as above said, complied with an act of justice under the benevolent auspices of an enlightened and sensible fraternity.

York Masons are, as such, dispensed with having in their lodges the gospel of Christ, and it is pretty certain that they have no right to bring it there. But Scotch Masons who profess, as such, a sincere belief in that sacred book, are bound to keep it in their temples, and there to place it on the Old Testament as being its proper basis.

Whence it follows that they admit the rite of York, which, as we have said above, is nothing more nor less than a perpetuation of the Mosaic law among Christians.

Your committee have thought that there was no use in going beyond the above mentioned concordate. All facts which have taken place since, are well known by all the brother Masons who occupy now the seats of this Grand Lodge, and those of the various lodges under its jurisdiction.

In 1839, the Grand Consistory has been superseded in our state by the Supreme Council of the Scotch Rite; and considering the spirit which animates the members of the same as well as those of the Grand Consistory and of the Councils and Chapters under its jurisdiction, we may say that the Scotch branch of Freemasonry is now well established among us. Nothing is more easy for it than to spread its tenets, and, consequently, its power over all the Southern and Western States of our confederacy, said Supreme Council having *de facto* and *de jure* the necessary authority so to do.

Nay, we have heard from proper persons, that its Grand Commander and other members are well informed of the discussion to which the accumulation of rites has given rise in the Grand Lodge, and that they are ready to take the first step, and ask for a final separation, in case a disastrous spirit of party should prevail among us, over a spirit of fidelity to the true intent of our statutes.

Thus, your committee consider that the separation of rites would be no less out of season, than dangerous: but the importance of such a conclusion renders it necessary for us to set forth the motives which have led us to it.

Our good Brother Grand Secretary will give you in a special report, correct extracts of the several opinions which the various Easts of our confederacy and of Europe have expressed on this question ; and by perusing the same, you will be better qualified to draw from them such consequences as will appear to you most rational.

But after having attentively read each of them, we think that they can be reduced to three principal ones :

The first being of those who approve the accumulation of rites ;

The second, of those who candidly acknowledge that they do not understand it ;

And the third, of those who condemn it in the most absolute terms.

Then, a succinct exposition of what is to be understood by the accumulation of rites in a Grand Lodge, will suffice both to enlighten those who do not comprehend it, and to determine *pro* or *con* those who are disposed either to approve or to reject it.

When a Grand Lodge authorizes the lodges under its jurisdiction to follow the rite which they prefer respectively, or to work as they please, either of the existing rites, but without mixing or confounding them into one, and provided a work begun according to the forms of one rite be not conducted at any period of the same, according to the forms of another, we say that there is an accumulation of rites ; and that accumulation exists whether the Grand Lodge alluded to works these rites itself, or has a rite of its own which it follows, both in its own temple, and in the lodges under its jurisdiction, whatever be the rite they belong to respectively.

Thus, a Scotch Grand Lodge accumulates the rites when it exercises its jurisdiction over York and Modern Lodges ; and reciprocally a York Grand Lodge accumulates the rites when it exercises its jurisdiction over Scotch or Modern Lodges in the way we have above mentioned.

But it is to be observed that no Grand Lodge can accumulate the rites, unless there are in its bosom as many symbolical chambers or committees as there are rites worked under its jurisdiction, and that the members of said chambers or committees must respectively belong to the rite which they have to conduct under its authority.

Whence it follows that the accumulation would be more appropriately termed THE CONFEDERATION of rites.

Masons who oppose the accumulation of rites so far as we are concerned in the matter here, aver that wherever it exists, York Masons are initiated to the Scotch forms and tenets, and reciprocally, Scotch Masons initiated to the forms and tenets of the York Rite, because they enjoy then a reciprocal right to visit each other in their reciprocal lodges, and thus to participate mutually in the signs, works, and numbers, which, it seems, belong respectively to each rite in particular, and can by no means be either shared with or communicated to a foreign body.

This is an apparently cogent objection, and it would at once put an end to

the question, if it rested not upon an impossible hypothesis, that is, upon a communication of the words, signs and numbers of the ancient rite of York to Masons who do not belong to it. By the very nature of their institution, of their doctrine and of the accumulation of rites which they are consequently bound to admit, Scotch Masons can no more help being York Masons, than Christians can help acknowledging the Jewish dispensation.

Then, unless it is inconsiderately pretended that a York Mason can not be initiated to the Christian forms of the Scotch branch of Masonry, and that a Scotch Mason has no right to be acquainted with the Judaic tenets of the ancient rite of York, it is evident that the accumulation of rites constitutes a real advantage instead of being a violation of principles.

Anywhere it exists, Scotch and York Masons are brethren, and the benefits resulting from Masonry are spread there more profitably on a much larger scale: whilst a constant war of doctrines and therefore an imminent danger of paralysis for either of the opponent bodies, must and does prevail anywhere it is either contested or rejected.

But it is said that the Scotch Rite is essentially opposed to the ancient rite of York, and their accumulation cannot be permitted without leading to a practical denial of either.

Your committee think that a solemn distinction is to be established here: and this is perhaps the most interesting part of their report.

There is no doubt that the Scotch Rite and the ancient rite of York represent two extremes between which a powerful barrier seems to rise: but as both come from the same place, which is the temple of the natural law and aim at the same end, which is the reunion of all men in the sanctuary of a glorious and happy brotherhood, this barrier exists but for such Masons as believe in a religion, the doctrines of which are directly opposed to the main tenets and consequences of the Scotch rite.

But that requires an explanation, which we hope will be satisfactory to all.

From the time God made man, he breathed into him the principle of mental life, and engraved in his heart and mind the immutable doctrines of civil and religious morals. Man soon forgot what he owed to his maker, and in proportion as he departed from the marvellous abodes where truth and virtue entertained him with the sweetest hopes, he saw a world of passions accompany his steps. The inspirations from above withered one after one in his soul; and the generations which inherited gradually his misfortune, were called to witness the evils by which the degradation of our kind is followed. In the vast universe where God had alone a right to be adored, all was God except God himself.

Yet, truth being stronger than falsehood, and vice unable to stifle virtue, a few wise and honest men appeared from amidst that awful wreck, who undertook to preserve the true doctrine in silent and mysterious recesses, and to practice it in spite of the many bad religions and wicked forms of

governments which succeeded each other on earth; and this was the first or natural Freemasonry !!!

Modest and faithful depository of the divine teachings which had primitively dropped from above, it endeavored to perpetuate them among nations which a lamentable idolatry seemed to hurl forever into the irretrievable abyss of falsehood.

No doubt that Moses was acquainted with Freemasonry in Egypt, whence many believe it first came, though it is evident to learned masons that it began with Adam himself in Eden, and that the patriarchal dispensation is, consequently, the point to which masonic truth must constantly be referred in order to preserve its real nature and basis.

The Jews, more happy than many other nations, because patriarchal traditions had been better preserved among them, had received Masonry from the Egyptians; and religious truth having less suffered in Judea than in any other part of the globe, and its people being governed by a theocratic legislation, which was a mere preparation to the renewal of mankind in better times, wise and learned men added thereto the primitive forms of Masonry, many doctrines and prayers which they had borrowed from the sacred ritual, books and ceremonies of their priesthood; and this was the second or Judaic Masonry !!!

Now, it is a well authenticated fact that towards the end of the Jewish monarchy, there were in Judea many sects which contended for the empire of wisdom, and that each of them pretended to the exclusive privilege of teaching and ruling the nation. The chosen people, with the rest of the world, were struggling in the very heart of a political and religious revolution under the Roman sway; and darkness seemed to threaten anew the whole universe, when a son of a royal branch of Judah, Jesus Christ, appeared, animated with that divine virtue which moves the heart, full of that wonderful light which pervades the intellect, and of that moral omnipotence which subdues the soul; and this was the third or Christian and last Masonry !!!

Your committee will not describe how the disciples of Christ took upon themselves to preach his gospel and to spread it over the world. All of us know that it has prevailed from south to north and in the remotest western regions, reforming everywhere the manners of men and calling them back to the purest feelings of their divine origin.

But as all decays that falls into the hands of man, Christianity (as its predecessors, the natural law and the Mosaic dispensation) was soon vested with the spurious forms which veiled its primitive excellence and beauty, and was no more to be seen except with the dreadful train of wars, dissensions, quarrels, persecutions and hatreds, which its various interpreters never ceased to create and raise in its name.

Then a remedy was needed to cure so many evils, and the voice of truth sought to make itself heard somewhere, in order that men whom the various

sects of the Christian world constantly tended to separate, might find a place of rest and reunite under the protecting influence of Christian fraternity and toleration.

But who was to prepare the remedy and raise the voice?—Freemasonry. All that was most pure in the doctrine, most useful in the morals and most rational in the form and ceremonies of the primitive Christianity, was gathered by some brother Masons who endeavored to bring it again into practice.

It is true that by so doing they exposed themselves to be cursed and anathematized by an ambitious priesthood; but through their cares and efforts charity prevailed, and the three-fold ring formed by the Natural law, the Mosaic preparation, and the regeneration of mankind by Christ was saved from the deadly blows of an unprincipled philosophy and shameless fanaticism.

These are potent facts; and from their accomplishment we must date the distinction now existing between the various branches of Freemasonry. Some lodges either refused or neglected to take a part in that solemn progression; and in the same manner, as at the time the Judaic forms of Masonry prevailed, nations unacquainted with the Jews kept the forms of the first or natural Masonry which exists still, with trifling modifications in the East, so have we lived to see many Masons adhere to the forms and ceremonies of Judaic Masonry, whilst many others adopt and follow the forms of the third or Christian Masonry.

Endless discussions may be had on Freemasonry, and many a long or subtle argument may arise from a captious examination of the annals of past ages, or from the doubts which the history of modern times would seem to suggest; but as we have intimated above, facts are facts and can by no means be destroyed.

Any person ever so little acquainted with Freemasonry as it is now practiced must admit that its symbolical or first three degrees are common to all nations, whilst its philosophical or high degrees, as we understand them, are worked in one way by the Jews and in another by the Christians, and that they rest for the former on the Old Testament, whilst for the latter they rest on the New.

It is also well known that the Ancient Rite of York is essentially Judaic, and the Scotch Rite essentially Christian. The degree of Knights Templar, which seems to terminate the Rite of York, is, in fact, a perfect stranger to it and depends in no way or manner upon the ruling authorities of the same, whether in the symbolical or philosophical degrees, whilst all the degrees of the Scotch Rite, from the first to the thirty-third, are necessarily and closely united together, in the same manner as Christianity unites with the Mosaic preparation, and through it, with the natural law.

However, let us not suppose that the merits of the Rite of York are in any way impaired by such a difference. Scotch Masons consider York Masonry as a worthy predecessor, to whom they owe and pay the most

respectful homage, and stand to it as it stands to the first or natural Masonry.

But if it be so, and your committee think that no other conclusion can be drawn from the premises, is it not evident that the accumulation of rites is in no manner incompatible with the true principles of Freemasonry, and that no one can sustain the contrary doctrine without deciding at the same time, that a Turkish, Indian or Chinese Mason cannot be received a York Mason on the ground that he follows Natural Masonry only and believes not in the distinctive doctrines taught by the second or Judaic Masonry.

There are in the endless temple of Freemasonry, as well as in heaven, various mansions; and symbolical Masonry, though it offers a few differences in its forms, words and signs, is common to all Masons, because it is essentially founded on the law of nature, which binds all mankind, and can therefore be administered by one and the same power in any country.

As to the philosophical Masonry, it depends on other powers which are out of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and in which alone is vested the right to watch over their respective prerogatives.

Thus it is the opinion of your committee that far from being opposed to the fundamental principles of the York Rite, the accumulation complained of is, on the contrary, the most glorious and authentic confirmation of the same. Any Grand Lodge which accumulates the rites professes at the same time the heavenly doctrine of universal toleration, and as the Almighty Architect of the universe himself, opens its bosom to all the masons of the earth.

However, in case a majority of the Grand Lodge should think proper to defeat the views of your committee and to pronounce themselves against the accumulation of rites, it is necessary to lay before you the probable consequences of a separation.

The Scotch Rite, as we have already stated, is well established in Louisiana. Its organization is undoubtedly better than ours, because the two branches of symbolical and philosophical Masonry unite therein, to a common centre or authority, which, though it is manifold on account of the thirty-three members who either do or may compose it, is nevertheless indivisible on account of the principle and sacred oath which tie them together. Many of our brethren here know it well. Around the Supreme Council of the Scotch Rite may be seen, at all times, the Grand Consistory, the Grand Chapter and the Grand Lodge of the same. They are as many auxiliary bodies which help each other, and found their respective strength in their common allegiance.

Besides, the administration of the Scotch Rite moves on a basis, the parts of which are, at the same time, very distinct from each other, and so solidly cemented that they can by no means be separated. The theocratic principle which the Jewish Masons have bequeathed to York Masons, is superseded there by the republican principle, for every Scotch Mason has to be before

all a Christian in heart and mind, that is perfectly free in his views and kind to all.

Is it not to be feared that, by opposing a masonic power already so strong and so worthy of our admiration, we will force it to resist our presumption, and thus create a masonic adversary who from the moment it is better known in a country so essentially religious and Christian as ours is, will certainly obtain a signal preference over any other masonic authority ?

Your committee are aware of many small difficulties which a subtle mind may suggest here. Whenever a doctrine becomes a matter of discussion, it is impossible to convince such persons as have previously decided, that they are in the wrong; and in the same manner as there would be no use in attempting to bring into a desirable unity of religion the ministers of the various sects into which christianity is divided, so do we give up the hope of attracting into the bounds of an universal formula the abettors of the present schism.

There are masons, in the eyes of whom, Masonry consists of a mere nomenclature of facts and forms which they have, no matter how and when, borrowed from another country or nation. We pity their fate. Masonry has neither light nor services to expect from them. They are only good to make automatons and to live themselves as such.

Others are simple enough to believe that a true mason is absolutely bound to accept the forms with which, it is said, Prince Edwin vested Masonry in 924, and to reject all others. But if they are in the right, is it not self-evident that the present symbolical Masonry has ceased to be the universal or rather true Masonry, because this one existed certainly before the above mentioned royal reformer who had, as we presume, received from no one, a right or power to wed Masonry to forms which nations unacquainted with the Jews could neither know nor admit.

But if Symbolical Masonry is of all times and places, why do the Scotch Masons insist so much to be recognized as such by this Grand Lodge of York ? This is, surely, a great question : but it was put to us by the Scotch Masons. If York Masons, do they say, are true masons and well convinced that they are bound to extend a fraternal hand to Chinese, Turkish and Christian Masons as they extend it to Jewish Masons, why do they presume to force us to follow exclusively their tenets and forms ?

We cannot answer them without condemning ourselves most explicitly.

Either York Masonry is an exclusive and *ex parte* Masonry, and in such case it is bound to acknowledge the fact without any restriction or by-way, in order that non-Judaic and Christian Masons may know how to act with it; or it constitutes but a branch of Universal Masonry under the name and title of York Masonry; and in such case, it has no right to reject Christian masons who constitute that other branch of Masonry which is known by the name and title of Scotch Masonry.

Any Grand Lodge which admits a Chinese Mason who can swear but by

the books of Confucius, or a Turkish Mason who takes no oath but on the Alcoran, cannot exclude a Christian Mason who is bound to swear by the Gospel of Christ; and if in spite of the masonic form and tenets which a Chinese or Turkish Mason follows, we are bound to let him participate in York ceremonies, in symbolical lodges, how can we refuse the same favor to a Christian Mason, notwithstanding the forms and ritual which he is bound to prefer?

This is a cogent dilemma; we have either to change the whole organization of Symbolical Masonry, and to substitute to it everywhere a ritual drawn according to the law of nature which is common to all men, or to admit that in each East the Grand Lodge which administers its symbolical lodges is bound to follow a ritual framed according to the religion and manners of said East, without prejudice to the rights of the other Easts, and of the masons who inhabit them.

Every one will, no doubt, see that of these two alternatives the second is the best; but if we prefer it, who can deny that Scotch Masonry has a right of citizenship in a York Grand Lodge; who can deny, as we have caused you to notice it above, that it is impossible to reject Scotch Masons from the York Grand Lodges of our confederacy, without abjuring at the same time the fundamental principles of Symbolical Masonry, without hurting the religions and manners of our own country, without preparing for the Scotch Rite the most glorious triumph, as it will be enough for its adherents to raise their voice in the name of Christ among Christian populations, to secure for itself the admiration of all masons of some sense, and to attract them gradually to its bosom!

The members of your committee belong to both rites. They have ascended almost all the degrees of the York and Scotch branches of Freemasonry. Not a thought was expressed, nor a word written by them in this report, which is not derived from their personal experience and knowledge in these matters. Sincerely devoted to the cause of our fraternity, they considered themselves bound to inquire with a scrupulous care into the true character, object and end of the two rites, to analyze them with due respect to the two authorities upon which they depend respectively, and to do full justice to both. Should their conclusion astonish some of you, they respectfully beg leave to state that it is the unavoidable result of a long reasoned conviction, and not the poetical expression of their ardent desire to see no change whatever in the actual organization of this Grand Lodge.

On another hand, our constitutive charter is so worded that even a majority of all the members of our sovereign body could not legally reject the Scotch Rite without the legal consent of the Scotch Masons under our jurisdiction.

But such a consent has to be the necessary result of a concordate; and you may easily conceive that two essential points will constitute the same, that is to say, a reciprocal right granted to the Scotch and York Lodges to

visit each other after the separation, and, moreover, a proportional distribution of the funds of this Grand Lodge.

It is true that the first of these two points depends on our will only ; but any sort of discussion on the second would be useless. There was a Scotch Lodge, to wit: the "Polar Star Lodge," among those which constituted this Grand Lodge, and, as it fully appears by the concordate above related, this Grand Lodge has most solemnly declared itself to be natural protectress and guardian of the Scotch Lodges which it has either acknowledged or founded, and which it administers now. Then it is plain that the less numerous of these lodges, and even the humblest brother in any of them, is actually vested with a legal right which no majority whatever can take from him.

Shall we imprudently run the chance of a separation which would be altogether fatal in itself and conductive of so many obstacles ?

We live in an enlightened century. Men, far from laying much stress on minute distinctions, are always ready to laugh at them ; and any person of sense would undoubtedly make sport of a quarrel or lawsuit, the object of which should be to have it determined by a court of justice, whether a trifling difference of signs and forms constitutes a moral and legal right in Freemasonry.

If this was a question of principle, your committee are prepared to say that no fear, no consideration and no obstacle would stop you. But whilst we take for certain that it is a mere question of vanity for a few, and a simple misunderstanding on the part of many others, we do not hesitate to say that the separation of the two rites would be pernicious, and that it is both the interest of Freemasonry in general, and of this Grand Lodge in particular, to avoid it.

JAMES FOULHOUSE, *Chairman of the Committee.*

Published by order of the Grand Lodge.

E. of New Orleans, this 26th day of the twelfth masonic month, 5848 (26 February, 1849.)

F. VERRIER, *Grand Secretary.*

It is proper for the committee here to say that a large proportion of the Grand Lodges of this Union, as well as those of Ireland and France and other European countries, have noticed this controversy and expressed opinions of its merits with more or less copiousness. Some of these lodges censure the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and admonish her to lay aside the objectionable features in her Constitution and practice in accumulating rites, but nearly all reprobate the course of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in usurping jurisdiction in that state.

With the exception of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, the old Grand Lodge Louisiana is still recognized as the supreme authority of Masonry in that

state ; and Missouri does not justify the course of Mississippi in the recent invasion of its jurisdiction.

Your committee would suggest for the consideration of this lodge, the importance of a careful examination of the documents herewith presented in regard to the pending controversy, and while we may at present forbear to express a final verdict, they would suggest that the committee which may succeed them be requested, in view of all the light which may in the mean time be secured on the subject, to report to this body what action ought to be taken upon this controversy. This delay will not imply any want of interest in the questions at issue, but may well suggest to our brethren there, our earnest desire that they will correct whatever is wrong in their existing organization and usages, and which tends to produce strife and division. May we not hope that it shall be thus made the duty of your committee then to report that harmony is fully restored in our sister state, by the return of all parties to the simplicity of our ancient Mystic Rites, and the fullest exhibition of love and good work, by the same appropriate usages of our time-honored institution ?

The Grand Lodge of Vermont, which for years had lain inactive and whose revived energies but recently struggled into life, now appears in the enjoyment of vigorous health and prosperity, and vindicates her rights to the fraternal recognitions of her sister lodges. And well does she deserve this, after the severe discipline of suffering to which those have been subjected who held fast by her altars in the hour of trial. The Grand Lodge of New York, which for a time doubted the loyalty of the re-organization in Vermont, now welcomes this Northern Star to its place in the Grand Constellation, and all sister lodges will rejoice in the progress and increasing splendor of this luminary of the Mountain State.

In the correspondence of this Grand Lodge there is much to cheer us in the evidence thus afforded of the rapid increase of workmen and the increasing skill and fidelity of the master builders in the Masonic edifice now rising in silent, but imposing grandeur, in the eyes of the world. Such is the progress of the work that even the disagreement and disorder around the Southwest corner of the Temple to which we have given so much space in this report, is after all scarcely visible in the grand result, and thus inspires the hope that those who have occasioned it will review and retrace their steps, and disperse themselves among the workmen to resume their labors and repair the injuries they have occasioned.

New York still desires corresponding bodies in the other states to require Grand Lodge certificates of all who hail as visiting brethren from the lodges of her jurisdiction, and some of the other states approve of this as a general system, while others deem this an unnecessary innovation upon ancient usage. Your committee would recommend a careful scrutiny of the credentials of visiting brethren who hail from New York lodges, while they doubt

the expediency of adopting the use of Grand Lodge certificates as a prerequisite to visiting in the lodges of this jurisdiction.

Some of the Grand Lodges have adopted the practice of requiring of all resident masons, not connected with any lodge, the payment of a yearly tax as a condition of visiting in any of its subordinates. It may well suggest the inquiry whether a still better method may not be applied in our own jurisdiction by encouraging all such residents to become acting members, and in case of change of residence to remove their relation to the nearest working lodge.

A commendable degree of interest is manifested in the several states, and various methods adopted, and with varied success, to secure uniformity in the work of the order. So far as we can discover, these efforts are but partially successful, whether attempted by Grand Lecturers having the sole charge of this matter, or by the District Deputies in their several departments, or by a union of both, or by attempts to exemplify the work in the body of the Grand Lodges for the instruction of the representatives of the subordinates. Precise uniformity is not perhaps to be expected, certainly not except as the result of time and patient effort. It is happy for the interests of the order that there can be substantial harmony, and a generous co-operation, without a stereotyped uniformity; and the great interests of the order are not sacrificed by a failure to secure a perfect and universal agreement in the use of forms, signs and symbols. Generous hearts and willing hands can leave their impress on the age and their memorials on the walls of our Masonic edifice, even if there is slight diversity in the method of doing it. Still, progress in the work, and the approximation to a uniform and perfect standard of excellence is greatly to be desired, as the discipline by which this is gained is the means of promoting mental and moral progress, and moulding the elements of our common nature into symmetry and beauty, which can never be the result of carelessness or indifference to modes and forms. In this view the committee repeat their opinion that the creation of a Supreme Grand Lodge, with wise and carefully prescribed powers and limitation, is an object worthy of high regard. Instead of enlarging upon this topic they would simply refer to their views expressed more fully in the last annual report. Most of the Grand Lodges of the Union have had this subject under consideration and have come to conclusions more or less at variance with the views of this Grand Lodge and with each other.

Some are decided in their objections to a Supreme Grand Lodge under any circumstances, others approve of such an organization but object to some features in the constitution presented. More than the number required have decided in favor of a Supreme Grand Lodge, but not a sufficient number have approved of the constitution last year presented, and consequently it is still inoperative, and no Supreme Grand Lodge exists. This Grand Lodge will doubtless hold itself prepared to unite in the formation of such a body, with suitable powers and privileges, whenever the necessary

number of Grand Lodges shall concur, and unite in convention for that purpose.

Since the above report was written the committee have received evidence that an unhappy division has arisen in the Grand Lodge of New York, growing out of an attempt to so change the Constitution of that body as to deprive all Past Masters of subordinate lodges, except the last who had passed the chair, of the right to vote in Grand Lodge. This is the revival of an old controversy which once divided the Grand Lodge of the Empire State in 1823. In 1827, a reunion took place which was on the basis originally established, that Past Masters have a right to vote and act in all matters as permanent members of the Grand Lodge. At the annual meeting last year a proposition was made to deprive them of this, and to allow them only the privileges of honorary members.

This proposition awakened hostility, especially in the lodges of New York and vicinity, and led to a convention of such as were opposed to the change. This was followed by an address or circular sent by each of the conflicting parties to the several lodges in the state, endeavoring to secure their co-operation. At the late meeting of the Grand Lodge, it was announced by the acting Grand Master that the constitutional majority of subordinate lodges had adopted the proposed amendments, and that they were now a part of the Constitution by which the Grand Lodge was to be governed. An appeal from this decision was taken, and the lodges sustained that appeal. A division then occurred, and each party proceeded to organize and elect officers, each claiming to be the Grand Lodge of that state. Those lodges that united in resisting the proposed amendments have sent us their version of the controversy, and the proceedings of that body with the seal of the Grand Lodge attached. From the other body we have a brief circular under date of New York, June 11th, giving the names of officers by them elected, and informing us that a clandestine body has been formed in that city composed of expelled masons and their associates, which has assumed the name of a Grand Lodge, and promising us a detailed account of the same in an address soon to be issued. This Grand Lodge will share with the committee in their grief, and regret that such division and discord should occur in our beloved Order, and especially in New York, which has so long occupied a commanding position in the masonic world.

With but partial details of this late movement it would be premature for the committee or the lodge to take any action, or express any opinion on the merits of the controversy. They would leave this with other matters for the consideration of their successors and the future action of this body, in the hope that before our next anniversary the causes of strife may be removed and harmony restored in the counsels of Masonry in the Empire State. When the elements of human passion, of pride and selfishness, are subjected to the control of reason and truth, swayed by the potent influence of light and love, then shall the ear be less frequently pained by tidings of

evil. In securing such results, our beloved fraternity has a most important mission. Of this we would not be unmindful, and our brethren in New York will not refuse our earnest appeal to them as such, to meet this crisis in their affairs in the spirit our institution inspires; to review their course in the spirit which they have often urged upon others involved in trials and perils, and so to remove all occasions of discord and reproach, that the Masonic fraternity shall receive no permanent damage. With gratitude for the favor of God in our past experience, and earnest desires for his future protection and guidance, we would in conclusion, commend their case and the entire interests of our fraternity throughout the world, to his paternal care.

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL, }
F. BRADFORD, } *Committee.*

The following brethren were appointed by the Grand Master, a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the ensuing year, viz:

BROS. CYRIL PEARL, of Standish,
FREEMAN BRADFORD, of Portland,
ALLEN HAINES, of Portland.

A communication from St. John's Lodge, at Newark, N. J., was then laid upon the table by the Grand Secretary. Read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The following resolution was submitted by Bro. McArthur and adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to collect the annual reports of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, so far as may be practicable, since the organization of this Grand Lodge in 1820, and cause the same to be neatly bound in suitable volumes and deposited in the archives of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That a sum, not exceeding twenty dollars, be appropriated for the purchase of tickets for the festival to-morrow, to be presented to such aged, worthy brethren as may be unable to furnish themselves therewith.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of twenty dollars be appropriated and paid to Rev. Bro. Cyril Pearl, for services and expenses incurred by him as a member of the committee to prepare a Constitution and Code of By-Laws for the Grand

Lodge; and for time and labor bestowed by him as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in preparing the reports of that committee.

On motion,

Voted, That when the Grand Lodge calls off, it be until eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Grand Lodge was then called off.

Attest:

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

MASONS' HALL, Portland, June 26, 1849.

The Grand Lodge convened this morning at eight o'clock and proceeded to make arrangements to participate in the celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, in connection with the other masonic bodies, and visiting and sojourning brethren now in the city for that purpose.

The arrangements having been completed, the Grand Lodge joined the procession at ten o'clock, which, under the direction of R. W. Freeman Bradford, as Chief Marshal, and escorted by the Portland Encampment of Knights Templar and other Sir Knights in attendance, marched, to excellent music by the Portland Brass Band, through several of the principal streets of the city to the church of the First Parish, where an excellent and highly interesting address, replete with gems of masonic lore, was delivered by M. W. Benjamin B. French, Esq., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, accompanied with other usual exercises.

The exercises at the church being closed, the procession was re-formed, and proceeded to the "Great Pavillion" on Munjoy's Hill, where an excellent dinner had been prepared for the occasion by Bro. Nathan J. Davis; in which the assembled body of the fraternity, with many of their ladies and invited guests, participated.

Having done ample justice to the dinner, a great number of appropriate sentiments were offered, interspersed with cheering music from the Band; after which the interesting ceremonies and festivities of the day, which had been enjoyed with great satisfaction apparently by all, were concluded.

The Grand Lodge then returned to their hall, deposited their regalia and took a recess until eight o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 8 o'clock P. M.

The following resolutions were then offered and unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge of Maine be tendered to M. W. Benjamin B. French, Esq., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, for his able and highly interesting address this day delivered before the Grand Lodge and fraternity here assembled; and that he be respectfully requested to furnish a copy thereof for publication.

Resolved, That the sum of fifty dollars be appropriated and tendered to M. W. Bro. French, to defray, in part, his traveling expenses from, and back to Washington.

On motion,

Voted, That Bros. Freeman Bradford, Daniel Winslow and C. B. Smith be a committee to wait upon M. W. Bro. French, and present him a copy of these resolutions.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary cause the address of M. W. Bro. French, this day delivered, (if a copy thereof shall be granted,) to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge of Maine be tendered—
To the city authorities of Portland, for the use of the City Hall this day, on the occasion of our celebration of the anniversary of St. John the Baptist:

To the Maine Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F., for the use of their hall this day, on the same occasion :

To the I. O. R. of this city, for use of their hall on same occasion :

To the proprietors of the First Parish Church, for the use of their house on same occasion :

To the choir of the First Parish, for performance of excellent music on same occasion :

To the City Marshal of Portland, and his aids, for promptness and efficiency in preserving order in the streets on same occasion :

To the Portland Brass Band, for prompt and skillful performance of music on same occasion, and

To Bro. Nathan J. Davis, for good taste manifested in his arrangements, and good dinner furnished by him on same occasion.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

Attest, CHARLES B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF LODGES, UP TO MAY 1, 1849.

Portland, 1, Portland. William Kimball, M; Henry C. Lovell, SW; Richard W. Kennard, JW; Arthur Shirley, TR; Elias M. Plimpton, S; James R. Milliken, SD; Thomas J. Sanborn, JD; Lemuel Bryant, SS; James H. Roach, JS; Isaac Davis, T. Members, 93; initiates, 11; rejected, 3; deceased, 4.

District 1

Warren, 2, East Machias. John H. Harris, M; F. L. Talbot, SW; F. A. Wilson, JW; Walter Robbins, TR; C. H. Talbot, S; W. H. Tobey, SD; S. T. Foster, JD; Elijah Hall, SS; Luther Hall, JS; Charles Townsend, T. Members, 21; initiates, 8; deceased, 1.

6

Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. Henry Clark, M; Asa F. Hall, SW; Abner Packard, JW; John B. Mange, TR; James Taylor, S; Elisha McKenney, SD; William Trundy, JD; Rufus Sewall, SS; Thomas Cunningham, JS; Alfred McLean, T. Members, 24; initiates, 11.

4

Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. Francis J. Day, M; Stephen Lord, SW; Leverett Lord, JW; Nathaniel Stevens, TR; William Nye, S; Ira Cass, SD; Robert G. Handy, JD; Andrew Brown, SS; William S. Marshall, JS; Greenlief Robinson, T. Members, 25; initiates, 9.

3

Amity, 6, Camden. John Glover, M; Patrick Simonton, SW; Thomas Annis, JW; Benjamin Crabtree, TR; Austin Sweetland, S; Jeremiah C. Cushing, SD; James R. Glover, JD; Samuel Chase, SS; Alexander Paschal, JS; Isaiah Barbour, T. Members, 55; initiates, 18; rejected, 1.

9

Eastern, 7, Eastport. Lucius Bradbury, M; John L. Bowman, SW; Frederick Bell, JW; Thomas Parker, TR; Benjamin Snow, S; John Regan, SD; George Lemman, JD; Peter Whelpley, SS; Charles James, JS; Thomas Hancock, T. Members, 38; initiates, 10; rejected, 2.

6

United, 8, Brunswick. Samuel S. Wing, M; John D. Lincoln, SW; Theodore S. McLellan, JW; Benjamin Furbish, TR; G. Clinton Swallow, S; Horace P. Hubbard, SD; Octavius A. Merrill, JD; Artemas Coburn, SS; Ward Coburn, JS; Moses M. Marsh, T. Members, 44; initiates, 8; deceased, 1.

1

Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Timothy H. Morse, M; William H. Mills, SW; Eben. W. Elder, JW; Joseph C. Stevens, TR; Silas Alden, S; George W. Cummings, SD; Ebenezer G. Rawson, JD; Hermon Fisher, SS; Samuel

- B. Brown, JS; Simeon Everton, T. Members, 47; initiates, 9; rejected, one.
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. Charles Megquier, M; William Hatch, SW; Daniel W. True, JW; Ezra Tobie, TR; William Jay Bradbury, S; Benjamin Morse, SD; Abner M. Nutting, JD; Nathaniel Bray, SS; Benjamin Garland, JS; Pelatiah Lyon, T. Members, 15; initiates, 5. 1
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. John Kilborn, M; George W. Cushman, SW; C. J. Adams, JW; James Flint, TR; Samuel Andrews, 2d, S; Eben. Kilborn, SD; Abner Smith, JD; A. S. Frisbee, SS; A. M. Savage, JS; John Burnell, T. Members, 19. 2
- Solar, 14, Bath. Jeremiah Ellsworth, M; Scott J. Tallman, SW; Elisha Clark, JW; D. Hatch, TR; Abizer Matthews, S; John G. Richardson, SD; John Deering, JD; William H. Harrison, SS; George Marston, Jr., JS; John Young, T. Members, 37; initiates, 9. 4
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. Benjamin Carr, M; Edward Boyles, SW; E. B. Lermond, JW; Peter Williams, TR; J. D. Barnard, S; Joel Miller, SD; George Crawford, JD; Enoch Carlton, SS; Eben Creighton, JS. Members, 19; initiates, 2. 4
- St. George, 16, Warren. John Miller, M; John Andrews, SW; Edward Weston, JW; Amos H. Hodgman, TR; Alden Miller, S; Samuel Hinkley, SD; Francis Spear, JD; James Coburn, SS; Edmund B. Alford, JS; Lewis S. Kirk, T. Members, 45; initiates 10. 4
- Ancient Land-Mark, 17, Portland. John B. Coyle, M; Benjamin C. Fernald, SW; Charles F. Safford, JW; Henry H. Boody, TR; Caleb Chase, S; James F. Young, SD; David G. Plummer, JD; Amos C. Howell, SS; Caleb S. Carter, JS; John Dain, T. Members, 96; initiates, 10; deceased, 3. 1
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Thomas Goodale, M; Henry Silsby, SW; James Goodale, JW; Sewall Lake, TR; D. C. Homer, S; J. H. Sherman, SD; N. T. Hill, JD; Joshua Abbot, T. Members, 11; initiates, 7. 5
- Maine, 20, Farmington. Henry Johnson, M; Moses Sherburne, SW; William Tripp, JW; James Butterfield, TR; J. D. Prescott, S; John Gowen, SD; John T. Taylor, JD; Isaac Eaton, SS; Moses Butterfield, JS; Hiram Webster, T; Members, 21; initiates, 3; rejected, 1; deceased, 3. 3
- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Robert Blacker, M; Joseph Covell, SW; Peter T. Hathaway, JW; Reuel Washburn, TR; Gideon Ellis, S; Daniel Austin, SD; Asa Austin, JD; Ebenezer Hinds, SS; John Fuller, JS; Samuel P. Holman, T. Members, 21; deceased, 1. 2
- York, 22, Kennebunk. Joshua Herrick, M; James Larrabee, SW; Paul Jenkins, JW; Abiel Kelley, TR; Isaac Downing, S; Charles M. Sweet, SD; James H. Kipp, JD; George W. Wormwood, SS; Stephen Perkins, JS; Joseph Avery, T. Members, 15; initiates, 6. 8
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast. Daniel Harraden, M; H. G. O. Washburn, SW; Hiram Chase, JW; James P. Furber, TR; Oshea Page, S; Joseph S. Noyes, SD;

- Samuel Locke, *JD*; L. B. Wetherbee, *ss*; Calvin Perkins, *js*; Robert Thompson, *t*. Members, 42; initiates, 15; deceased, 1. 9
- Adoniram, 27, Limington. Arthur McArthur, *m*; James McArthur, *sw*; Ebenezer H. McLellan, *sw*; Nathaniel Clark, *tr*; Stephen C. Watson, *s*; William Cobb, *sd*; William D. Boulter, *JD*; Jabez Hobson, *ss*; Benjamin C. Libby, *js*; Benjamin Blake, *t*. Members, 40; initiates, 2; deceased, 1. 8
- Northern Star, 28, Anson. Moses Moore, *m*; John Pierce, *sw*; William Rowell, *sw*; Benjamin Steward, *tr*; James Y. Cleaveland, *s*; Silas Hamblet, *sd*; John A. Fletcher, *JD*; Rodney Collins, *ss*; David White, *js*; Moses M. Thompson, *t*. Members, 36; initiates, 11; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 3
- Tranquil, 29, Danville. George W. Chase, *m*; Josiah Little, Jr., *sw*; Archibald Lindsay, *sw*; Hiram Adams, *tr*; Jacob Herrick, *s*; Robert Martin, *sd*; Augustus Callahan, *JD*; John W. Farnham, *ss*; Horatio G. Garcelon, *js*; Daniel Read, Jr., *t*. Members, 44; initiates, 8. 2
- Blazing Star, 30, Rumford. Nathaniel B. Crockett, *m*; Colman Goodwin, *sw*; Caleb Besse, *sw*; Erastus Hilborn, *tr*; James Russ, *s*; James N. Brickett, *sd*; John R. Briggs, *JD*; George G. Bragg, *ss*; Aaron J. Abbot, *js*; Farnham Abbot, *t*. Members, 19; initiates, 1; deceased, 1. 2
- Union, 31, Union. Lewis Andrews, *m*; G. M. Blackington, *sw*; George Littlehale, *sw*; Ebenezer Cobb, *tr*; William G. Hawkes, *s*; Storey Thompson, *sd*; John Pardoe, *JD*; Philo Thurston, *ss*; Charles F. Blake, *js*; George Cummings, *t*. Members, 44; initiates, 2. 4
- Hermion, 32, Gardiner. Benjamin Cook, *m*; Stephen Webber, *sw*; James McCurdy, *sw*; William H. Byram, *tr*; Lawson H. Green, *s*; Ephraim Rand, *sd*; James Tarbox, *JD*; Franklin Glazier, Jr., *ss*; James W. White, *js*; Joseph Y. Gray, *t*. Members, 48; initiates, 11; deceased, 4. 3
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Thomas W. Herrick, *m*; Jacob M. Crooker, *sw*; Edwin L. Smith, *sw*; John Webber, *tr*; John Ransted, *s*; Wadsworth Chipman, *sd*; Abner Chick, *JD*; Charles R. Phillips, *ss*; W. E. R. Hanscomb, *js*; Stephen Tozer, *t*. Members, 36; initiates, 3; deceased, 1. 3
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. Joseph Philbrick, *m*; Eusebius Weston, *sw*; Samuel Philbrick, *sw*; John Whitten, *tr*; Henry A. Wyman, *s*; Isaac Haggett, *sd*; William B. Morrill, *JD*; Abraham Wyman, *ss*; Samuel Haywood, *js*; James Frost, *t*. Members, 29; initiates, 8; rejected, 1. 3
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. William A. Drew, *m*; Eri Wells, *sw*; George W. Jones, *sw*; Solomon T. Houghton, *tr*; James F. Patterson, *s*; Amasa Kelley, *sd*; Newton Reynolds, *JD*; Ephraim Ballard, *ss*; William Hunt, *js*; Joshua Rollins, *t*. Members, 57; initiates, 12; rejected, 1. 3
- Washington, 37, Lubec. Jeremiah Fowler, *m*; John C. Talbot, Jr., *sw*; Taft Comstock, Jr., *sw*; Theophilus Doe, *tr*; Samuel P. Fowler, *s*; George

- T. Hunter, *sd*; Samuel Starbird, *jd*; Ebenezer Oakes, *ss*; William J. Goodwin, *js*; John Davidson, *t*. Members, 33; initiates, 8. 6
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. Reuben Flanders, *m*; Levi C. Morgan, *sw*; Samuel Copeland, *fw*; Nathaniel Dustin, *tr*; William Morgan, *s*; Miles Doyle, *sd*; Harrison Richardson, *jd*; Morrill Prescott, *ss*; Isaac M. Russ, *js*; Freeman Knowles, *t*. Members, 46; initiates, 3; deceased, 1. 7
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. William Somerby, *m*; Joseph S. Rice, *sw*; Elijah L. M. Allen, *fw*; Seth Paddleford, *tr*; Stephen B. Woodward, *s*; John L. Moore, *sd*; Hazael Varnum, *jd*; Oliver P. Thomas, *ss*; Stillman H. Sawyer, *js*; William Mayhew, *t*. Members, 42; initiates, 19; rejected, 1; deceased, 3. 5
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Samuel S. Land, *m*; Grenville Flint, *sw*; Hiram Rose, *fw*; Edward Pilsbury, *tr*; Thomas Crosswell, *s*; Hezekiah Lancaster, *sd*; Elijah M. Dearborn, *jd*; Orrin Footman, *ss*; Joseph Knight, *js*; John Holbrook, *t*. Members, 28; initiates, 7; rejected, 1. 7
- Aurora, 50, East Thomaston. David M. Mitchell, *m*; Ephraim Hall, *sw*; Larkin Snow, *fw*; Constant Rankin, *tr*; George W. Cochran, *s*; Samuel B. Dodge, *sd*; C. H. Cochran, *jd*; Samuel Libbey, *ss*; M. S. Whiting, *js*; Hosea Coombs, *t*. Members, 43; initiates, 12; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 4
- Mosaic, 52, Dover. E. B. Averill, *m*; Luther Chamberlain, *sw*; J. M. Hackett, *fw*; J. S. Holmes, *tr*; E. J. Hale, *s*; Benjamin Hassell, *sd*; William P. Brown, *jd*; Salmon Holmes, *ss*; Paul Douglass, *js*. Members, 19; initiates, 2. 7
- Unity, 58, Freedom. Daniel Weed, *m*; James Hall, *sw*; Charles Eliot, *fw*; Adam Weed, *tr*; Seth Webb, *s*; James Weed, *sd*; Samuel Curtis, *jd*; Ivory Lord, *ss*; Thomas S. Keen, *js*; Joseph Larrabee, *t*. Members, 14; initiates, 4; deceased, 2. 9
- Mount Hope, 59, Hope. Josiah Hobbs, *m*; John Lermond, *sw*; J. S. Chitman, *fw*; Hiram Fisk, *tr*; Church Fisk, *s*; Walter Philbrick, *sd*; Daniel Howard, *jd*; Eben. Philbrick, *ss*; Thomas P. White, *js*; David Hull, *t*. Members, 13; initiates, 2. 9
- Star in the East, 60, Old Town. Otis H. Johnson, *m*; Eli Hoskins, *sw*; George P. Sewall, *fw*; Foster Wood, *tr*; Ezra C. Brett, *s*; Ira Wallace, *sd*; Solomon Moulton, *jd*; James H. Burgess, *ss*; Ansel Smith, *js*; Joseph Moulton, *t*. Members, 46; Initiates, 12; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 7

ADDRESS

OF

HON. BENJAMIN B. FRENCH,

GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

DELIVERED AT PORTLAND,

BEFORE THE GRAND LODGE OF MAINE,

AND A LARGE COLLECTION OF THE FRATERNITY THERE ASSEMBLED,

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

JUNE 26, 1849.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE GRAND LODGE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PORTLAND, Tuesday evening,
June 26, 1849.

Sir and Brother :—The undersigned, appointed a committee by the Grand Lodge of Maine, present to you herewith certain resolutions of that body, passed unanimously at its session this evening, requesting a copy of the able and excellent address delivered by you this day ; and in compliance with said resolutions, herewith tender to you the sum therein named, as a slight testimonial of the great obligation the masonic fraternity of our state are under to you for your invaluable services on the occasion of this day's festival. Most truly and fraternally yours,

F. BRADFORD,
DANIEL WINSLOW, } Committee.
C. B. SMITH,

PORTLAND, Tuesday evening,
June 26, 1849.

Brothers Freeman Bradford, Daniel Winslow and Charles B. Smith, committee of the Grand Lodge of Maine :

I have received, with feelings of the deepest emotion, the resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Maine, passed since the exercises of this day were concluded.

In reply to the first, I return you, herewith, the manuscript of the address which I had the honor to deliver, sincerely hoping that its publication may be of some benefit to my fellowmen.

In reply to the resolution making a generous appropriation to defray my expenses, permit me, while I respectfully decline receiving it, to say that this mark of the generosity of the Grand Lodge of Maine will not soon be forgotten by me, and, if they will permit it, I will respectfully suggest that they dispose of it in some particular charity where it will be in their opinion of the most service.

Present, gentlemen, to the Grand Lodge of Maine and to the fraternity throughout the state, my sincere fraternal regards, and accept for yourselves the kind wishes of my heart for your prosperity and happiness.

Most truly and fraternally yours,

B. B. FRENCH.

A D D R E S S .

It has been said, by some writer, that "the arms of friendship are long enough to reach and join hands from one end of the world to the other"—and my presence here to-day seems to be a partial illustration of this philanthropic assertion, for a compliance with an invitation, induced I know by the best feelings of the heart, has placed me in my present attitude before you.

We have assembled, my brethren, to celebrate the anniversary of one of our patron saints—one of "those ancient Christian worthies" selected by our brethren as the appropriate patron of an institution dedicated to the Most High.

The practice of selecting some one whose eminence while living canonized his memory when dead, is by no means peculiar to Freemasonry; and the celebration of the anniversaries of saints is an annual custom among all the Christian nations of the earth. It has been tauntingly asked how we prove that the Saints John—both of whom we recognize as our patrons—were Freemasons? We do not prove it. A tradition is preserved in the English lodges, that upon a certain occasion, when the brethren met to select a Grand Master, "they deputed seven of their most eminent members to wait upon Saint John, the Evangelist, who was at that time Bishop of Ephesus, requesting him to take the office of Grand Master. He returned, for answer, "that though being well stricken in years (being upwards of ninety), yet, having been in the early part of his life initiated into Masonry, he would take upon himself that office."

An eminent modern writer on Freemasonry has traced, with great ingenuity and plausibility, the reasons why these saints were thus selected: "The post-diluvians," (says he,) "according to the testimony of the Jewish writer, Maimonides, the Magians of Persia, until their ritual was improved and purified by Zoroaster, and, most probably the ancient Druids, introduced into their rites a great respect for and even adoration of the sun, as the source of light and life and fruition, and the visible representative of the invisible creative and preservative principle of nature. To such sects, the periods when the sun reached his greatest northern and southern declination by entering the zodiacal signs, Cancer and Capricorn, marked, as it would be,

by most evident effects on the seasons and on the length of the days and nights, could not have passed unobserved ; but, on the contrary, must have occupied a distinguished place in their ritual. Now these important days fell, respectively, on the twenty-first of June and twenty-second of December.

In the spurious Masonry of the ancients, these days were doubtless celebrated as returning eras in the existence of the great source of light, and the object of their worship. Our ancient brethren adopted the custom, abandoning, however, in deference to their own purer doctrines, the idolatrous principles which were connected with these dates, and confining their celebration exclusively to their astronomical importance. But time passed on. Christianity came to mingle its rays with the light of Masonry, and our Christian ancestors, finding that the church had appropriated two days near these solstitial periods, to the memory of two eminent saints, it was easy to incorporate these festivals, by the lapse of a few days, into the Masonic calendar, and to adopt these worthies as patrons of our order. To this change the earlier Christian masons were doubtless the more easily persuaded, by the peculiar character of these Saints. Saint John, the Baptist, by announcing the approach of Christ, and by the mystic ablution to which he subjected his proselytes, and which was afterwards adopted in the ceremony of initiation into Christianity, might well be considered as the *Grand Hierophant* of the church, while the mysterious and emblematic nature of the Apocalypse assimilated the mode of teaching adopted by Saint John, the Evangelist, to the practice of the fraternity."

Thus we have tradition and theory for the practice adopted by our brethren in times long gone by. Like many other rites and ceremonies of ancient origin, the things, being good in themselves, are practiced, while the causes, which established them are either entirely forgotten, or only exist as a tradition of the past.

And it is appropriate to add, that perhaps in the whole range of Scripture history, a more lovely human being could not have been selected as a patron, than the Evangelist. He was the disciple whom Jesus loved, and who at that solemn feast which took place immediately preceding the condemnation, sat next our Saviour and leant upon his bosom. Gentleness and tenderness breathed through his writings. And it is said, that "as the infirmities of age made him unable to address the church in a systematic discourse he always desired to be conveyed to the assembly, and as often as he came addressed them thus : 'Children, love one another.' Being asked at length why he always repeated this exhortation, with nothing new, he answered, 'because it is the precept of the Lord, and if this is fulfilled, it is enough.'"

This eminent, learned and pure-hearted being, was chosen by our ancient brethren as one of our patrons ; the other, Saint John, the Baptist, whose anniversary we this day celebrate, though not less learned and eloquent, possessed a sterner and more severe nature than his cotemporary ; he also

was the friend and companion of our Saviour, and performed upon him the holy ceremony of baptism.

Such are, briefly, the reasons why we denominate these holy beings our patrons, and why we hold our festivals on their anniversaries.

My brethren, the society which we so dearly cherish, can trace its existence farther into the past than any society of human origin now in being. Masonic tradition carries it back to the time when Solomon, king of Israel, selected as the site of the first Temple, the threshing floor of Ornan, the Jebusite. Masonic history professes not to give its origin, but assures us that centuries have witnessed its being, its struggles in the cause of humanity and virtue, its prosperity and its adversity—its patience and fortitude under the oppressions which have sought to overwhelm it—its triumphant acquittal by the world from every charge which hatred and malevolence have united to bring against it.

Perhaps no more appropriate occasion than the present can be chosen, in which to say something in regard to its history. In reference to it, a recent writer uses the following language: "To redress wrongs, to protect the weak, to repress tyranny, to encourage and recompense virtue, to spread abroad the principles of morality, to preserve the holy deposit of honor—such has been in all time the mission of this venerable and illustrious phalanx, which has been perpetuated from the origin of societies, to our day."

The author* of "*The Mystic Tie*," a recent and an excellent publication, remarking upon "*The Antiquity of Freemasonry*," says: "It must be remembered, that whatever be the origin of Freemasonry as a distinct organization—whether it be the production of to-day, yesterday, an hundred or a thousand years since—the date of its existence has but little to do with the true merits of the institution, although it is not denied that antiquity will give it an additional claim to our respect; while there will be strong presumption of excellence in the fact, that it has withstood the wear and tear of ages, and, to adopt the language applied by Johnson to the writings of Shakespeare, that time, while it has been washing away the dissoluble fabrics of all other societies, has passed by the adamant of Freemasonry without injury."

"The principles of Truth, and Love and Charity, which constitute the ground-work and design of Freemasonry, were, of course, coeval with the creation; and this is all that can be meant when the birth of Masonry is dated from that era."

Well read masons do not claim, even by tradition, to date the origin of Freemasonry anterior to the building of the temple of Solomon. The article from which I have just quoted, was doubtless written after great research, and contains, probably, the best brief outline of authenticated history of the ancient mysteries connected with the masonic and cotemporary orders.

* Albert G. Mackey.

"Thus we learn that there existed in Asia Minor, at the time of the building of King Solomon's Temple, a society called the Dionysian Artificers, who were extensively engaged in operative Masonry; and which society was distinguished by many peculiarities that closely assimilated it to the Speculative Freemasonry of the present day. Among these was the division into lodges, each governed by its own officers—the use of ceremonies in which symbolical instruction was communicated by means of the implements of operative masonry—the practice of an emblematic mode of initiation—the existence of an important legend, whose true meaning was known only to the perfectly initiated—and the adoption of a secret system of recognition among the brethren. Of this society, all the architects of the East were members; and among them, it is to be presumed, were the workmen sent by Hiram, King of Tyre, to assist King Solomon in building the temple at Jerusalem. These men, under the superintendence of that 'son of a widow of the tribe of Napthali,' whom Hiram also sent to Solomon as 'a curious and cunning workman,' communicated to their Jewish fellow laborers a knowledge of the advantages of their fraternity and invited them to a participation in its mysteries and privileges. From this union arose that sublime and perfect organization of the workmen at the temple, which enabled them, in the short space of seven years, to construct so magnificent an edifice."

Thus may the origin of Freemasonry be reasonably traced back to the building of the Temple; at the completion of which the workmen separated, and sought other employment. They, of course, carried with them the rites and mysteries of the order.

At an early period there were associations of traveling architects existing in all the countries of the continent, journeying from city to city, and erecting cathedrals, monasteries, and other religious edifices, under the name of "Traveling Freemasons." Until the sixteenth century, these associations increased in power, in extent, and in reputation; they then became objects of pontifical jealousy, and have so continued to this day. In consequence of this, they changed their operative and speculative character, to one purely speculative, and continue to exist at this moment under the name of the "Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Freemasons."

This is but a running outline, which, if properly filled up, would form a volume.

The Freemasons in the United States derive their Masonic origin from Great Britain, where the order has been permanently established since the year 926, when a charter was granted to the masons by King Athelstane, upon the application of his brother, Prince Edwin.

"Accordingly," says Elias Ashmole, "Prince Edwin summoned all the masons in the realm to meet in a congregation at York, who came, and composed a general lodge, of which he was Grand Master; and having brought with them all the writings and records extant, some in Greek, some in Latin,

some in French and other languages; from the contents thereof, that assembly did frame the constitution and charges of an English Lodge."

"From this assembly the true rise of Masonry in England is generally dated; from the statutes there enacted, are derived the English Masonic Constitutions; and from the place of meeting, the ritual of the English lodges is designated as 'the Ancient York Rite.'"

From that time Masonry has had a firm foothold in England. At times divisions have crept into their ranks, and there were, for a considerable length of time, two Grand Lodges. In 1813, however, under the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Sussex, they were happily united, "and discord," it is hoped, "forever banished from English Masonry."

The first lodge organized in the United States, was "instituted at Savannah, Georgia, by virtue of a warrant from Lord Weymouth, Grand Master of England;" and the first Grand Lodge was organized in Boston, on the thirtieth of July, 1733, by the name of "Saint John's Grand Lodge," under a charter granted to several brethren of that city, by Lord Viscount Montague, Grand Master of England, dated April 30, 1733, and Henry Price was therein appointed Grand Master in North America.

The first charter granted by this body was to "Saint John's Lodge in Boston," which lodge is still in existence.

Grand Lodges were afterwards established in many parts of the Union, under charters from the Grand Lodges of England or Scotland, and continued thus until the close of the revolution, after which Grand Lodges began to be organized in the states and territories of the Union, acknowledging allegiance to no higher masonic power in the world.

For many years after the permanent establishment of Freemasonry in the United States, its course was marked by prosperity, and it had spread abroad until almost every town of any considerable note contained one or more masonic lodges. Up to the time when some members of the craft, with more zeal than prudence, sought to prevent the publication of the secrets of the institution, and suffered themselves to be led into indiscretions which met the most decided disapproval of the fraternity in general, Masonry in the United States held an enviable position. The acts of the misguided brethren just referred to, were seized upon by men, who, to subserve their selfish ends, would not hesitate to perform any base action, and who, by enlisting ignorance and superstition in their ranks, made an attempt to break up the masonic institution. It withstood, however, the fiery trial, as it ever has all the persecutions that have been attempted to overthrow it, and like oppressed virtue, came forth from the ordeal unscathed.

The masonic fraternity is a law-abiding and order-loving association; and, instead of attempting to resist the anti-masonic whirlwind which was sweeping over the land, yielded to it. They extinguished the fires of their altars, closed their lodges, and ceased their labors; following the example of the

pilgrims of the Arabian desert, who, when they observe the approach of the dread sirocco, lie quietly down until it has passed by.

The whirlwind at length ceased—the clouds were dispelled, and again the Sun of Masonry burst forth in full meridian splendor. The craft was called again to labor, and prosperity has marked all its efforts in the cause of humanity and virtue, to this time.

When we consider the antiquity of the institution, our minds go back with satisfaction to the past—in imagination we may suppose that, like a vista to the natural eye, it is *all* before us—kingdoms, principalities, and powers—the immense hive of human existence move and have a being on that visionary panorama of the imagination, the human brain.

Among the various results of art are to be seen beautiful and chaste edifices, wherein the operative mason has combined beauty with utility, and gracefulness with firmness and durability. The grand cathedral—the dark and sad monastery—the solemn temple—the hall of justice—the palace and the prison—the gloomy castle and the princely mansion—together with thousands of other edifices, all of which bear evidence of the superior skill and workmanship of those ancient workmen whom we believe to have been the founders of our institution. Cities with their peopled streets—the red battle-field where warring hosts have met in the wild and deadly encounter—the rolling ocean, covered with the navies of the world—all are visible on our imaginary picture.

Amid the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the destruction that wasteth at noon-day, what little band of men moves silently from door to door, comforting the afflicted, ministering to the wants of the poor and needy, consoling the dying, and attending to the last sad offices paid by the living to the dead? It is a band of brothers, bound to each other and to their fellow-men by the mystic tie of Masonry.

What stays the arm of the victor just raised to strike down his vanquished foe? The masonic sign! Why, amid the naval conflict, goes forth that frail boat to the rescue of an individual? The signal has been given, it has been recognized and a brother is saved from destruction!

Such has been Freemasonry during its existence through all the past; such we fondly hope it will be through all the future.

Efforts are at the present time being made in all parts of this Union to render it one of the great means of the advancement of wisdom and of learning, as well as of morality and virtue. As evidence of this, I will read an extract from the last report of the Committee of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia:

“The subject of education,” say they, “is one which has engaged not only the attention of most of our sister Grand Lodges, and received from them favorable notice as to the utility of establishments designed for the orphan children of our departed brethren, but in two of the states—Missouri and Kentucky—colleges have been established by the fraternity, which afford

the most ample means of instruction, in all that can render man useful to his fellow men, by enlarging the sphere of his understanding and developing talents, which, but for such aid, might have been left to wither and decay. Georgia and Florida have recommended the subject to the attention of her subordinates, the latter indulging the hope, that if a beginning be made, however little it may be, in time, with careful and patient nurture, it will grow up to an institution of importance. Ohio has appointed a committee of inquiry, and Illinois one to solicit donations. Tennessee has appropriated \$1,200 to be invested in stock as a school fund. Alabama has collected about \$4,500, but distributed the amount among the subordinate lodges, not being able to agree upon a plan. Indiana is in favor of the system of common schools under the direction and control of the officers and brethren of each subordinate lodge, and New York, having the system of common schools already within her limits, will, no doubt, in her great anxiety to advance this 'branch of charity, worthy and necessary to be cherished with liberality,' avail herself of the existence of that system, if she should not succeed in the 'accomplishment of the comprehensive plan' to which that Grand Lodge is said, in the last report of their Committee of Correspondence, 'to have set their hands five years ago,' the nature of which is not known to your committee; Maryland has set about raising means for this purpose, and North Carolina and Iowa have made some advances for the furtherance of the cause within their limits, and Texas has appropriated ten per cent. of all her revenues to the purposes of education, requested the subordinate lodges to receive donations of lands, the annual proceeds of which are to be applied to establishing a college, and has constituted her five principal officers a standing committee on education. This Grand Lodge is so limited in its territory, and, of course, in its resources, from subordinates under its jurisdiction, that it would be idle to contemplate the establishment of any separate institution for the purposes indicated; but it has not been dead to the influences, which, operating upon other Grand Lodges more favorably situated, have resulted in the rearing of structures, at once an honor to their benevolence and zeal, and a monument of 'Masonic charity,' in a form which, furnishing all the aids to mental cultivation to the *poor* and destitute, attacks the citadel of vice, and lays the foundation for a harvest of virtuous fruits, the extent of which cannot be estimated."

The first great principle which Freemasonry inculcates is charity, without which that fair proportioned edifice which we term the Masonic Institution, and so proudly designate as *ours*, would soon crumble into dust and be no more.

How are we to exercise this blessed attribute of the heart, especially the heart of a mason, which should overflow with Charity? Mankind are so formed and made up by the Great Ruler of all, that, as far as regards worldly things, there is a vast discrepancy among men. While one revels in luxury, another, bearing the same impress of Deity, and for aught finite

wisdom can see, in every particular that renders man truly great and good, his equal, wanders from door to door begging a scanty pittance to enable him to exist. Such is the great world of human life—for wise purposes, doubtless, which man, with all his boasted wisdom, cannot fathom—God has so ordained it, and so it is. The property of the world is thus placed in the hands of comparatively the few, and as we have a right to presume, for the benefit of the many. The rich man, it is true, calls it *his*—the miser hugs his bags of gold to his bosom, and his sordid and groveling nature is only satisfied by the contemplation of the glittering dust which he possesses;—but when the great leveller, death, approaches, he strikes with the same unerring aim the poor and the rich, the high and the low, and the accumulated wealth of a long life must then be left to others; thus impressing upon those who survive, the great truth, that the good things of this world are only lent to those who hold them, for the benefit of their fellow men.

How then, I ask again, are we, as masons, to exercise this blessed attribute of the heart? Are we to go about giving to all we meet who appear to be in distress? By no means. The wealth of the Indies would not admit of indiscriminate charity like this—indeed it would not be charity, but rather wasteful extravagance; and he who should pursue such a course, would soon place himself in the position to beg, rather than to give. We are to inquire into the reality of the sufferings of those who apply to us for relief, and if we find them borne down by misfortune, or in want, it is our sacred duty to minister to their necessities, as fully as our own circumstances will permit. That holy volume, without the presence of which no lodge of masons can be opened, contains among its treasures, this: “Pure religion and undefiled, before God, the Father, is this; to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction.” This is not only pure religion, but it is also pure charity—we are not to wait for want and affliction to present themselves to us, but we are to seek them out and to minister to them in their seclusion. And while we thus give of our good things to the worthy, who are entitled to our charity, our minds ought never to lose sight of the uncertainty of all worldly things—we ought never to forget “that riches take to themselves wings and fly away,” and that a single revolution of Fortune’s unbalanced wheel, may place us in the position of the mendicant, without any fault on our part, while it places him in affluence.

We ought, then, to consider ourselves almoners of the Lord, appointed to distribute among those who are suffering, and worthy of our charity, such portions of the good things of this world as can be spared without injury to us or our families, and which may be to those who receive, indeed a blessing.

Even this is but a circumscribed view of the duties we owe to others in the exercise of Charity; something more than dollars and cents is to be taken into the account—the feeling and the motive which governs the giver when he bestows his alms, are, in a moral point of view, of more importance than the gift, for

"That is no true alms which the hand can hold ;
 He gives nothing but worthless gold
 Who gives from a sense of duty ;
 But he who gives a slender mite,
 And gives to that which is out of sight,
 That thread of the all-sustaining Beauty
 Which runs through all and doth all unite,—
 The hand cannot clasp the whole of his alms,
 The heart outstretches its eager palms,
 For a god goes with it and makes it store
 To the soul that was starving in darkness before."

He who said "whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward," illustrated both by his precepts and his example, the charity of the soul; and the same accomplished poet from whom I have just quoted, figuratively introduces into the vision of the Knight, this beautiful sentiment as the language of the Saviour :

"The Holy Supper is kept, indeed,
 In what we share with another's need,—
 Not that which we give, but what we share—
 For the gift without the giver is bare ;
 Who bestows himself with his alms feeds three :
 Himself, his hungering neighbor, and me."

The apostle, in one of the most beautiful chapters contained in the New Testament, says : "For though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity it profiteth me nothing." The charity here meant, is that broad and universal philanthropy of the soul, which leads the good and virtuous man to denominate the world one brotherhood. Among masons it is that masonic principle, so truly and feelingly illustrated in raising a brother to the degree of a Master, and which, I fear, is not always in the mind of each one of the brethren who has received that sublime degree—it is that which teaches us to pray—

"Teach me to feel another's woe—
 To hide the fault I see—
 That mercy I to others show,
 That mercy show to me."

It is that which prompted the reply of the Saviour of mankind to the question, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him ? till seven times ?"

"Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee till seven times ; but until seventy times seven."

This is the charity, in the broad and comprehensive sense of that term,

which should ever be found in the masonic bosom. This is the charity which should induce every true mason to look upon the foibles and failings of his brethren, with feelings of tenderness, and a disposition prone to forgiveness. I cannot better express the idea than Mackey, in his valuable *Lexicon of Freemasonry* has already expressed it. "The charity of which our order boasts," says he, "is not alone the sentiment of commiseration which leads us to assist the poor with pecuniary donations. Like the virtue described by the Apostle, its application is more noble and more extensive. 'It suffereth long, and is kind.' The true mason will be slow to anger, and easy to forgive. He will stay his falling brother by gentle admonition, and warn him, with kindness, of approaching danger. He will not open his ear to his slanderers, and will close his lips against all reproach. His faults and his follies will be locked up in his breast, and the prayer for mercy will ascend to Jehovah for his brother's sins. Nor will these sentiments of benevolence be confined to those who are bound to him by ties of kindred or worldly friendship alone; but, extending them throughout the globe, he will love and cherish all who sit beneath the broad canopy of our universal lodge. For it is the boast of our institution, that a mason, destitute and worthy, may find in every clime a brother, and in every land a home."

I have thus endeavored to illustrate briefly, one of the great principles upon which the masonic institution is based. In addition to his duties to his brethren, every Freemason is expected to perform his duties as a good citizen, faithfully. An elegant modern writer remarks, "we must enjoy the sweets of life, without vainly expecting to avoid its bitters; life is life; humanity is humanity; to be in the world and not of the world, is systematically practicable only in the apostolic sense. Life is made up of relations, affinities, dependencies, connections, ties and obligations. To try to escape them is to try to elude a universal law, and like every such endeavor, is sure to terminate in failure, if not in punishment. The attempt is selfish, and selfishness may succeed for a while, but never eventually or entirely triumphs."

The truth of the position here assumed cannot be gainsayed, and nothing so well becomes a man as a continual effort to perform all his natural obligations to his fellow beings, and to fulfill all his duties.

Every rational being upon this earth was placed here by his Maker for some purpose. The God whom we worship, and whose holy name we hold in such reverence, decrees no act without a result; and when he breathes the breath of life into the clods of the valley, and bids them rise up and assume the human form and all the attributes of men, they are created to fill *some* station in the walks of human existence—to add *something* to human knowledge—to exert some influence in the vast and ever moving tide of humanity as it sweeps along from the cradle to the tomb. There lives no man who has not some duty to perform—some influence to exert in the great plan of creation; and while we, as men, are striving to do our duty as

citizens, let us not forget that we are to perform other duties and exert other influences as masons. If the merest cypher, to our finite view, that goes to make up the amount of human existence, exerts a power in the scale of aggregate life, surely there is not one man who has been found worthy to enter our temple, who may not exert an influence which can be felt and appreciated.

The great aim and end of our exertions, as masons, should be, to place the masonic institution upon that moral eminence where it may be viewed with admiration by all mankind. Founded, as it was, on the best attributes of human nature—calculated, as it is, to bring into activity the most noble impulses of the human heart, we who are now responsible not only for its safety, but, if possible, for its improvement, shall have a startling account to settle with Deity hereafter, if we are false to our trust—if we suffer this sacred institution, second only to the holy religion we all profess, to become less important to humanity—less efficient in the great cause of benevolence, less respected and less revered by the great human family than it was when it came into our keeping.

Let then every individual member of our craft assume that it is his special duty to maintain the standing and honor of the institution; let him exert his individual influence to this end. Such an influence, properly exerted, in a good cause, will have an effect on others which will often astonish him who exerts it, and as it operates and he witnesses its effect he rises in his own estimation, and soon becomes a bold leader where he was once a timid follower.

I am now endeavoring to stir up those who are within the sound of my voice, if any such there be, who have imbibed the idea that they can exert no influence, and therefore make no attempt to do it. Let them turn to the history of the past and see what has been done by the influence of those whose early lives gave no indication of the immense powers and influences which they afterwards wielded. Let them observe how men have been swayed either to good or to evil by those who doubtless were, at the outset, ignorant of their own powers, and under other circumstances than those in which they were placed would have shrunk from the deeds they were forced to perform.

Ancient history, both sacred and profane, abounds with examples where men have risen from the humblest origin and the ordinary walks of life to exert influences which have shaken the world. From Absalom, who "stole the hearts of the men of Israel," down even to our days, thousands upon thousands might be named in support of the position assumed.

Themistocles, the conqueror of Xerxes, rose from the most obscure origin to the height of fame, both as a scholar and a hero.

Cromwell, the son of a brewer, became Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, exerting more power than any sovereign who could boast a descent from the proud houses of York and Lancaster.

Napoleon Bonaparte was a remarkable illustration of the power that may be attained by individual influence and exertion.

Among the worthies of our own country, we can refer with pride and satisfaction to the names of Washington and Franklin.

Not more certain is the concussion of flint and steel to produce sparks of fire than is the contact of known science with the human mind to produce new results, undreamed of by the world; and whenever a man comes fully to the conclusion that he can do something, and commences his operations in earnest, he seldom fails to effect results far surpassing those which, in the infancy of his ideas, he had regarded as hardly possible.

Thus individual minds act on each other—their influence extends to others, until the mass of mind becomes operated upon, and the world is enlightened and becomes wiser and better.

While we regard faithfully the ties that bind us to each other as brethren, and endeavor to maintain the principles and practices established by our order in their simplicity and purity, let us by no means forget the duties we owe to our fellow beings, whose only tie to us is that of humanity.

That silver cord, which death alone can loose, runs through all human existence, and unites mankind in one common brotherhood; and although as Freemasons we draw it more closely around our hearts, still as philanthropists, we are not to forget that it spans a world, and that we are within its circle.

The institution of Freemasonry has, from all time, assumed as its basis, universal benevolence. It tolerates no distinctions, either in religion or politics, and its true position cannot better be defined than it was in 1799, by the Hon. Charles H. Atherton, of New Hampshire, in an address delivered before the Masonic fraternity, at Concord, at the installation of Blazing Star Lodge.

“From its prime object,” says our eloquent brother, “the diffusion of benevolence, and the restoration of brotherhood to man, flows also its principle to admit of ‘no national, political or ecclesiastical distinction.’ It is not merely that narrow benevolence confined to our kindred, our circle, or that relieves objects of immediate distress, by the contributions of charity; but it is that sublime benevolence which rises superior to national peculiarities and differences in politics and religion, breaks down these walls of partition by which man has been fancied an enemy to man, teaches him to view mankind as descendants of the same parent, subject to the same propensities, exposed to the same wants, and alike hastening ‘to that bourn from whence no traveler returns.’ And however diversified by education and climate, to view the tenants of all regions as entitled to the offices of kindness, and to consider ‘every man good and true,’ of whatever government, country, or religion—every man into whose breast science has shed her sacred light, and in whom the latent spark of Divinity has been drawn out into the acknowledgment and practice of the religion of nature—as worthy to be called by

the endearing appellation of brother, and to be received into the bosom of a lodge."

On a basis thus broad stands the Masonic institution; but while it thus stands, firm as the everlasting hills, it makes no pretensions to anything higher and better than it is, for the regulation and direction of the actions of men. The objection that it thus sets itself up, has been often urged against Masonry. Brother Edgar Snowden, of Alexandria, Va., in an address delivered in 1847, on an occasion like the present, remarks: "Nothing can be more erroneous than such an idea. To the supremacy, to the all-sufficiency of *Christianity*, to effect its work, not only in the regeneration of our race, but in its preservation and salvation, it bows with reverence—and leaves that where it belongs. Masonry does not interfere with, jostle against, or emulate any high prerogatives. It confines itself to a lowlier and an humbler sphere. It does not presume to search the heart and try the reins, to investigate motives, to elicit faith, or to point out any way of reconciliation between the creature and the Creator. It meddles not with the consciences, or the religious belief, or the doctrines of men. Its office is limited. It is confined to the inculcation, under the sanction of Christianity, of the moral and social duties as affecting the relations of society, and viewing men as brethren of one common family. The adamant chain which binds the human heart and soul to God, is left untouched. It dares alone, with humble confidence, to hope that it may strive to polish the golden links of fellowship and brotherly love, which, alas! are too apt to be corroded by the prejudices, the faults, and the crimes inseparable from our fallen natures. Nay, religion itself does not disdain to make use of *instruments* in her holy offices. She allows us to foster the charities of life, and does not avert her benignant countenance from our efforts to lighten the cares, and administer to the temporal wants of our fellows."

I have been thus particular in stating that Masonry does not claim to be a substitute for religion, but only her humble follower, for the reason that there are those whom I regard and esteem as highly as any persons on earth, and whom I believe to be as pure in heart and in purpose as any human beings can be, who have expressed to me the idea with which I commenced this branch of my subject—that Masonry is made a substitute for religion, and that masons, placing all their reliance as to the future on a mere earthly institution, forget "that anchor to the soul, both sure and steadfast," on which alone man can rely to ride out in safety the storms of the world, excited, as they are, by the evil passions incident to the imperfections of mere humanity.

I feel naturally anxious to convince those friends, with some of whom are connected the holiest recollections and associations of my childhood, that they have mistaken the aim and end of the masonic institution, and to bring them, by the broad avenue of charity, to view without prejudice our human temple in all its fair proportions, when they cannot but admit that it

is worthy of the wisdom of him whom we traditionally recognize as our first Grand Master—Solomon, King of Israel.

Suffer me to add, in this connection, that we must all believe, if we are good masons, that the Christian religion is the only rock upon which we can erect a temple on earth which shall endure when all earthly things shall have crumbled into dust.

Freemasonry may be viewed as a coadjutor with Christianity, inasmuch as it has aided in gathering up the scattered elements of moral and intellectual cultivation which existed anterior to the Christian era, and has, by combining them with Christianity, brought about much of the true happiness and moral perfection of man, in his social and individual capacity. She has lent her aid in inculcating the moral as well as religious belief, that a virtuous and upright life on earth, founded upon the doctrines taught by the Saviour, will insure to man consolation in the gloomy hour of death, and eternal happiness in the world which is to come.

I have endeavored, in the foregoing remarks, to condense within the reasonable time that ought to be occupied on an occasion like this, as much of general interest relative to the masonic order as possible. Instead of attempting to tickle the ears of this respectable audience with an address of flowing words and well-turned periods, illustrating the orator rather than the subject, I have borrowed liberally from eminent writers on Freemasonry, and have rather illustrated by my own remarks the positions assumed by them, than those assumed by myself, by quoting them.

From what I have said—indeed from all that can be gathered up in the long vista of the past, either traditionally or historically—no one can doubt the purity of motive which induced the establishment of our order, or the philanthropic tendency of all its actions.

The prophet hath said that “the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.” To change this deceitfulness to truth and to soften this wicked heart is the peculiar province of that higher institution than ours to which I have already alluded; but he who has knelt at our altar before the light of religion has beamed within his bosom, has advanced one long stride toward that still holier shrine, upon which no sacrifice is so sweet as that of a broken and contrite heart.

We ask nothing of the candidate who desires to enter our sanctuary, not entirely compatible with his religion, his honor, his duty to his God and his responsibility to his fellow beings. We not only ask, but we insist that he shall be virtuous, kind and charitable—that he shall learn to subdue his passions—that he shall not only bear the physical form and figure of a perfect man, but that he shall be one in heart, in practice, in principle and in morality.

There exists no garden, however carefully cultivated, where there may not be found, amid the brightly blooming and fragrant flowers and beautiful foliage, occasionally a noxious weed, and, notwithstanding all the care and

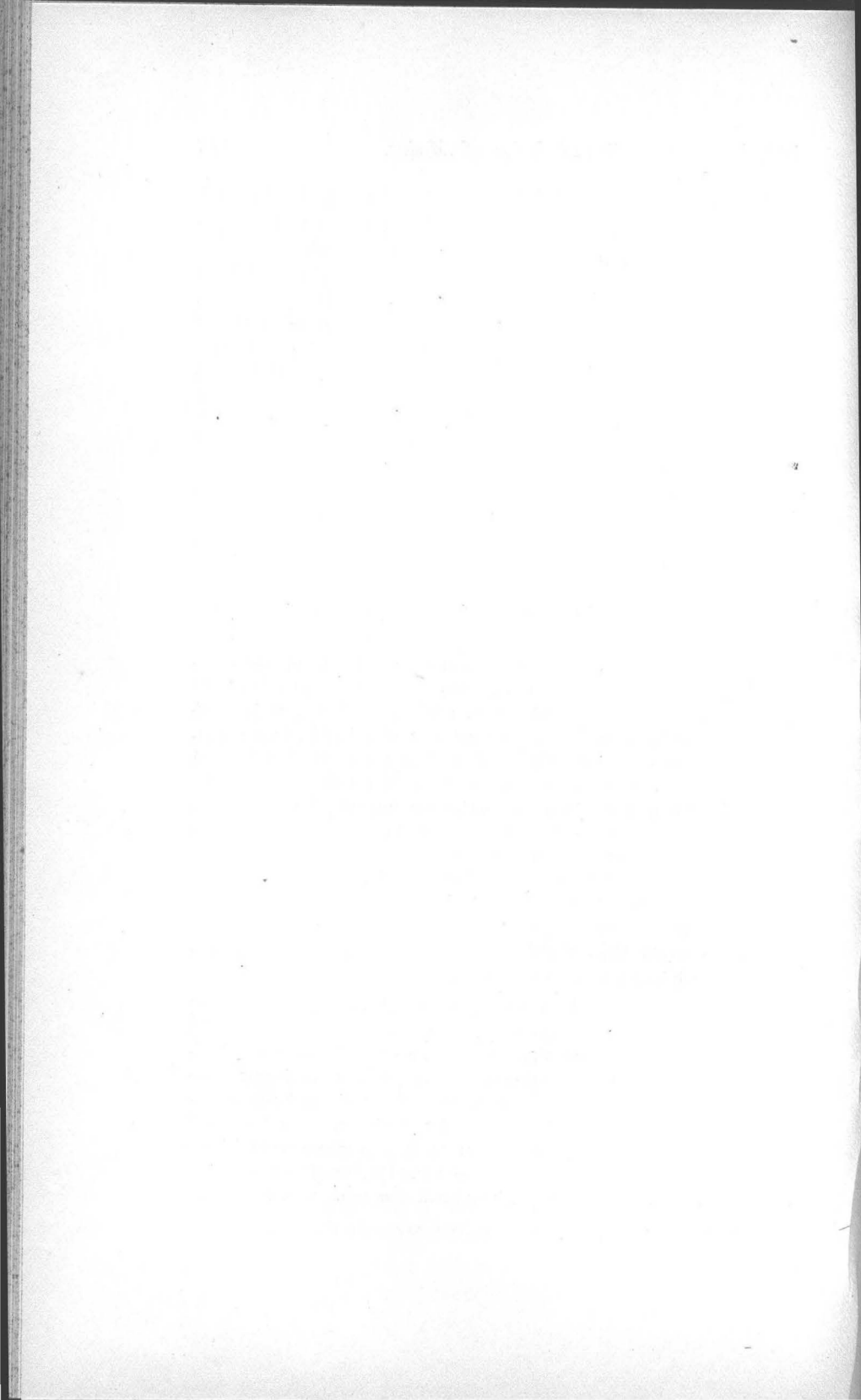
caution that has marked the admission of men into our brotherhood, we find some who are unworthy—there are some noxious weeds among our flowers; they are, however, as I trust and believe, few and far between.

That purity of motive which actuated the early founders of our order, has been exemplified through century after century, in the conduct of the craft, in every portion of the globe—in all regions and in all climes—beneath the burning sun of the tropics, and amid the icebergs of the frozen oceans—in the cultivated gardens of France and Italy, and under the shade of the dark forests of the Western continent—on the boundless wastes of the Arabian deserts, and on the wide spread but blooming prairies of America—amid the fastnesses of the Alpine regions of the Old World, and the Alleghanies of the New.

There is hardly a spot of earth where the foot of civilized man has trodden, where Masonry has not *been*, or does not exist—and often has the weary and way-worn traveler, in seeking, as he supposed, only the dwelling of a fellow man, found himself welcomed with all the affection of a faithful heart, beneath the roof-tree, and to all the hospitalities of a brother.

How often have we all heard the idea advanced by the uninitiated, that Masonry *was once* a good and valuable institution, but that it had outlived its value! As if brotherly love, relief and truth, could ever become valueless—as if a society which inculcates all the virtues that become a man could ever cease to be an important adjunct to religion, legislation, or jurisprudence. No, my brethren, Masonry has not outlived its value, its goodness, or its usefulness—it has rather increased in all as it has extended its broad and supporting arms through the whole earth. Never was there a time when it could do more good than now—when empires are falling, and kingdoms are toppling down—when dynasties are broken up, and kings are driven, as exiles, from their thrones—when all the elements of European government are in confusion and seem fast approaching a state of chaos, and when distress is following in the footsteps of confusion. At such a time, and under such circumstances, a world wide institution like our own can do much to alleviate suffering—to bind up the bleeding wounds of affliction, and to minister comfort to those who are in despair.

Let those who understand not our actions or our motives, say what they may—let those suspicious beings who believe that all mystery is sin, rail against Masonry, unknowing what they attack—we will cherish our institution, for *we* know that it is good—we will preserve it from danger as sacredly as we would the apple of our eye—we will wind our heart strings about it—and, in the name of virtue, charity, goodness, benevolence and Mercy, we will raise our fervent prayers to Him in whose Great Name we place our trust, to sustain and bless it—to guard it from all evil—to direct it in the path of goodness, and to make it in all time to come, a blessing to the world!



Grand Lodge of Maine,

1850.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on Thursday, the second day of May, A. D. 1850, and was called to order at ten o'clock A. M. by R. W. John C. Humphreys, D. G. Master.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ FREEMAN BRADFORD,	S. G. Warden ;
“ JOHN W. LINDLEY,	J. G. Warden, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer ;
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary ;
“ ALLEN HAINES,	Cor. Grand Secretary ;
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain ;
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal ;
“ E. G. RAWSON,	S. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ JOHN G. RICHARDSON,	J. G. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ JOHN PURINTON,	Grand Steward ;
“ GEORGE SMALL,	“ “
“ WILLIAM SOMERBY,	“ “
“ JOHN GLOVER,	G. Sword Bearer, <i>p. t.</i> ;
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. DANIEL WINSLOW.
“ GEORGE W. CHASE.
“ LORY BACON.

R. W. JOHN W. LINDLEY.

“ JABEZ TRUE.

“ TIMOTHY CHASE.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON, Past Grand Master.

“ REUEL WASHBURN, Past Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge was duly opened in the third degree, with prayer by Rev. Bro. Cummings, Grand Chaplain.

On motion,

Voted, That Master Masons in good standing, be invited to take seats as visitors during the session of the Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bros. Williams of Bangor, Bacon of Augusta, and Haines of Portland, were then appointed a Committee on Credentials; who, having attended to the duty assigned them, reported that the following lodges were duly represented, as follows, viz:

- 1 *Portland*, at Portland, by William Kimball, M; Richard W. Kennard, SW; Thomas J. Sanborn, JW.
- 2 *Warren*, at East Machias, by F. A. Wilson, JW.
- 3 *Lincoln*, at Wiscasset, by Thomas B. Johnston, JW; Erastus Foote, Jr., Proxy.
- 5 *Kennebec*, at Hallowell, by Stephen Lord, SW.
- 6 *Amity*, at Camden, by William Merriam, M; Austin Sweetland, SW; John Glover, Proxy.
- 8 *United*, at Brunswick, by John D. Lincoln, M; T. S. McLellan, SW; O. A. Merrill, JW.
- 9 *Saco*, at Saco, by Thurston Libby, SW.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, at Bangor, by E. G. Rawson, JW; John Williams, Proxy.
- 12 *Cumberland*, at New Gloucester, by John Hatch, M; Daniel W. True, SW.
- 14 *Solar*, at Bath, by S. J. Tallman, M; John G. Richardson, JW.
- 15 *Orient*, at Thomaston, by John O'Brien, SW.
- 16 *St. George*, at Warren, by Samuel Hinkley, JW.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, at Portland, by John B. Coyle, M; Benjamin C. Fernald, SW; Amos E. Howell, JW.
- 19 *Felicity*, at Bucksport, by Foster Wood, Proxy.
- 20 *Maine*, at Farmington, by Joseph D. Prescott, Proxy.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, at Livermore, by Joseph Covell, M.
- 23 *Freeport*, at Freeport, by Robert R. Kendall, Proxy.
- 24 *Phoenix*, at Belfast, by H. G. O. Washburn, M; W. O. Poor, Proxy.

- 27 *Adoniram*, at Limington, by Arthur McArthur, Proxy.
 28 *Northern Star*, at Anson, by Andrew McFadden, Proxy.
 29 *Tranquil*, at Danville, by William White, SW.
 30 *Blazing Star*, at Rumford, by Hezekiah Hutchins, Jr., Proxy.
 31 *Union*, at Union, by Gilbert M. Blackington, M; George Littlehale, SW;
 Philo Thurston, JW.
 32 *Hermon*, at Gardiner, by Moses Springer, M.
 33 *Waterville*, by Jere. Arnold, M.
 34 *Somerset*, at Skowhegan, by Joseph Bigelow, JW; Eusebius Weston,
 Proxy.
 35 *Bethlehem*, at Augusta, by Alvah Josselyn, Proxy.
 37 *Washington*, at Lubec, by John C. Talbot, Jr., Proxy.
 38 *Harmony*, at Gorham, by Josiah Pierce, M; Seward Merrill, SW; Wil-
 liam Burton, JW.
 39 *Penobscot*, at Dexter, by Otis Cutler, Proxy.
 40 *Lygonia*, at Ellsworth, by William Somerby, M.
 46 *St. Croix*, at Calais, by Sewall Waterhouse, Proxy.
 45 *Central*, at China, by Edward Gray, SW.
 48 *Lafayette*, at Readfield, by William C. Fuller, JW.
 50 *Aurora*, at East Thomaston, by Samuel B. Dodge, Proxy.
 52 *Mosaic*, at Dover, by Paul Douglass, Proxy.
 58 *Unity*, at Freedom, by Daniel Weed, Proxy.
 59 *Mount Hope*, at Hope, by Henry Hobbs, Proxy.
 60 *Star in the East*, at Old Town, by Ezra C. Brett, Proxy.
 61 *King Solomon's*, at Waldoboro', by John Balch, M; Fred. W. Nichols,
 Proxy.
 62 *King David's*, at Lincolnville, by Robert Davis, M.

Report read and accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That the following Standing Committees be appointed by the Grand Master to consider and report upon such matters as may be referred to them during the present session, viz:

1. A Committee on Dispensations and Charters.
2. A Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.
3. A Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges.
4. A Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

And the Grand Master thereupon announced the appointment of said committees, as follows:

On Dispensations and Charters,—Bros. Springer of Gardiner, Chase of Belfast, and Haines of Portland.

On Doings of the Grand Officers,—Bros. O'Brien of Thomaston, Lincoln of Brunswick, and Johnston of Wiscasset.

On Returns of Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. Somerby of Ellsworth, Boody of Portland, and Balch of Waldoboro'.

On Grievances and Appeals,—Bros. Chase of Danville, Dodge of East Thomaston, and Merriam of Camden.

A communication from the M. W. Grand Master was presented and read by the Grand Secretary.

Referred to the Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in relation to difficulties existing between Eastern Lodge, No. 7, at Eastport, and Hibernia Lodge, No. 318, at St. Andrews, N. B., was then presented and read by the Grand Secretary.

Referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Bro. Covell then submitted a proposition to amend the Constitution of the Grand Lodge so as to provide that the annual communications thereof shall be holden at Augusta, or at some other place.

Laid upon the table.

A communication was received from Union Lodge, embracing the facts in relation to the expulsion of William S. Clark from said lodge.

Read and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The Grand Lodge then called off until half-past two o'clock P. M.

MAY 2, 1850.

The Grand Lodge called to labor at half-past two o'clock P. M.

R. W. Bro. Bacon then submitted his annual report, as follows:

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF THIRD DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The District Deputy Grand Master of the Third Masonic District asks leave to present the following report :

Since the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, two dormant lodges have been added to the return, viz ; Central, at China, by charter renewed, and Lafayette, at Readfield, by dispensation from the M. W. Grand Master. Central Lodge received a dispensation the year before to recommence labor, but circumstances prevented their availing themselves of its benefits until their charter was renewed in May last. They did not, however, fully organize until the 27th of August, when I visited them, presided at the choice of officers, installed them and initiated two candidates. This lodge has procured the supposed lost jewels of the dormant Vassalboro' Lodge, several of whose former members have joined themselves to this and become efficient officers and members of the lodge. They have a fair prospect before them, as their return exhibits.

Lafayette Lodge received, August 29th, a dispensation from the M. W. Grand Master, through me, to recommence labor, of which they forthwith availed themselves and commenced work in earnest. I visited this lodge in November and initiated three candidates. This was one of those supposed defunct lodges, which I suggested, in my last report, be stricken from the list in the Third District. It is, in fact, like one risen from the dead. Its resuscitation is a source of peculiar satisfaction to me, as I was its first Master when Masonry was at its meridian height. I most cheerfully recommend a renewal of its charter.

There are now in this district nine lodges, in active operation, viz : Bethlehem at Augusta, Hermon at Gardiner, Waterville at Waterville, Northern Star at Anson, Kennebec at Hallowell, Maine at Farmington, Somerset at Skowhegan, Central at China, and Lafayette at Readfield,—most of which are in a flourishing condition, as their returns will show. Suspensions and expulsions have been rare. Several have gone to "that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns."

There is still a want of uniformity in their mode of work, which seems necessary to be produced by efficient measures of the Grand Lodge.

In November I installed the officers of Bethlehem Lodge, in presence of a large number of brethren with their wives, sisters and daughters, and of Jerusalem Chapter. After which the brethren, sisters and companions repaired to the Stanley House and partook of an excellent supper. Harmony prevailed—pleasure and satisfaction beamed in every countenance. Public, or semi-public installations, properly arranged and conducted, do much good by curing prejudice and promoting charity and brotherly love. It is with pleasure and satisfaction that I can report the lodges in the third district flourishing and onward. There is observed, however, in many instances

among the craftsmen, especially the younger portion, a want of that "silence and circumspection" so necessary to the honor of the institution. Would it not have a desirable effect for the Grand Lodge, by a special committee or otherwise, to address a circular to the several subordinate lodges on the all-important subject of vigilance and strict attention to those cardinal virtues, *temperance and prudence*?

I have appended to this report some statistics of the several lodges in this district, showing the time of recommencing labor, the amount of work done, suspensions, expulsion, deaths, etc.

All which is respectfully submitted.

LORY BACON, D. D. G. M. *Third District.*

Report read and accepted.

R. W. Bro. Lindley submitted his annual report, as follows :

REPORT OF D. D. GRAND MASTER OF FOURTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

Having been appointed by the M. W. Grand Master to take charge of the subordinate lodges composing the fourth masonic district under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, I beg leave to make the following report :

There are now eight lodges composing the fourth district, all of which I have visited, some of them twice, during the past Masonic year, and find them in successful operation. Some of the lodges have not returned quite so many initiations as last year, but great attention has been paid to inform themselves in the work and lectures. Most of the lodges have held their meetings weekly during the winter season, and I am happy to say that all appear to be anxious to observe the *ancient landmarks* of the Order, and be governed by our standard work. The whole number of members returned from this district is two hundred and fifty; the annual fee amounting to \$31.11. The returns show the number of initiates to be fifty-three; fees for initiates, at two dollars each, is \$106—making the sum of \$137.11, paid into the Grand Treasury from said district. Two new lodges have come into operation since the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

A charter was granted at the last annual communication, to the brethren at Waldoboro', by the name of King Solomon's Lodge. This lodge was constituted, consecrated, dedicated, and the officers duly installed, on the 22d of February last. The lodge appears very prosperous and are doing a good business. They return ten initiates and twenty-eight members. At the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, a dispensation was granted to a number of brethren at Richmond, empowering them to meet as a lodge. They have organized under their dispensation, and held their meetings weekly most of the time. The zeal and energy manifested by these brethren since they commenced work, are worthy of great praise, and afford indica-

tions that their lodge, at no distant day, may be ranked among the most flourishing in the State. They return twelve initiates and sixteen members. They are now asking for a charter, to which I consider them justly entitled.

A petition from a number of brethren of Bowdoinham was presented to the Grand Lodge last year, asking permission to resume their meetings under their old charter, which had slept many years; and their petition was heartily responded to by the Grand Lodge. Brother Curtis soon after wrote to me making some inquiries, and stating that they were ready to resume their labors, and that a number of their young men were anxious to obtain the degrees. From the encouragement offered them, two or three members started with commendable zeal, and prepared a hall for their meetings; but to their disappointment, could not get members enough together to open a Fellow Craft Lodge.

They have now surrendered their charter, which is herewith presented, asking the privilege of having it restored to them again whenever they find themselves in a situation to sustain it with credit to themselves and honor to the fraternity. I would recommend that said charter be received by the Grand Lodge in trust, to be again restored to Village Lodge, at Bowdoinham, when it shall satisfactorily appear that they are in a situation to sustain said lodge with credit to the institution.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. LINDLEY, *D. D. G. M. Fourth District.*

Report read and accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That the subject of the use of the jewels of Village Lodge by Richmond Lodge, be referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

R. W. Bro. Chase then presented his report, as follows:

REPORT OF THE D. D. G. MASTER FIFTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The undersigned would respectfully beg leave to report: That from unforeseen and unexpected circumstances, he has not been enabled to visit the several lodges in the second masonic district during the month of April, in detail, as he had arranged to do; but has held communication with the several lodges, and so far as he has received answers, is able to state that the lodges in operation are generally in a flourishing condition. Pythagorean Lodge, No. 11, at Fryeburg; Oxford Lodge, No. 18, at Paris; and Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 56, at Denmark, have not, so far as I can learn, resumed work, or evinced any strong desire to do so. I have written to some who were formerly active members, as I have been informed, but as yet have received no encouraging reply. Oriental Lodge, I am unofficially informed,

remains stationary, and has unfortunately been deprived by death of one of its most active members, R. W. Bro. George W. Cushman, their late Master. Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, at Livermore, has not increased in numbers, but in all other respects exhibits prosperity and progress in the science and principles of our fraternity.

Tranquil Lodge, No. 19, at Danville, I have repeatedly visited, and am happy to say it is rapidly increasing in numbers, and improving in work. Twelve candidates have been initiated during the past year, and the lodge now numbers fifty members, with flattering prospects of future success.

Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30, at Rumford, has made a report, which shows the initiation of six candidates, and the lodge is in good working condition, with a bright prospect before it.

King Hiram Lodge, No. 57, at Dixfield, has not the facilities and advantages of the other lodges, as I am kindly informed by my predecessor, R. W. Past D. D. G. Master Hutchins, who has granted his assistance at my request, and has not yet been able to supply itself with all the necessary regalia; but the brethren of that lodge are exerting themselves to overcome all obstacles, and undoubtedly will win to themselves and their lodge, deserved success. And I would respectfully recommend that their dues to the Grand Lodge for the past masonic year be remitted.

I have distributed to the several lodges the several documents put into my hands by the Grand Secretary for that purpose.

I have once publicly, and in consequence of the suggestion of the officers elect, for the purpose of changing the time of the annual election, once privately installed the officers of Tranquil Lodge; and have, on application of said lodge, granted three dispensations for conferring degrees.

I have at all times found the brethren of other lodges disposed to aid me as far as in their power, in procuring information and in performing my duties.

All which is respectfully submitted,

GEORGE W. CHASE, *D. D. G. M. Second District.*

Report read and accepted.

The hour designated by the Constitution for the election of Grand Officers having now arrived, the Grand Lodge went into committee of the whole for that purpose—M. W. Abner B. Thompson in the chair.

Having attended to the duty assigned them, the committee rose and reported to the Grand Lodge the election of the following Grand Officers for the ensuing year, viz:

M. W. JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Bangor ;
R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Brunswick ;
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Portland ;
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Belfast ;
" HENRY H. BOODY,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland ;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	<i>Recording Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.

Committee of Finance.

R. W. BROS. FREEMAN BRADFORD, ABNER B. THOMPSON, JONATHAN SMITH.

Which report was read and accepted.

The Grand Secretary then reported that four vacancies existed in the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund; and the Grand Lodge proceeded forthwith to fill said vacancies by a new election.

The ballots having been cast, returned and counted, the Grand Master announced that R. W. Bros. Joseph Covell, Eusebius Weston, William O. Poor and Foster Wood were duly elected Trustees of said Board for three years, agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution.

The Grand Treasurer then submitted his annual report of receipts and disbursements for the past year, as examined and approved by the Committee of Finance, by which it appears that there was

in his hands at the last annual settlement a balance of	\$ 755.19
Since which time he has received from dues of subordinate lodges, from dividends and interest on funded stock and notes, and for Dis- pensations and Charters granted, the sum of.....	1056.07
Making in the whole the sum of.....	\$1811.26
That he has paid out for six shares in Casco bank stock,....	\$600.00
For two notes, being temporary loans,.....	550.00
For the current expenses of the Grand Lodge including Char- ity, the pay roll of delegates, blank diplomas, printing and other usual expenses, the sum of.....	618.12
Leaving a balance in his hands of.....	43.14
	<hr/> \$1811.26

The Grand Treasurer further reports, that the funds of the Grand Lodge consist of 20 shares Canal Bank stock, valued at.....		1500.00
16 shares Casco “ “ “		1600.00
5 shares Freemans' Bank stock, valued at.....		500.00
2 notes, being temporary loans, “		550.00
Total.....		\$4150.00

Report read and accepted.

A petition was then received from the members of Richmond Lodge, U. D., asking for a charter of constitution.

Referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following brethren as a Committee on the Pay Roll of Delegates at this communication, viz: R. W. Bros. Covell, Washburn and Purinton.

A petition from Lafayette Lodge, asking for a renewal of their charter, was then presented, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A petition was also received from seven brethren residing in the town of Phillips, asking for a dispensation to open and hold a new lodge in that town. Referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until to-morrow morning at eight o'clock.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, May 3, 1850.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at eight o'clock.

R. W. Bro. Winslow submitted his annual report, as follows:

Having served this Grand Lodge the past masonic year as D. D. Grand Master of the first district, I ask leave respectfully to report:

That the principal duties which I have been called upon to perform con-

sist in granting dispensations for initiations under special emergencies, and principally to the two lodges in this city.

I have visited the Cumberland Lodge, at New Gloucester, once during the past year, but as no return has been made from said lodge I am unable to state the amount of work done. I am, however, informed by the Master that its future prospects appear favorable, and that the neglect in making their return resulted from the interruption of their last meeting by a violent storm; and he assures me that the return shall be made forthwith, and the dues paid.

The Harmony Lodge, at Gorham, has been reorganized by the election and installation of officers. It has met during the past winter every week, and shows by its returns that its labor has not been in vain.

The United Lodge, at Brunswick, shows by its return a very small amount of work. This, however, will not I presume be attributed to any remissness of its energies or duties, as its efficiency is well known and appreciated by this Grand Lodge.

The returns of the Portland and Ancient Land-Mark Lodges in this city preclude the necessity of further remark on my part.

The Freeport Lodge, at Freeport, have made no return. Good and sufficient reasons for not complying with the regulations of the Grand Lodge on this subject, I presume, will be presented by Bro. Kendall, its representative to this Grand Lodge.

The returns of the following lodges exhibit, in some degree, their condition, with the amount paid by them into the Grand Treasury:

Portland	Lodge,	83	members,	27	initiates,	dues paid,	\$64.38
Ancient Land-Mark	"	104	"	29	"	"	71.00
Harmony	"	29	"	12	"	"	27.62
United	"	42	"	2	"	"	9.25
							<hr/> \$172.25

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL WINSLOW, *D. D. G. Master.*

Report read and accepted.

A petition was received from Harmony Lodge, asking for the remission of their dues for the past year; but after due consideration, the Grand Lodge decided by vote not to grant the prayer thereof.

The Committee on Dispensations and Charters reported:

That they had examined the by-laws of Richmond Lodge, and their journal of proceedings while acting under a dispensation, and find them con-

formable to the usages of Masonry and to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge; and recommend that their prayer for a charter be granted.

They also recommend that Richmond Lodge have permission to use the jewels of Village Lodge for the year ensuing.

Per order, MOSES SPRINGER, *Chairman*.

Report read and accepted; and thereupon,

Voted, That a charter of constitution be issued to Richmond Lodge.

The same committee also reported :

That they had taken into consideration the petition of the brethren of Lafayette Lodge, in Readfield, and recommend that a new charter be granted them, with permission to hold the sessions of said lodge alternately one year in Readfield and one year in Wayne, agreeably to their request.

Per order, MOSES SPRINGER, *Chairman*.

Report read and accepted; and thereupon,

Voted, That a new charter be issued to said lodge accordingly.

The same committee also reported :

That they had taken into consideration the petition of the brethren in Phillips and find that they have the requisite number and qualifications for this purpose, and they have obtained the approbation of the nearest lodge and also that of the D. D. G. Master. They therefore recommend that their request be granted.

Per order, MOSES SPRINGER, *Chairman*.

Report read and accepted, and dispensation ordered accordingly.

The same committee also reported :

That they had examined the by-laws of King Solomon's Lodge at Waldo-boro', and find them conformable to the usages and customs of Masonry and to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and recommend that the same be approved.

Per order, MOSES SPRINGER, *Chairman*.

Report read and accepted.

R. W. Bro. Tallman submitted a proposition to amend the *first* section of the *third article* of the Constitution, so that the Grand Lodge at every annual communication thereof shall fix

the place of its next yearly meeting, to be so fixed immediately after the annual choice of Grand Officers, and the question shall be taken by yeas and nays, and a return thereof made.

Read and laid upon the table.

R. W. Bro. Chase then submitted the following report :

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to whom were referred copies of the proceedings of Union Lodge, No. 31, on certain charges preferred against William S. Clark, would respectfully report :

That they have had the same under consideration, and would recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the sentence of expulsion of William S. Clark from Union Lodge, No. 31, be, and the same is hereby approved and confirmed.

All which is respectfully submitted,

GEORGE W. CHASE,	} Committee.
SAMUEL B. DODGE,	
WILLIAM MERRIAM,	

Which report was read and accepted, and the resolution unanimously adopted.

The same committee, to whom was referred a communication from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, relative to a difficulty existing between Eastern Lodge, at Eastport, and Hibernia Lodge, at St. Andrews, N. B., reported that they had not been able, from the limited time allowed them, properly to investigate the matters referred to them and to report thereon, and asked for further time and permission to make their report in the recess to the first four Grand Officers for their approval.

Report accepted and the request of the committee granted.

R. W. Bro. George W. Chase offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That a committee of three be raised by this Grand Lodge, whose duty it shall be to exemplify in this body (at its next communication), the work and lectures sanctioned by the Ancient York Rite, and if approved, that said committee instruct the several District Deputy Grand Masters in the same, to the end that uniformity be established throughout our jurisdiction.

Which resolution was read and, after due deliberation, adopted unanimously.

On motion,

Voted, That a committee of nine be raised by nomination from the chair, to report to the Grand Lodge the names of three suitable brethren to be placed upon the Committee on Work and Lectures, as contemplated by the foregoing resolution.

The following brethren were then announced from the chair to compose the nominating committee, viz: R. W. Bros. Winslow of Portland, Chase of Danville, Williams of Bangor, Foote of Wiscasset, Somerby of Ellsworth, Douglass of Dover, Small of Westbrook, Washburn of Belfast, and Talbot of Lubece.

This committee, after consultation, reported for the Committee on Work and Lectures the names of Joseph C. Stevens of Bangor, Charles B. Smith of Portland, and John W. Lindley of Union.

Which report was accepted, and the said brethren were accordingly elected to perform the duties assigned them under the resolution.

The Committee on the Pay Roll then made a report, which was accepted, and the Grand Treasurer requested to pay the delegates in accordance therewith.

The Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers reported:

That they had attended to the duties assigned them, and would recommend to the consideration of the Grand Lodge the communication of the M. W. Grand Master, Joseph C. Stevens, and more especially that part of it having reference to the admission of visiting brethren to subordinate lodges.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN O'BRIEN,
THOS. B. JOHNSTON, } *Committee.*

Report read and accepted.

The following report was then submitted:

The Grand Secretary respectfully reports: That, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge at their last annual communication, he has, as far as practicable, collected the printed reports of sister Grand Lodges, received since the organization of this Grand Lodge, and caused them to be bound in volumes of suitable size for reference; making in the whole, including two volumes of printed circulars, and the proceedings of our own Grand

Lodge, *twenty-six books*. The work has been done in a strong and substantial manner, but from the great diversity in the forms and size of the pamphlets, it was found impracticable in putting them together, to preserve that degree of neatness and external beauty which was desirable, without doing too great violence to the chronological order of the reports. It is believed, however, that the object of the resolution has been attained in the work as here presented.

These volumes contain a vast amount of useful and highly interesting matter, and may well serve as a nucleus for the formation of a more extended and general masonic library of the Grand Lodge. This may be regarded as a subject peculiarly entitled to the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge, as by a small annual appropriation, we may, in a few years, be in possession of many rare and valuable works upon the history and progress of our order, which would be found of vast importance to those of our brethren who seek to become skillful and scientific masons.

It is hoped, therefore, that the Grand Lodge will, at once, take some action upon this subject, and by a well directed effort, seek to lay the foundation of a *Grand Lodge Library*, which shall be not only honorable and useful to themselves, but of incalculable value to the craft during a long succession of future ages.

Respectfully submitted,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

Report read and accepted.

The following report was then submitted :

The Committee on Returns of subordinate lodges have attended to the duty assigned them, and report :

That the whole number of lodges, from which returns have been received at the present communication of the Grand Lodge, is forty, viz :

Portland,	Washington,	Union,
Ancient Land-Mark,	Rising Virtue,	Lincoln,
United,	Star in the East,	Richmond,
Oriental Star,	Mosaic,	Lygonia,
Kennebec,	Amity,	Warren,
Central,	Mount Hope,	King David's,
Northern Star,	Harmony,	Penobscot,
Hermon,	Waterville,	Meridian Splendor,
St. George,	Bethlehem,	Saco,
Aurora,	Somerset,	Phoenix,
King Solomon's,	Lafayette,	Unity,
Solar,	Blazing Star,	Maine,
Felicity,	Orient,	Tranquil,
Eastern,		

and that there are eighteen lodges from which there are no returns.

Your committee find the returns generally correct, but that in one or two instances the dates of initiations and of conferring degrees have been omitted.

From the returns of the foregoing lodges, it appears that the number of members connected with the same is one thousand four hundred and two; and that the number of candidates initiated therein during the past year, is three hundred and twenty-two.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM SOMERBY,	} Committee.
JOHN BALCH,	
HENRY H. BOODY,	

Report read and accepted.

The proposition to amend the constitution of the Grand Lodge in relation to the *place* of its annual meetings, which was submitted by Bro. Covell, and laid upon the table, was then called up and considered; and after due deliberation, the question, "*Will the Grand Lodge entertain the proposition?*" was taken and decided in the negative; and thus the proposition was rejected.

The proposition submitted by Bro. Tallman, upon the same subject, which had also been laid upon the table, was then called up and considered, and the Grand Lodge, by vote, decided not to entertain this proposition; and the same was accordingly rejected.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have once more the privilege of recognizing a benignant Providence in the onward progress of our time-honored institution, and of presenting the fraternal salutations of the numerous branches of the masonic family in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

Communications embracing the proceedings at the annual, semi-annual or quarterly meetings, have been received since our last annual communication, from the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Wisconsin, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, District of Columbia, Alabama, Tennessee, Iowa, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and Florida.

DIFFICULTIES IN NEW YORK.

In addition to the usual correspondence, there have been received an unusual number of special communications in the form of letters, circulars

statements and resolutions, growing out of the unhappy divisions in the fraternity in New York, to which allusion was made in the close of our last annual report, and which was referred to this committee for further notice at this meeting. Upon this unhappy controversy the present duty of the committee is diminished by the action of this Grand Lodge at its meeting in January. Prior to that meeting, each body claiming to be the Grand Lodge of New York, had published its version of the controversy, and plead its own cause before the great tribunal of its choice—the masonic fraternity of the world. These appeals, thus fairly made, seemed to invite an early response, and promptly has it been given by a large number of the Grand Lodges.

The decision of this Grand Lodge is embodied in the following report and resolutions, presented by a committee at the January meeting, and unanimously adopted: [*See Special Communication at close of this.*]

“The committee appointed to consider the difficulties that have arisen among the masonic fraternity in the State of New York, have attended to the duty so far as their limited time would allow, and ask leave to report by the accompanying resolutions.

ALLEN HAINES,	} Committee.
JNO. C. HUMPHREYS,	
FREEMAN BRADFORD,	

“First. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Maine, in view of the unhappy schism, which has given rise to a plurality of Grand Lodges in the State of New York, does most earnestly beseech their brethren in that jurisdiction to apply the excellent precepts inculcated in our ritual as the only sovereign remedy for all their existing difficulties.

“Second. *Resolved*, That there can be but one legitimate Grand Lodge in each state; and that this Grand Lodge fully recognizes, as the only legitimate Grand Lodge of the State of New York, that of which M. W. John D. Willard is, at present, Grand Master, and R. W. Robert R. Boyd, Grand Secretary.

“Third. *Resolved*, That the several subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction be instructed to refuse admission to all visitors from the State of New York, who do not furnish the proper evidence of connection with the Grand Lodge recognized by the foregoing resolution.

“The report was accepted by the Grand Lodge, and the resolutions unanimously adopted.

“*Voted*, That the Grand Secretary prepare a circular, embracing the action of the Grand Lodge in relation to a General Grand Lodge, and the difficulties in New York; and that he transmit a copy thereof to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and to each subordinate lodge in this state.

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*”

Your committee deem it unnecessary to employ extensive argument to justify this decision, sustained as it is by the voice of every Grand Lodge whose action in the premises has been made known to us. A brief history of the controversy and the position of the parties, is all that is deemed necessary to a full vindication of the verdict so generally awarded by the Grand Lodges of the Union. The controversy arose, as stated in our last report, from a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge,

which would deprive Past Masters of subordinate lodges, except the last who had passed the chair, of the privilege of voting in the Grand Lodge, unless they were proxies or representatives of subordinate lodges. This proposition had been made in due form and had been adopted by a strong vote at one annual communication and published in its minutes and submitted to the subordinate lodges for their action, in accordance with a provision of the Constitution, which required that an amendment, in order to become a part of the Constitution, should either be approved by vote at two regular meetings of the Grand Lodge, or else, after being once approved by vote in the Grand Lodge, it should receive the approval of a majority of subordinate lodges. It appears, from the representations of both parties, that after the amendments were proposed a vigorous opposition arose on the part of numerous Past Masters, and in some of the lodges in the city of New York and its vicinity, and this gave rise to active efforts of both parties to secure the action of the country lodges, in accordance with the wishes of each party. Public meetings were held, resolutions adopted and circulars sent forth in all directions, designed to influence the decisions of the several lodges in the state. At a quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge in March, 1849, at which the Deputy Grand Master presided, a large number of the disaffected Past Masters were present, while only eighteen of the subordinate lodges were represented, and those belonging to the city and its vicinity. At this meeting, a Past Deputy Grand Master introduced resolutions denouncing the proposed amendments as unconstitutional, at variance with the principles on which the Grand Lodge was founded and destructive of the rights of Past Masters, and pledging the Grand Lodge to preserve the rights of Past Masters, as then existing, whatever might be the decision of the subordinate lodges on the proposed amendments. The Deputy Grand Master presiding declined to put the question on the resolution, on the ground that it was unconstitutional for the Grand Lodge to act at a quarterly session on any measure which interested the craft generally. His decision was appealed from and overruled, and the resolution and preamble unanimously adopted.

The proposed amendments were adopted by a majority of the lodges in the state, regardless of this action at the quarterly meeting, and the certificates of these lodges adopting the amendments lodged with the Grand Secretary; and thus matters stood at the opening of the annual meeting on the evening of the first Tuesday in June, 1849.

Before the usual hour for opening the Grand Lodge, a large body of the Past Masters and representatives of the city and Brooklyn, and the Staten Island lodges, had taken possession of the front seats in the room in the Howard House, and before the representatives of distant lodges had come in, more than two-thirds of the seats were thus occupied, so that it was impossible for the country members generally, to hear what was passing in the neighborhood of the presiding officer. Before the Grand Master came in, or

about half past seven o'clock, in opposition to the protest of the Grand Junior Warden, a Past Deputy Grand Master from the city, encouraged by votes of those in the front seats, took the chair and declared the meeting opened, without the usual formalities of prayer by the Grand Chaplain, and directed the Grand Secretary to call the roll of members. In this stage of the meeting the Grand Master arrived; the Past Deputy who had possession of the chair and gavel surrendered them to him, who then proceeded to open the Grand Lodge in the usual form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain. The Grand Secretary in proceeding to call the roll of members, announced officially to the Grand Lodge that the amendments to the Constitution in relation to Past Masters, which had been adopted at a previous annual meeting of that body, had since received the affirmative votes of a majority of all the lodges under its jurisdiction, *and thereby become a part of its Constitution*. On calling the roll, it was ascertained that seventy-six of the subordinate lodges were represented.

The Grand Master then rose to make his annual report, as required to do, when he was interrupted by cries and yells of those seated near him, so that it was impossible for him to proceed. Some one in this confusion called for the reading of the minutes of the quarterly session in March, and also of the last quarterly session of the Grand Steward's Lodge. This call was then joined in by those interrupting the Grand Master, but was declared out of order at that time, as he had risen to deliver his annual address. These calls were persisted in in the face of the decision of the chair, and the noise and disorderly conduct were persisted in, regardless of the sound of the gavel, the calls of order, and the reading of the rules of order. Not being able to quell the disorder, the Grand Master at length called to him one of the Past Grand Officers who had taken part in the disturbance, and inquired whether, if the minutes called for should be first read, he would engage that the question on approving them should be offered and taken in the usual form, and that then the Grand Master should be listened to in silence. On receiving an affirmative answer, the Grand Master then said he would overlook the gross insult offered to himself and the Grand Lodge, and permit the minutes to be read; and they were read by the Grand Secretary.

One of those who had taken part in the disturbance then moved that those proceedings should be approved and *confirmed*, but subsequently was prevailed upon to withdraw the proposition to *confirm* the proceedings, and the other part of the motion was adopted without opposition.

The Grand Master then proceeded to give his address, reporting the condition, progress and work of the order under his administration, during the year. One part of the proceedings of the year was the action in relation to the aforesaid amendments which had been adopted at the previous annual meeting, and which he stated had been adopted by fifty-six of the ninety-nine warranted lodges of this state, forty-nine of which had adopted them by unanimous vote, while only three lodges had returned a negative vote.

He stated also that undoubted information unofficially had reached him, that some other lodges had voted in favor of the amendments, and that a majority of the lodges working under dispensations had also voted in favor of the amendments; and although their votes were not counted, they were important as showing the sentiment of the new branches of the order. He stated that in these amendments the provisions of the Constitution had been strictly complied with, and that they were now a part of the Constitution, and as such were binding on the Grand Lodge and the whole fraternity of the state.

He expressed his opinion that this amendment was proper, just and expedient, and calculated to act beneficially in every part of the state, and in every portion of the fraternity; at the same time he disclaimed all disrespect to any one Past Master, and paid them a high compliment as a class occupying an elevated position as men and masons, justly enjoying the respect and confidence of their brethren. He admitted their right to resort to all constitutional means to defeat the amendment, while the discussion was pending; but as they did not succeed, and as it had become a part of the constitution, all good masons would now submit to it till it should be changed by a constitutional mode. After various conciliatory remarks and suggestions, the Grand Master concluded by saying, "My brethren, we are about to enter on the discharge of important duties. Let us discharge those duties in a spirit of kindness and conciliation. And I pray the Supreme Architect of the Universe that harmony and brotherly love may prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us."

After the close of the address, a Past Grand Officer, then temporarily occupying the chair of Junior Grand Warden, inquired if he correctly understood the Grand Master as saying that the amendment to the Constitution alluded to was now binding on the Grand Lodge; and being answered in the affirmative, he said in a loud tone, "Then I pronounce that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York is dissolved;"* and although called to order by the Grand Master, he then called on those opposed to the amendment to assist in organizing a Grand Lodge. He nominated William Willis as chairman, put the motion and declared him elected. The said Willis then took a position near the Grand Master (who labored in vain to preserve order, and whose voice was immediately drowned by hideous noises when he attempted to speak), and in this confusion he, with his associates, went through the form of electing Isaac Phillips and others by hand vote as Grand Officers. Of the seventy-five lodges represented in the room, only the representatives, or Past Masters, of some twenty-six or twenty-seven lodges took part in these proceedings. One only of the officers of the Grand Lodge was elected in this new organization, viz: John Horspool, the Grand

*This language is reported with some variation by the conflicting parties. The substance is essentially the same.

Treasurer. During this scene of confusion, the Grand Master retained the oriental chair and the gavel and jewel of his office. The other Grand Officers also, who were present at the opening, retained their places and appropriate regalia; and after the chairman thus elected had left, with a portion of the seceders, one of the Grand Officers moved an adjournment to the same house at nine o'clock the next morning; which motion was put by the Grand Master and carried.

On assembling at the hour of adjournment and calling the roll, thirty-nine lodges were present by their Master and Wardens, or their appointed proxies—ten lodges being sufficient for the transaction of business. It was then ascertained that the keeper of the Howard House had let the hall to the seceding body for the year and surrendered the keys to an officer or agent of that body. The lodge then opened in due form, and after providing for a place of meeting for the session, adjourned to a later hour of the same day.

The Grand Lodge met in the afternoon as per adjournment at the Coliseum, when sixty lodges were represented, and it continued its sessions by regular adjournments till June 11th, when, its work being finished, it was closed in the usual form.

During the session, John D. Willard was re-elected Grand Master, William H. Milnor, Deputy Grand Master, Ezra S. Barnum and Nelson Randal, Grand Wardens, Robert R. Boyd was re-elected Grand Secretary, and Gerardus Boyce, Grand Treasurer.

These officers being located in the state, agreeable to the Articles of Union, were installed on the fourth day of the session, except the Grand Master, who had been previously installed.

On the second day of the session, John Horspool, the Grand Treasurer, by resolution of the Grand Lodge, was notified that the Grand Lodge had removed to the Coliseum, 450 Broadway, and that he was required to attend the Grand Lodge at that place the next morning at ten o'clock, and bring with him the funds and other property belonging to the lodge. Having been duly notified and refusing to obey the summons, and refusing to deliver up the funds and property in his possession, he was expelled from the fraternity by vote of the Grand Lodge. The five highest Grand Officers were authorized, in their discretion, to take legal means for the recovery of the property of the Grand Lodge, which was then or might be afterwards wrongfully withheld.

It is also asserted that at an early stage of the excitement arising in connection with the secession or revolution above described, a box marked R. R. Boyd, belonging to the Grand Secretary, containing some two thousand dollars of money belonging to the Grand Lodge, most of which had that day been received from subordinate lodges, also containing money and other private property of R. R. Boyd, was forcibly seized and retained in the possession of the seceders. It seems that the Grand Secretary, fore-

seeing that the disorder might be carried to extremes, placed this box in the hands of a brother to be carried and lodged in the Grand Secretary's office for safe keeping, and that it was wrested from the bearer by violence and afterwards came into the possession of the officers of the new organization. At the same time others seized upon important papers, the book of minutes, lodge book, cash book and ledger, which the R. W. Robert R. Boyd had on his table at the Grand Secretary's desk. Not content with this, others of the seceders got possession of the Grand Secretary's office, although it had been left locked by the Grand Secretary, who still had the key in his pocket. Here they took possession of the Grand Lodge library, records and other valuable papers. All these articles, the property of the Grand Lodge, were thus held by the party concerned in forming the new organization. Having got possession of these materials and gone through the ceremony of electing Grand Officers by hand vote as before stated, the seceders adjourned till the next evening at eight o'clock, and in the meantime secured the lease of the hall in the Howard House, and the closing of it against the legitimate Grand Lodge, and also fastened the door of the Grand Secretary's office with chain and a padlock. On Wednesday evening the seceders assembled at eight o'clock, and after opening it was announced that in accordance with instructions of the Grand Master elect, the M. W. Past Grand Masters Daniel B. Bruen and Ira Merchant, of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, had been invited, and engaged to be present to assist in the installation of the Grand Officers elect. This announcement was made by W. Bro. Tisdall, *a representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, who took the occasion to congratulate the Grand Master, and extend to him the right hand of fellowship of that state.*

These Past Grand Masters from New Jersey were introduced with the honors due to their rank, and participated in the installation of the officers. During the evening, the M. W. Past Grand Master Earle, of the State of New Jersey, was announced, and received with the honors of his rank. These Past Grand Masters of New Jersey, on receiving a vote of thanks from the Grand Lodge for their assistance in the installation of the officers, the W. Ira Merchant responded in behalf of his brethren, and "*pledged the support of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in maintaining the honorable career of the Grand Lodge of New York.*"

The Grand Officers thus elected and installed in the seceding body, were

R. W. ISAAC PHILLIPS, M. W. G. M.

" JOSEPH CUYLER, D. G. M.

" THOMAS D. JAMES, S. G. W.

" DAVID BOOTH, J. G. W.

" JAMES HERRING, G. Sec.

" JOHN HORSPOOL, G. Treas.

At this meeting a resolution was adopted, "directing the Grand Secretary, James Herring, to demand and receive from the late Grand Secretary, R. R.

Boyd, and from all others, late officers, or persons of the Grand Lodge, all property, effects and papers belonging to the Grand Lodge." The meeting was adjourned to Thursday evening, when after receiving various reports, and transacting other business, the body closed its session.

The legitimate Grand Lodge, which, after the first evening, held its sessions in the Coliseum, by adjournment, till the 11th of June, in the course of its proceedings, after summoning several of the leaders and participators in these disorderly proceedings, to appear before them, in order to defend or justify their conduct, proceeded to expel some of them from the privileges of Masonry. Among these were *Isaac Phillips, William Willis, James Herring, John Horspool, Joseph Cuyler* and *Fitzgerald Tisdall*. The case of several others whose expulsion was recommended by a Committee of Investigation, was referred to the Grand Steward's Lodge till the next quarterly meeting.

Such is a brief history of the unhappy controversy which convulsed the masonic fraternity in the Empire State at its last annual communication, and which has been proclaimed substantially by both parties in their appeals to the Grand Lodges of the world. While the facts in the case disclose the painful truth that the frailties of our common nature still exist among those who have vowed allegiance to the noblest principles, and who have been clothed with the honors of our order and have shared the fraternal confidence of brethren, the final issue we trust will also show that there is in the order firmness of principle, and a moral force capable of breasting the tide of human passion, and a Divine Providence overshadowing this order, whose wisdom can bring good out of evil, and give through trials and conflicts a salutary discipline. It is well that both parties in this conflict have given their own version of the facts, and that each has argued its case with ability before a tribunal sufficiently extended and unaffected by local prejudices and prepossessions, so that a final verdict can be given without needless delay, and one which we will hope may be worthy of the cause and just to the parties. It is to be regretted that on either party there should be the use of language, and the manifestation of temper so far at variance with the "*charity that never faileth*," as we find in some of the documents issued by the seceding body, and under the beautiful seal of the Grand Looge, and especially as such a spirit is contagious and is apt to be exhibited in reply. One important result of this controversy is the calling forth of a legal opinion from Chancellor Walworth, which is a document of great value, containing as it does a lucid historical statement of the transactions reviewed, a full investigation of the claim of the seceding members, based upon the supposed inherent rights of Past Masters, whether derived from ancient usage, or the original charter of the Grand Lodge of New York, or the compact of 1827.

These researches into the ancient constitutions and usages of Masonry, and of the constitution or charter of the Grand Lodge of New York, will

possess a permanent value to the fraternity at large, and the decision to which he comes with the reasonings and facts on which it is based, must go far to convince all unprejudiced minds of the justice of the verdict which this and other Grand Lodges have rendered, sustaining as they do that body of which M. W. John D. Willard is the Grand Master and R. W. Robert R. Boyd, the Grand Secretary, as the legitimate and only Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New York. The committee would here leave this painful part of their duty, adopting most cordially the language of the resolutions appended to an able report adopted by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and say with our brethren there, "We do most earnestly and affectionately call upon every individual brother in our sister state, whatever may be his present opinions, to discard all prejudices, all bitterness of feeling and by God's aid to seek the truth, and especially to follow out the things that make for peace, remembering that as we are all members of one body, if one member suffer all the members suffer with it."

* * * "*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge do sincerely hope that the brethren whose acts we feel compelled to condemn, will, after dispassionate consideration of the evils which must result to the craft generally from the present state of Masonry in New York, be induced to adopt such a course as may lead to a restoration of order and harmony among the fraternity."

GRAND LODGE CERTIFICATES.

Another matter submitted to this committee, of some importance, is contained in a circular from the St. John's Lodge, Newark, N. J., and which is based upon the previous and repeated requests of the Grand Lodge of New York, that no Grand Lodge or subordinate lodges in other states, would admit visiting brethren from that state unless they could present Grand Lodge certificates that they belonged to a subordinate lodge in fellowship with the Grand Lodge of that state. It is obvious that if caution in admitting visiting brethren hailing from New York was necessary prior to the recent painful conflict, there is surely not less need of caution now, since there are two bodies now claiming to be the legitimate Grand Lodges of the state, beside the so-called St. John's Grand Lodge. Such caution is fully recommended to the subordinates of this Grand Lodge in the resolutions of this body adopted at the January communication and sent to all the lodges, and is now repeated in this report. At the same time, with our brethren in New Jersey, we do not at present feel called upon to recommend a rigid adoption of a definite and particular method of proving visiting brethren from a particular state and locality in the form of Grand Lodge certificates. We believe there are objections to such a course, and the present attitude of the two bodies in New York fairly illustrated one of them. Here are two nominal Grand Lodges, each claiming to be legitimate, and, unfortunately for visiting brethren, the seal of the Grand Lodge which ought to be affixed to

the certificates is in the hands of the body, which by our resolutions we disown and repudiate as a Grand Lodge. Without multiplying words on the question, or dictating to other bodies the course of duty, your committee recommend the exercise of all that caution which obligations of our order enjoin in the admission of visiting brethren, and with a knowledge of the existing difficulties in New York we may reasonably demand of brethren who hail from that state, satisfactory evidence that they are in fellowship with the subordinates of the legitimate Grand Lodge. As allusion has been made to the St. John's Grand Lodge in New York, and as it was the existence and irregular action of this body that furnished a prominent occasion for the adoption of Grand Lodge certificates, it seems due to the Grand Lodge and its subordinates that a brief history of this irregular body should be recorded. It seems that in the month of June, 1837, York Lodge, No. 367, and Silentia Lodge, both subordinates of the Grand Lodge of New York, resolved to celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist on the 24th of June, by a public procession. Benevolent Lodge and brethren from other lodges subsequently united with them. Having some doubts whether they had a right to form a public procession without a dispensation from the Grand Master, a sub-committee was directed to call on the Grand Secretary and inquire whether there were any constitutional objections to such a procession, of which they were not informed—the Grand Secretary replied that “he knew of none, they had the constitution and could read for themselves, and govern themselves accordingly.” The lodges proceeded with their arrangements till the 24th of June, when a prohibition of the Deputy Grand Master was served on York Lodge and Benevolent Lodge, and the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Secretary were personally present on that day to prevent the procession. But these lodges and the brethren associated with them went forward with the procession, regardless of the prohibition and the efforts of the Grand Officers above named. In consequence of this, a charge was preferred against York Lodge before the Grand Lodge, “For creating a disturbance and confusion among the fraternity, subversive of the principles of the order and injurious to its prosperity and character, by a violation of duty to the Grand Lodge.” This charge was sustained by five specifications thus stated—“Resolving to hold a public procession without authority; publishing this intention in the newspapers; inviting other lodges and brethren to unite with them; holding the procession in defiance of repeated decisions of the Grand Lodge, in violation of the rules of the Grand Lodge and in violation of the prohibition of the Deputy Grand Master.” Similar charges were also preferred against several brothers who had taken a leading part in the celebration. At the meeting of the Grand Lodge at which these charges were preferred, the case was referred by decision of the chair, after several counts of votes, to the Grand Steward's Lodge. The Grand Steward's Lodge proceeded to expel Bros. H. C. Atwood, William F. Piatt and all the officers and members of York Lodge.

The expelled brethren appealed to the Grand Lodge, denying the right of the Grand Steward's Lodge to expel them, and denying the correctness of the decision of the Grand Master in regard to the vote by which their case was thus referred, and in this appeal they were sustained by the certificate of Bro. Thomas S. Brady, then an alderman of the city of New York. The appeal to the Grand Lodge, after various objections to the course of the Grand Lodge and the decision of the Grand Steward's Lodge in the premises, resulted in the confirmation of the records and the expulsion of the York Lodge and the offending members associated with them in the celebration.

On the 11th of September, 1837, these expelled members, in connection with others, proceeded to form themselves into a body which they called the "St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York," and as such they ask to be received and recognized by the fraternity as a part of the masonic family. Your committee fully concur in the language of the able report adopted by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, in November, 1848, after a full and critical review of the whole affair. "The committee are compelled to report, that this Grand Lodge cannot recognize St. John's Grand Lodge as a legally constituted Grand Lodge, nor any of the lodges or masons under its jurisdiction, as brethren worthy to receive from us the rights and benefits of masonry."

In conclusion of this topic we may again urge upon our subordinate lodges the utmost care in the admission of visiting brethren from the State of New York, and as three distinct bodies claim to be Grand Lodges of that state, we have a right to require satisfactory evidence that the applicant for admission is in regular standing within the jurisdiction of the one of which M. W. John D. Willard is the present Grand Master, and R. W. Robert R. Boyd, Grand Secretary.

DIFFICULTIES IN LOUISIANA.

In relation to the difficulties in Louisiana, the committee have chosen to delay any decision till the last moment, in the hope that we might be able to report an amicable reconciliation of the two bodies claiming jurisdiction as Grand Lodges. Intimations have come to us which encourage this hope, but nothing official has reached us on which we can base a decision in accordance with this hope.

Since the last year's report we have no communication from the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana. From the new Grand Lodge we have a very able report of a committee, signed by W. H. Howard, as Grand Secretary of said Grand Lodge. This report is ably drawn up, and in a spirit and temper which does justice to its authors and the principles of Masonry. It is a temperate review of the action of several Grand Lodges in relation to the divisions in that state, and a more full and complete exhibition of the alleged innovations and irregularities of the old Grand Lodge, which gave rise to

the formation of the new one. It contains also a defence of the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in assuming jurisdiction in that state. This defence goes far to show that Mississippi did not act hastily or rashly in assuming jurisdiction. They were appealed to by aggrieved brethren in Louisiana, in 1845, on the 23d of January. The Grand Lodge then appointed a committee to confer with the Grand Lodge of Mississippi on the alleged abuses, and the said committee went to New Orleans for that purpose, and made their report soon after. In 1846, the subject was again brought up in the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, on motion to take up the report of said committee, which report is as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the controversy between the Ancient York Masons of the State of Louisiana on the one side, and the Scotch and French Masons of said state on the other, have duly considered the subject, and beg leave to report the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That no Grand Lodge of Scotch and French, or Modern Masonry can assume jurisdiction over any Ancient York Mason, or body of such.

2. *Resolved*, That it is not consistent with Ancient York Masonry, to unite with Scotch and Modern Masonry, or either of them, in the formation of a lodge, Grand or subordinate.

3. *Resolved*, That there is no Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons within the limits of the State of Louisiana.

4. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge has the power, and it is its duty on proper application, to issue dispensations and charters to bodies of Ancient York Masons within the limits of the State of Louisiana, until a constitution of a Grand Lodge within that state.

5. *Resolved*, That we entertain the highest opinion of the distinguished body known as the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and are willing to contribute as much as possible, consistent with our obligations, to aid and protect Ancient York Masons, wheresoever dispersed, and to maintain our order pure and unmingled, to preserve friendly relations with that honorable body.

6. *Resolved*, That under no possible circumstances would this Grand Lodge assume jurisdiction over a Scotch or Modern Mason, or body of such, such assumption being alike inconsistent with their rights and our principles.

DUDLEY S. JENNINGS,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
R. N. DOWNING,		
J. J. DOTY,		

At the same time there was presented the following minority report:

The undersigned, a member of the committee to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. W. Grand Master, as relates to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and also the verbal report of the committee appointed to visit that M. W. body, begs leave to state by way of minority report: That the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana was organized exclusively after the Ancient York Rite, and so remained for a number of years, until it accumulated the Scotch and French rites. Said Grand Lodge is constituted by the free and voluntary meetings of the subordinate lodges of the state, represented *for life* by the Master of each lodge, who has presided over his lodge for one year, and temporarily by the Senior and Junior Wardens. According to the information now before the undersigned, there are now in active operation fourteen lodges working in the Ancient York Rite; four in the Scotch Rite, *accumulating* the York and Modern Rite, and two in the Modern Rite, *accumulating* the Scotch and York Rite.

The undersigned would further respectfully submit, that no one of the fourteen lodges above named, (as the undersigned believes,) has made any official complaint to this body of any improper or unmasonic conduct on the part of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana. The undersigned is aware of the fact that St. Albans Lodge, No. 28, Louisiana, did, on the 9th July last, issue a circular, addressed to the York lodges in that state, requesting them to meet in convention and form a Grand Lodge of York Masons. The undersigned has yet to learn that more than one other lodge of the State of Louisiana accepted or acted on the proposition of the said St. Albans Lodge. The undersigned would further represent that the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana was constituted exclusively in the York Rite, that it is still a York Grand Lodge, accumulating the Scotch and Modern Rite; that it grants charters authorizing masonic work and labor in the York Rite exclusively, and that it also grants charters authorizing work in either the Scotch or French Rite, but invariably requires, in the latter cases, that the York Rite shall always be communicated upon the candidate for the degrees in the latter lodges. All the masons of Louisiana are thus strictly Ancient York, though many of them possess also the French and Scotch Rite. These rites obtain generally throughout the world, and any reflection upon the organization of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana would equally reflect upon the conduct and proceedings of the Supreme Bodies of Masonry in France, Scotland and other nations, where these rites are peculiarly esteemed. The undersigned would respectfully submit that this Grand Lodge do respectfully and fraternally remonstrate with the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana upon its tolerance of the use by its subordinate lodges of ***** or their PECULIAR CHARTS. The following resolutions are submitted:

1. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge finds nothing in the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which demands a termination of the masonic relations heretofore existing between them.
2. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge would not, (at least under present circumstances,) feel itself justified in granting dispensations or charters to any body of masons in the State of Louisiana.

All which is respectfully submitted,

H. W. WALTER.

On the seventeenth day of the same month, the subject was again brought up, and a second minority report was presented as follows:

The undersigned, one of the select committee appointed to take into consideration the matter of the verbal reports of the delegates to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and also the complaints of a body of Ancient York Masons in that State, and differing from the other members of the committee, begs leave to report separately, to the consideration of this Grand Lodge, the following resolutions as embodying his views upon the subject:

1. *Resolved*, That in view of the relations that have subsisted and do now exist, between this Grand Lodge and the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and the recognition by this Grand Lodge of that as a Grand Masonic Body, it is not deemed proper or expedient at this time, to grant charters or dispensations to any body of masons, residing within the jurisdiction of the said Grand Lodge of Louisiana.
2. *Resolved*, That the practice of conferring degrees by the Grand Officers of the said Grand Lodge, and the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, by means of ***** charts used in said lodge, is contrary to a correct and indispensable usage and custom of masonry, and directly subversive of the distinguishing character of our order, and if persisted in, will necessarily eventuate in a dissolution of the friendly masonic relations subsisting between us.
3. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this lodge, the mingling of different rites as practiced under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, ought, properly, to be abandoned.

The undersigned would further respectfully submit, that no one of the fourteen lodges above named, (as the undersigned believes,) has made any official complaint to this body of any improper or unmasonic conduct on the part of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana. The undersigned is aware of the fact that St. Albans Lodge, No. 28, Louisiana, did, on the 9th July last, issue a circular, addressed to the York lodges in that state, requesting them to meet in convention and form a Grand Lodge of York Masons. The undersigned has yet to learn that more than one other lodge of the State of Louisiana accepted or acted on the proposition of the said St. Albans Lodge. The undersigned would further represent that the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana was constituted exclusively in the York Rite, that it is still a York Grand Lodge, accumulating the Scotch and Modern Rite; that it grants charters authorizing masonic work and labor in the York Rite exclusively, and that it also grants charters authorizing work in either the Scotch or French Rite, but invariably requires, in the latter cases, that the York Rite shall always be communicated upon the candidate for the degrees in the latter lodges. All the masons of Louisiana are thus strictly Ancient York, though many of them possess also the French and Scotch Rite. These rites obtain generally throughout the world, and any reflection upon the organization of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana would equally reflect upon the conduct and proceedings of the Supreme Bodies of Masonry in France, Scotland and other nations, where these rites are peculiarly esteemed. The undersigned would respectfully submit that this Grand Lodge do respectfully and fraternally remonstrate with the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana upon its tolerance of the use by its subordinate lodges of ***** or their PECULIAR CHARTS. The following resolutions are submitted:

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2. *Resolved*, That the practice of conferring degrees by the Grand Officers of the said Grand Lodge, and the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, by means of ***** charts used in said lodge, is contrary to a correct and indispensable usage and custom of masonry, and directly subversive of the distinguishing character of our order, and if persisted in, will necessarily eventuate in a dissolution of the friendly masonic relations subsisting between us.
3. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this lodge, the mingling of different rites as practiced under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, ought, properly, to be abandoned.

4. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge do most affectionately and fraternaly urge upon the consideration of our sister Grand Lodge of Louisiana, that by conciliation and compromise, they reconcile the difficulties which have arisen, and now exist, between said Grand Lodge and some brethren, Ancient York Masons in that state.

5. *Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Master enter into a correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, or with its officers, expressing to them the views of this Grand Lodge in regard to the grievances complained of, and call their immediate attention and consideration to the subject.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE A. WILSON.

This was received, and, on motion, the following resolution adopted :

Resolved, That the various reports and documents upon the subject of Masonry in Louisiana, in possession of this Grand Lodge, be referred to the M. W. Grand Master, who is requested to enter into correspondence with the Grand Officers of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, expressing to them the views of this Grand Lodge in regard to the grievances complained of, and urge the correction of them to the immediate attention and consideration of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

The subject came up again on the 16th of February, 1847, at the annual communication, and all documents relating to masonry in Louisiana were referred to a select committee of seven. On the day following, the seventeenth of February, petitions were presented to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi for a new lodge at New Orleans, to be known as George Washington, and one at Lafayette, to be styled Lafayette Lodge.

The special committee subsequently reported as follows :

Whereas, In the opinion of this Grand Lodge, each distinctive rite produces different powers which govern it, and is independent of all others : and, whereas, no Grand Lodge of Scotch, French or cumulative rites can legally assume jurisdiction over any Ancient York Lodge :

Therefore, Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana being composed of a cumulation of rites, cannot be recognized by this Grand Lodge as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will grant dispensations and charters to any legal number of Ancient York Masons, residing within the State of Louisiana, they making due application for the same.

B. S. TAPPAN,
W. COOPER,
SAMUEL B. MALONE,
IRA S. MITCHELL,
A. HUTCHINSON,
CHAS. A. LACOSTE,
CHAS. J. SEARLES,
Committee.

The report and resolutions were adopted, and the Grand Secretary was ordered to issue dispensations to the above named lodges. It is thus claimed by the committee of the new Grand Lodge that Mississippi acted with due deliberation and in good faith ; and, in view of existing facts, in accordance with masonic courtesy and duty.

This review of Masonry in Louisiana, from which we have thus noticed,

does seem adapted to increase the conviction that some action was really needed in that jurisdiction, and to render it probable that the action of Mississippi, in view of all the facts, was justifiable, and may tend to secure final harmony and prosperity in that state. This view has been taken by some of the Grand Lodges which have most recently acted upon this subject. Such was the action of the Grand Lodge of Vermont in January last. She sustains Mississippi and recognizes the New Grand Lodge in Louisiana, and suspends masonic intercourse with the old ; but at the same time expressing the hope that a union will be effected on the basis of Ancient York Masonry ; and they adopt a contingent resolution, authorizing the Grand Master to resume correspondence with the old Grand Lodge in case such a union should be effected.

Your committee do not desire to commit this Grand Lodge to this line of action at this time, and they would now recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, As the sense of this lodge, that the interests of Masonry require a speedy adjustment of the difficulties in Louisiana.

2. *Resolved*, That with our present light on the question, it is incumbent on the old Grand Lodge to recede from its position in the matters complained of as departures from the ancient landmarks and established usages of the order, and conform to the time-honored usages which govern the fraternity throughout the world.

3. *Resolved*, That a union of the two Grand Lodges on this basis would be a matter of devout thankfulness, and be hailed as such throughout the lodges of this country.

4. *Resolved*, That in case the old Grand Lodge refuse this concession to the body of York Masons in that state, and to the general voice of the Grand Lodges of this country, it will be the duty of this Grand Lodge at no distant period to suspend correspondence with that body, and to recognize the new Grand Lodge of that state.

GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

The subject of a General Grand Lodge still receives the favorable notice of many of the Grand Lodges of the Union. The unhappy divisions in New York, as well as the difficulties in Louisiana, serve to urge the importance of such an organization, and it is probable that the experiment will be fairly tried. Circulars having been received prior to the special communication of this Grand Lodge in January, measures were adopted to secure the representation of this Grand Lodge in a proposed convention, as will be seen by the following extract :

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE.

At a special communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the twenty-second day of January, 1850 :

The Grand Secretary laid upon the table circulars received from the Grand Lodges of Maryland, the District of Columbia and Rhode Island, in relation to the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States; which were referred to R. W. Brothers F. Bradford, D. H. Mitchell, and George Small, who, having duly considered the subject matter thereof, subsequently reported by resolutions, as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it is expedient to establish a Grand Lodge of the United States, under wholesome regulations.

2. *Resolved*, That the most convenient place for the location of such Grand Lodge, is the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia.

3. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge proceed to elect, by ballot, one delegate to represent her in the convention, which is to assemble in Washington on the first Wednesday in May next, for the purpose of forming a Constitution for a Grand Lodge of the United States; and that his expenses be paid by this Grand Lodge.

The report of the committee was accepted, and the resolutions, after being duly considered, were adopted unanimously.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the choice of a delegate, in accordance with the third resolution, and the M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, G. M., was duly elected.

We have thus answered that Maine will be fairly represented in the proposed convention, which was to assemble the present week, and we are happy to know that our Most Worshipful Grand Master has so good an excuse for his absence on this occasion.

In reviewing at so great length the difficulties existing in the order in two of our sister Grand Lodges, the committee feel that they are hardly warranted in giving that space or attention to the healthy and progressive action of the masonic Institution, and the fruitful labors of the craft throughout the world. In our own country, your committee are impressed with the evidence of growth and prosperity which are everywhere apparent, with the exception of the jurisdictions of New York and Louisiana.

Perhaps it may be asserted that the trials in those states, painful as they have been to all good and true masons throughout the union, may be at this moment contributing largely to the substantial and permanent prosperity of the order. Certain it is they tend powerfully to bring out and render apparent the moral strength and sentiment of the great body of our Grand Lodges, and leading to a careful scrutiny of all the usages now prevailing, and to an earnest inquiry after the old paths and the ancient landmarks, and to endeavor to correct whatever may need correction. Thus may it ever prove that trials and offences, if they must come, may be overruled for good, and illustrate the power and excellence of the Institution and principles of Masonry, in bringing good out of evil and order out of confusion; thus acting in harmony with its Divine Author. The healthful progress of the Institution during the year is full of promise. Never before, we believe, did our order occupy so important and commanding a position in our country as at this moment. Never was its power of doing good greater than it is now. Its responsibilities are of course high and imperative.

MASONIC TEXT BOOK.

One of the hopeful indications of progress the committee are happy to recognize in the reception of a Manual of Masonry, prepared under the supervision and sanction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, by its distinguished Grand Secretary, R. W. John Dove.

The work referred to is a neat volume of 328 pages, entitled a "Masonic Text Book," and embraces "A History of Masons and Masonic Grand Lodges—The Constitution of Masonry, or Ahiman Rezon—A Digest of the Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and Illustrations of masonic work in the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason and Past Master, as drawn from Preston, Webb and others." The letter accompanying the work explains fully its design. The work displays admirable masonic qualities in its composition. The history of Masonry is ingenious and instructive, and the ancient Constitutions cannot well be too widely diffused or too well understood by the craft.

The digest of the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge of Virginia will also be useful and instructive to younger sister Grand Lodges, as embodying the wisdom and experience of a venerable and prosperous branch of the masonic family. In the illustrations of masonic work there is evidence of masonic skill and fidelity to the ancient work as taught by its venerated lights, whose instructions have long guided and cheered us in our labors. Some slight alterations are noticeable in the work, on which the committee would not now comment, as this would be more appropriate if the Grand Lodge should decide to entertain the question of adopting the text book as a standard of its work.

The book is sent to us under a resolve of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, which provides that any Grand Lodge in the United States, if she shall think fit, may, on application, be invested with the copyright of the same for her jurisdiction.

The question of adopting it in this jurisdiction we prefer to leave with the Grand Lodge without forestalling its opinion. It is a question worthy to be entertained and is therefore submitted for that purpose. If found worthy of adoption, and if the several Grand Lodges of the Union should agree in making it a text book, with such variations in rules and regulations as should adapt it to the several jurisdictions, it might perhaps realize the wishes of the author, and of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in establishing uniformity of work and legislation, at a comparatively trifling cost.

In closing this report the committee are happy to leave this question with all others committed to their care, in the hands of this Grand Lodge, with the assurance that they will receive the attention their importance may demand. They rejoice to leave the entire interests of our beloved order under

the scrutiny of that Eye that never slumbers, and encircled by a Divine vigilance and care that never fails to protect the trusting and the faithful.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,	} Committee.
F. BRADFORD,	
ALLEN HAINES,	

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated and paid to Rev. Bro. Cyril Pearl, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for extra services and for expenses incurred by him in preparing the report of said committee.

The Grand Secretary reported to the Grand Lodge that the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, at a meeting thereof held on the previous evening, had voted to distribute, in charity, the sum of two hundred dollars.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until half past two o'clock P. M.

MAY 3, 1850.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at two and a half o'clock P. M.

On motion,

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the several D. D. G. Masters, for the faithful manner in which they have discharged their important duties during the past year.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of forty dollars be appropriated and paid to the Recording Grand Secretary for his services the past year.

R. W. Bro. Timothy Chase, D. D. G. Master of the ninth district, reported verbally that he had attended to the duties of his appointment, and that the lodges in that district are generally in a prosperous condition.

Report accepted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year. The M. W. Grand Master

elect being absent and no Past Grand Officers being present to preside, the R. W. Charles B. Smith, being the oldest Past Master present, on request took the chair and installed, in due form, the R. W. John W. Lindley, as proxy of M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, Grand Master elect. R. W. Bro. Lindley then installed the R. W. John C. Humphreys, Deputy Grand Master, who thereupon installed the remaining Grand Officers elect; and the usual proclamation was made.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to procure a suitable book case for the Grand Lodge library.

R. W. Bro. Williams, of Bangor, then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sum of twenty dollars be appropriated to the purchase of standard works on the history and progress of Ancient Masonry for the Grand Lodge library; and that the same, or such part thereof as may be found practicable, be expended for that purpose by R. W. Bro. Freeman Bradford, Senior Grand Warden, who is hereby constituted a committee for that purpose.

This resolution being read, was unanimously adopted.

On motion,

Voted, That the text book presented by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, together with the question of its adoption as the standard of authority by this Grand Lodge, be referred to the committee on the work and lectures of the order.

The subject of publishing in a single volume the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from its organization, as proposed at the last annual communication, was now called up and considered, and, after due deliberation, referred to R. W. Bros. Haines of Portland, Covell of Jay, and Lord of Hallowell, with instructions to ascertain and report at the next annual communication the expense of publishing the same.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of twenty dollars be appropriated and paid to R. W. Bro. Henry H. Boody, Grand Treasurer, for his efficient and faithful services in that office during the past year.

The Grand Lodge, having passed upon all matters before them,

was then closed in due form, with prayer by Rev. Bro. Cyril Pearl, Grand Chaplain.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

PORTLAND, May 20, 1850.

The M. W. Grand Master makes and announces the following appointments of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year:

R. W. ALLEN HAINES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
" DANIEL WINSLOW,	<i>D. D. G. M. 1st District,</i>	Portland.
" REUEL WASHBURN,	" 2d "	Livermore.
" EUSEBIUS WESTON,	" 3d "	Skowhegan,
" SCOTT J. TALLMAN,	" 4th "	Bath.
" WM. SOMERBY,	" 5th "	Ellsworth.
" JOHN C. TALBOT,	" 6th "	East Machias.
" TIMOTHY H. MORSE,	" 7th "	Bangor.
" JOSHUA HERRICK,	" 8th "	Kennebunk Port.
" H. G. O. WASHBURN,	" 9th "	Belfast.
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Portland.
" EATON SHAW,	" "	Gardiner.
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "	Baldwin.
" JOSEPH HUTCHINSON,	" "	Brunswick.
" JOHN McDONALD,	" "	Bangor.
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Westbrook,
" EBENEZER G. RAWSON,	<i>Grand Senior Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
" JOSEPH COVELL,	<i>Grand Junior "</i>	Jay.
" JOHN PURINTON,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Portland.
" SELAH G. DENNIS,	" "	East Thomaston
" ELI HOSKINS,	" "	Old Town.
" GEORGE SMALL,	" "	Westbrook.
" SAMUEL F. HERSEY,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Bangor.
" JOHN C. TALBOT, JR.,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Lubec.
" EBENEZER G. EATON,	" "	Saco.
BRO. JOHN DAIN,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

R. W. CYRIL PEARL, of Baldwin,
 " FREEMAN BRADFORD, of Portland,
 " ALLEN HAINES, of Portland.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

JANUARY 22, 1850.

[A reference, on page 121, led this Publication Committee to notice the existence of proceedings which had never been published, and examination of the written records brought to light the minutes of a special communication which is given below.]

A special communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in Portland, on the 22d day of January, A. D. 1850, and opened in ample form at 9½ o'clock A. M.

PRESENT.

M. W. JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	Grand Master;
R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Deputy Grand Master;
“ FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Senior Grand Warden;
“ STEPHEN WEBBER,	Junior Grand Warden;
“ HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer;
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary;
“ ALLEN HAINES,	Cor. Grand Secretary;
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain;
“ CYRIL PEARL,	“ “
W. JOHN ANDREWS,	Grand Marshal, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ JOHN F. HARRIS,	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ D. M. MITCHELL,	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ GEORGE SMALL,	Grand Steward;
“ F. L. TALBOT,	“ “ <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ WILLIAM WHITE,	Grand Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i> ;
“ THOMAS J. SANBORN,	“ “ “
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

Prayers were offered by Rev. Bro. Cummings, Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Secretary was appointed a Committee on Creden-

tials, and having attended to the duty assigned him, reported that in addition to the Grand Officers present, the following brethren were in attendance as officers and representatives of the following lodges, viz:

- 1 *Portland*, by William Kimball, M; R. W. Kennard, SW; Thomas J. Sanborn, JW.
- 2 *Warren*, by John F. Harris, M; F. L. Talbot, SW.
- 16 *St. George*, by John Andrews, M.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, by B. C. Fernald, SW.
- 29 *Tranquil*, by William White, Proxy.
- 50 *Aurora*, by D. M. Mitchell, M.

Report accepted.

The Grand Secretary then laid upon the table circulars from the Grand Lodges of Maryland, the District of Columbia and Rhode Island in reference to the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States; and they were referred to Bros. Freeman Bradford, D. M. Mitchell and George Small.

On motion,

Voted, That Master Masons of good standing be invited to take seats as visitors in the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary then laid before the Grand Lodge sundry circulars and published reports received from many of the Grand Lodges in the United States, including the contending parties in New York, relative to the unhappy difficulties that have arisen among the fraternity in that state.

Referred to R. W. Bros. Allen Haines, John C. Humphreys and Freeman Bradford.

The Masonic Text Book, received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, was then laid upon the table; whereupon the R. W. Bro. Bradford submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge of Maine be, and hereby are tendered to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia, for its compilation of the Constitutions of Masonry and masonic illustrations lately received by our Grand Secretary; and the same will be submitted for a report thereon, at our next annual communication.

A letter was laid upon the table, from R. W. Bro. William H. Tobey, of East Machias, tendering his resignation of the office of District Deputy Grand Master of the sixth masonic district. Resignation accepted, and the M. W. Grand Master thereupon appointed the R. W. John C. Talbot, of East Machias, to fill the vacancy in said office.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Boody,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be requested to procure 550 blank diplomas for Master Masons, viz : 200 on bank note paper, 300 on drawing paper, and 50 on Parchment.

The Grand Secretary reported that he had procured to be printed 10 quires of blank letters of proxy.

Voted, That his doing be approved.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed a suitable number of blanks for certifying the election and proper signatures of the principal Grand Officers.

The committee to whom was referred the several circulars relative to the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, reported the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, *it is expedient* to establish a Grand Lodge of the United States, under wholesome regulations.
2. *Resolved*, That the most convenient place for the location of such Grand Lodge is the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia.
3. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge proceed to elect by ballot one delegate to represent her in the convention which is to assemble in Washington on the first Wednesday in May next, for the purpose of forming a constitution for a Grand Lodge of the United States of America; and that his expenses be paid by this Grand Lodge.

The report of the committee was accepted, and the resolutions adopted unanimously.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the choice of a delegate in accordance with the third resolution, and the M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, Grand Master, was duly elected.

The W. Bro. Robert R. Kendall, agent of Freeport Lodge, then (by permission) addressed the Grand Lodge in behalf of said

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The report of the committee was accepted, and the resolutions adopted unanimously.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the choice of a delegate in accordance with the third resolution, and the M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, Grand Master, was duly elected.

The W. Bro. Robert R. Kendall, agent of Freeport Lodge, then (by permission) addressed the Grand Lodge in behalf of said

Freeport Lodge, and solicited pecuniary aid from the Grand Lodge in consequence of their loss by fire and other discouraging circumstances.

The subject was thereupon referred to Bros. Humphreys, Boody and Smith.

The Grand Lodge then called off until 2½ o'clock P. M.

JANUARY 22, 1850, 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

A communication was received from King David's Lodge, U. D., at Lincolnville, containing the dispensation under which they had organized, a transcript of their records, a copy of their by-laws and an application for a charter of constitution, with the fees for the same.

Referred to Bros. Bradford, Boody and Harris.

The committee to whom was referred the application of Freeport Lodge for aid, reported,

"That the application be referred to the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, as in the opinion of the committee, the matter submitted falls more appropriately within the range of the duties of that Board."

Read and accepted.

REPORT ON THE DIFFICULTIES IN NEW YORK.

The committee appointed to consider the difficulties that have arisen among the masonic fraternity in the State of New York, have attended to that duty so far as their limited time would allow, and ask leave to report the accompanying resolutions.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ALLEN HAINES,	} Committee.
JNO. C. HUMPHREYS,	
FREEMAN BRADFORD,	

"1st. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Maine, in view of the unhappy schism, which has given rise to a plurality of Grand Lodges in the State of

New York, does most earnestly beseech their brethren in that jurisdiction to apply the excellent precepts inculcated in our ritual as the only sovereign remedy for all their existing difficulties.

"2d. *Resolved*, That there can be but one legitimate Grand Lodge in each state; and that this Grand Lodge fully recognizes, as the only legitimate Grand Lodge of the State of New York, that of which M. W. John D. Willard is, at present, Grand Master, and R. W. Robert R. Boyd, Grand Secretary.

"3d. *Resolved*, That the several subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction be instructed to refuse admission to all visitors from the State of New York, who do not furnish the proper evidence of connection with the Grand Lodge recognized by the foregoing resolution."

The foregoing report was accepted, and the *resolutions*, after being duly considered, were *unanimously adopted*.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to loan to Freeport Lodge the sum of fifty dollars for two years, on such security as shall be satisfactory to him.

On motion,

Voted, The Grand Secretary be directed to forward to the several Grand Lodges in the United States, copies of the Constitutions and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary prepare a circular embracing the action of this Grand Lodge in relation to the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and the difficulties in New York, and forward a copy thereof to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and to each subordinate lodge in this state.

The following report was then presented :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The committee to whom was referred the application of the officers and members of King David's Lodge, under dispensation, at Lincolnville, for a charter of constitution, have considered the subject and report :

The application is accompanied with a copy of the by-laws of the lodge, an abstract of their proceedings since their organization, the dispensation and the fee required by the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

The by-laws of the lodge are objectionable in some particulars, and the committee recommend the following amendments and alterations in order that they conform to the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge :

Section 2, of Article 1, should be amended by striking out all after the word expedient, so that the section shall read as follows:

"The W. M. shall have authority to call special meetings whenever he may deem it expedient."

Section 3 of the same article should be stricken out entirely, as conflicting with section 9 of the third article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

Article 7 should be amended by striking out the proviso, that part of it being in conflict with Sec. 15, Part 5th of the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of this state. The abstract of the proceedings of the lodge shows a conformity to the code of by-laws that have been adopted for its government, and in some particulars are also objectionable; but your committee believe they will be done away with when the by-laws are amended agreeably to the foregoing suggestions. Your committee can see no objection why the request of the lodge should not be granted, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution.

Resolved, That a charter of constitution be issued to the officers and brethren named in the dispensation, agreeably to the regulations of this Grand Lodge, authorizing them to hold a lodge at Lincolnville by the name and style of King David's Lodge.

F. BRADFORD, }
J. F. HARRIS, } *Committee.*
H. H. BOODY, }

The foregoing report was accepted, and the resolution adopted.

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

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF LODGES,

UP TO MAY 1, 1850.

Portland, 1, Portland. William Kimball, m; Richard W. Kennard, sw; Thomas J Sanborn, jw; James R. Milliken, tr; Elias M. Plimpton, s; Freeman Bradford, sd; Ezra S. Bradlee, jd; Lemuel Bryant, ss; Joseph Fowler, js; Isaac Davis, t. Members, 83; initiates, 27; deceased, one.

District 1

Warren, 2, East Machias. John F. Harris, m; F. L. Talbot, sw; Frederick A. Wilson, jw; Walter Robbins, tr; C. H. Talbot, s; S. T. Foster, sd; Elijah Hall, jd; Luther Hall, ss; E. S. Hanscom, js; Charles Townsend, t. Members 16; initiates, 1; deceased, 1. 6

Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. Henry Clark, m; Asa F. Hall, sw; Thomas B. Johnston, jw; John B. Mange, tr; Frederick A. Sawyer, s; Erastus Foote, Jr., sd; Edmund Connor, jd; Alfred McLean, ss; Andrew Herbert, js; James Clark, t. Members, 29; initiates, 6. 4

Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. Francis J. Day, m; Stephen Lord, sw; James H. Withington, jw; Nathaniel Stevens, tr; William Nye, s; Ira Cass, sd; Robert G. Handy, jd; Isaac Foster, ss; John A. Ewers, js; Daniel Russell, t. Members, 28; initiates, 9. 3

Amity, 6, Camden. William Merriam, m; Austin Sweetland, sw; James R. Glover, jw; E. G. Knight, tr; J. G. Norwood, s; Oliver Andrews, sd; Samuel Chase, jd; George W. Glover, ss; Benjamin Crabtree, 2d, js; Isaiah Barbour, t. Members, 47; initiates, 12; rejected, 1; deceased, 3. 9

Eastern, 7, Eastport. John L. Bowman, m; Joseph Gunnison, sw; Charles James, jw; Thomas Parker, tr; Alden Bradford, s; John Regan, sd; Samuel Kyle, jd; S. R. Byram, ss; Joshua Bradford, js; ———, t. Members, 32; initiates, 6; rejected, 1. 6

United, 8, Brunswick. John D. Lincoln, m; Theodore S. McLellan, sw; Horace P. Hubbard, jw; Richard Greenleaf, tr; Ephraim Brown, s; Octavius A. Merrill, sd; Artemas Coburn, jd; Ward Coburn, ss; Henry M. Weston, js; Moses M. Marsh, t. Members, 42; initiates, 2. 1

Saco, 9, Saco. Frederick D. Edgerly, m; Thurston Libby, sw; Elijah Smith,

jw ; Richard Bowden, tr ; John Elden, s ; Warren Ware, sd ; C. W. Scammon, jd ; James Smith, Jr., ss ; Stephen Everett, js ; William P. M. Cale, t. Members, 26 ; initiates, 2. District 8

Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Timothy H. Morse, m ; Jonathan Burbank, sw ; Ebenezer G. Rawson, jw ; Joseph C. Stevens, tr ; Silas Alden, s ; Jabez True, sd ; Samuel F. Hersey, jd ; Samuel B. Brown, ss ; Herman Fisher, js ; Simeon Everton, t. Members 50 ; initiates, 15 ; rejected, 3. 7

Oriental, 13, Bridgton. John Kilborn, m ; Abraham M. Savage, sw ; Samuel Andrews, 2d, jw ; James Flint, tr ; Eben Kilborn, s ; C. J. Adams, sd ; Abner Smith, jd ; A. S. Frisbee, ss ; George Peirce, js ; John Burnell, t. Members, 14 ; initiates, 2 ; deceased, 1. 2

Solar, 14, Bath. Scott J. Tallman, m ; A. J. Fuller, sw ; John G. Richardson, jw ; Davis Hatch, tr ; Abiezer Matthews, s ; John S. Elliot, sd ; Edward H. Magoun, jd ; John H. Kimball, ss ; J. M. Adams, js ; John Young, t. Members, 43 ; initiates 6. 4

Orient, 15, Thomaston. Edward Boyles, m ; John O'Brien, sw ; George Crawford, jw ; Robert Walsh, tr ; J. D. Barnard, s ; Benjamin Carr, sd ; William Singer, jd ; Enoch Carlton, ss ; Eben Creighton, js ; ———, t. Members, 25 ; initiates, 1 ; deceased, 1 ; expelled 1. 4

St. George, 16, Warren. Stoddard Bosworth, m ; John Andrews, sw ; Samuel Hinkley, jw ; Amos H. Hodgman, tr ; W. H. Wetherbee, s ; Edmund B. Hinkley, sd ; Stephen B. Dockham, jd ; John W. Richmond, ss ; James Andrews, js ; James Kirkpatrick, t. Members, 28 ; initiates, four. 4

Ancient Land-Mark, 17, Portland. John B. Coyle, m ; Benjamin C. Fernald, sw ; Amos E. Howell, jw ; Henry H. Boody, tr ; Caleb Chase, s ; Charles Fobes, sd ; Fred. W. Nichols, jd ; Jonathan M. Knapp, ss ; William A. Quincy, js ; John Dain, t. Members, 104 ; initiates, 29 ; deceased, 1. 1

Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Thomas Goodale, m ; Henry Silsby, sw ; James Goodale, jw ; Sewall Lake, tr ; D. C. Homer, s ; John H. Sherman, sd ; Nahum F. Hill, jd ; ———, ss ; ———, js ; Richard C. Abbot, t. Members, 12 ; initiates, 5. 5

Maine, 20, Farmington. Moses Sherburne, m ; William Tripp, sw ; Edwin Ellis, jw ; Philip M. Stubbs, tr ; Joseph D. Prescott, s ; John H. Willard, sd ; Curtis Smith, jd ; John T. Taylor, ss ; John Trask, Jr., js ; Hiram Webster, t. Members, 17 ; initiates, 12 ; deceased, 2. 3

Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Robert Blacker, m ; Joseph Covell, sw ; Peter F. Hathaway, jw ; Reuel Washburn, tr ; Gideon Ellis, s ; Daniel Austin, sd ; Asa Austin, jd ; Ebenezer Hinds, ss ; Isaac S. Daily, js ; Samuel P. Holman, t. Members, 22 ; initiates, 1. 2

Phoenix, 24, Belfast. H. G. O. Washburn, m ; Hiram Chase, sw ; Daniel Howard, jw ; James P. Furber, tr ; Oshea Page, s ; William O. Poor

SD; H. R. Kimball, JD; William Holt, SS; Thomas R. Shute, JS; Ezekiel Burgess, T. Members, 42; initiates, 11; deceased, 1; rejected, 4.

District 9

Adoniram, 27, Limington. James McArthur, M; William Cobb, SW; Ebenezer H. McLellan, JW; Arthur McArthur, TR; Stephen C. Watson, S; Jabez Hobson, SD; Josiah P. Quimby, JD; Thomas Lord, SS; William Boulter, JS; Benjamin Blake, T. Members, 45; initiates, 14; deceased, one. 8

Northern Star, 28, Anson. Moses Moore, M; John Pierce, SW; William Rowell, JW; Benjamin Steward, TR; Albert Moore, S; John H. Fletcher, SD; James Y. Cleaveland, JD; Simeon Maynard, SS; Benjamin F. Rowell, JS; Walter Spaulding, T. Members, 46; initiates, 5. 3

Tranquil, 29, Danville. Augustus Callahan, M; William White, SW; Hiram Adams, Jr., JW; William Kilbourne, TR; Jacob Herrick, S; Samuel H. Wilson, SD; Daniel Reed, Jr., JD; Marshall Ford, SS; Ossian Z. Cole, JS; Silas Morse, T. Members, 50; initiates, 12; deceased, 2. 2

Blazing Star, 30, Rumford. Nathaniel B. Crockett, M; Colman Goodwin, SW; Caleb Bessey, Jr., JW; Hezekiah Hutchins, Jr., TR; George G. Bragg, S; James N. Brickett, SD; Benjamin W. Tinglay, JD; Alvan Bolster, SS; David Kimball, JS; Farnham Abbot, T. Members, 22; initiates, 6. 2

Union, 31, Union. Gilbert M. Blackington, M; George S. Littlehale, SW; Philo Thurston, JW; Ebenezer Cobb, TR; Nelson Cutler, S; John Pardoe, SD; Edward Alden, JD; Benjamin B. Blackington, SS; John C. Robbins, JS; George Cummings, T. Members, 36; initiates, 4. 4

Hermon, 32, Gardiner. Moses Springer, M; James McCurdy, SW; James Tarbox, JW; Wm. H. Byram, TR; Edmund A. Chadwick, S; William H. Lord, SD; John Brown, JD; Thomas Briery, SS; Frederick Blood, JS; J. Y. Gray, T. Members, 49; initiates, 11; deceased, 1. 3

Waterville, 33, Waterville. Jeremiah Arnold, M; Wadsworth Chipman, SW; John Ranstead, JW; T. O. Saunders, TR; Wm. E. Harris, S; J. H. Drummond, SD; Hall Chase, JD; S. H. Prescott, SS; H. P. Cousins, JS; Stephen Tozier, T. Members, 25; initiates, 2. 3

Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. Joseph Philbrick, M; William B. Morrill, SW; Joseph Bigelow, JW; John Whitten, TR; Eusebius Weston, S; Abraham Wyman, SD; Henry B. Neil, JD; James Frost, SS; John K. Russell, JS; Darius Daggett, T. Members, 34; initiates, 9. 3

Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Eri Wills, M; George W. Jones, SW; B. F. Chandler, JW; Henry Winslow, TR; Eben Blatchford, S; Amasa Kelley, SD; Moses E. Hamlin, JD; Orrin Rowe, SS; C. J. Libby, JS; Joshua Rollins, T. Members, 73; initiates, 16; deceased, 1; rejected, 1. 3

Washington, 37, Lubec. John C. Talbot, Jr., M; Samuel P. Fowler, SW; George T. Hunter, JW; Joseph Sumner, TR; Levi Caswell, S; Samuel

Starbird, sd; J. W. Goodwin, jd; Ebenezer Oakes, ss; Salathiel Nickerson, js; John Davidson, t. Members, 35; initiates, 6; deceased, 1.

District 6

Harmony, 38, Gorham. Josiah Pierce, m; Seward Merrill, sw; William Burton, jw; George Small, tr; Edwin M. Burton, s; William Silla, sd; Merrill Thomas, jd; Bryce M. Edwards, ss; Thomas Hasty, js; George L. Darling, t. Members, 29; initiates, 12; rejected, 1. 1

Penobscot, 39, Dexter. George Cutler, m; L. C. Morgan, sw; Isaac M. Russ, jw; Nathaniel Dustin, tr; George Fitzgerald, s; Miles Doyle, sd; T. P. Sawyer, jd; William Morgan, ss; Thomas E. Rogers, js; Morrill Prescott, t. Members, 38; initiates, 1; suspended for non-payment of dues, 9. 7

Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. William Somerby, m; Elijah L. McAllen, s; w; Daniel P. Lake, jw; Seth Paddleford, tr; Stillman H. Sawyer, s; Spofford P. Thomas, sd; Oliver P. Thomas, jd; Edward B. Fifield, ss; Bancroft W. Thomas, js; Charles H. Barton, t. Members, 39; initiates, 6; deceased, 1; rejected, 1. 5

Central, 45, China. James H. Brainard, m; Thomas B. Lincoln, sw; Edward Gray, jw; Amasa Taylor, tr; Josiah F. Clark, s; Thomas Clark, sd; William M. Maxfield, jd; Bela Burrell, ss; Henry White, js; Caleb Parmenter, t. Members, 18; initiates, 6. 3

Lafayette, 48, Readfield. Josiah Whittier, 2d, m; Josiah F. Taylor, sw; William C. Fuller, jw; David Smith, tr; Jacob Gilman, s; Robert Williams, sd; Ira S. Chapman, jd; George S. Currier, ss; J. S. Fillebrown, js; E. Fuller, t. Members, 16; initiates, 7. 3

Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Hiram Rose, m; Granville Street, sw; Hezekiah Lancaster, jw; Edmund Pilsbury, tr; Thomas Croswell, s; Joseph Knight, sd; Abel W. Chapin, jd; James Currier, ss; S. S. May, js; John Robbins, t. Members, 30; initiates, 13; rejected, 1. 7

Aurora, 50, East Thomaston. Constant Rankin, m; H. R. Walworth, sw; Charles Holmes, jw; Samuel Libby, tr; E. H. Cochran, s; Samuel B. Dodge, sd; Hiram Sprague, jd; O. P. Mitchell, ss; F. M. Blackington, js; Josiah J. Brown, t. Members, 45; initiates, 10; rejected, 2. 4

Mosaic, 52, Dover. Luther Chamberlain, m; Judah M. Hackett, sw; E. B. Averill, jw; Charles Chandler, tr; James S. Holmes, s; Benjamin Hassel, sd; Paul Douglass, jd; Salmon Holmes, ss; Woodman W. Magoon, js; William P. Brown, t. Members, 18; initiates, 2; deceased, one. 7

Unity, 58, Freedom. William Megray, m; James Hall, sw; John Winslow, jw; Ivory Lord, tr; John C. Glidden, s; Thomas S. Keen, sd; William Ross, jd; Moses O. Robinson, ss; Benjamin A. Lowell, js; Benjamin Briggs, t. Members, 28; initiates, 5; rejected, 2. 9

Mount Hope, 59, Hope. John Lermond, m; John S. Chitman, sw; David Hull, jw; Walter Philbrick, tr; Henry Hobbs, s; Daniel Howard, sd;

Charles Fisk, JD; Moses G. Metcalf, ss; Eben Philbrick, JS; Thomas P. White, T. Members, 14; initiates, 1. District 9

Star in the East, 60, Old Town. Eli Hoskins, M; Hiram Smith, SW; Ira Wallace, JW; Foster Wood, TR; Samuel W. Hoskins, S; George P. Sewall, SD; John H. Smith, JD; Samuel Chapman, SS; Charles Ham, JS; Joseph Moulton, T. Members, 55; initiates, 18; deceased, 1; rejected, one. 7

King Solomon's, 61, Waldoboro'. John Balch, M; Thomas Genthner, SW; Lewis S. Soule, JW; James Cook, TR; Aaron Kaler, S; Henry Clay, SD; Jacob W. Kaler, JD; Rufus Rich, SS; Hiram Brown, JS; Charles Vannah, T. Members, 28; initiates, 10. 4

King David's, 62, Lincolnville. Robert Davis, M; A. D. Knight, SW; Israel Decrow, Jr., JW; David Howe, TR; James Perry, S; Minot Crehore, SD; John H. Cutting, JD; Henry Crehore, SS; David Decrow, JS; Thomas Whithan, T. Members, 17; initiates, 9. 9

Grand Lodge of Maine,

1851.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on the first Thursday in May, A. L. 5851, being the first day of said month, and opened in due form in the third degree, at 9½ o'clock A. M. with prayer by Rev. Bro. Cummings, Grand Chaplain.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	S. G. Warden ;
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	J. G. Warden ;
" HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer ;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary ;
" ALLEN HAINES,	Cor. Grand Secretary ;
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain ;
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal ;
" JOSEPH COVELL,	G. S. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" WILLIAM ALLEN,	G. J. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" JOHN PURINTON,	Grand Steward ;
" GEORGE SMALL,	" "
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	" "
" JOHN D. LINCOLN,	" "
" HIRAM CHASE,	Grand Pursuivant, <i>p. t.</i> ;
" SEWALL WATERHOUSE,	" " "
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

First District—R. W. DANIEL WINSLOW.*Second District*—R. W. REUEL WASHBURN.*Third District*—R. W. EUSEBIUS WESTON.*Fourth District*—R. W. SCOTT J. TALLMAN.*Fifth District*—R. W. WILLIAM SOMERBY.*Eighth District*—R. W. JOSHUA HERRICK.*Ninth District*—R. W. H. G. O. WASHBURN.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, Past Grand Master.

M. W. ABNER B. THOMPSON, Past Grand Master.

On motion,

Voted, That Master Masons in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors during the present communication of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Master appoint the following standing committees, to report, at this session, upon such matters as may be referred to them, viz :

1. On Dispensations and Charters.
2. On Doings of the Grand Officers.
3. On Returns of Subordinate Lodges.
4. On Grievances and Appeals.

The following Brethren were then appointed a Committee on Credentials, viz : Bros. Poor of Belfast, Herrick of Alfred, Russell of Portland.

Who, after attending to the duty assigned them, reported the following lodges represented as follows, viz :

- 1 *Portland*, at Portland, by Richard W. Kennard, M ; Thomas J. Sanborn, SW ; John Russell, Jr., JW.
- 3 *Lincoln*, at Wiscasset, by Thomas B. Johnston, SW ; Erastus Foote, Jr., JW.
- 5 *Kennebec*, at Hallowell, by Leverett Lord, SW ; William Nye, Proxy.
- 6 *Amity*, at Camden, by Benjamin Crabtree, Proxy.
- 8 *United*, at Brunswick, by John D. Lincoln, M ; O. A. Merrill, JW ; S. S. Wing, Proxy.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, at Bangor, by Jonathan Burbank, M.
- 12 *Cumberland*, at New Gloucester, by John Hatch, M.
- 13 *Oriental*, at Bridgton, by A. M. Savage, Proxy.

- 14 *Solar*, at Bath, by B. F. Currier, Proxy; Percival Clementine, Proxy.
- 15 *Orient*, at Thomaston, by S. B. Dockham, Proxy.
- 16 *St. George*, at Warren, by John Miller, Proxy.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, at Portland, by William Allen, M; Joseph Smith, SW; Amos E. Howell, JW.
- 19 *Felicity*, at Bucksport, by S. Carter, M; George W. Newbegin, Proxy.
- 20 *Maine*, at Farmington, by Edwin Ellis, SW.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, at Livermore, by Joseph Covell, M; D. G. Plummer, Proxy.
- 22 *York*, at Kennebunk, by Isaac Downing, SW.
- 23 *Freeport*, at Freeport, by Samuel Thing, SW; Asa Bailey, Proxy; R. H. Means, Proxy.
- 24 *Phoenix*, at Belfast, by Hiram Chase, M; W. O. Poor, JW.
- 27 *Adoniram*, at Limington, by J. Herman, JW; A. McArthur, Proxy.
- 28 *Northern Star*, at Anson, by John Pierce, M.
- 29 *Tranquil*, at Danville, by S. H. Wilson, JW.
- 30 *Blazing Star*, at Rumford, by B. W. Tingley, M; Edward A. Boyd, Proxy.
- 31 *Union*, at Union, by Ebenezer Cobb, SW; Edward Alden, JW.
- 32 *Hermon*, at Gardiner, by Stephen Webber, M; James McCurdy, SW; Daniel Hildreth, Proxy.
- 33 *Waterville*, at Waterville, by W. Chapman, M; D. Burbank, JW.
- 34 *Somerset*, at Skowhegan, by Joseph Philbrick, M; A. Wyman, JW; W. B. Morrill, Proxy.
- 35 *Bethlehem*, at Augusta, by Orin Rowe, Proxy.
- 36 *Casco*, at Yarmouth, by O. A. Hill, M.
- 37 *Washington*, at Lubec, by J. C. Talbot, Jr., M.
- 38 *Harmony*, at Gorham, by William Burton, M; William Cilley, SW; Merrill Thomas, JW.
- 39 *Penobscot*, at Dexter, by Josiah Crosby, Proxy.
- 40 *Lygonia*, at Ellsworth, by N. Moore, M; S. P. Thomas, SW; Daniel P. Lake, Proxy.
- 42 *Freedom*, at Limerick, by Gilman Lougee, M; William Gage, SW; William Cobb, JW.
- 43 *Alna*, at Damariscotta, by Ezra B. French, M; Peasley M. Wells, SW.
- 46 *St. Croix*, at Calais, by Sewall Waterhouse, Proxy.
- 48 *Lafayette*, at Readfield, by George S. Currier, Proxy; David Smith, Proxy.
- 49 *Meridian Splendor*, at Newport, by G. Flint, M; Thomas Crosswell, Proxy; Lewis Barker, Proxy.
- 50 *Aurora*, at Rockland, by Charles Clark, Proxy; Constant Rankin, Proxy.
- 52 *Mosaic*, at Dover, by Daniel Higgins, Proxy.
- 58 *Unity*, at Freedom, by Samuel Sears, SW.
- 59 *Mount Hope*, at Hope, by William Philbrook, SW.

- 60 *Star in the East*, at Old Town, by Solomon Moulton, Proxy.
61 *King Solomon's*, at Waldoboro', by John Balch, M; R. Rich, Proxy.
62 *King David's*, at Lincolnville, by A. D. Knight, SW; David Howe, Proxy.
63 *Richmond*, at Richmond, by J. C. Boynton, M; Abial Libby, SW; G. H. Hatch, JW.

Report read and accepted.

M. W. Bro. Dunlap laid upon the table a beautiful copy of the Masonic Chart, elegantly bound and lettered, as a present to the Grand Lodge from R. W. Bro. Jeremy L. Cross, the author; whereupon,

On motion,

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge of Maine be, and are hereby tendered to Bro. Cross for the esteemed and valuable present.

The Grand Lodge then called off until two o'clock P. M.

MAY 1, 1851.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at two o'clock P. M.

The Grand Master announced the following appointments of standing committees, viz:

On Dispensations and Charters,—Bros. Kennard of Portland, Carter of Bucksport, French of Damariscotta.

On Doings of the Grand Officers,—Bros. H. Chase of Belfast, Tallman of Bath, Foote of Wiscasset.

On Returns of Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. Balch of Waldoboro', Thomas of Ellsworth, Webber of Gardiner.

On Grievances and Appeals,—Bros. Tallman of Bath, Somerby of Ellsworth, Thing of Freeport.

On the Pay Roll,—Bros. Burbank of Bangor, Boody of Portland, Covell of Livermore.

The following communication from the M. W. Grand Master was then presented, and read by the Grand Secretary:

R. W. Brethren:

I have been anticipating the pleasure of meeting you upon this occasion, but find myself doomed to disappointment by circumstances beyond my

control, the nature of which I have explained to our Grand Secretary, and which I trust will appear reasonable to you.

Allow me to congratulate you upon the return of our annual communication and the continued prosperity of our institution.

It is now two years since I assumed the duties of Master of this Grand Lodge, during which period you have kindly honored me with a renewed token of your partiality and friendship. These expressions of your confidence, my brethren, have penetrated me with a lively sense of gratitude, and I have only to regret that it has not been in my power to do more to increase and perpetuate the usefulness of our order.

I was not, however, unaware of the embarrassing circumstances in which I was placed in being called to occupy a chair which my distinguished predecessors had filled with so much more masonic skill and parliamentary science than I could possibly hope to do. And if I have seemed to do anything to realize your wishes and advance the prosperity of Masonry, much credit is due to the timely suggestions and kind co-operations of experienced and better informed brethren than myself.

This Grand Lodge, having been invited by a circular from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, to meet the Grand Lodges of the several states in the city of Washington, for the purpose of forming a General Grand Lodge for the United States, you will recollect that I had the honor of being elected your delegate, and accordingly repaired to Washington at the appointed time; but I regret to inform you that no formal meeting took place, and but very few delegates were present; the cause of this failure I am unable to explain, unless it may be attributed to a general reluctance on the part of most of the states to form such an organized body.

The following dispensations have been granted since our last annual meeting, viz: On the 29th of May, 1850, a dispensation issued to our Past Grand Master, Alexander H. Putney and six others, for a new lodge in Calavero County, Upper California, to be called Ophir Lodge. This dispensation, however, could not be used, a Grand Lodge having been formed in that state before the dispensation arrived there. July 12, 1850, dispensation was granted to a competent number of brethren, to form a lodge at Phillips, in the county of Franklin. October 10, 1850, dispensation authorizing Freedom Lodge at Parsonsfield, York County, to remove and hold their meetings at Limerick in said county. October 22, 1850, dispensation to Lewis Barker and others, to form a new lodge at Stetson, County of Penobscot, to be called Pacific Lodge. December 21, 1850, on petition of the members of Alna Lodge, at Alna, whose charter had been surrendered, the same was restored to them, and a dispensation granted to remove said lodge to the town of Damariscotta. March 11, 1851, dispensation issued to John J. Bell and others, for a new lodge at Hampden, Penobscot County, to be called Mystic Lodge. March 3, 1851, dispensation issued to Henry H. Brackett and others for a new lodge at Orono, Penobscot County, to be called Mechanics' Lodge,

all of which are made returnable at this session of the Grand Lodge, and subject to your approval. From the foregoing evidence of a desire on the part of our brethren to rally under their old charters, and also to obtain new ones, we derive the gratifying assurances of prosperity throughout our state, which I doubt not will be fully corroborated by the reports of the several District Deputy Grand Masters.

Indeed, perhaps there never was a time when our fraternity throughout the world was in a more prosperous condition than at present. Let us then, brethren, endeavor to illustrate the principles by which we profess to be governed, and act consistent with our profession; let us be watchful and jealous for the good reputation of our honorable order, and see that we do nothing derogatory to our masonic character, or that shall tend in the least to impair the usefulness of our institution, whose paramount aim and object is to elevate man by improving his moral and social qualities, and thus, the better to fit him for the faithful discharge of all the duties of this life, and finally to enjoy the glorious rewards of a life eternal.

I have appointed no Grand Lecturers for the past year, as it was thought best to wait the action of the Grand Lodge, upon the report of the committee raised at the last annual meeting, for the purpose of exemplifying at this meeting, the work and lectures sanctioned by the Ancient York Rite.

And I could wish that some other brother, more proficient than myself, had been selected in my stead, to serve you upon that committee, a majority of whom, I trust, will be present to discharge the duties assigned to them.

Whatever communications from abroad may have been received, since our last annual meeting, will be submitted to you, through the appropriate committee, and I doubt not will receive that respectful consideration which the importance of such subjects demand.

And now, my respected brethren, having reported to you my official doings for the last year, were there no more cogent reasons than my own personal convictions, that I have already too long occupied a chair, which properly belongs to some more experienced brother, this of itself would be sufficient for me to wish that the term of my Grand Mastership might here expire. But I am more *forcibly* reminded of this result, when I recollect that by the By-Laws of our Grand Lodge, the tenure of my office is limited ordinarily to two years. My official duties, therefore, being about to terminate, and you soon again to separate, some probably for the last time, permit me in this my closing address, to tender to each of my masonic brethren, my sincere assurances of continued regard and esteem, thanking you for your uniform forbearance and fraternal courtesy, manifested towards me and my many imperfections.

Long, brethren, may you continue in the enjoyment of the good results of your labors.

Long may our institution be benefited by your zealous and worthy example, and when you cease to be members here below, may you become mem-

bers of that celestial lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides.

I now cheerfully transfer the authority you have vested in me, where your votes shall direct, very respectfully myself declining to be considered a candidate for any office in the Grand Lodge.

Yours truly and fraternally,

JOSEPH C. STEVENS.

Referred to the Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.

The petition of Bro. E. B. French and another for the permanent location of Alna Lodge at Damariscotta was presented, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

Voted, That the original petition of Alna Lodge for removal to Damariscotta, with the accompanying papers, be taken from the files and referred to the same committee.

On motion,

Voted, That the petition of Freedom Lodge for its removal from Parsonsfield to Limerick, with accompanying papers, be taken from the files and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The petition of Pacific Lodge, U. D., for a charter, with their records, by-laws, &c., was presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The petition of Mechanics' Lodge, U. D., asking for a charter, accompanied by their records, by-laws &c., was presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The petition of Mystic Lodge, U. D., asking for a charter, was presented and, with their records, by-laws &c., referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The following report was then submitted, viz :

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 1, 1851.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned, a committee appointed by this Grand Lodge at its last annual communication to expend the sum of twenty dollars appropriated to the purchase of standard works on the history and progress of Ancient Masonry, for the Grand Lodge library, submits the following report :

That pursuant to the resolution of this Grand Lodge, he has purchased the "Historical Land-Marks" of Freemasonry in two volumes, by the Rev.

G. Oliver, D. D., American edition by Bro. C. Moore, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and has expended in the purchase and transportation of said books, the sum of *six dollars and thirty-five cents*.

The undersigned was desirous of purchasing the Masonic Magazine, edited by R. W. Charles W. Moore, Boston, Mass., but learning that a complete copy of that work would greatly exceed the amount of the appropriation, he did not feel authorized to make the purchase. An entire set of ten volumes, *half bound*, can be had for fifty dollars; I deem it of high importance that a complete and entire set of the Magazine be secured for the library of the Grand Lodge, without delay.

I deem the work precisely such as was contemplated by the resolution of this Grand Lodge, passed in May last, and recommend that an appropriation be made for its purchase.

All which is respectfully submitted,

FREEMAN BRADFORD.

Report read and accepted.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SEVENTH DISTRICT.

MAY 1, 1851.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

By virtue of the office which the undersigned holds of D. D. G. M. of the seventh masonic district, he respectfully asks leave to submit his report :

There is a cheering interest felt in the success of our ancient fraternity, in the fraternal ties of brotherhood which it promises, and in the good which it is believed it may accomplish. In the bright day of the prosperity of our order it becomes every member of our lodges not only to observe with great strictness every attention to the forms of the work, but also to secure the essence of which these outward forms are the representatives. Brethren we are by compact, organization and pledge, and true brothers we should be in kindness of feeling, in affectionate regards and in mutual usefulness. Each successive step in Masonry should be made an occasion for a higher moral step in our inward life. In this way shall we prove to the world and give assurance to ourselves of the social and moral benefits of Masonry.

Of the lodges in this district, I have to report that all but one of them are in active operation. I have visited all of them once, and some of them twice during the past year. They are generally in a prosperous condition.

Rising Virtue Lodge, at Bangor, is the oldest in the district, and feels a deep solicitude for the honor and welfare of her younger sisters, and has ever been ready to answer any calls upon her for aid or counsel.

Star in the East Lodge, at Old Town, was a colony from Rising Virtue Lodge, and it is evident that she fully equals the mother lodge in the masonic art. Her W. Master appropriately says of this lodge that "*it loves to work.*" This is apparent from the fact that the explanations are given much more at

length than is usual in other lodges. There are slight differences in the work here, but not deemed material.

Penobscot Lodge, at Dexter, has been unfortunate the past year in the destruction of their hall by fire; and with it their jewels, furniture, regalia, &c. Yet they are not discouraged, and exhibit a commendable zeal in the good cause.

Meridian Splendor Lodge, at Newport, has been doing considerable business the past year.

Mosaic Lodge, at Dover, is in a healthy condition. I visited them in February last, when our Rev. Bro. David Higgins, of that place, delivered a very able and appropriate address on the occasion; after which the officers elect were duly installed. These services and ceremonies were public, and listened to by a large and intelligent audience, such an audience as we should expect to meet in that beautiful and flourishing village.

There are also three new lodges or bodies of Masons within the limits of this district, acting under a dispensation from the M. W. Grand Master, viz: Pacific Lodge at Stetson, Mechanics' Lodge at Orono, and Mystic Lodge at Hampden. And it has afforded me the highest satisfaction to visit these new lodges. It appears to be their great aim to learn their duty *correctly*, that they may perform it *acceptably*; and I hazard nothing in saying that the work and lectures of some of these lodges will, even now, and each of them will within six months (if chartered) compare favorably with the best lodges in the state.

I would recommend to the Grand Lodge to demand of Piscataquis Lodge, at Sebec, the surrender of their charter, their members being reduced to a less number than seven, and no probability of any accessions.

All which is respectfully submitted,

TIMOTHY H. MORSE, *D. D. G. M. Seventh District.*

Read and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FIRST DISTRICT.

PORTLAND, May 1, 1851.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

Having attended to the duties of D. D. G. Master for the past year, I most respectfully report, that I have visited several of the lodges in the first district, and it gives me great satisfaction to state, that our lodges as a general thing are in a flourishing condition. I have received returns from all the lodges in this district, except one, viz: the Freeport Lodge, which, however, is promised to be made on the return of the Secretary, who is now absent. All the lodges have paid their dues except the Freeport Lodge, (which has made no return) and the Harmony Lodge of Gorham, which requests the in-

dulgence of a short time, to enable the Treasurer to collect the dues of the lodge.

By the returns of six lodges, I find three hundred and sixteen members, and that fifty-three have been initiated, fifty-two crafted, forty-eight raised, and six deceased, during the last year.

I have only further to remark, that there are many discrepancies in the phraseology of the work and lectures, among the lodges which I have visited, calling loudly for some act of the Grand Lodge, whereby this difficulty may be avoided.

Very respectfully,

DANIEL WINSLOW, D. D. G. M. First District.

Read and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SIXTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned would respectfully beg leave to report.

That there are four lodges in the sixth masonic district, viz: Warren Lodge, No. 2, at East Machias; Eastern Lodge, No. 7, at Eastport; Washington Lodge, No. 37, at Lubec; St. Croix Lodge, No. 46, at Calais. All of which I have visited during the past masonic year, (except Washington Lodge, which circumstances beyond my control prevented,) and find them all in a flourishing condition.

Warren Lodge, chartered A. D. 1778.—Officers elected annually on the 27th of December. Number of members twenty-one, fees \$2.62½. Candidates initiated three; fees \$6; amounting in the whole to \$8.62½.

Eastern Lodge, chartered A. D. 1801.—Officers elected annually on the 27th of December. Number of members thirty-four; fees, \$4.25; candidates initiated four; fees \$8.00; amounting in the whole to \$12.25. There was also received from this lodge, fees for members and initiations \$16.00 for the year A. D. 1850; whole amount received from this lodge, \$28.25.

St. Croix Lodge, chartered A. D. 1845.—Officers elected annually December 27; members A. D. 1849, 52; fees \$6.50; candidates initiated, two; fees \$4; amounting in the whole for this year to \$10.50. Members A. D. 1850, 37; fees, \$4.62; candidates initiated thirteen; fees, \$26.00; amounting in the whole for this year to \$30.62. Members A. D. 1851, 44; fees \$5.50; candidates initiated sixteen; fees \$32.00; amounting in the whole for this year to \$37.50. Whole amount received from this lodge \$78.62.

Washington Lodge, chartered A. D. 1822.—Officers elected annually on the first Wednesday of September; members A. D. 1850, 35; fees \$4.37; candidates initiated, six; fees, \$12.00; amounting in the whole for this year to \$16.37; (no return from this lodge the present year).

Making the whole amount received from the several lodges within this district at sundry times since I have been in office, one hundred and thirty-one dollars and eighty-six cents,—all which has been forwarded at the times received, by mail, to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine.

I have distributed to the several lodges the several documents put into my hands by the Grand Secretary for that purpose ; and would say that all the lodges in the district are in want of diplomas and blanks of all kinds. Parchment diplomas are most called for.

I have installed the officers of Warren Lodge, and have, on application of said lodge, granted three dispensations for conferring degrees.

The lodges in this district hold their regular communications monthly ; some, however, suspend them during the warm season, and most of them hold them weekly during the winter season when there is work to be done.

I have the satisfaction to be able to say that harmony prevails amongst the members of the several lodges in this district, with a good degree of attention to the ancient landmarks, and a disposition to promote morality, temperance and prudence ; that their light is not under a bed or a bushel, but is in a candlestick and giveth light to all around, so that those who are without can see its good effects, and are compelled to speak well of the institution. And it gives me pleasure to say that the institution stands well, and is gaining in the opinions of all good men ; and so may it continue to prosper until every member of the human family shall come under its influence, and thereby be induced to love his neighbor as himself, and do by others as he would *wish* to have them do unto him, and so fulfill the great and good command of our Saviour.

All which is respectfully submitted,

May 1, 1851.

J. C. TALBOT, *D. D. G. M. Sixth District.*

Read and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

There are in the eighth masonic district four lodges at work, viz :

Saco Lodge, at Saco, having thirty-two members.

York Lodge, at Kennebunk, with twenty-four members.

Adoniram Lodge, at Limington, with forty-five members.

Freedom Lodge, at Limerick, by dispensation from the Grand Master, with eighteen members ; all of which I have visited during the past year, and have been pleased to find them all in good working order, and their records well kept and generally the brethren are united.

There is a general complaint in relation to the blanks received from the Grand Lodge, as to quality and quantity.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. HERRICK, *D. D. G. M. Eighth District.*

Read and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF NINTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The District Deputy Grand Master of the ninth masonic district asks leave to report : That he has attended to his duty agreeably to the requirements of the Grand Lodge, and is happy to say that the five lodges under his charge are all in successful operation. Most of the lodges have held weekly meetings through the winter season, and have had work at nearly every meeting. The brethren appear to be anxious to observe the *ancient landmarks* of the order, and look forward to this meeting of the Grand Lodge with strong hope that measures will be taken to do away with those variations in the work and lectures which are seen in so many of the lodges of our state.

All which is respectfully submitted,

H. G. O. WASHBURN, *D. D. G. M. Ninth District.*

Read and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SECOND DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

Having received your appointment as D. D. G. M. of the second masonic district, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, I accepted the trust with great reluctance, because I could not, on account of business relations, devote so much time to the discharge of its duties as the good of Masonry would seem to require.

There are eight lodges in said district as recognized by the Grand Lodge. But four of them are dormant, to wit : Pythagorean Lodge, No. 11, at Fryeburg ; Oxford Lodge, No. 18, at Paris ; Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 56, at Denmark, and King Hiram Lodge, No. 57, at Dixfield. I have not been able to learn that either of these lodges are doing any work, or hold regular meetings. It would seem that their charters were long since forfeited, and should be surrendered or revoked.

Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, Livermore, has uniformly maintained its organization. Two candidates have been initiated in this lodge the past year. The number of members is twenty-eight, and the regular meetings are well attended, and much good is being done under the faithful and energetic administration of W. Bro. Joseph Covell, Master of the lodge. I have often visited this lodge, and always found it in good working order.

Tranquil Lodge, No. 29, at Danville, is in a flourishing condition. Six can-

didates have been initiated in this lodge the past year, and the number of its members is forty-four. I had the pleasure of visiting this lodge on the 22d of January last, and installed the officers publicly, and on the same occasion delivered a short address.

Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30, at Rumford, is in fair working order. Two candidates have been initiated in this lodge the past year, and several others have been balloted for and accepted. The number of its members I cannot state at this time. I visited this lodge in February last, publicly installed the officers and addressed the brethren.

Oriental Lodge, No. 13, at Bridgton, is duly organized, and is doing some work. I was informed by their Master that they need instruction, but it was not in my power to visit them. This lodge has initiated two candidates the past year, and has sixteen members.

Oriental Star Lodge, Tranquil Lodge, and Oriental Lodge, have made regular returns and paid the dues to the Grand Lodge, amounting in the whole to thirty-one dollars, which I have paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

Blazing Star Lodge has made its annual returns, but the same were so defective that I have sent them back for correction.

In some of our lodges intemperance has prevailed to an alarming degree among brethren otherwise highly respectable. I have sometimes thought that masonry has failed to fulfill her mission of love touching the sin of intemperance, as she might and ought to have done. We can all of us call to mind some near and dear friend, some brother of the mystic tie, who has brought ruin upon himself, grief and distress upon his family, disgrace and mortification upon the fraternity, by yielding to the temptations of the cup. Have we been faithful in the discharge of imperative duty? Have we approached our erring brother upon the first indication of his going astray, in the spirit of love, of kindness and of Masonry, and given him timely notice and warning to escape the approaching danger that would certainly prove his ruin? Have we stretched forth the helping hand in good earnest to save our falling brother; and when an effort has been made to do him an act of brotherly kindness, have we not waited too long, until the strong grip even is insufficient to reclaim the victim? Men do not become intemperate all at once; it is the result of habit, a work of time. No man ever became a drunkard from choice or design. But we have seen men, who in their best days have looked upon intemperance and drunkenness with detestation and abhorrence, led along step by step, the appetite being sharpened from time to time by habit, until it becomes the ruling passion, influencing and controlling all their movements and actions. Judgment and reason are enervated, prostrated and refuse to discharge their office. They are literally like Sampson, rising from the lap of Delilah, shorn of their glory and strength. It is not enough that we so regulate indulgence as to avoid plunging ourselves into the very depths of indulgence and infamy. As masons we are bound to set examples worthy of imitation. Our moral

deportment should be not only without reproach, but above suspicion. We should take care that our example shall not be a stumbling-block to some weaker brother, who shall not be able to say to the fell destroyer—thus far shalt thou go, but no farther. The cardinal virtues, at the head of which is temperance, although forcibly enjoined upon every brother upon his entrance into the lodge, cannot be too frequently and earnestly enforced and insisted upon. These remarks are designed not with a view to any special action of the Grand Lodge, but for the consideration of our brethren individually and collectively, well knowing, as I do, that intemperance, whenever and wherever it prevails in our lodges, is the bane of Masonry. I hope therefore to be excused for calling the attention of our masonic brethren to this important subject in which we are all so deeply interested.

All which is respectfully submitted,

REUEL WASHBURN, *D. D. G. M. Second District.*

Portland, May 1, 1851.

Read and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FOURTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The District Deputy Grand Master of the fourth masonic district respectfully asks leave to present the following report :

There are in this district nine working lodges, which I will very briefly notice in their numerical order.

1st. Lincoln Lodge, No. 3, at Wiscasset, consists of 41 members, 14 of whom are either permanently absent, or decayed masons, leaving 27 working members. This lodge is one of the oldest in the State, as well as one of the most flourishing, returning 17 initiates the past year; and I am happy to say is now in a better state than it has been in since the resuscitation of Masonry, with a good prospect of so continuing.

2d. Solar Lodge, No. 14, at Bath, exhibits by its return 5 initiates, all of whom are brethren of the right stamp, upright men and masons. This lodge is in a happy state, and is working cautiously and harmoniously.

3d. Orient Lodge, No. 15, at Thomaston, is at present without a permanent place of meeting, so that no opportunity was afforded of visiting it as a lodge. I was, however, glad to learn that this want will probably soon be supplied, when it is expected that work will be continued as heretofore. The return shows two initiations.

4th. St. George's Lodge, No. 16, at Warren, although owing to a very praiseworthy degree of caution in the selection of suitable materials of which to construct the great masonic edifice, no initiations have taken place in this lodge the past year; yet it was refreshing to observe the accuracy of lecturing, as

well as the harmony and brotherly love which prevail among its members. This you will in some degree appreciate, from the fact that weekly communications have been held throughout the season, although no work was to be done.

5th. Union Lodge, No. 31, at Union, I had not an opportunity of visiting personally, owing to circumstances beyond my control. I by letter requested R. W. Bro. J. W. Lindley to perform this service, but I regret to say, the communication never reached him. I learn, however, that the lodge is in a good state.

6th. Alna Lodge, No. 43, at Damariscotta, whose charter was held in trust by the M. W. Grand Lodge, has recently been revived, and is now working successfully at Damariscotta, under a dispensation granted by the M. W. Grand Master; its members are united, and working harmoniously and prosperously.

7th. Aurora Lodge, No. 50, at Rockland, returns 8 initiations, and is among the most flourishing in the district; the right spirit prevails, with every indication of continuance.

8th. King Solomon's Lodge, No. 61, at Waldoboro'. This lodge returns 8 initiations, one being a clergyman, and is otherwise in excellent condition; with its work and lecturing, I was highly gratified.

9th. Richmond Lodge, No. 63, at Richmond, is a new lodge chartered last year, and returned 10 initiates, and 31 members—all of whom have been admitted with that caution as to character, which I am happy to say prevails throughout this district to a very commendable degree. I was gratified with an opportunity of witnessing its mode of work, which compares favorably with any lodge in the district.

The whole number of initiations in this district amounts to 60, and the dues to the Grand Lodge to \$153. After thus noticing each lodge separately, but little else need be said. As a whole you will perceive that the masonic condition of the fourth district approximates in some degree to what it ought to be. There is, however, some discrepancy in the mode of working, which can and should be corrected, and I respectfully ask the attention of the M. W. Grand Lodge to this subject.

It seems to be the universal wish of the lodges in this district, that further effort should be made for the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

S. J. TALLMAN, *D. D. G. M. Fourth District.*

Read and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF THIRD DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

As a part of the duty of District Deputy Grand Master of the third masonic district, I beg leave to report :

That I received the appointment and commission of District Deputy Grand Master with feelings suited to the occasion of receiving so much honor from such an interesting source. Since which I have distributed such books and blanks as were forwarded to me by the Grand Secretary, and have visited the lodges composing the third district, as follows :

Maine Lodge, at Farmington, has been visited once, and found in active operation with a most commendable skill and cheering zeal, fully evinced by officers and members to obtain the best information, and practice accordingly. The installation was well attended by the members, and not being private, was cheered by the presence of an interesting group of respectable ladies, together with several of the petitioners of the original charter, and all listened to a very appropriate address by a brother.

I also visited Kennebec Lodge at Hallowell, Bethlehem Lodge at Augusta, and Hermon Lodge at Gardiner, and had the pleasure of witnessing a degree of Masonic zeal and intelligence very honorable to them, and with the facilities enjoyed by them under efficient officers, rendered the attempt almost hopeless for me to add much to their knowledge and improvement.

Northern Star Lodge, now held at Solon Village, has been twice visited by me, and is exhibiting a praise-worthy disposition to diffuse the advantages of the institution, and extend its benefits approximating "universality." The installation was well attended by members, and by citizens of both sexes, very respectable for numbers and character, and was very appropriately addressed by Rev. Bro. Nickerson, of Skowhegan.

Waterville Lodge has been visited but once by me, although I have had frequent communication with some of the officers. I attended for the purpose of installing the officers according to notice, but the weather being unpropitious and but very few in attendance, it was postponed to some subsequent day to be notified. It has since taken place without notice. Some business was transacted which evinced a respectable degree of skill and a commendable desire to secure masonic improvement.

Central Lodge, at China, has been visited twice, and being constituted of several very respectable members of the old school, together with more of the younger class, is rendered very respectable and energetic ; its influence is well diffused and seems to pervade society.

La Fayette Lodge, in Readfield, has been visited once, and the officers installed by me. This lodge, though recently revived, is in a prosperous condition, displaying a zeal for improvement which affords a sure guarantee of

ultimate success. The audience was very respectable, consisting of both sexes, and was addressed by a young clergyman, in a manner instructive and amusing.

Somerset Lodge, in Skowhegan, is where I constantly attend, and under its efficient and experienced Master, is in a state honorable to itself and exerting a salutary influence on all who visit it.

Temple Lodge, at Winthrop, has been long dormant, as I am credibly informed, and probably should return a statement of their funds and the regalia and other property. I have several times written to them, but received no answer. But I am informed by a former member of that lodge, that the property has been sold and the proceeds added to the funds and distributed for charitable purposes, covering the wrong in the best possible manner. I should recommend, therefore, that that lodge should be stricken from the list of lodges, more especially as they do not think of reviving, and the charter is considered lost.

Morning Star Lodge, in Litchfield, also, is not in a working state, as I can learn, and being so I have not visited it. I have written several times, but received no answer, and am able to state their standing only from hearsay; from which I learn that "no lodge exists there." From this and what my worthy predecessor has received from there, I think their name should be erased from the list of lodges "as having a name to live and is dead."

Vassalboro' Lodge, at Vassalboro', as I am informed by one of the former officers, has lost its charter, expended all its funds and is still in debt, for which the regalia is informally pledged; some of which is now used by the Central Lodge in China. As a new charter can and must be made to enable them to work, it may perhaps be erased, more especially as there is not much hope of reviving it, at least for a long time.

The Blue Mountain Lodge, at Phillips, has not been visited by me. I have had frequent communications with it through our Honorable Brother Sherburn, their Master. This lodge acts under a dispensation and not by charter (as I supposed), is enjoying almost an enviable state of prosperity and seems destined to sustain a very respectable rank among her sister lodges. I should have visited this lodge but was advised to wait till a hall could be obtained, notice of which I have not received.

The records of the lodges in this district have been well kept and the funds generally have been judiciously appropriated, which has been a source of much gratification. Some discrepancy still exists in regard to some minor concerns in the affairs of the institution, but in general, and in important points especially, there is a good degree of similarity, and I can most cheerfully congratulate the Grand Lodge in view of the great improvement which is apparent in the several lodges; yet much more can be done, and will be as I have no doubt.

Respectfully submitted,

EUSEBIUS WESTON, *D. D. G. M. Third District.*

Read and referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

R. W. Bro. Somerby, D. D. G. Master of the fifth masonic district, made a verbal report, announcing that Hancock Lodge, at Castine, had surrendered its charter, and that the same, with their records, was deposited with the Grand Treasurer. He further reported that the remaining lodges in his district were in good working order, and that peace and harmony prevailed among the members.

Report accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That no member of the Grand Lodge, who appears as representative of a subordinate lodge, shall be entitled to a vote in Grand Lodge by virtue of being a member thereof.

The hour fixed by the Constitution for the election of the Grand Officers having arrived, it was,

On motion,

Voted, That the elections be made by a vote of lodges.

Brothers Tallman, Washburn of Livermore, and Washburn of Belfast, were appointed tellers; and the votes being received and counted were as follows:

FOR GRAND MASTER.

The whole number of votes was	-	-	-	-	144
R. W. Bro. John C. Humphreys had	-	-	-	-	140

and was declared elected.

FOR DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

The whole number of votes was	-	-	-	-	140
R. W. Bro. Freeman Bradford had	-	-	-	-	125

and was declared elected.

FOR SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.

The whole number of votes was	-	-	-	-	133
R. W. Bro. Timothy Chase had	-	-	-	-	133

and was declared elected.

FOR JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.

The whole number of votes was - - - - 123

R. W. Bro. William Somerby had - - - - 98

and was declared elected.

FOR GRAND TREASURER.

The whole number of votes was - - - - 87

R. W. Bro. Henry H. Boody had - - - - 79

and was declared elected.

FOR RECORDING GRAND SECRETARY.

The whole number of votes was - - - - 84

R. W. Bro. Charles B. Smith had - - - - 84

and was declared elected.

FOR THE COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.

R. W. Bro. Freeman Bradford,

“ “ Abner B. Thompson, and

“ “ Jonathan B. Smith, were elected by a unanimous

ballot.

On motion,

Voted, That to-morrow at nine o'clock A. M., be assigned as the time for the installation of the Grand Officers.

A petition from Blue Mountain Lodge, U. D., asking for an extension of their dispensation and a remission of dues, was presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

Voted, That when the Grand Lodge calls off, it be until 7½ o'clock this evening.

The Grand Lodge then called off.

MAY 1, 1851.

The Grand Lodge was called to order at 7½ o'clock P. M.

An exemplification of the work and lectures was then attended to, until 9 o'clock, when the Grand Lodge was again called off until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Attest, CHARLES B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 2, 1851.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at nine o'clock A. M.; officers and members as of yesterday.

Communications were received as follows, viz:

From Lincoln Lodge, with a statement of the suspension of Edmund Connor:

From Adoniram Lodge, with a statement of the expulsion of Josiah P. Quinby:

From King Solomon's Lodge, with a statement of the expulsion of Isaac B. Humphrey, and

From Bethlehem Lodge, with a statement of the suspension of Orren Leaman: and were severally referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers.

No Past Grand Master being present, the R. W. John Miller, as the oldest Past Master present, on request took the chair, and in due form installed the M. W. John C. Humphreys, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, for the ensuing year.

The Grand Master then installed the remaining Grand Officers elect, in due form; after which he announced the following appointments of subordinate Grand Officers, who were severally installed in person or by proxy, viz:

R.W. ALLEN HAINES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
W. & REV. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Portland.
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "	Baldwin.
" JOSEPH HUTCHINSON,	" "	Brunswick.
" JOHN McDONALD,	" "	Bangor.
" BENJAMIN JACQUES,	" "	Topsham.
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Westbrook.
" EBENEZER G. RAWSON,	<i>Grand Senior Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
" JOSEPH COVELL,	<i>Grand Junior " "</i>	Jay.
" WILLIAM KIMBALL,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Portland.
" JOHN D. LINCOLN,	" "	Brunswick.
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	" "	Wiscasset.
" ALVIN BOLSTER,	" "	Rumford.

W. JOHN C. TALBOT, JR.,	Grand Pursuivant,	Lubec.
" THURSTON LIBBY,	" "	Saco.
BRO. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler,	Portland.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

R. W. CYRIL PEARL, of Baldwin,
" FREEMAN BRADFORD, of Portland,
" ALLEN HAINES, of Portland.

Rev. Bro. Pearl, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, then submitted a report from that committee.

Read and accepted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

W. Bro. French, from the Committee on Dispensations and Charters, then submitted the following report:

PORTLAND, May 1, 1851.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge:

The Committee on Dispensations and Charters, to which was referred the applications of Pacific, Mechanics' and Mystic Lodges for charters, of Freedom and Alna Lodges for removal, and of Blue Mountain Lodge for extension of dispensation and remission of past dues:

Report, That after an examination of the journals of proceedings of Pacific Lodge at Stetson, of Mechanics' Lodge at Orono, and Mystic Lodge at Hampden, while working under dispensations, and finding them conformable to the usages of Masonry and the constitutions of the Grand Lodge, they recommend that their prayer for charters may be granted.

They further report: That upon the application of Freedom Lodge for its removal from Parsonsfield to Limerick, it appears that said removal is recommended by Adoniram Lodge and the R. W. District Deputy Grand Master, and asked for by the members of said Lodge residing in Parsonsfield.

They therefore recommend that the prayer of said petition be granted.

They further report upon the application of the Alna Lodge for removal from Alna to Damariscotta, and the affirming of the action of the M. W. Grand Master in restoring the charter of the same, and authorizing its temporary removal, it appears that said removal is recommended by the Alna brethren; that at its location in Alna it could never be resuscitated, but that at Damariscotta, where a majority of the ancient brethren of said lodge reside, there is a favorable opportunity for a vigorous and flourishing lodge; that since the installation of officers in January last, *ten* have been initiated, *seven* crafted and *five* raised; that two more stand accepted and that other applications are in the hands of the appropriate committee. It further

appears that the prayer of the petitioners is approved by Lincoln Lodge and by the R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of the fourth district.

Your committee, therefore, recommend that the action of the M. W. Grand Master restoring said charter be affirmed, and that said lodge be henceforth established at Damariscotta.

Your committee further report that the Blue Mountain Lodge, working under a dispensation in the town of Phillips, is laboring under considerable inconvenience, on account of their inability up to this time to obtain a suitable place in which to hold their meetings and to work, together with other local embarrassments. The R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of that district earnestly recommends that the dispensation empowering them to work may be extended, and their dues remitted. There has been neglect on the part of said lodge to surrender its dispensation, records and by-laws for inspection. Yet in view of the whole matter, and relying much upon the opinions of the R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of that district as to the prospect of said lodge and its probable influence for the good of Masonry in that section of the state and his recommendations thereto, we recommend that the dispensation of said lodge be extended until the next communication of this Grand Lodge, and that the dues of said lodge up to April 1, 1851, be remitted.

R. W. KENNARD,	}	Committee.
S. CARTER,		
E. B. FRENCH,		

Read and accepted, and the several recommendations therein contained were adopted.

Bro. Burbank, from the Committee on the Pay Roll, made a report thereon, which was read and accepted, and the Grand Treasurer directed to pay the representatives of lodges in accordance with the same.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Boody,

Voted, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated and paid to Rev. Bro. Cyril Pearl, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for his services and expenses in preparing the report of said committee.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until two o'clock P. M.

MAY 2, 1851.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 2 o'clock P. M.

W. Bro. Joseph Covell, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund, then tendered to the Grand Lodge his resignation of that trust.

Voted, To proceed to fill the vacancy by a new election; and the ballots having been received and counted, W. Bro. Edwin Ellis, of Farmington, was declared to be unanimously elected a member of said board, for three years next ensuing.

R. W. Bro. Bradford, from the Committee of Finance, then submitted the following report:

MASONS' HALL, May 2, 1851.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The Committee on Finance have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the past year, and find that there has been received by him since he rendered his account at the last annual communication, the sum of.....\$1,309.70

In which sum is included the balance then on hand of 43.14

One hundred dollars of this sum has been received for dispensations,

and two hundred and thirty from the funded property of this

Grand Lodge.

He has paid out during the year the sum of..... 838.65

And there is now a balance in his hands of..... 471 05

His accounts are well kept, and correctly and well vouched.

We have also examined the records of the Grand Secretary, and find them kept in a neat and correct manner, and the committee recommend as a compensation for his services during the past year, the sum of fifty dollars.

All which is respectfully submitted,

F. BRADFORD,
A. B. THOMPSON, } Committee.
JONA. SMITH,

Report read and accepted.

The Board of Trustees of the Charity Fund having held a meeting this morning for business, submitted to the Grand Lodge, through R. W. Bro. Bradford, the following report:

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 1, 1851.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The Trustees of the Charity Fund have directed me to report: That they have appropriated in charity the sum of *two hundred dollars*, and directed that this sum be divided equally among the several masonic districts in this jurisdiction, and that the several D. D. Grand Masters be the almoners of this charity.

They have further directed that the Grand Treasurer invest the balance of money that may be in his hands, after paying the expenses of this Grand Lodge, and such appropriations as may be made for specific objects, in some bank or banks in this state that he may deem safe.

Respectfully submitted,

F. BRADFORD, Per Order.

Report read and accepted.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to which was referred a statement of the case of the expulsion of Edmund Connor, from the rights and privileges of Masonry, by Lincoln Lodge, have considered the same, and recommend that the doings of said lodge in this matter be confirmed.

S. J. TALLMAN, }
WM. SOMERBY, } *Committee.*

Report read and accepted, and the expulsion of Edmund Connor from the rights and benefits of Masonry was confirmed.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to which was referred a statement of the expulsion of Isaac B. Humphrey from the rights and privileges of Masonry, by King Solomon's Lodge, have considered the same, and recommend that the doings of said lodge in this behalf be confirmed.

S. J. TALLMAN, }
WM. SOMERBY, } *Committee.*

Report read and accepted, and the expulsion of Isaac B. Humphrey from the rights and benefits of Masonry was confirmed.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to which was referred a statement of the case of the expulsion of Josiah P. Quinby, from the rights and privileges of Masonry, by Adoniram Lodge, have considered the same, and recommend that the doings of said lodge in this behalf be confirmed.

S. J. TALLMAN, }
WM. SOMERBY, } *Committee.*

Report read and accepted, and the expulsion of said Josiah P. Quinby from the rights and benefits of Masonry was confirmed.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to which was referred a case of the suspension of Orren Leaman, from the rights and benefits of Masonry, by Bethlehem Lodge, during the pleasure of said lodge, have considered the same, and recommend that the doings of said lodge in this matter be confirmed.

S. J. TALLMAN, }
WM. SOMERBY, } *Committee.*

Report read and accepted, and the doings of said lodge in this behalf were confirmed.

The following report was then submitted :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The committee appointed at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge to ascertain the expense of publishing, in a single volume, the proceedings of the Grand Lodge from its organization to the present time, have attended to the duty assigned them and report :

That they have received written proposals from two practical printers for publishing the same, on an estimate of its making 440 pages, large octavo. The expense of printing, ready for binding, of 500 copies, according to the proposal of one printer, would be \$424 ; and for 500 additional copies \$160, making the cost of 1,000 copies, at his estimate, \$584.

According to the proposal of the other printer, estimating the paper at \$4 per ream, as estimated by the former, the cost for 500 copies would be \$499.50 ; and for 500 additional copies \$147.50, making, for 1,000 copies, \$647. The former proposal, it will be seen, is \$75.50 less for 500 copies, and \$63 less for 1,000 copies, than the latter.

One printer, in a postscript, says, "*We should like to have the committee take into consideration in what manner the Grand Lodge will dispose of the copyright of the work ?*" This is a subject which was not submitted to the committee by the Grand Lodge ; but your committee would respectfully make the following suggestion for the consideration of the Grand Lodge :—That there be a committee appointed to dispose of the copyright, if practicable, in the following manner : The Grand Lodge to furnish a copy of the matter, and convey the copyright, for which the publisher shall deliver to the Grand Lodge fifty printed copies bound in morocco and fifty copies bound in cloth,—the paper, type and workmanship to be equal to those of the printed proceedings of our last annual communication.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH COVELL, *Per Order.*

Read and accepted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That the dues of Alna Lodge, up to the first day of April, 1851, be remitted.

REPORT ON RETURNS.

The Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges report that the following is a list of all the chartered lodges under this jurisdiction, with the appropriate number of each, viz :

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Portland, at Portland. | 33 Waterville, at Waterville. |
| 2 Warren, at East Machias. | 34 Somerset, at Skowhegan. |
| 3 Lincoln, at Wiscasset. | 35 Bethlehem, at Augusta. |
| 4 Hancock, at Castine. | 36 Casco, at Yarmouth. |
| 5 Kennebec, at Hallowell. | 37 Washington, at Lubec. |
| 6 Amity, at Camden. | 38 Harmony, at Gorham. |
| 7 Eastern, at Eastport. | 39 Penobscot, at Dexter. |
| 8 United, at Brunswick. | 40 Lygonia, at Ellsworth. |
| 9 Saco, at Saco. | 41 Morning Star, at Litchfield. |
| 10 Rising Virtue, at Bangor. | 42 Freedom, at Limerick. |
| 11 Pythagorean, at Fryeburg. | 43 Alna, at Damariscotta. |
| 12 Cumberland, at New Gloucester. | 44 Piscataquis, at Sebec. |
| 13 Oriental, at Bridgton. | 45 Central, at China. |
| 14 Solar, at Bath. | 46 St. Croix, at Calais. |
| 15 Orient, at Thomaston. | 47 Buxton, at Buxton. |
| 16 St. George, at Warren. | 48 Lafayette, at Readfield. |
| 17 Ancient Land-Mark, at Portland. | 49 Meridian Splendor, at Newport. |
| 18 Oxford, at Paris. | 50 Aurora, at Rockland. |
| 19 Felicity, at Bucksport. | 51 St. John's, at South Berwick. |
| 20 Maine, at Farmington. | 52 Mosaic, at Dover. |
| 21 Oriental Star, at Livermore. | 53 Rural, at Sidney. |
| 22 York, at Kennebunk. | 54 Vassalboro', at Vassalboro'. |
| 23 Freeport, at Freeport. | 55 Fraternal, at Shapleigh. |
| 24 Phoenix, at Belfast. | 56 Mt. Moriah, at Denmark. |
| 25 Temple, at Winthrop. | 57 King Hiram, at Dixfield. |
| 26 Village, at Bowdoinham. | 58 Unity, at Freedom. |
| 27 Adoniram, at Limington. | 59 Mt. Hope, at Hope. |
| 28 Northern Star, at Anson. | 60 Star in the East, at Old Town. |
| 29 Tranquil, at Danville. | 61 King Solomon's, at Waldoboro'. |
| 30 Blazing Star, at Rumford. | 62 King David's, at Lincolnville. |
| 31 Union, at Union. | 63 Richmond, at Richmond. |
| 32 Hermon, at Gardiner. | |

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mystic Lodge, at Hampden. | Mechanics' Lodge, at Orono. |
| Pacific Lodge, at Stetson. | Blue Mountain Lodge, at Phillips. |

The charters of Hancock Lodge, No. 4, Village Lodge, No. 26, and Rural Lodge, No. 53, have been surrendered.

The following lodges have not resumed work since the general suspension of Masonic Labors in 1828, viz: Pythagorean, No. 11; Oxford, No. 18; Temple, No. 25; Morning Star, No. 41; Piscataquis, No. 44; Buxton, No. 47; St. John's, No. 51; Vassalboro' No. 54; Fraternal, No. 55; Mt. Moriah, No. 56; and King Hiram, No. 57.

From the foregoing statement it will appear, that there are now in active

operation fifty-three lodges, fifty of which have made their returns for the present year. The lodges from which no returns have been received, are the following, viz: Freeport, Saco and Blazing Star.

From the returns of the fifty lodges, duly made, it appears that the number of initiations for the past year has been 337, and that the whole number returned as members, is 1830.

On examination, we find that in thirteen cases the returns are incorrect; in eleven of which no dates are given of the times of initiating, crafting, raising, &c., and in the other two, initiates, who have not received the second and third degrees, have not been accompanied with the usual fees to the Grand Lodge; but your committee have received assurances that the same shall be rectified in their next annual return. From the returns of Adoniram Lodge, it appears that there is due from that lodge to the Grand Lodge, the sum of \$17.62; but the amount did not accompany the returns. Freeport Lodge has not made any returns for several years.

Your committee regret to notice that in some cases, new members have not been returned, as such, and consequently no dues have been paid therefor.

Your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the several lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, make returns annually of their monthly and annual communications; also of the names of all resident Master Masons within their several jurisdictions, who are not members of regularly constituted lodges.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN BALCH,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
S. J. THOMAS,		
STEPHEN WEBBER,		

Report read and accepted, and the resolution adopted.

On motion,

Voted, That the dues of Pacific Lodge, up to April 1, 1851, be remitted.

REPORT ON THE DOINGS OF THE GRAND OFFICERS.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 2, 1851.

The committee to whom was referred the doings of the Grand Officers, would state that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report:

That they recommend to this Grand Lodge the acceptance of the communication of our late M. W. Grand Master, Joseph C. Stevens; and that the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to him, for the very faithful and honorable manner in which he performed the duties of Grand Master of this Grand Lodge for the two years last past.

And your committee would further recommend that you accept the reports of the several D. D. Grand Masters; and that said reports, together with the communication of the M. W. Grand Master, be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Which is respectfully submitted,

HIRAM CHASE,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
S. J. TALLMAN,		
ERASTUS FOOTE, JR.,		

Report read and unanimously adopted.

On motion,

Voted, That the dues of Mt. Hope Lodge, up to April 1, 1851, be remitted.

The following resolution was then offered by R. W. Bro. Bradford, and adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That no dues of a subordinate lodge be remitted, unless upon the petition of such lodge, and the report of a committee thereon.

The following resolutions were then offered by R. W. Bro. Tallman, and adopted:

Resolved, That the several subordinate lodges under this jurisdiction report to the D. D. G. Masters in the district in which such lodges may be located, (at the time of making their annual returns, or sooner if convenient), what deformity or imperfection of body, in the opinion of such lodge, ought to operate as a bar to the institution.

Resolved, That the several D. D. G. Masters of this state report the opinions of the subordinate lodges on the above subject to this Grand Lodge at its next annual communication.

On motion,

Voted, As the sense of this Grand Lodge upon a construction of the Constitution: That all balloting for candidates and for membership should be had in a Master Mason's lodge.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. Barker, and after due consideration, adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, at this time, appoint a committee of three, with power to fill vacancies, whose duty it shall be to meet at such time and place as they may appoint, within the ensuing year, for the purpose of agreeing upon what shall be considered the true mode of work and lectures in the several lodges in this state; and that on the Tuesday next preceding the day assigned for our next annual meeting, they be required to

exemplify the work and lectures so agreed upon before the Grand Lodge, who shall be required to be in attendance for that purpose at the place of their next meeting; the services so performed by said committee to be paid for by the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Voted, That the first four Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge be requested to present the names of three suitable brethren to constitute said committee.

And after consultation they reported to the Grand Lodge the names of Bros. Freeman Bradford, John Miller and Percival Clementine, who were duly elected to constitute said committee according to the above resolution.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Lindley,

Voted, unanimously, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to R. W. Bro. Henry H. Boody, Grand Treasurer, for his faithful and gratuitous services in that office during the past year.

The Grand Lodge then called off until seven o'clock P. M.

MAY 2, 1851.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 7 o'clock P. M., R. W. Bro. Bradford in the chair.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Miller,

Voted, That the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be, and are hereby requested to correspond with the several Grand Lodges in the United States, recognized by this Grand Body as such, urging upon them the necessity of taking, as soon as conveniently may be, the necessary steps for forming a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of twenty dollars, appropriated at the last annual communication, and ordered to be paid to R. W. Bro. Henry H. Boody, Grand Treasurer, for services in that office (which sum he declines to accept), be disposed of by him in charity at his discretion.

On motion,

Voted, That the committee who have had under consideration the subject of the publication of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from its organiza-

tion, be authorized and requested to ascertain upon what terms they can dispose of the copyright of the work, and report thereon to the Grand Lodge.

A circular was received from a committee of Essex Lodge, at Salem Mass., inviting this Grand Lodge to participate in a celebration of the festival of St. John the Baptist, on the 24th of June next, at that place.

Read and placed on file.

No further business being offered, the Grand Lodge was duly closed.

Attest,

CHARLES B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The ceaseless tide of time has rolled another of its circling waves to the ocean of eternity and borne us all a little nearer to our final rest. This onward rush of years, while it solemnly reminds us of our mortality and calls off many of our fathers and brothers from labor to refreshment, at the same time unfolds before us the stability and imperishable energy of truth and light and love, and in the immortal vigor of these assures us that man is not wholly mortal. There is in the human soul a responsive echo, when light and truth and love sweep its mysterious cords, that awakens hope and "intimates eternity to man." The symbols of our mystic tie are in harmony with the voiceless teachings of time and the aspirations of the soul; and the wave that bears us toward the silent grave and the unseen land—the bright and blessed land that lies beyond its dark waters—does also bear the ark of the covenant and its symbolic lights to our survivors and successors, with promise of help and hope and guidance for future generations, as they may successively greet the shores of being. Each year gives us increasing evidence that the mission of Masonry is not ended; but that a work is yet upon its hands; and that our responsibilities, as its present guardians, are by no means diminished, superseded or suspended.

A great work is yet to be accomplished in rearing the walls and completing the structure of the temple of humanity, and adorning it with the lights of science, the triumphs of art; cementing and strengthening with the plastic power of brotherly love, relief and truth, the foundations on which the social fabric of coming ages may securely rest, and illustrate, more perfectly than the fathers have done, the blessed fruits of faith, hope and charity.

At the commencement of this latter half of the nineteenth century, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence meet the Grand Lodge on this cherished annual convocation with May-day salutations; amid the greetings of "Nature's gala day," the bursting of buds, the blushing of flowers and the song of the birds, the gifts of our common Father; and we bring you the salutations of our brother man. We invite you to share with us the fraternal greetings of many thousands, which flow to us from every part of our broad land. Since our last communication, we have reports from the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Ohio, Tennessee, Mississippi, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and California. We have also numerous letters, circulars and addresses, illustrating the principles and progress of Masonry, the whole forming a collection of some twenty-five hundred pages.

These reports and addresses exhibit a great share of talent, and furnish evidence of increasing prosperity in the Masonic jurisdictions they represent. At no period of the world's history, and in no country on which the sun ever shone, have the lights of Masonry been so widely and rapidly diffused, as in our own country within the last ten years. Every state in the Union has its Grand Lodge, and its increasing and prosperous subordinates, and in nearly all these jurisdictions harmony prevails, and the good work is steadily advancing, amid the cheers of skillful, happy craftsmen, and under the guidance of able overseers.

The exceptions to this general prosperity will require less of your attention, than in either of the reports submitted by your committee.

GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

In relation to the troubles in New York, we are happy to report that a reconciliation has been secured between that body which this and other Grand Lodges sustained as the only legitimate Grand Lodge of New York, and the St. John's Grand Lodge, whose history we reviewed in the last report.

Nearly at the same time with our last annual meeting, a circular was prepared by the Secretary of St. John's Grand Lodge, and sent to the Grand Lodges of the Union, endeavoring to vindicate the course of that body, and appealing from the censures bestowed upon them by the masonic fraternity. This document was received the 16th of May.

At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of New York, in June following, the M. W. G. M. John D. Willard, having retired from the chair which he had so ably filled, and resolutely maintained in the struggles of the previous year, offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to receive any propositions, or suggestions that may be presented to them, by any member of this Grand Lodge, or others, with a view to the restoring of entire harmony of feeling to the whole fraternity in this state ; and that the committee use their discretion as to laying the same before the Grand Lodge."

The resolution was adopted, and a committee was accordingly raised consisting of R. W. and Rev. Salem Towne, W. Bros. Lewis, Hatch, Dugan and Perry.

This Committee subsequently presented a report, with the following propositions :

"1st. Recognition of lodges subordinate to St. John's Grand Lodge, as regular masonic lodges.

"2d. That their members are lawful masons.

"3d. That the lodges be put on the registry of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

"4th. That each and every of such lodges may at any time, with their own consent, come under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

"5th. That if the St. John's Grand Lodge shall, on or before the next June Communication, by a vote of their body decide to give up their organization as a Grand Lodge, and proffer themselves to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, their Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers shall be received and admitted as P. G. Officers of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York."

This report was accompanied by the following pledge on the part of Officers of the St. John's Grand Lodge, viz :

"We, the undersigned, pledge ourselves to carry the above propositions into effect, if adopted by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

HENRY C. ATTWOOD, G. M.
DANIEL SICKELS, J. G. W.
ROBERT MACOY, G. SEC.
DAVID COCHRANE, G. L."

To this was appended the following resolution signed by the committee aforesaid :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of the state of New York do agree to the foregoing propositions.

"On motion, the report was accepted and the resolution unanimously adopted."

The circular which brings us this pleasant intelligence in regard to the overtures and action of the Grand Lodge and its committee, gives us also the final action of the St. John's Grand Lodge, which is as follows :

"*Whereas*, The Grand Lodge of the State of New York, under the Grand Mastership of M. W. Bro. William H. Milnor, did at their late annual communication, advance certain propositions, and pass resolutions, acknowledging the legality of the lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge,

thus ending the difficulty that has so long existed in the fraternity of this state: Therefore,

"Resolved, That the St. John's Grand Lodge hails, with the most unfeigned satisfaction, this action on the part of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and does hereby ratify and respond to the same.

"Resolved, That we cannot recognize the body claiming to be a Grand Lodge under the guidance of Mr. Isaac Phillips, as masons until they shall have been formerly healed by the M. W. G. Lodge of the State of New York.

"Resolved, That an ordinance be, and the same is hereby adopted, forbidding the lodges under this jurisdiction to receive as visitors or adjoining members, any masons hailing from the jurisdiction of Mr. Phillips, until they shall have complied with the conditions of the foregoing resolutions."

The Grand Lodge of Maine will share in the "satisfaction" expressed by both parties in view of the reconciliation thus effected, and delight to place on record their action in the premises as fully as it has formerly done the history of their estrangement.

"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Great would be our joy, could we record a similar reconciliation between the two bodies now claiming to be the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

An effort was made at the time of the annual communication in June, by the committee above named, and a committee of five, appointed by the other body to agree upon terms of union; and several propositions were submitted by individuals of each committee, none of which secured the approbation of both committees, and they finally separated without anything being accomplished.

The body which we have recognized as the legitimate Grand Lodge published a circular in June, containing a list of more than twenty of our Grand Lodges, which had taken definite action in support of its authority as the Grand Lodge of the state. Ninety of the subordinate lodges were represented in its June communication. Some twenty new lodges had been established during the year; about thirty lodges were received from the St. John's Grand Lodge, and some lodges whose principal officers had been elected, and had accepted office in the other body had disapproved their conduct, chosen new officers, and they now adhere to the recognized Grand Lodge. The M. W. J. D. Willard having declined a re-election, M. W. William H. Milnor was elected in his place, and R. W. James W. Powell, G. S., in place of R. R. Boyd, who had been removed for mal-management of the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge.

The other body re-elected Isaac Phillips, G. M., James Herring, G. S., and John Horspool, G. T. Twenty-one lodges are reported as present by their representatives at the opening of this body. The address of the Grand Master and the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, of which the Grand Secretary is chairman, breathe an unkind and unmasonic spirit, not only towards the legitimate Grand Lodge, but also towards the other Grand

Lodges which have sustained it as such. Much of the language they employ is highly offensive, and adapted only to prejudice their cause. A just cause cannot need such vindication—an unjust one cannot profit by it. The Grand Master speaking of those who composed the legitimate Grand Lodge, says: "The sad spectacle was disclosed of a few members of the Grand Lodge, some of whom had been honored with the confidence of the body, as it proved, *far, very far beyond their merits, conspiring together for the purpose of gratifying personal animosity* for fancied grievances, by earnestly laboring to destroy the body which had warmed them into the only consequence they ever enjoyed in the community, and pursuing their malevolence, hesitated not, by falsehood, fraud, cunning and duplicity, to drag in with them many innocent, well meaning brethren, whom I doubt not and hope have long since found out that they have been the dupes of the false-hearted knaves, who by a degree of inattention resulting in a casualty had been permitted to steal into the order, and who have never known its objects nor cared to know its principles. Faithless to their obligations, traitors to the trust reposed in them, they would have descended still lower into the depths of baseness to have successfully consummated their iniquitous designs." p. 33.

Speaking of the action of other Grand Lodges in reference to the circular which he says was prepared "in a masterly manner" by the G. S. and "sanctioned by the united approval of the Grand Officers" and which he represents as "exhibiting evidence beyond the reach of cavil of the righteousness of our cause," he says: "It will be remarked that this address to the Grand Lodges was to *sustain us* in our course against the machinations of our enemies, and not an appeal to *decide for us* any question or matter out of which it became necessary at the last annual communication to pursue prompt measures to take from the hands of unfaithful officers the power of further injuring the Grand Lodge. This Grand Lodge has for itself decided the question, and its rights and powers are sufficiently clear to attend to its own affairs; and an appeal to other Grand Lodges to *sustain us* should not be deemed as an intention of submitting our proceedings for their adjudication; if it be their pleasure not to sustain us, they have the power to do so. Beyond this their sentiments or interference becomes officious, unauthorized and offensive. It is, however, to be regretted that certain Grand Lodges, without waiting for our address and statement in relation to the revolutionary attempts of a portion of our members to modernize the Grand Lodge, should have even at the pressing personal solicitations of the chief revolutionist and his satellites, so far have forgotten common courtesy, nay, decency, as to judge the matter on an *ex parte* statement of the discomforted conspirators; yet it is hoped that the error into which they have fallen will not be persisted in when convinced, as they should be by this time, of the great injustice they have done the only legitimate masonic authority of the state. Should, however, a disposition be not speedily manifested by those Grand Lodges of retracing their steps and rendering us the respect to which we are

entitled, it will, however painful, be necessary for the Grand Lodge in the preservation of its dignity to refuse all intercourse with such bodies, and to exclude masons of their jurisdiction from the admission into our lodges and from enjoyment of the customary benefits and privileges. I hope the Grand Lodge will not close without investing its Grand Officers with power to issue an edict to the lodges to this effect, if another month passes without the Grand Lodges alluded to making amends for their unkind treatment.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence in their report, copy with approbation the page devoted to the troubles in New York in our report for 1849, and then say: "Had the Grand Lodge of Maine adhered to the prudent and brotherly advice of their committee, it would unquestionably have been regarded by the fraternity of this state generally; though we apprehend not by all, for we have reason to believe that those who set out with the design of destroying the rights of the Past Masters of this state would not have been willing to abandon their favorite measures at the fraternal suggestion of the brethren of the Grand Lodge of Maine any sooner than of their own immediate associates in this state. But unfortunately the Grand Lodge of Maine did not stop until they had made themselves partisans by resolutions adopted at a special meeting on the 22d of January, 1850, giving aid and comfort to the destroyers of our peace and harmony, and thereby rendering the fraternal advice of their committee the more difficult of accomplishment. The Grand Lodge of Maine was probably influenced to take the course of action which they did by the *singular and, as we think, one-sided report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts*, rendered on the 12th of September, 1849, some six weeks in advance of the publication of our "explanation and vindication" of the course which we had been compelled to take in preservation of the integrity of the Grand Lodge of New York and the rights of its members." p. 62.

Speaking of the Grand Lodge of Alabama they say: "The M. W. Grand Master did us the *injustice* to quote almost at full length the scandalous report of the '*Coliseum party*' of the fraternity in the state, **** to which report he united a part of the Massachusetts report on which we have presented some remarks."

Of the Grand Lodge of Florida they say that the Grand Master "abuses our narrative explanation and vindication in terms unfit to be repeated." In regard to the Committee of Correspondence of the same Grand Lodge they say: "After venting upon us some further abuse, similar to that found in the address of the Grand Master Brown, (who was also one of the committee), they most earnestly and affectionately call upon every individual brother in our sister state of New York, whatever may be his position, to learn to subdue his passions, to discard all *prejudice*, all *bitterness*, all *feeling*, and in this matter invoke the aid of our Great Grand Master to aid in seeking the truth and especially to follow out the things that make for peace. We will follow this good brotherly advice, and commend it also to

the hearts of our liberal and prudent brethren of the Florida Committee, who certainly have in this matter not paid much regard to our feelings nor to the things that make for peace." p. 70.

Of the Grand Lodge of Texas, the committee say :

"They have been mystified by a cunningly devised fable, liberal in exciting epithets to create prejudice, which, if they had critically examined, they might and would have found sufficiently contradictory in its parts to have aroused their suspicions of its credibility. But, in their desire to strike at the wrongdoers, *they have mistaken the parties*, and have made themselves partisans of the unjust in an unholy warfare. Instead of inculcating the masonic principles of truth, justice, honor and honesty, they appear to have entirely forgotten the sacred mission of our order by adding fuel to the fire of discord."

The Grand Lodge of Michigan, they say,

"Have been altogether misled by erroneous reports and statements of facts and opinions which have been circulated in that state relating to the course which this Grand Lodge has found it necessary to pursue in support of its integrity and original organization. On a former occasion we took great interest in the affairs of that Grand Lodge, and spared no trouble to set the fraternity there at peace with the masonic world, which we were happy to see accomplished, but some of them have ever since seized every opportunity to carp and cavil at us for our fraternal good-will towards our brethren in that state, and while *that unkindly spirit dominates in Michigan*, we are inclined to the opinion it would be 'love's labor lost' to attempt even to point out their errors."

After dealing thus with individual Grand Lodges, the committee add :

"Before closing this report, we feel it incumbent on us to say that we can conceive of no sufficient reasons which should induce us to suffer in silence the wrongs which have been done us by certain Grand Officers and committees of our sister Grand Lodges and by the constructions of a portion of the masonic periodicals of the day. That they were in the first instance taken by surprise and overwhelmed with astonishment at the exaggerated and wilfully mendacious reports which were rapidly and extensively poured over this country by a set of men who call themselves masons, we might readily believe—and for that cause excuse—but we can find no excuse for the coarse, vulgar and abusive language which *some* of these have liberally indulged in, while retailing the slanders of the men whose hypocrisy and Jesuitism had no other resource than to delude our friends, after a vain endeavor to deprive a majority of the active members of our Grand Lodge of their rights therein."

We have suffered this body, claiming to be the Grand Lodge of New York, thus far to speak their own sentiments in their own language, for various reasons. Extended comment by us cannot be necessary. Is it possible that any of the injuries they allege to have been inflicted upon them by others can compare with the injuries thus inflicted by their own hands ? It is difficult to say which is most obnoxious, the harsh language they thus employ in reference to the Grand Lodges of the Union, or the singular assumption of the Grand Master that "their address was not to be deemed as an intention of submitting their proceedings for the adjustment of other Grand Lodges" but only "to sustain them in their course," and that if the pleasure of the lodges is not to sustain them "*beyond this, their sentiments of interference being officious, unauthorized and offensive.*"

Could a more deliberate offence be committed than to submit such a document for their consideration to the Grand Lodges of the world, assailing with unsparing condemnation their brethren of the Grand Lodge of New York after such a conflict as their own address sets forth, and yet seal the lips of all who would not sustain them in their course? If the Grand Lodge of Maine had entertained any doubt of the propriety of their action in the premises as detailed in the reports of 1849 and 1850, we could no longer be in doubt after reading the proceedings of this body in New York for the last year. It is painful to regard it a matter of duty to spread upon our pages such sentiments and language and proceedings of men claiming to be masons, and demanding that we should regard them as the head of the order and the authorized expounders of masonic law in a sister state, even when it is done for the purpose of disowning and rebuking the spirit which prompts it; but we would cherish the hope that it may operate as a salutary caution to all who may be liable to similar exhibitions of human infirmity. We will even hope it may be useful to the offending party, and that they will consent to listen to the reproofs of sister lodges which have so generally disapproved their course. Will they not reconsider their course and make the effort to suppress the excitement which must have given rise to such language and deportment as we have thus freely censured? Masonry needs not such language or defence—she recoils from such advocates and must forever disown them if such courses are not abandoned. The unanimity and force of the general voice of the Grand Lodges of the Union in repudiating this body as a Grand Lodge, and the thoroughness of investigation and power of argument by which its course of action and reasoning has been examined and condemned, furnish a remarkable illustration of the energy and talent and high moral tone which control the masonic institution of the country. Not one of the Grand Lodges of the Union has justified its course or recognized it as a Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Mississippi does not justify the legitimate Grand Lodge in disfranchising the Past Masters, but undertakes to show that it had not a right to adopt the resolutions which changed the constitution to that end. Still she sustains that body as the only Grand Lodge of New York. Most of the Grand Lodges still entertain the hope that a reconciliation will yet be effected between the two bodies, and harmony restored in that noble state. The Grand Lodge of Maine is not behind the most zealous of her sisters in this hope, and this is the apology of your committee for devoting so much time and effort to this painful subject.

The proceedings of the legitimate Grand Lodge of New York exhibit a great degree of talent and energy on the part of that body, and so far as we can discover, a great degree of candor and magnanimity in the treatment of her opponents. The report of the Committee on Correspondence is a remarkable document, exhibiting unusual talent and great familiarity with the history, established principles and usages of the masonic fraternity. It is a

thesaurus of masonic intelligence, and is worthy of careful preservation and reference in regard to the controverted points in masonic usage. The committee of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia say of it: "Your committee have read this document with great satisfaction and regret that time will not permit their making large and varied extracts from a document of exceeding interest and power. They have never met with proceedings of a Grand Lodge possessing more interest, and have never seen a report from a sister committee, which so minutely referred to everything of interest in the proceedings of each Grand Lodge, and which so frankly, forcibly and fully expresses the views of its author on every contested point, and enforces them when opposed to the views of others with authority and arguments of such potency."

No mention is made of the Grand Lodge of Maine in this report, or of its published proceedings; and as the other body does refer to them we have reason to conclude that our report fell into the wrong hands.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY.

In our last report the committee placed on record the fact that Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey were present in the Phillips Grand Lodge, and assisted in the installation of its officers, and not only so but even volunteering the sanction and approbation of that Grand Lodge in this revolutionary proceeding. It appears also that Past Officers of that Grand Lodge have officiated in the installation of the officers of St. John's Grand Lodge, thus officially interfering as partisans in the New York controversies. This course is condemned by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. Their report says, "your committee hold it to be sound doctrine that the Grand Lodge of one state has no legal right to open and establish a Grand Lodge in any other state in opposition to a legal Grand Lodge existing in that state." *

* * * Again, "now your committee presume that Past Grand Officers possess no higher powers than the Grand Lodges to which they belong; and we cannot but conclude that if such interference is unmasonic in Grand Lodges, it is much more so, if possible, in Grand Officers acting of their own motion, and without any show of authority."

This language is just and gives evidence that our sister Grand Lodge is not to be placed in a false position by unauthorized acts of her Past Officers.

GRAND LODGE OF LOUISIANA.

From Louisiana we have no report of the annual communication of either body claiming to be the Grand Lodge of that state. We are gratified to learn from other sources that a reconciliation has been effected and the two bodies united under one organization. Some of the Grand Lodges whose reports have most recently appeared have mentioned with gratification this recon-

ciliation as effected in a manner worthy the masonic institution and just to the parties. A circular from the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge under its present organization informs us that an appeal has been made by the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge under its former organization to the civil tribunal of that state, denying the legality of the new organization and demanding that an injunction be issued upon the proceedings of that body and that he may be restored to his office and to the rights which he claims have been invaded by the re-organization of that body. A notice to the officers of the Grand Lodge in accordance with this appeal has been given. We regret to learn that the trials of our Louisiana brethren are not yet ended, and most ardently desire that they may soon experience a happy deliverance and be able to resume their work in the most successful manner.

GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND.

A kind and praiseworthy act of the Grand Lodge of Maryland deserves to be recorded. The Committee of Correspondence, while reviewing and disapproving the course of the St. John's Grand Lodge and also the body styled the Phillips Grand Lodge, say :

"It is impossible for this Grand Lodge to recognize the St. John's Grand Lodge. * * * * *

"We are free to admit that their case is a hard one; that they have been hardly and unfairly dealt with; but we can afford them no remedy further than to give them our advice and counsel. That is to ask the Grand Lodge of New York (we mean of the one of which M. W. J. D. Willard is Grand Master, as that is the only one recognized by any other Grand Lodge in the U. S.) to re-open their case, and grant them a fair and impartial trial. If the Grand Lodge shall find that these lodges were oppressed and arbitrarily dealt with, that they will remit the punishment inflicted on them, and restore them to good standing, and take their lodges under her protection, on fair and liberal principles.

"From other sources we have learned that the late schismatics have applied to St. John's Grand Lodge for re-instatement. Let them be to you as heathens and sinners, until they come into the fold from which they have strayed. Enter into no entangling alliances, which will openly tend to retard your own safety. Get yourself into the true fold, and then you can have the sweetest and best revenge, by trying to restore to good standing some of those who were the chief instruments of your degradation. This is the advice we offer in all sincerity and truth; this we deem to be your best and the proper course; and believe it will be effectual in restoring you to your proper position.

"Notwithstanding the remarks in the 'Gazette,' nearly all the Grand Lodges in the Union have taken their stand, as it relates to the St. John's Grand Lodge and the Phillips Grand Lodge: and from that position there can be no retrocession. Even should the Grand Lodge of New York, of which J. D. Willard is Grand Master, become extinct, it would be vacant territory, and be filled up by lodges deriving their charters from other states. Nor could charters be granted to persons acknowledging either St. John's or Phillips Grand Lodges; but to such as adhere to the Willard Grand Lodge or migrate from the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges."

The committee closed their report with the following resolutions :

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Grand Lodge of New York

recognized by this Grand Lodge to take into favorable consideration the case of St. John's Grand Lodge on proper application of that body: to deal with them in a spirit of justice tempered with mercy, and for the promotion of the best interests of Masonry as to them it shall appear.

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge furnish the action of this Grand Lodge in this case to Robert Macoy of New York."

This action of Maryland took place May 14th, and reached the Grand Lodge in New York, June 4th. Similar action had been taken by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and the influence of these fraternal appeals is distinctly acknowledged as having had an important bearing on the parties in securing the reconciliation on the 11th of June, to which we have already referred. *"A word fitly spoken, how good is it!"*

We rejoice that such words were spoken by Maryland and other Grand Lodges, and that they have found so prompt a response in the action of the New York Grand Lodge.

It was suitable that the results so happy should be commemorated as it was on the festival of St. John the Evangelist, as proposed in the following circular, addressed to this Grand Lodge:

"NEW YORK, NOV. 27, A. L. 5850.

"R. W. Sir and Brother:

"The committee appointed to make arrangements to celebrate the union of the brethren under the jurisdiction of St. John's Grand Lodge with the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, have the most unqualified and heartfelt pleasure in announcing that this joyful and greatly desired event will be consummated on St. John's day, the 27th of December next.

"The committee earnestly request the presence of your M. W. Grand Lodge, and the members of her subordinate bodies, to participate in the celebration on this auspicious occasion.

"The R. W. Grand Secretary would greatly oblige the committee, by extending invitations to the lodges within the jurisdiction of your Grand Lodge, and returning an answer at the earliest practicable period.

"At a meeting of the committee appointed to make arrangements for a dinner, in connection with the masonic festival, to commemorate the union of the brethren heretofore hailing under St. John's Grand Lodge with the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York, it was on motion,

"Resolved, That the pleasure of the company of the first six Grand Officers of each Grand Lodge, throughout the United States and Canada, be requested to dinner at 5 o'clock P. M., on the 27th prox., at Tripler Hall, Broadway.

"In pursuance of the above resolution, you will please, on behalf of the committee, extend this invitation to the first six Grand Officers of your Grand Lodge, and oblige

"Yours fraternally,

"GEORGE E. MARSHALL,
WM. H. UNDERHILL,
CHARLES W. WILLETS,
JOSEPH C. PINCKNEY,
G. R. BEEKMAN,
OSCAR COLES,
N. N. HALSTED,
J. D. EVANS,
JAMES W. POWELL,
SIMEON ABRAMS,

Committee."

THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The new State of Texas stretches her fraternal hand across the broad Union, from the Rio Grande away "down East," and greets the "Pine Tree" state with a cordial masonic grip and a true hailing sign, and presents us her annual salutation in a document of one hundred and forty pages and representing some seventy subordinate lodges in a flourishing and progressive condition. She has also some nine Royal Arch Chapters. Whatever were our fears and hesitation in receiving her into the Union of States, we most cheerfully accept her proffered hand, bearing to us as it does decisive evidence of masonic skill and fidelity. Her report is an able and instructive one, and we shall have occasion to let it speak for itself before closing this report.

GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA.

California, also the golden evening star now rising over the vast Pacific, sends masonic salutations to the star in the East—the Grand Lodge of Maine—as if she would say "Watchman, what of the night?" Her first message was received in June, informing us of the formation of her Grand Lodge on the 17th of April. Another gives us her proceedings to November, 1850.

Her masonic greetings come to us with all the freshness and energy of her young existence. Six lodges united in forming a Grand Lodge in April, and at the November meeting five more had been added. One of these is the Willamette Lodge, Oregon. The Grand Lodge had received in dues from subordinates nearly two thousand dollars up to November. The Grand Master, in a communication to the Grand Lodge in May, says:

"The formation of a Grand Lodge for the State of California should be a subject of sincere congratulation to every mason here and elsewhere; for probably in no part of the habitable globe has its usefulness been made so manifest as in this country within the past year. Already does California number among its inhabitants persons of every nation and clime known in the civilized world, all seeking by enterprise and industry to improve their condition in life; and it often happens that within the distance of a few hundred yards of a mining district there will be found many persons laboring together who are strangers in language, heart and feeling; but if they be members of our ancient order, each is the master of a language that all can understand, and there at once springs up that deep feeling of fraternal affection which has ever so distinctly marked and distinguished the members of the masonic fraternity above all others."

The report in November thus states what is done for the relief of the sick in Sacramento city:

"One year ago the masons of this city united with the order of Odd Fellows to provide a place for the indigent sick. Until within a few weeks the hospital of these two orders has had in its wards from five to twenty sick. For defraying the expense we have depended on voluntary contributions, but the burthen has fallen on comparatively few."

In this enterprise they had expended over thirty-one thousand dollars,

more than seventeen thousand of which had been paid, leaving a heavy debt still on hand.

And what response shall we give her? Shall California now be allowed to come into the Masonic Union? There can be but one response to this. Whatever may have been her fate in the hands of our politicians she will find a cordial masonic welcome from every state in the Union. We shall not stop to tamper with her existence or to see what capital we can make from her golden sands before we bid her welcome, nor will any state in the Union delay to receive her or receive her coldly through the influence of sectional or political prejudices. Masonry has a great work to accomplish in that new world, and we rejoice to see our brethren so resolutely at work in laying well her foundations. We have brethren there, who are remembered with affection as the sons of Maine, and the ornaments of masonry; and Maine expects her sons to do their whole duty in the masonic temple of that rising state.

If we do not comment on each State separately, it must not be regarded as an indication of any lack of interest in their welfare or respect for their labors, or sympathy with their fraternal greetings. The general health and prosperity of the order is everywhere apparent in the lodges we omit to name, and each may derive a satisfaction from the success of their labors which our specific commendation could not impart, or our silence impair. We desire to call attention to certain features in our order and to events in progress which deserve more notice than we have been able to give them in previous reports.

MASONIC FESTIVALS AND LABORS IN CONNECTION WITH ARCHITECTURE.

One subject of interest is suggested by the frequent occasions for masonic ceremonies in public celebrations and in laying the corner stones of new buildings. A few years since our own Grand Lodge was called to lay the corner stone of a college edifice for our cherished "Bowdoin" at Brunswick. We have had several celebrations by the Grand Lodge, or by subordinates in different parts of the State. Our brethren in Lincoln County enjoyed a good season in June last, and resolved to do so annually in some part of their masonic districts. Invitations come to us every year from sister states to join them in some jubilee.

We have given you the invitation of the Grand Lodge of New York. Another has come to us from New Haven in Connecticut, and we have a graphic description of the occasion in a full and special report of the Centennial celebration of Hiram Lodge with an able address of R. W. and Rev. Benjamin Huntoon, formerly of this state. Last year we had an interesting report of the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of the Washington National Monument at Washington, by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia,

and this year we have the doings of the Grand Lodge of Virginia in a beautiful pamphlet of 62 pages, accompanied by a superb engraving of the proposed monument to be erected to the memory of Washington, in the city of Richmond. This festival seems to have been conceived and carried out in the genuine spirit of the Old Dominion. Two splendid monuments are thus rising to the memory of the Father of his Country, the foundations of which are laid with masonic ceremonies, and both will rise in solemn grandeur by the labors and contributions of thousands both in and out of the masonic order.

The National Monument at Washington has appealed to all the states and to the masonic and other similar associations in all the states to aid in this noble work by their contributions, and invite each to send its block of granite or marble with appropriate emblems and inscriptions. As these occasions for public ceremonies occur, it is important that they should speak to the public ear in the true spirit of the order and exhibit the high character and mission of the masonic fraternity. It is time that all honest men should know that the emblems and regalia of our order are not an empty show, nor its professions and principles and instructions a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. It should be seen and read of all who witness our public ceremonies, or read the published accounts of them, that we are engaged in a noble work and one which is demanded by the wants of our country and our age. The world seeks light upon our principles and motives, and these public occasions are now beginning to attract attention, and the services to be attended by increasing numbers who come in the spirit of candor to hear and to judge. Let them not be disappointed. Let not unfounded claims be set up or invidious comparisons be allowed between our order and other worthy institutions, nor let our public occasions become unnecessarily common; but when they occur let the voice of wisdom wield the cardinal truths and duties of our order in a manner not to be mistaken. This view is evidently gaining ground.

The addresses which come to us from various quarters are generally full of soul and sense, and fitted to give just views to the candid listener. Especially is it suitable that we should urge on such occasions the influence of our order in producing harmony and good will among men. This view seems to have been taken in the address of M. W. B. B. French of the District of Columbia, in his address delivered before his Grand Lodge at its session in May last. After describing the block of marble which that Grand Lodge had contributed to the National Monument, he says:

"Thus my brethren have the Freemasons of this jurisdiction presented their offering at the holy shrine of patriotism—thus have they contributed their mite towards rearing one of the proudest memorials to the mortal worth of a single man that the world has ever seen. The man was worthy of the monument, and the monument will be worthy of the man: for it will be firm and enduring as his own principles: pure in its outward aspect as his own spotless virtue and integrity; and lofty as his holy and patriotic

purposes. There may it ever stand, my brethren, in the political centre of this great Union—an emblem of him whose name it bears, a rallying point around which, when danger threatens, those patriots who love their country may gather and draw from even the *name* of WASHINGTON, new energies to resist any attempt to destroy that Union to establish which every aspiration of his soul was devoted, and in defence of which he was ever ready to lay down his life! Let us—let each one of us—let every Freemason in this extended union, at this crisis of its existence, kneel at the altar of Masonry and record a solemn vow to Heaven to follow his glorious example!

“One of the landmarks of our Order enjoins upon us to be peaceable citizens, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which we reside, and not to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against government, but patiently to submit to the decisions of the supreme legislature.

“It is our duty, both as masons and as citizens, to sustain the Constitution and laws of these United States; and that mason who does not sustain them, is unworthy to wear the badge of the order. * * * * Let us *all* ship for the voyage; and blow high or blow low, aid in getting the old Constitution into smooth waters and a safe anchorage, and there moor her for all time to come.

“This must be done. The great Union of Free States *must* not, *cannot* be broken up. Some Mississippian—a poet and a patriot—has expressed the idea of Union so strongly that I cannot resist making an extract from his poem:

““ Say, can the South sell out her share in Bunker’s hoary height?
Or can the North give up her boast of Yorktown’s closing fight?
Can ye divide with equal hand a heritage of graves?
Or rend in twain the starry plain that o’er them proudly waves?

““ Can ye cast lots for Vernon’s soil, or chaffer mid the gloom,
That hangs its solemn folds about your common Father’s tomb?
Or could ye meet around his grave, as fratricidal foes,
And wake your burning curses o’er his pure and calm repose?

““ YE DARE NOT! is the Alleghanian thunder toned decree!
’Tis echoed where Nevada guards the blue and tranquil sea;
Where tropic waves delighted clasp our flowery Southern shore;
And where, through foaming mountain gates, Nebraska’s waters roar!’”

Masonry has a most important mission to perform in securing and perpetuating the harmony of our people and the union of our states. No one can tell the extent of this silent influence in preserving the integrity of our Union. What though there are apples of discord which restless politicians can throw East and West, North and South, to stimulate sectional and political strife, and thus agitate the whole country as with convulsions? Freemasonry is abroad, and she has no “Mason’s and Dixon’s line.” There is no severing of the Masonic Union, and it will not be quite so easy to sever the political Union as if Masonry were dead. The strong pillars of the Masonic Union are in the East, the West, the North and the South—they are planted in every state and guarded by watchful sentinels and strong hearted brethren. Its walls have been reared in troublous times—in the face of persecution and reproach. They have stood the shock of the storm and tempest which a few years since shook the social fabric as with an earthquake tread. It will not be quite so easy now to rend and tear the beautiful veils of our temple, or sap its foundations and bury its key stone and the ark of its covenant in its own ruins, as some politicians may imagine. We have

spoken of the monuments being erected to the name of Washington, in the capital of our Union and capital of his native state. That at Richmond is to be surmounted by a noble statue of Washington mounted on his favorite war horse. In that at Washington, every state will be represented by its block of massive granite or marble, and its chosen emblems. Who does not see that these monuments are but pedestals from which the spirit of Washington shall speak to this whole nation? These silent blocks shall speak and demonstrate that there are "tongues in stones" that can speak words of warning and peace across a continent. At the laying of the corner stones of these monuments there were certain cherished symbols and mementoes. There were the sash and apron which Washington was accustomed to wear in the masonic lodge of which he was an honored and useful member at the very time of our struggle for national existence. They were the gift of the noble Lafayette, and the more valued because they were embroidered by the fair hands of his admirable wife. There too was the gavel which Washington himself used in laying the corner stone of the national capital, and also the Oriental Chair which he used to occupy while presiding in his lodge. The portraits of Washington and Lafayette were brought forth from their resting place in Washington Lodge, in the District of Columbia, to be silent guests on the memorable occasion.

Should discord prevail, and the spirit of faction rage, and the demon of disunion become rampant, we may expect to see the shade of Washington in full regalia seated upon this monument in that ancient Oriental Chair, and with the same old gavel calling the craft from labor and strife, and summoning this whole nation to listen once more to his farewell address.

Or should any of the Southern states be particularly restive and bent on breaking loose from the Union, his commanding voice shall ring out from that equestrian statue in the heart of "the Old Dominion," and Virginia will respond to his utterances in a manner worthy of her ancient fame, and which shall quell the spirit of faction wherever it may arise. The spirit of disunion cannot go so far as to break the pillars of wisdom, strength and beauty which sustain our national institutions. There is a Masonic Union that shall pour its oil on the troubled waters of party strife should the storm really come. Let the lodges of our land be true to their trust, and let all our public demonstrations bear favorably upon this vital element of our prosperity.

THE WORK OF THE ORDER IN ITS CONSECRATED HALLS.

We would call attention to the appropriate work of our order in its ordinary communications. If Masonry is to honor its mission on public occasions and if her members are to act well their part in life, the discipline of the lodge room must be such as to secure these ends. There lies the secret of its power. Hence the desire for uniformity in the work of the lodges through-

out the country, and one of the important objects sought for by the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, as well as by publishing text books. This is worthy of earnest and continued efforts, and it is pleasant to witness the increasing interest manifested in this department of masonic labor. Most of the returns speak on this subject with strong feeling, indicating a healthful moral tone as well as enlightened zeal for the honor and usefulness of the order. Many of the Grand Lodges employ Grand Lecturers for this purpose, and where their instructions are demanded their field of usefulness is very great. But their usefulness is not limited to the mere matter of accuracy in the lectures and illustrations of the work so as to secure uniformity in modes and forms. The great object of this uniformity and of masonic skill in conferring degrees and imparting the symbolic instructions, is to give a moral force to these instructions and to engrave masonic teachings, and emblems upon the heart and character of every mason, so that he shall illustrate their power, in a well-regulated life, and prove himself a master workman in the highest and best of all human employments. The skill and accuracy sought for in the order in the use of its symbolic language and labor is of vast importance viewed in its relation to this higher end, in the moral training and discipline of all its members. Let us see how this subject is viewed by some of the brethren and lodges of our land. The M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois thus speaks:

"Within our jurisdiction at this time the star of our noble order rises high in the heavens, clear and unclouded—no storm in its atmosphere—no cloud on its orbit. Prosperity, peace and harmony encircle and abide in our lodges, and fellowship and brotherly love bind closely together the hearts of the fraternity.

"It is very cheering to contrast the present prospects of our order in Illinois, with its state and condition upon the first organization of this Grand Lodge in Jacksonville ten years ago. Six lodges, having in all but ninety-nine members, constituted the organization. We have now ninety-six working lodges, with an aggregate membership of several thousands. This great growth and prosperity should fill our hearts with gratitude, and should lead us to adore Him who giveth the victory.

* * * * *

"Masonry professes to be a moral and benevolent institution—having for its great objects the relief of the indigent and distressed, and the elevating and ennobling of the minds of its votaries. It professes to teach men to act upon the square, to circumscribe their desires, and to keep their passions within due bounds. *It professes the power of reformation*—to be able by its teachings and usages to enlighten, decorate and polish the uncultivated and benighted. Such being the case, is it not the paramount duty of every mason to be zealous in reclaiming the apostate from the dominion of evil and establishing him within the halo of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice?

* * * * *

"It is exceedingly important that some plan should be adopted by your body to produce uniformity in the work of lodges under its jurisdiction.

* * I am greatly in favor of these instructions being imparted by a competent and enlightened Grand Lecturer, or more than one, if thought necessary.

"The services of proper and well-qualified men for this office cannot be obtained so long as a sufficient and suitable payment for their services remains so insecure, undetermined and questionable. This only can be accom-

plished by the Grand Lodge paying to such officer or officers an adequate amount for labors performed.

"The receipts of this body are amply sufficient to authorize such an expenditure. Many of the subordinates, and such too as most need instruction are too weak in numbers and in wealth to enable them to pay a sufficient remuneration to their instructors; and I know of no way in which a part of the treasure of this body could be more profitably and charitably invested than in thus furnishing light to its subordinates."

The M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas thus speaks:

"Our masonic duties are various and important, and may not with impunity be disregarded by any. We should be ever ready to extend a helping hand to a needy brother, to go out of our way to serve him, to offer to assist him by our best counsel and kindest admonitions, to soothe him in afflictions and betray not his confidence, but relieve his wants and save him from falling, if within our power. * * * We are connected by solemn ties, and should ever keep them in active and lively remembrance, for then, and then only may we hope to preserve consciences void of offence toward God and toward men.

"Thus living, how improved would be our condition in our intercourse here with our fellow men, and what a solace in death that in the masonic fraternity is left a father to our children, and a husband to the widow, that shall not fail them in the hour of adversity."

Speaking of the office of District Deputy Grand Masters, he says:

"A faithful discharge of the duties of that office, in connection with the continued services of a faithful Grand Lecturer, cannot fail to establish that uniformity of work and instructions which is so desirable, and for the accomplishment of which there has been so much diversity of opinion and action by the various Grand Lodges of the United States."

The Grand Lecturer of Texas enumerates more than forty lodges which he visited and in which he spent from three to four nights, and thus speaks of the order in that state:

"It affords me much pleasure to say that in my opinion Masonry in Texas is decidedly on the advance. It is increasing rapidly in numbers, but what is still more to be desired, none but the worthy can gain admittance within our doors. * * * I am clearly of the opinion that the subordinate lodges now understand sufficiently well the *modus operandi* of initiating, passing and raising candidates. Therefore, for the future, I think it would be well for the Grand Lecturer to devote much of his time in explaining to the members of the various lodges the nature, extent and proper tendency of the masonic obligations, as well as the duties masons owe towards each other. Here is an inexhaustible field for his time, his talents and abilities, and by pursuing such a course he could render inestimable service to the fraternity; for from past experience I am satisfied that many well meaning masons err through ignorance of their duty and not design. * * *
* * * Were the Grand Lodge to recommend the Grand Lecturer to adopt such a course, it would be well received by the subordinate lodges. * * * I would suggest, also, that it would be well for the Grand Lodge to recommend and advise the W. Masters of subordinate lodges to call their members together at least once a month, and either deliver, or cause to be delivered by some member of their lodge, a lecture upon the duties of masons, and the nature and extent of their obligations."

These views of the Grand Lecturer were highly approved by the lodge and recommended for the action of the subordinates. The Committee of Correspondence quote the language of another Grand Lecturer, who had traveled two years over a large state, as follows:

"I have seen the tears of the widow and the orphan dried, and them fed and clothed. I have seen the drunkard, the gambler and the profane swearer excluded from our glorious privileges. I have seen the venerable patriarch, whose locks were whitened by the frosts of some seventy or eighty winters, re-enlist under our broad banner with the ardor of youth. I have seen the father preside and confer the Master's degree upon his own son, and charge him never to disgrace the jewel entrusted to his care. And I have seen hundreds of our best citizens conducted to the Christian altar through the medium of masonic teaching."

The M. W. P. Grand Master of the District of Columbia, in a former address, thus speaks:

"But while we are thus in these days adding strength to the superstructure of our symbolic temple, the foundations of which were in ages long past laid broad and deep, we cannot be too careful to guard its avenues against the intrusion of anything which may, in time to come, cause us to look back upon this time of masonic prosperity with regret. Perfection is not of this world; therefore we are not to look for it even within the sacred retreat of our masonic sanctuary. But the vast multitude of mankind is made up of good and evil, virtue and vice, the moral and immoral. We want not among our members any whose worldly character is stained by a single vice. Increase of members should be the very last consideration which should actuate us—the increase of virtue and morality should be the very first."

The M. W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania, Joseph R. Chandler, whose eloquent teachings found utterance at our festival of St. John's a few years since, at Augusta, delivered an address before the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, in December, 1849, from which we select the following:

"We celebrate this evening the feast of St. John the Evangelist, the first Christian Grand Master of our order. Let us like him make *love*—sound, social affection, the fulfillment of the law and the test of moral merit. Let us in a Christian community, show the utility of our institution by manifesting the approximation of its doctrines to those saving truths that take hold on heaven."

"But while we announce the principles of our institution as auxiliary to revealed religion, let us not violate their purity nor offend the pre-conceived opinions of society by claiming more from them than they deserve. Like John the Baptist, that other titular saint of masons, we place around us the leathern girdle as a token of professed innocence, but we look higher for that seamless garment with which we are to be clothed anew by the righteousness of another. Like the disciples of John, we wash ourselves free from the physical stains of life in every Jordan that flows in our pathway, but we know that the baptism to spiritual life is from a loftier source, and for a holier purpose. With John, we eat the locusts that perish in our way, or feed on the wild honey that sweetens our social existence, but we look to another to give and break to us the bread of life, of which he that eateth shall never die."

"But while we humbly and devoutly acknowledge the imperfection of our system, as compared with revealed religion, we confidently claim that the purity of life which we demand, and the enlarged benevolence which we practice, are operative to the benefit of Christianity—that they prepare the way for divine truth—they make straight the paths by which it is to reach the human heart."

"Brethren, the mission is yours. Be you the Apostles of the truth—be you illustrators of the virtues of the craft."

In these, and similar passages which we might multiply indefinitely from the lights of Masonry, as they shine through our correspondence, your com-

mittee deeply sympathize. They breathe the genuine spirit of our order, and recognize its high responsibilities in this age and country.

Every lodge room and every Master of the art must be doing something effectually in the inculcation of such noble principles and duties as are here recognized. Our working tools must be kept bright and in action. If the rust of other days of inaction has not yet been worn away, it is time to be in earnest in setting the craft to work and giving them proper instructions. The age in which we live demands this at our hands. The commanding position of our order, and its rapid spread in our country, lay upon us responsibilities which we cannot neglect with impunity. The world is all astir. The active energies of our common humanity are seeking everywhere to unfold themselves in a higher civilization, and a better social state than the world has yet seen. Our own country is rapidly becoming the centre and focus of all the lights and forces of the age, and as a nation we are summoned to exert a commanding influence on the destinies of our race, such as few have believed till within a brief period. We are to span this vast continent with a dense population, and with the great thoroughfares of the world's commerce; and to stand up like men, on the shores of the two great oceans, and shake hands with our neighbors across those oceans, and introduce the Eastern and Western shores of the old world to each other across this continent. The most potent energies which are hereafter to mould the destinies of the old world, are now silently preparing, and are rapidly centering in our land, with all their amazing responsibilities. We need then all the hallowed influences that can be employed, to fit us for such a destiny. Our civil, social, educational, charitable and religious energies and institutions will all find scope and motive. Among these, Freemasonry has a mission of high import, and responsibilities commensurate with her opportunities and capacity, and these are every month enlarging. Hundreds and thousands of the active and intelligent laborers on the stage of active life are clustering around our altars and asking leave to be employed as workmen at the temple; and all the more recent organizations of Odd Fellows, Sons of Temperance and Temperance Watchmen are rapidly increasing the number. We must meet this crisis like men, and guard well the doors of our sanctuary, while we welcome all the worthy and give them the employment and the encouragement they merit. Masonry has peculiar features which impose upon her an important share in this matter of working out the problems of this age. Having a universal language, she can speak to the heart of all nations in her cherished signs and symbols, and find responses in its own dialect, where words and written languages are powerless and unintelligible as the confusions of Babel.

It is the province of Masonry to give and receive; to unfold and to inspire the spirit of peace and good will, and to allay the strifes and irritations, and to diminish and counteract the repellances and oppressions which have filled the world with woe. It is designed to kindle the fires of love and kindness,

which shall consume prejudice and indifference, cement the scattered fragments of our common humanity, and bind in harmony the races of men. But it is to do this mainly by the faithful application of its teachings and appeals to the hearts and the conduct of its individual members. It is around our masonic family altar that its faithful teachings are to be enforced by the pure example and the fraternal kindness of those whose wisdom and skill shall have given them a just claim to sit in the oriental chair. How impressively may the lessons of our order be engraven on the soul in search of light, and seeking to unfold and discipline itself by the principles on which the Institution is founded. The duties of brotherly love, relief and truth, temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice, faith, hope and charity—how earnestly may these be enforced by the symbols and significant emblems which meet the eye, as well as the words of kindness which address the ear.

It is in these labors of love, in the retirement and confidence of our lodge rooms, away from the noise and bustle of the world, that our masonic skill is to be most signally displayed. It is in the deep, lasting, and truthful impressions there made upon the youthful heart around the altar, and the influence there exerted over the life and character of our members, that is to convince mankind that our Institution deserves existence and general confidence. The secret of its power is in the desires, hopes and purposes awakened in fraternal hearts, and illustrated in active life. And in this how much depends on the Masters of our art! How much upon the D. Deputy Grand Masters in their several Districts! How much upon every Grand Lecturer, and every favored teacher whose duty it may be to illustrate the work or expound the principles of the order! And what a range of instruction in the circle of the sciences and the duties and destiny of human life, as embraced in our manuals, and inculcated on every candidate! The volume of revelation stands open, and light shines on its sacred pages. The unwritten volume of Creation and Providence is also before us in fitting emblems. Time and eternity speak to us in appropriate instructions, and address their solemn appeals with authority to the inquiring soul. Why then is it not practicable for the Master of the lodge to leave his "mark" upon every supplicant that kneels at our altar? especially as he has at command all the working tools essential to spiritual workmanship?

Why not fix the impress of every working tool from the twenty-four inch gauge and common gavel to the last implement employed in the completion of the temple? There is not in the whole range of masonic art in building the most splendid monuments of architectural skill, a working tool which is not adapted to leave its mark on the heart and life of the mason, and which may not assist, if properly employed, in fitting him as a living stone for an honored place in the spiritual temple now surely and silently rising from the ruins of the apostacy. May it please the Supreme Architect to continue his providential care of the Grand Lodge of Maine and her trusty and industrious subordinates, and honor them with tokens of his favor in per-

mitting them to share in rearing this spiritual temple. May it please him that those of us now entrusted with the work in this north-east corner of our national masonic edifice, shall bear some humble part in promoting order and harmony among the workmen and so fill the stations assigned us and finish our work as not to dishonor our fathers who have ceased from their labors, or be dishonored by those who must soon fill our places. Let us so discharge the duties of our trust that when called from our earthly labors the Master will welcome us as good and faithful servants to the joy of our Lord, in that building of God, the temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,
F. BRADFORD,
ALLEN HAINES, } Committee.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following R. W. Brethren have been appointed by the Grand Master to be D. D. Grand Masters for the ensuing year, viz :

- First District*—R. W. SAMUEL S. WING, of Brunswick.
Second District—R. W. CORNELIUS HOLLAND, of Canton.
Third District—R. W. EUSEBIUS WESTON, of Skowhegan.
Fourth District—R. W. SCOTT J. TALLMAN, of Bath.
Fifth District—R. W. JOHN L. MOORE, of Ellsworth.
Sixth District—R. W. JOHN C. TALBOT, of East Machias.
Seventh District—R. W. LEWIS BARKER, of Stetson.
Eighth District—R. W. JOSHUA HERRICK, of Alfred.
Ninth District—R. W. H. G. O. WASHBURN, of Belfast.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF LODGES, UP TO APRIL 1, 1851.

- Portland, 1, Portland. Richard W. Kennard, *m*; Thomas J. Sanborn, *sw*; John Russell, Jr., *jw*; James R. Milliken, *tr*; Franklin Fox, *s*; Ezra S. Bradlee, *sd*; Joseph Fowler, *jd*; Lemuel Bryant, *ss*; Thomas B. Parsons, *js*; Isaac Davis, *t*. Members, 97; initiates, 13; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. District 1
- Warren, 2, East Machias. John F. Harris, *m*; William H. Tukey, *sw*; Charles H. Talbot, *jw*; Charles H. Sevey, *tr*; F. L. Talbot, *s*; Fred. A. Wilson, *sd*; Elijah Hall, *jd*; Nathan W. Foster, *ss*; Stephen T. Harris, *js*; Charles Townsend, *t*. Members, 21; initiates, 3. 6
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. Henry Clark, *m*; Thomas B. Johnston, *sw*; Erastus Foote, Jr., *jw*; John B. Mange, *tr*; Thomas H. Merrill, *s*; S. P. Baker, *sd*; James M. Knight, *jd*; Calvin R. Haraden, *ss*; James Smith, *js*; William C. Turner, *t*. Members, 27; initiates 17; expelled, 2. 4
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. Francis J. Day, *m*; Leverett Lord, *sw*; James H. Withington, *jw*; Nathaniel Stevens, *tr*; William Nye, *s*; Ira Cass, *sd*; Greenleaf Robinson, *jd*; Augustine Lord, *ss*; Charles G. Batchelder, *js*; Daniel Russell, *t*. Members, 29; initiates, 8. 3
- Amity, 6, Camden. William Merriam, *m*; Austin Sweetland, *sw*; James R. Glover, *jw*; E. G. Knight, *tr*; Joseph P. Hall, *s*; Oliver Andrews, *sd*; Samuel Chase, *jd*; George W. Glover, *ss*; Benjamin Crabtree, 2d, *js*; Isaiah Barbour, *t*. Members, 49; initiates, 16; rejected, 1. 9
- Eastern, 7, Eastport. John L. Bowman, *m*; Joseph Gunnison, *sw*; Charles James, *jw*; Thomas Parker, *tr*; Alden Bradford, *s*; John Rogan, *sd*; Joshua Bradford, *jd*; Samuel R. Byram, *ss*; John R. Worster, *js*; Thomas Haycock, *t*. Members, 34; initiates, 4; suspended, 12; deceased, 1. 6
- United, 8, Brunswick. John D. Lincoln, *m*; Theodore S. McLellan, *sw*; Octavius A. Merrill, *jw*; Richard Greenleaf, *tr*; Ephraim Brown, *s*; Artemas Coburn, *sd*; Ward Coburn, *jd*; Augustus H. Wing, *ss*; John Crawford, *js*; Moses M. Marsh, *t*. Members, 38; initiates, 2; deceased, two. 1
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Jonathan Burbank, *m*; Jabez True, *sw*; E. Gilman Rawson, *jw*; Joseph C. Stevens, *tr*; George W. Snow, *s*; Samuel F. Hersey, *sd*; Harrison Richardson, *jd*; Herman Fisher, *ss*; Atherton Pratt, *js*; Simeon Everton, *t*. Members, 44; initiates, 9; rejected, 2. 7
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. John Hatch, *m*; Charles Megquier, *sw*; Abner M. Nutting, *jw*; William Hatch, *tr*; Isaac H. Keith, *s*; Benjamin Morse, *sd*; Alpheus Rollins, *jd*; Pelatiah Lyon, *ss*; David Allen, *js*; Nathaniel Bray, *t*. Members, 17; initiates, 2; deceased, 1. 1
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. Clement J. Adams, *m*; James Flint, *sw*; Samuel Andrews, 2d, *jw*; George Peirce, *tr*; Ebenezer Kilborn, *s*; Abner

- Smith, *sd*; William T. Kilborn, *jd*; Abraham M. Savage, *ss*; Austin S. Frisbee, *js*; E. L. O. Adams, *t*. Members, 16; initiates, 2. Dist. 2
- Solar, 14, Bath. A. J. Fuller, *m*; John G. Richardson, *sw*; John G. Elliot, *sw*; Davis Hatch, *tr*; A. Matthews, *s*; John H. Kimball, *sd*; P. Clementine, *jd*; Jeremiah Elsworth, *ss*; S. J. Tallman, *js*; John Young, *t*. Members, 48; initiates, 5. 4
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. Edward Boyles, *m*; George Crawford, *sw*; William Lougee, *sw*; Robert Walsh, *tr*; J. D. Barnard, *s*; ———, *sd*; ———, *jd*; ———, *ss*; ———, *js*; ———, *t*. Members, 20; initiates, 2; deceased, 1. 4
- St. George, 16, Warren. John Andrews, *m*; Samuel Hinkley, *sw*; Edward Weston, *sw*; Amos H. Hodgman, *tr*; W. H. Wetherbee, *s*; James Teague, *sd*; James Andrews, *jd*; Francis Spear, *ss*; Edmund B. Alford, *js*; Stephen B. Dockham, *t*. Members, 29. 4
- Ancient Land-Mark, 17, Portland. William Allen, *m*; Joseph Smith, *sw*; Amos E. Howell, *sw*; Henry H. Boody, *tr*; William A. Quincy, *s*; John F. Purinton, *sd*; Joel Whitney, *jd*; Stephen C. Munsey, *ss*; David G. Plummer, *js*; John Dain, *t*. Members 81; initiates, 8; rejected, 2; deceased, 2. 1
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Samuel Carter, *m*; John H. Sherman, *sw*; Nahum T. Hill, *sw*; Sewall Lake, *tr*; David C. Homer, *s*; James B. Parker, *sd*; Henry Silsby, *jd*; ———, *ss*; ———, *js*; Samuel Dorr, *t*. Members, 17; initiates, 4. 5
- Maine, 20, Farmington. William Tripp, *m*; Edwin Ellis, *sw*; Freeman Butler, *sw*; John Trask, Jr., *tr*; Joseph D. Prescott, *s*; William Frost, *sd*; Anthony F. Hane, *jd*; Sumner B. Walker, *ss*; John P. Taylor, *js*; Hiram Webster, *t*. Members, 23; initiates, 6. 3
- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Joseph Covell, *m*; Jefferson Coolidge *sw*; Peter T. Hathaway, *sw*; Reuel Washburn, *tr*; Gideon Ellis, *s*; Horace Palmer, *sd*; Isaac S. Daily, *jd*; Ebenezer Hinds, *ss*; Daniel Austin, *js*; Samuel P. Holman, *t*. Members, 28; initiates, 2. 2
- York, 22, Kennebunk. Samuel Mendum, *m*; Isaac Downing, *sw*; Stephen Perkins, *sw*; Amos Lunt, *tr*; William Downing, *s*; Orin Kimball, *sd*; George Smith, *jd*; Lewis Hill, *ss*; Mark Pool, *js*; H. H. Chadborn, *t*. Members, 24; initiates, 2; suspended, 1. 8
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast. Hiram Chase, *m*; Daniel Howard, *sw*; William O. Poor, *sw*; Josiah Farrow, *tr*; Oshea Page, *s*; Joseph S. Noyes, *sd*; William Holt, *jd*; David Pierce, Jr., *ss*; William W. West, *js*; Ephraim C. Keen, *t*. Members, 50; initiates, 11; rejected, 2; deceased, 3. 9
- Adoniram, 27, Limington. Alexander H. McLellan, *m*; Ivory Harmon, *sw*; William Boulter, *sw*; Moses Sweat, *tr*; Stephen C. Watson, *s*; William Lord, *sd*; James McArthur, *jd*; Thomas Lord, *ss*; David F. Rolfe, *js*; Benjamin Blake, *t*. Members, 45; initiates, 6; expelled, 1. 8
- Northern Star, 28, Anson. John Pierce, *m*; William Rowell, *sw*; Andrew McFadden, *sw*; Benjamin Steward, *tr*; Albert Moore, *s*; Joshua G. Thompson, *sd*; Jonathan Smith, *jd*; Simeon Maynard, *ss*; Cyrus Boothby, *js*; Thomas Hilton, *t*. Members, 45; initiates, 4; rejected, 1. 3
- Tranquil, 29, Danville. Augustus Callahan, *m*; Hiram Adams, *sw*; Samuel H. Wilson, *sw*; Marshall Ford, *tr*; William White, *s*; Samuel B. Hutchins, *sd*; Ossian Z. Cole, *jd*; Samuel Stinchfield, *ss*; Samuel Cobb, *js*; Almond C. Pray, *t*. Members, 44; initiates, 7; deceased, 3. 2
- Union, 31, Union. George Littlehale, *m*; Ebenezer Cobb, *sw*; Edward Alden, *sw*; William G. Hawes, *t*; Maxcy H. Davis, *s*; Benjamin B.

- Blackington, sd; Josiah H. Shepard, jd; Charles F. Blake, ss; Asa Gowen, js; Philo Thurston, t. Members, 36; initiates, 3; rejected, 1.
District 4
- Hermion, 32, Gardiner. Stephen Webber, m; James McCurdy, sw; James Tarbox, jd; William H. Byram, tr; George H. Cooke, s; William H. Lord, sd; Thomas Briery, jd; George Gay, ss; Francis Blood, js; Joseph Soper, t. Members, 48; initiates, 4. 3
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Wadsworth Chipman, m; Thomas W. Herrick, sw; David Burbank, jw; Jacob M. Crooker, tr; Alpheus Lyon, s; Jeremiah Arnold, sd; Hiram P. Cousins, jd; Stephen H. Prescott, ss; George A. Phillips, js; Stephen Tozier, t. Members, 32; initiates, 3. 3
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. Joseph Philbrick, m; Joseph Bigelow, sw; Abraham Wyman, jw; John Whitten, tr; B. P. Pearson, s; Henry B. Neil, sd; John R. Russell, jd; Poole H. Steward, ss; Darius Daggett, js; William B. Morrill, t; Herman Nickerson, chap. Members, 32; initiates, 10. 3
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Eri Wills, m; Leonard Goss, sw; Moses E. Hamlen, jw; Henry Winslow, tr; Ephraim Ballard, s; Amasa Kelley, sd; Orrin Rowe, jd; John R. Kelso, ss; Greenleaf White, js; Joshua Rollins, t. Members, 56; initiates, 7; rejected, 2; suspended, 1; deceased, two. 3
- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. Octavius A. Hill, m; Elijah Ross, sw; James Field, jw; Nathan Oakes, tr; Robert E. Cordiss, s; Perez Drinkwater, sd; Gad Hitchcock, jd; Benjamin Oakes, ss; Asa P. C. Winslow, js; John Gurney, t. Members 14; initiates, 7. 1
- Washington, 37, Lubec. John C. Talbot, Jr., m; Levi Caswell, sw; George T. Hunter, jw; Joseph Sumner, tr; Taft Comstock, Jr., s; Samuel Starbird, sd; Joseph McGregor, jd; Ebenezer Oakes, ss; Salathiel Nickerson, js; John Davidson, t. Members, 28. 6
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. William Burton, m; William Silla, sw; Merrill Thomas, jw; John R. Larrabee, tr; Joseph G. S. Hitchcock, s; George L. Darling, sd; Edward Anderson, jd; Thomas J. Hasty, ss; Arthur M. Benson, js; Robert Creig, t. Members, 45; initiates, 18. 1
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. Levi C. Morgan, m; Isaac M. Russ, sw; William Morgan, jw; T. P. Sawyer, tr; George Cutler, s; Samuel Copeland, sd; Nathaniel Dustin, jd; Josiah Crosby, ss; Reuben Flanders, js; Asa Merrill, t. Members, 36; initiates, 1. 7
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. Nathaniel Moore, m; Seth Paddleford, sw; Spofford P. Thomas, jw; Nathaniel A. Joy, tr; Calvin G. Peck, s; Stillman H. Sawyer, sd; Edward B. Fifield, jd; William Mayhew, ss; Charles H. Barton, js; D. P. Lake, Tyler. Members, 25; initiates, 4. 5
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. Gilman Lougee, m; William Cobb, sw; William Gage, jw; Robert Cole, tr; Mark Wood, s; James Buzzell, sd; Aaron N. Bradbury, jd; ———, ss; ———, js; Abner Libby, 2d, t. Members, 18; initiates, 4. 8
- Alna, 43, Damariscotta. Ezra B. French, m; Peaslee M. Wells, sw; Isaac Chapman, jd; William Hitchcock, tr; William Jones, s; G. Q. H. Putnam, sd; Lemuel S. Hubbard, jd; Henry Mellus, ss; John Taylor, js; David B. Catland, t. Members, 11; initiates, 8. 4
- Central, 45, China. Thomas B. Lincoln, m; Thomas Clark, sw; Edward Gray, jw; Amasa Taylor, tr; Bela Burrell, s; Warren Colby, sd; William M. Maxfield, jd; Alfred Fletcher, ss; Alonzo Taylor, js; Caleb Parmater, t. Members, 32; initiates, 6. 3
- St. Croix, 46, Calais. Francis Williams, m; Alex. Todd, sw; Benjamin Young, jw; Robert C. Stickney, tr; Charles H. Garland, s; Seth Town-

- send, sd; Samuel Wheelock, JD; Rufus Carver, ss; G. W. Spratt, JS; William M. Henry, t. Members, 44; Initiates, 16; deceased 3. Dist. 6
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. Josiah Whitten, 2d, m; Josiah F. Taylor, sw; William C. Fuller, JW; David Smith, TR; Edward Fuller, s; Ira S. Chapman, sd; Cromwell P. Hunter, JD; Oliver Bean, ss; John Stearns, JS; Edmund H. Frost, t. Members, 24; initiates, 6. District 3
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Grenville Flint, m; Hezekiah Lancaster, sw; Joseph Knight, JW; Edmund Pillsbury, TR; Thomas Croswell, s; A. W. Chapin, sd; John L. Nay, JD; Orrin Footman, ss; A. H. Lang, JS; Nathaniel Cole, t. Members, 20; Initiates, 7; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 7
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. Ephraim Hall, m; ———, sw; C. G. Moffit, JW; Samuel Libby, TR; E. H. Cochran, s; H. M. Blackington, sd; H. G. Berry, JD; Charles Clark, ss; A. C. Tibbetts, JS; Nathaniel, Meservey, t. Members, 32; initiates, 8; rejected, 1; deceased, 2. 4
- Mosaic, 52, Dover. John W. Sherwood, m; Judah M. Hackett, sw; Wm. A. P. Dillingham, JW; Abraham S. Patten, TR; James S. Holmes, s; William P. Brown, sd; Paul Douglass, JD; Salmon Holmes, ss; Woodman W. Magoon, JS; Joseph Tyler, t. Members, 20; initiates, 2. 7
- Mount Moriah, 56, Denmark. Domineus G. Tarbox, m; Levi P. Sawyer, sw; Cyrus Ingalls, JW; Nathaniel Pease, TR; William Pingree, s; William Allen, sd; Alpheus Goold, JD; ———, ss; ———, JS; Asabel F. Lowell, t. This lodge was organized on the 26th of April last. 2
- Unity, 58, Freedom. James Weed, m; Samuel Sears, sw; William Ross, JW; Ivory Lord, TR; Jeremiah Webb, s; William Stevenson, MAR; Thomas S. Keen, sd; Ivory Whitten, JD; Charles Elliot, ss; John Winslow, JS; Joseph Larrabee, t; Samuel Polleys, CHAP. Members, 20; initiates, 2. 9
- Mount Hope, 59, Hope. John Lermond, m; Walter Philbrick, sw; Hiram Fisk, sw; Moses G. Metcalf, TR; Henry Hobbs, s; Daniel Howard, sd; Eben Philbrick, JD; Thomas P. White, ss; Church Fish, JS; George W. St. Clair, t. Members, 16; initiates, 2. 9
- Star in the East, 60, Old Town. Eli Hoskins, m; Ira Wallace, sw; Foster Wood, JW; Hiram Smith, TR; Solomon Moulton, s; Moses Wadleigh, sd; Zebulon H. Foss, JD; Ansel Smith, ss; John Newbegin, JS; Joseph Moulton, t. Members, 38; initiates, 18; deceased, 5. 7
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoboro'. John Balch, m; Lewis S. Soule, sw; Isaac B. Humphrey, JW; James Cole, TR; Meaubac M. Rawson, s; William Bearce, sd; Joseph Miller, JD; Abram T. Moses, ss; Thomas Gay, JS; Charles Vannah, t. Members, 30; initiates, 8; deceased, 1. 4
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. Robert Davis, m; A. D. Knight, sw; Israel DeCrow, Jr., JW; David Howe, TR; James Perry, s; Minot Crehore, sd; Henry Crehore, JD; David B. Decrow, ss; Calvin H. Hale, JS; Thomas Witham, t. Members, 24; initiates, 17; rejected, 2. 9
- Richmond, 63, Richmond. James C. Boynton, m; Abiel Libby, sw; George H. Hatch, JW; William Patten, TR; Abiel Avery, s; Daniel Witham, sd; Isaac S. Cox, JD; Davis Blanchard, 2d, ss; Joseph D. Springer, JS; Lebbeus Jenkins, t. Members, 31; initiates, 10. 4
- Pacific, U. D., Stetson. Horace Shepley, m; Lewis Barker, sw; John Rogers, JW; Joseph Wiggin, TR; William Goodwin, s; Charles B. Wood, sd; William B. Ireland, JD; John B. Wiggin, ss; ———, JS; John W. Gilmore, t. Members, 9; initiates, 6; rejected, 3. 7
- Mystic, U. D., at Hampden. John J. Bell, m; G. C. Swallow, sw; Reuben K. Stetson, JW; Byron Porter, TR; C. S. Crosby, s; Allen Rogers, sd; Joshua Hill, JD; ———, ss; ———, JS; Daniel Emery, t. Members, 8; initiates, 8. 5

Mechanics', v. d., Orono. H. H. Brackett, m; W. W. Durgin, sw; Thomas McMillan, jw; Jacob Banks, tr; Charles Whitmore, s; John Hatch, Jr., sd; Andrew W. Weymouth, jd; Abner Starratt, ss; Elijah Webster, js; Abel Moore, t. Members, 17; initiates, 6. 7

Blue Mountain, v. d., Phillips. Moses Sherburne, m; Philip M. Stubbs, sw; Curtis Smith, jw; William Church, tr; Joel W. Hoyt, s; B. F. Eastman, sd; Seward Dill, jd; Sylvanus Robinson, ss; Ephraim Rand, js; Joseph Sherburne, t. Members, 17; initiates, 17. 3

Grand Lodge of Maine,

1852.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on Tuesday, the fourth day of May, A. D. 1852, and opened in due form by

R. W. FREEMAN BRADFORD,	as Grand Master ;
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	Senior Grand Warden ;
" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	Junior Grand Warden ;
" HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer ;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary ;
W. and Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain ;
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "
W. JOSEPH COVELL,	as Grand Marshal ;
" PERCIVAL CLEMENTINE,	as Grand Senior Deacon ;
" EDMUND HINKLEY,	as Grand Junior Deacon ;
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	as Grand Steward ;
" JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

After opening, R. W. Bro. Bradford called to the chair the M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, P. G. Master, whereupon a Committee on Credentials was appointed, consisting of Bros. Dodge, Covell and Mudgett, who ascertained and reported that a quorum was present, and ready to proceed to business.

This special session having been called for the purpose of receiving and considering the report of the committee appointed at the last Annual Communication, to determine the true mode of lecturing and work for the several lodges in the state :

That committee, consisting of R. W. Bros. Bradford, Miller and Clementine, proceeded to make their report by an exemplification; which was continued through the day, with the exception of being called off at the usual times for refreshment; when, at the close of the session in the evening, the Grand Lodge was called off until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 5, 1852.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at nine o'clock A. M.—Past Grand Master Stevens in the chair.

The Committee on Work and Lectures proceeded in the exemplification thereof until one o'clock, when the Grand Lodge was called off until three o'clock P. M.

At three o'clock P. M. the Grand Lodge was called to labor,—R. W. William Somerby in the chair.

The committee proceeded in their exemplification.

The M. W. John C. Humphreys, Grand Master, then entered the Grand Lodge and took the chair.

The exemplification was continued, with a short intermission for refreshment, until the close of the session in the evening, when the Grand Lodge was called off until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 6, 1852.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 8 o'clock A. M.—the M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

The committee proceeded with the exemplification as before, until 9 o'clock, when, on motion,

Voted, That the work and lectures of the Entered Apprentice's degree, as exemplified by the committee, and amended by the Grand Lodge, be adopted and sanctioned by this Grand Lodge.

The time for the annual communication of the Grand Lodge having now arrived, this special session thereof was closed in ample form.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1852.

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on the first Thursday in May, 1852, being the 6th day of said month, at nine o'clock A. M., and opened in ample form in the third degree by

M. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Master ;
R. W. FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Deputy Grand Master ;
“ TIMOTHY CHASE,	Senior Grand Warden ;
“ WILLIAM SOMERBY,	Junior Grand Warden ;
“ HENRY H. BOODY,	Grand Treasurer ;
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary ;
“ ALLEN HAINES,	Cor. Grand Secretary ;
W. and Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain ;
“ CYRIL PEARL,	“ “
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal ;
“ EBENEZER G. RAWSON,	Grand Senior Deacon ;
“ JOSEPH COVELL,	Grand Junior Deacon ;
“ THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	Grand Steward ;
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Bro. Cummings, Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master announced the appointment of a Committee on Credentials, consisting of Bro's Dodge, Mudgett and Covell ; who after attending to the duties assigned them reported :—

That they find the lodges under this jurisdiction represented as follows, viz :

1 *Portland*, at Portland, by R. W. Kennard, WM ; Thomas J. Sanborn, SW ; John Russell, Jr., JW.

- 2 *Warren*, at East Machias, by A. F. Wilson, Proxy.
- 3 *Lincoln*, at Wiscasset, by T. B. Johnston, WM; Erastus Foote, Jr., SW;
D. K. Kennedy, JW.
- 5 *Kennebec*, at Hallowell, by William Nye, Proxy.
- 6 *Amity*, at Camden, by Austin Sweetland, WM; John Glover, Proxy.
- 7 *Eastern*, at Eastport, by Charles Loring, Proxy.
- 8 *United*, at Brunswick, by Octavius A. Merrill, SW; A. W. Purrington,
Proxy.
- 9 *Saco*, at Saco, by Thurston Libby, SW.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, at Bangor, by Jabez True, WM; E. G. Rawson, SW.
- 12 *Cumberland*, at New Gloucester, by John Hatch, Proxy.
- 13 *Oriental*, at Bridgton, by A. M. Savage, WM.
- 14 *Solar*, at Bath, by A. J. Fuller, WM; J. H. Kimball, JW; Thomas
Eaton, Proxy.
- 15 *Orient*, at Thomaston, by George Crawford, WM; J. D. Barnard, Proxy.
- 16 *St. George*, at Warren, by Edmund Hinkley, SW; John Miller, Proxy.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, at Portland, by William Allen, WM; Joseph Smith,
SW; Amos E. Howell, JW.
- 19 *Felicity*, at Bucksport, by Samuel Carter, Proxy.
- 20 *Maine*, at Farmington, by John H. Willard, SW.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, at Livermore, by Joseph Covell, WM; D. G. Plummer,
Proxy.
- 22 *York*, at Kennebunk, by Isaac Downing, WM; Samuel Mendum, Proxy.
- 23 *Freeport*, at Freeport, by Samuel Thing, SW; R. R. Kendall, Proxy.
- 24 *Phoenix*, at Belfast, by Benjamin Kelly, WM; William O. Poor, SW.
- 28 *Northern Star*, at Anson, by Benjamin Stewart, Proxy.
- 29 *Tranquil*, at Danville, by S. H. Wilson, WM.
- 31 *Union*, at Union, by Lewis Andrews, WM.
- 32 *Hermon*, at Gardiner, by Stephen Webber, WM; E. A. Chadwick, SW;
L. H. Green, Proxy.
- 33 *Waterville*, at Waterville, by J. Arnold, WM.
- 34 *Somerset*, at Skowhegan, by James Philbrick, WM; Joseph Bigelow,
SW; Abraham Wyman, JW.
- 35 *Bethlehem*, at Augusta, by Moses E. Hamlin, SW; Orin Rowe, JW;
Amasa Kelley, proxy.
- 36 *Casco*, at Yarmouth, by O. A. Hill, WM.
- 38 *Harmony*, at Gorham, by William Burton, WM; Merrill Thomas, JW.
- 39 *Penobscot*, at Dexter, by Reuben Flanders, proxy.
- 40 *Lygonia*, at Ellsworth, by Seth Paddleford, WM.
- 42 *Freedom*, at Limerick, by Gilman Lougee, WM; George L. Darling, proxy.
- 43 *Alna*, at Damariscotta, by E. B. French, WM; Isaac Chapman, JW.
- 45 *Central*, at China, by Edward Gray, SW.
- 46 *St. Croix*, at Calais, by Sewall Waterhouse, proxy.
- 48 *Lafayette*, at Readfield, by William C. Fuller, SW.

- 49 *Meridian Splendor*, at Newport, by Edmund Pillsbury, Proxy.
 50 *Aurora*, at Rockland, by Zenas Colby, proxy.
 52 *Mosaic*, at Dover, by J. W. Sherwood, WM; David Higgins, proxy.
 56 *Mount Moriah*, at Denmark, by J. P. Sawyer, proxy.
 58 *Unity*, at Freedom, by Samuel B. Dodge, WM.
 59 *Mount Hope*, at Hope, by Walter Philbrick, WM.
 60 *Star in the East*, at Old Town, by John H. Smith, SW.
 61 *King Solomon's*, at Waldoboro', by Lewis S. Soule, WM; Joseph Miller, SW; Henry Clays, proxy.
 62 *King David's*, at Lincolnville, by Joseph S. Noyes, proxy.
 63 *Richmond*, at Richmond, by J. C. Boynton, WM; Abiel Avery, Proxy.
 64 *Pacific*, at Stetson, by Horace Shepley, WM.
 65 *Mystic*, at Hampden, by B. F. Mudgett, WM; John J. Bell, proxy.
 66 *Mechanics'*, at Orono, by Thomas McMillan, SW; John Williams, proxy.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Joseph C. Stevens and Abner B. Thompson, Past Grand Masters.

Report read and accepted.

The following District Deputy Grand Masters were also present, viz:

- First District*—R. W. Samuel S. Wing.
Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland.
Third District—R. W. Eusebius Weston.
Fifth District—R. W. John L. Moore.
Seventh District—R. W. Lewis Barker.
Eighth District—R. W. Joshua Herrick.
Ninth District—R. W. H. G. O. Washburn.

The M. W. Grand Master then announced the following Standing Committees, viz:

On Dispensations and Charters.—Bros. Allen of Portland, Kelley of Belfast, and Webber of Gardiner.

On Doings of the Grand Officers.—Bros. Willard of Wilton, Philbrick of Skowhegan, and Glover of Camden.

On Returns.—Bros. Johnston of Wiscasset, Paddleford of Ellsworth, and Merrill of Topsham.

On Grievances and Appeals.—Bros. Mudgett of Hampden, Washburn of Belfast, and Covell of Livermore.

On the Pay Roll.—Bros. Bell of Carmel, Fuller of Bath, and Kennard of Portland.

The M. W. Grand Master then addressed the Grand Lodge, exhibiting a statement of his official acts during the past year, together with the general condition and prospects of the fraternity in this jurisdiction. He also submitted a report in relation to certain differences existing in Adoniram Lodge, No. 27, and among the members thereof.

Whereupon, on motion,

Voted, That the Grand Master's report in relation to difficulties in Adoniram Lodge, with the papers referring to the same, be referred to a special committee.

And Bros. French, Carter and True were appointed.

The question of the *rank* of Solar Lodge, No. 14, at Bath, whose original charter had been lost and renewed some few years since by the Grand Lodge, was presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A report and sundry resolutions of Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, at Bangor, containing charges against Meridian Splendor Lodge, No. 49, at Newport, and Granville Flint, late Master thereof, were presented and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The memorial of sundry members of Hermon Lodge was presented, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

R. W. Bro. Boody, Grand Treasurer, then made his annual report, which was read and accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be, and are hereby tendered to R. W. Bro. Henry H. Boody, Grand Treasurer, for his faithful services in that office the past year.

The memorial and appeal of George Nichols, from a sentence of expulsion passed against him by Meridian Splendor Lodge, No. 49, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Petitions of Mount Moriah Lodge at Denmark, Penobscot Lodge at Dexter, Mechanics' Lodge at Orono, and Mystic Lodge at Hampden, for remission of dues, were presented and referred to a special committee, consisting of Bros. Holland, Foote and Noyes.

A petition from Blue Mountain Lodge, v. d., at Phillips, praying for a charter, together with copies of their records and by-laws, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A petition was presented from Fraternal Lodge, at Shapleigh, praying for a dispensation to remove said lodge to the town of Alfred. Referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A memorial from Meridian Splendor Lodge, No. 49, at Newport, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Petitions from Mariners' Lodge, v. d., at Searsport, and of Howard Lodge, v. d., at Frankfort, (with copies of their records and by-laws), for extension of their dispensations; of Edward Gray and others for renewal of the charter of Vassalboro' Lodge, at Vassalboro', and of Oriental Lodge, at Bridgton, for a dispensation to hold the meetings of said lodge alternately at Bridgton and Naples, were presented, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

R. W. Bro. Boody, Grand Treasurer, being out of health, was, at his request, excused from any further attendance at this session; and W. Bro. Moses Dodge was appointed by the Grand Master as Grand Treasurer, *pro tem.*

W. and Rev. Cyril Pearl, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, then submitted their annual report, which was read and accepted and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

The same committee also submitted a report upon the subject of the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. Read and laid upon the table.

The several reports received from lodges in this jurisdiction upon the subject of the physical deformity of candidates as a bar to the privileges of Freemasonry, were then referred to a select committee, consisting of Bros. Pearl of Baldwin, Barker of Stetson, and Stevens of Bangor, to report thereon at the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until three o'clock P. M.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 6, 1852.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 3 o'clock P. M. The Grand Master in the chair.

Reports were received from the D. D. G. Masters of the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Districts, and referred to the Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The Grand Lodge having determined now to proceed to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, the M. W. Abner B. Thompson, P. G. Master, was called to the chair, Bros. Stevens, Clementine and Joseph Smith were appointed tellers, and the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

M. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Brunswick;
R. W. FREEMAN BRADFORD,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Portland;
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Belfast;
" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Ellsworth;
" HENRY H. BOODY,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	<i>Rec. G. Secretary,</i>	Portland.

Committee of Finance.

BROS. FREEMAN BRADFORD, ABNER B. THOMPSON, JONATHAN SMITH.

Trustees of the Charity Fund.

BROS. A. J. FULLER, EZRA B. FRENCH.

Bro. Jonathan Smith, on whose motion the report of the Com-

mittee on the subject of a General Grand Lodge, was laid on the table, now called up the report, and the same having been considered and discussed, was adopted and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and also in the form of a circular for distribution as therein proposed.

The following report was then submitted :

IN SESSION, May 6, 1852.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of remission of dues, having attended to said duty, ask leave to report, that in their opinion the following amounts of dues should be remitted to the several lodges hereafter named, viz :

Mt. Moriah Lodge, at Denmark,	\$15.75
Penobscot " Dexter,	26.87½
Mechanics' " Orono,	25.00
Mystic, " Hampden,	25.00

All which is respectfully submitted,

CORNELIUS HOLLAND,	} Committee.
ERASTUS FOOTE, JR.,	
JOSEPH S. NOYES,	

Report read and accepted, and the several sums remitted as therein recommended.

On motion,

Voted, That the M. W. Grand Master be requested to report to the Grand Lodge, at its next annual communication, a definite plan for the establishment of charity funds in the several subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction.

The M. W. Grand Master then announced the following appointments of subordinate Grand Officers for the ensuing year :

R. W.	ALLEN HAINES,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland.
W. & Rev.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Portland.
"	CYRIL PEARL,	" "	Baldwin.
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON,	" "	Brunswick.
"	JOHN McDONALD,	" "	Bangor.
"	BENJAMIN JACQUES,	" "	Topsham.
"	DAVID HIGGINS,	" "	Wiscasset.
W.	JONATHAN SMITH,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Westbrook.
"	EBENEZER G. RAWSON,	<i>Grand Senior Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
"	JOSEPH COVELL,	<i>Grand Junior Deacon,</i>	Jay.

W.	JOHN D. LINCOLN,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Brunswick.
"	JOHN J. BELL,	" "	Carmel.
"	J. M. CROOKER,	" "	Waterville.
"	SAMUEL CHASE,	" "	Portland.
"	J. C. BOYNTON,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Richmond.
"	O. A. MERRILL,	" "	Topsham.
Bro.	JOHN DAIN,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

R. W. CYRIL PEARL, of Baldwin.

" FREEMAN BRADFORD, of Portland.

" ALLEN HAINES, of Portland.

The Grand Lodge then entered upon the consideration of the report of the committee on the work and lectures of the order, by an exemplification thereof in the Fellow Craft's degree; and after due deliberation and making some small corrections, it was, on motion,

Voted, That the work and lectures of the Fellow Craft's degree, as exemplified by the committee and amended by the Grand Lodge, be adopted and sanctioned by this Grand Lodge.

Called off until seven o'clock P. M.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 6, 1852.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at seven o'clock P. M. The M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

The Grand Lodge devoted the evening session to the exemplification of the work and lectures in the Master Mason's degree; and then called off until eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Attest,

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 7, 1852.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at eight o'clock A. M. The M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

REPORT IN THE CASE OF ADONIRAM LODGE.

The select committee to which was referred so much of the annual communication of the M. W. Grand Master, as relates to Adoniram Lodge, together with the papers therein referred to and also the petition of Stephen C. Watson and twenty-two other Master Masons, for a dispensation to form a new lodge at Steep Falls, to be called Steep Falls Lodge, have attended to the duty assigned, and report :

That from an examination of the facts of the case, it appears that there are two business points in the town of Limington, about six miles distant from each other, one of which is called "the Corner," and the other "Steep Falls"; the latter village being in the towns of Limington and Standish; and that the members of Adoniram Lodge are about equally divided between those two points.

It further appeared by a by-law of the lodge that it was to hold its meetings at Masonic Hall in Limington, (which is at the Corner,) and that in consequence of a natural desire of the brethren at Steep Falls to have the lodge in their immediate vicinity, and perhaps stimulated somewhat by a spirit of sectional rivalry, unfortunate difficulties sprung up between the members of the lodge, which was calculated, if unchecked, not only to destroy the harmony and usefulness of the lodge, but also to bring reproach upon the order.

After ineffectual attempts to secure a perfect reconciliation, the M. W. Grand Master very properly issued his warrant to arrest the charter, but before action was had under it, the charter of the lodge was voluntarily surrendered. Immediately following the surrender, the brethren at Steep Falls presented their petition for a dispensation to form a new lodge at that place, which, under the existing circumstances, was judiciously refused.

The committee further report that, from the facts presented, they believe that two lodges may, with prudent management, be sustained at the two points spoken of, and that a masonic spirit may be restored to the brethren in that vicinity by taking the two portions of Adoniram Lodge for their nucleus, as each will then have twenty or more members.

Taking this plan for a basis, the representatives of both parties, who were before the committee, found that an equitable and amicable adjustment of their differences could be accomplished, if the Grand Lodge should sustain the views of your committee.

We therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolutions.

EZRA B. FRENCH, }
JABEZ TRUE, } Committee.
SAMUEL CARTER, }

Resolved, That the charter of Adoniram Lodge be restored to the members who petition for the same, and that an order be given for the surrender to them of all books, papers and other property belonging to said lodge, now in the possession of those who filled the several offices at the time of the surrender of its charter.

Resolved, That a dispensation be granted to Stephen C. Watson and others, for a lodge to be established at Steep Falls, in the town of Standish, to be known and hailed as "Steep Falls Lodge."

The foregoing report was read and accepted, and the resolutions adopted.

The charter of Adoniram Lodge being now restored, the Committee on Credentials reported Bro. Arthur McArthur entitled to a seat as a representative of said lodge; and he appeared and took his seat accordingly.

The following report was then presented and adopted:

IN GRAND LODGE, MASONS' HALL, May 7, 1852.

The select committee, to which were referred the following questions, presented by L. S. Soule, W. M. of King Solomon's Lodge, viz:

When a petition for the degrees is presented to a lodge, should not the fact be made a regular record of, together with the name of the petitioner?

When the ballot has been taken, and one or more negative ballots thrown, has the lodge a right to go into a committee of the whole, with a view to doing away with that vote?

Should not every ballot be made a matter of regular record?

Having considered the several subjects, report:

That in their opinion, whenever a petition for the degrees is presented in a lodge, that fact, with the name of the petitioner and the brother who recommends him, should be made a matter of record.

That when negative ballots are thrown, the lodge has no right to go into a committee of the whole with a view to doing away with such vote, or for any other purpose; such a committee not being recognized by our ancient constitutions or general regulations, is unmasonic in form and such action is in violation of masonic principles.

In conclusion, it is the opinion of the committee that the Secretary, whose

duty it is to observe the proceedings of the lodge and make a correct record thereof, should record the result of all ballotings in the lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted,

E. B. FRENCH, *Chairman.*

The Committee on the Pay Roll made their report, which was read and accepted, and the Grand Treasurer ordered to pay the representatives of lodges in accordance therewith.

INSTALLATION.

The M. W. Joseph C. Stevens, Past Grand Master, was then called to the chair and installed, in ample form, the M. W. John C. Humphreys as Grand Master for the ensuing year; after which the M. W. Grand Master installed the remaining elective Grand Officers in ample form.

The R. W. Freeman Bradford was then called to the chair, and installed in due form the several appointed officers of the Grand Lodge; and proclamation was duly made.

REPORT ON RETURNS.

The Committee on Returns of subordinate lodges report as follows: They find returns made from fifty-two lodges in this jurisdiction.

Number initiated the past year,.....399

Number of members, as by returns,..... 1872

On examination, we find in some instances the returns are incorrect in matter of dates of time of initiation, crafting and raising; but your committee are assured that correct returns will be forwarded. Your committee regret that those inaccuracies appear, and recommend that care and attention be hereafter given to this matter, that all future returns may be made with accuracy and particularity.

THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	} <i>Committee.</i>
SETH PADDLEFORD,	
O. A. MERRILL,	

The following report was presented and adopted:

MASONS' HALL, May 7, 1852.

Your committee, to whom was referred the doings of the Grand Officers, have attended to the duty assigned them, and beg leave to report: That they recommend to this Grand Lodge to accept the reports of the several D. D. G. Masters, and that said reports, together with the communication of

the M. W. Grand Master, be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

JOHN H. WILLARD, }
JOSEPH PHILBRICK, } Committee.
JOHN GLOVER, }

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary cause to be published, with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, a list of its permanent members.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 6, 1852.

The Committee on Finance have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the past year, and find that there has been received by him, since the commencement of our last annual communication,

the sum of.....\$1,320.59
to which there is added the balance of last year's account, viz..... 471.05

Making in all the sum of.....\$1,791.64

Your committee also find that the Grand Treasurer has paid out

during the past year, the sum of.....\$1,563.28
for all which he has exhibited satisfactory vouchers.

This sum of \$1,563.28 includes seven hundred dollars invested in bank stock; and we find that there remains a balance in his hands of.....\$228.36

The income of the charity fund of the Grand Lodge for the past year is about three hundred and sixteen dollars.

The committee would recommend as salary to the Grand Secretary, over and above the cash expenses incident to his office, the sum of fifty dollars.

Per order,

F. BRADFORD.

Report read and accepted.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated and paid to Rev. Bro. Cyril Pearl, for services as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary cause to be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, the number of non-affiliated Master Masons returned by the several subordinate lodges.

Called off until 2 o'clock P. M.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 7, 1852.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at two o'clock P. M.

The M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

The following resolution was offered by R. W. Bro. Barker and adopted :

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that it is contrary to the established rules of Freemasonry for one lodge to craft or raise an Entered Apprentice initiated in any other lodge, without the recommendation and consent of the lodge in which he was initiated.

REPORT ON DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS.

PORTLAND, May 7, 1852.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge :

The Committee on Dispensations and Charters, to which was referred the application of Blue Mountain Lodge for a charter, recommend that their request be granted.

They further report that the prayer of the petition of Oriental Lodge to hold their meetings alternately in the towns of Bridgton and Naples, be granted.

They also recommend that the dispensations to Mariner's Lodge, at Searsport, and Howard Lodge, at Frankfort, be extended until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

They also recommend, on the petition of Fraternal Lodge, at Shapleigh, in the County of York, praying for its removal to Alfred in said county, that a dispensation be issued to them, authorizing the removal of said lodge as prayed for.

Your committee further report, in reference to Solar Lodge, No. 14, at Bath, that said lodge should retain its original number, and that the rank and precedence of said lodge, in the Grand Lodge and elsewhere, be established and confirmed from the date of its original charter.

On the subject of the petition of sundry brethren of Vassalboro', praying for the renewal of the charter of Vassalboro' Lodge, your committee report that the same be postponed to a future meeting.

WILLIAM ALLEN,
BENJAMIN KELLEY, } *Committee.*
STEPHEN WEBBER, }

Report read and accepted, and the several recommendations therein contained were adopted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the further consideration

of the report of the Committee on the Work and Lectures of the Order, by an exemplification thereof in the Master Mason's Degree; when, after devoting some time to the subject, and a press of other business being before the Grand Lodge, the following resolution was offered by Rev. Bro. Pearl and adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the further consideration of the report of the Committee on Work and Lectures be postponed until the next communication of the Grand Lodge, to be resumed at such time as shall be fixed by this Grand Body.

On motion,

Voted, That the bills of the Committee on the Work and Lectures of the Order be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

The committee appointed at the last annual communication to consider the subject of publishing the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from its first organization, and to ascertain upon what terms the copyright thereof could be disposed of, reported,

That they had not been able to dispose of the copyright, but had received the following proposition from Bros. F. W. Nichols & Co., viz: "We will print 500 copies on good paper and fair, handsome type for \$499.50, or 1,000 copies for \$647, provided the work does not make over 340 pages. If the book overruns, or falls short of 340 pages, the price to vary accordingly. The copy to be furnished by the Grand Lodge."

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH COVELL, Per Order.

Report read and accepted.

REPORT IN THE CASE OF GRENVILLE FLINT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to which was referred the charges of Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, at Bangor, against Grenville Flint, Past Master of Meridian Splendor Lodge, No. 49, at Newport, report: That in investigating this case, they have endeavored to keep in view the landmarks of Freemasonry, and the constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge, believing as your committee do, that misconduct in a presiding officer of a lodge is a greater offence, and more censurable, than the same act would be if committed by an individual member of the lodge not in office.

The admissions and evidence in the case were such, that your committee

could not, as masons, come to any other decision (which was unanimous) than that Grenville Flint stand suspended from the rights and benefits of Freemasonry until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge, in May, 1853; and if by correct masonic conduct, and by the recommendation of three worthy Master Masons, together with the approbation of the R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of the seventh masonic district, duly returned to the Grand Lodge, that the Grand Lodge then take final action as they may judge that justice may require.

The evidence in the case is herewith submitted in various copies of records and papers, numbered from one to fifteen, which the committee recommend should be placed on file.

Your committee are of the opinion that if Grenville Flint, Past Master of Meridian Splendor Lodge, had felt the obligations he was under as a mason, and informed himself as to his duties, he might have prevented all this difficulty, and saved the unpleasant sensations of the committee in investigating the subject and making this report, and the fraternity at large an irreparable injury.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. MUDGETT,	} Committee.
H. G. O. WASHBURN,	
JOSEPH COVELL,	

This report having been read, was duly considered and discussed in the Grand Lodge, when upon motion, it was

Voted, That the same be amended by striking out so much thereof as relates to the suspension of Grenville Flint, and the presentation of recommendations, &c., to the Grand Lodge for their final action, &c., and inserting instead thereof, "That the Grand Lodge pass a vote of censure against said Grenville Flint, for highly improper and unmasonic conduct exhibited by him, while presiding as Master of Meridian Splendor Lodge."

And thereupon the report was adopted as amended.

REPORT IN THE CASE OF MERIDIAN SPLENDOR LODGE.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to whom was referred the case of Meridian Splendor Lodge, No. 49, at Newport, ask leave to report:—

The communication of Rising Virtue Lodge at Bangor, in relation to the proceedings of Meridian Splendor Lodge, presents a very palpable case of the violation of the regulations of this Grand Lodge, which, for the credit of our honorable institution, requires a thorough investigation by this Grand body. And for the purpose of presenting the case as fully to this Grand Lodge as it was to your committee, we embody the communication of Rising Virtue Lodge, which is a report of a committee of that lodge, made by our

worthy Bros. Joseph C. Stevens, Timothy H. Morse and Jonathan Burbank and adopted by Rising Virtue Lodge, as follows:—

The committee to whom was referred the doings of Meridian Splendor Lodge, have attended to the duty assigned them, and would respectfully report the following statement of facts made by Bros. Jonathan Burbank, Silas Alden and Timothy H. Morse:

Statement of facts in relation to matters between Rising Virtue Lodge of Bangor, and Meridian Splendor Lodge of Newport, made by Jonathan Burbank.

Sometime in the winter 1850-1, Messrs. T. H. Tracy and Confucius Lancey, then of this city, made application to some members of Rising Virtue Lodge, saying they had been, or were about being proposed to Meridian Splendor Lodge for initiation, and wanted a certificate in writing that they had never made application to Rising Virtue Lodge for initiation; saying, farther, that they intended soon to remove back to Palmyra (from whence they removed to Bangor some two or three years before,) and that they would rather take the degrees of masonry there than in Bangor. They were informed that no such certificate could be given, and it would avail them nothing if they had it; but that the Grand Lodge made it the duty of Meridian Splendor Lodge to apply to Rising Virtue Lodge for its approbation and consent, and obtain the same before they (M. S. Lodge) could act on their application.

About the same time, a member of M. S. Lodge (the Secretary, I think) had a conversation with me about the matter. He also asked me concerning their application, &c. I told him they would not probably be received if they made application here. I also explained to him the rule of the Grand Lodge respecting these cases. After this, an application was made, dated March 4, 1851, which was to have been acted upon by our lodge, on Tuesday evening, March 11th, but was overlooked on account of a press of business. The next day Messrs. Tracy and Lancey called on me to know the action of our lodge. I told them the circumstances as they were; that we had a large amount of business and work on hand, which we were anxious to get through with, and therefore their application was accidentally overlooked. I told them, however, that notwithstanding our press of business, I would have called it up, if I had thought of it. I told them also that we should have another meeting on Friday evening, and I would pledge myself to call it up. They said that M. S. Lodge held its meeting on Thursday evening, at which time they were desirous of being initiated, and asked me to give them a writing to the effect that they had never made application to our lodge, saying that the Master of M. S. Lodge (Mr. Flint) told them that was all that was necessary. I told them as before, that I could not do it, and for two reasons: first, that it would be good for nothing, and secondly, it would be the means of leading M. S. Lodge into an error, and into a direct violation of the rules of the Grand Lodge, and consequently making them liable to severe censure. I showed them the rule of the Grand Lodge applicable to their case; (I think I had done so before) and talked the matter over with them at considerable length, to their satisfaction, as I supposed. They said if they had known as much about it before, as they now did, they would have waited until they had gained a residence in Palmyra; and said, also, that they should let the whole matter rest until they should gain such residence.

On Friday evening the subject was brought up, and here is an extract from the records: "Communication of Meridian Splendor Lodge, asking the consent of this lodge to confer the honors of masonry upon P. H. Tracy and Confucius Lancey (said Tracy and Lancey being residents of this city) being read. *Voted*, unanimously, that this lodge do not consent to the same." The meeting of M. S. Lodge on Thursday, was their regular meeting, at which time their officers were installed. Some of the members of Rising Virtue Lodge were present. The names of P. H. Tracy and Confucius Lancey were brought up to be balloted for. Objections were made by Bro. Silas Alden

of this city, who was present, and whose statement is hereunto annexed. Next came the initiation. This was also objected to as being contrary to the rules of the Grand Lodge.

(See Bro. Morse's statement annexed.)

It seems that notwithstanding the above named objections, and having the Grand Lodge rules in their lodge, the Master pretended he was ignorant of them, and proceeded to initiate the two men, one of whom was so *drunk* he could not walk without assistance, or hardly stand up without some support. What a situation to say "his trust is in God!"

At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge in May, 1851, which I attended, I was fully prepared with the necessary papers and determined to bring the subject before the Grand Lodge.

Flint was exceedingly anxious that nothing should be done about it. I had several conversations with him on the subject, he saying all the while that he was ignorant of *that* rule of the Grand Lodge. Bro. Lewis Barker, who was present, and proxy of Meridian Splendor Lodge, made the following suggestion:

"That inasmuch as the D. D. G. Master had not mentioned the subject in his report, and there was but little doubt that Flint was ignorant of the rule of the Grand Lodge, and that one object of Burbank was to stop the two men (Tracy and Lancey), they being unworthy, it might look like begging a quarrel on the part of Burbank, and, therefore, Flint should agree that neither of those men should go any further, and Burbank should drop the matter where it was."

To this, Flint and myself both agreed,—Flint pledging to me his word and honor as a mason that P. H. Tracy and Confucius Lancey should go no further.

Here it was hoped and expected the matter would end; but in a very few months, to my utter astonishment, I heard from a reliable source that P. H. Tracy had been crafted and raised in Meridian Splendor Lodge, and by the same Flint who had *pledged* his word and honor as a mason that they should go no further. After I heard of the crafting and raising of Tracy, I saw Bro Barker and asked him if that was according to his understanding of the agreement between Flint and myself, made at the Grand Lodge? He answered *No*, but it was directly contrary to it, and Flint had abused the confidence reposed in him.

JONA. BURBANK.

Bangor, April 21, 1852.

SILAS ALDEN'S STATEMENT.

BRO. JONATHAN BURBANK,

SIR:—Agreeable to your request, I hereby make a simple statement of what I personally heard and witnessed of the proceedings and doings of Meridian Splendor Lodge, No. 49, Newport, Me., on the 13th of March, 1851, in relation to the balloting for and initiation of Confucius Lancey and P. H. Tracy, both then or very lately of the city of Bangor. At the time above stated, I visited said lodge in company with our worthy Brother Timothy H. Morse, then D. D. G. Master of this district; was introduced to Brother Grenville Flint, the then acting Master of said lodge.

Before entering the lodge room, the names of the two individuals above named were mentioned as having been proposed to said lodge for initiation. The time when they were to be balloted for, if my memory serves me right, was not then talked of. Bro. Flint was then informed that the members of Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, Bangor, would not consent (as their characters then stood in Bangor) to their initiation.

I was in the lodge room when the lodge was opened, and immediately after the two names above named were brought up to be balloted for.

The first ballot was taken for Mr. Lancey, and one negative reported. A short discussion ensued. I rose and stated to the lodge that the characters

of the candidates did not stand well in Bangor, and at the same time gave it as my opinion that the lodge had better defer further action until, at least, they could obtain the consent of Rising Virtue Lodge (the candidates being considered then by some as legal citizens of Bangor), therefore Meridian Splendor Lodge had no proper or legal right to entertain applications for initiation from said applicants.

My advice was not accepted. Mr. Lancey was again balloted for with same result as before. Some further discussion ensued, in which the father of the said Lancey took quite an active part. The then acting S. Warden (Bro. —) then rose and voluntarily stated that he cast the negative ballot. Again a short discussion. The brother who cast the negative ballot then asked to be excused from further voting and it was granted. The ballot was again taken and declared clear. Mr. Tracy was then balloted for, and the ballot declared clear.

Immediately after this, the D. D. G. Master was announced, and introduced into the lodge. Soon after being seated, he was invited to take the chair and confer the degree of E. A. on two candidates then in waiting, but soon learning who the candidates were declined doing it. The candidates were introduced, and the degree of E. A. conferred on them, Lancey being, to all appearance, thoroughly under the influence of liquor, and decidedly in an improper state to be initiated into a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

After this improper scene, the R. W. D. D. Grand Master severely reprimanded the lodge for such doings and left the lodge room. I immediately followed. The Senior Warden soon came out and said that the candidates should not take the other degrees. Then we left them.

Fraternally yours,

SILAS ALDEN.

Bangor, April 21, 1852.

P. S. The above statement of the case is as near the true facts as I can well recollect.

TIMOTHY H. MORSE'S STATEMENT.

BRO. BURBANK,

SIR:—Agreeable to your request to me to make a statement of what I know of the proceedings of Meridian Splendor Lodge of Newport, in relation to the initiation of P. H. Tracy and Confucius Lancey, I would say that on the 13th of March, 1851, I visited Meridian Splendor Lodge in the capacity of D. D. G. Master. Bro. Flint was introduced to me as their W. M., prior to his opening his lodge; and in conversation I stated to him you had assured me, that it was through the multiplicity of business before Rising Virtue Lodge that their communication was forgotten, and that it should be attended to on the morrow evening, which would only make a delay of three days; and as there was no urgency in the case, I thought that should be satisfactory. I also gave it as my opinion that Rising Virtue Lodge would not consent to their being initiated, as they were not such men as they would be willing to receive within their own body; and here I supposed the matter would rest. On entering the lodge, however, I was invited to take the chair and confer the degree of E. A. on two candidates then in waiting, to which I readily consented; but on subsequent inquiry found, to my no small surprise, that the candidates were the above named Tracy and Lancey. On learning this fact I refused to have anything to do with the affair, and protested against their proceeding further, saying to Bro. Flint that he was liable to be dealt with by the Grand Lodge for a violation of its rules and orders; to which he replied that they had never received a copy of the rules and orders of the Grand Lodge nor had he ever seen them. A copy I had sent that lodge (directed to Bro. Flint), was then lying on a settee a few feet from us, which I requested a brother to hand me, and called Bro. Flint's attention to the article alluded to. But here was a dilemma. The Junior Deacon had signified his readiness to introduce the candidates; and now for the first time, Bro. Flint showed a willingness to take counsel, and asked

what he should do, to which I answered that I had no further advice to give.

Bro. Flint then proceeded to *initiate* the candidates; *Lancey being so drunk at the time as to render it difficult for him to either walk or speak.*

After this disgusting scene, I left the hall, fully satisfied that it was my duty to report to the Grand Lodge the loose and reckless manner in which their business was transacted; but a number of what I considered to be the most respectable portion of the lodge, followed me, and among them, I think, the Senior Warden, and begged that I would not carry the matter further, pledging themselves that the candidates should stop where they were, and that they would so manage their affairs in future, that neither R. V. nor any other lodge should have cause of complaint.

Hoping and expecting that these pledges would be sacredly kept, and for some other reasons not necessary here to name, I was silent in my report to the Grand Lodge, on this matter.

Bangor, April 21, 1852.

TIMOTHY H. MORSE.

P. S. I should have added that there are many worthy masons in that lodge, who, for want of masonic knowledge, have consented to be governed by a few less *temperate* and *discreet*.

T. H. M.

From the evidence furnished your committee in the foregoing certificates, they cannot refrain from expressing the opinion that Rising Virtue Lodge has just cause to complain of the want of masonic courtesy and fair treatment on the part of Meridian Splendor Lodge, calculated to excite disunion, cause jealousies and a prostration of that good feeling, masonic friendship and brotherhood, which should ever exist among the members of our fraternity, and is so essential to the prosperity and perpetuity of our institution.

From the subjoined certificates, it appears that said Meridian Splendor Lodge, situated in the town of Newport, has, contrary to all masonic usage, and in open violation of the rules of the Grand Lodge, assumed the right to make masons of two *notoriously disqualified* inhabitants of the City of Bangor, without the consent of said Rising Virtue Lodge, and against the counsel and advice of the members, and the remonstrance of the D. D. G. Master, then present.

In this aspect of the case, with the accompanying evidence submitted, and in the entire absence of any extenuating circumstances, your committee deem it unnecessary to make further comments upon a transaction so palpably reckless in itself, subversive of all harmony and brotherly love, and at variance with the long established usages, customs and ancient landmarks of Freemasonry; and would therefore submit for adoption by this lodge, the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That when a masonic institution of our state shall wilfully derelict from common courtesy, the laws of the Grand Lodge, and the ancient customs and landmarks of the order, it ceases to promote that harmony so essential to our prosperity.

2d. *Resolved*, That this lodge cannot recognize or fellowship any lodge, that will knowingly and wilfully, violate the rules of the Grand Lodge.

3d. *Resolved*, That Meridian Splendor Lodge, by her unmasonic acts, has wilfully violated the principles of masonry, and knowingly infringed upon the rights of Rising Virtue Lodge, and thus casting a reproach upon our institution, and according to all masonic usage, has forfeited her charter, and that the usefulness and respectability of our order requires that the same should be annulled by the Grand Lodge.

4th. *Resolved*, That Grenville Flint, as Master of Meridian Splendor Lodge, having acted in bad faith in violating his *solemn* and *masonic* pledge to R. W. Bro. Jonathan Burbank, as Master of Rising Virtue Lodge, is no longer a worthy mason, and should cease to be known as such.

5th. *Resolved*, That our delegates be instructed to present a certified copy of the foregoing statement of facts, and the doings of this lodge thereon, to the Grand Lodge, at their annual communication, and urge the importance

of prompt and efficient action in the premises, and a revocation of the charter of Meridian Splendor Lodge.

J. C. STEVENS,
TIMOTHY H. MORSE, } *Committee.*
JONA. BURBANK,

Your committee hoped to be able to report an answer to these charges, that might mitigate the great wrong evidently committed by the M. S. Lodge. Your committee had placed in their hands a number of statements from members of M. S. Lodge, tending to show that R. W. Bro. Morse must have been mistaken as to the time he visited M. S. Lodge that evening; that it was after Lancey was introduced, and before Tracy. But it is not denied that R. W. Bro. Morse conversed with Bro. Flint previous to the opening of the lodge; and that Bro. Alden was in the lodge and opposed the proceedings, so that M. S. Lodge had timely notice that they were proceeding wrongfully.

The point in the defence was, that Bro. Flint and the members of M. S. Lodge were unacquainted with the regulations of the Grand Lodge; and there are a number of statements to that effect in the hands of the committee; but these statements conflict palpably with the proceedings of M. S. Lodge, in their application, made by the Master, Grenville Flint, to R. V. Lodge for permission to confer the degrees upon Tracy and Lancey, dated March 4th.

The first meeting of R. V. Lodge after this was received, was March 11th and acted upon March 14th, and voted unanimously not to give consent, and a certified copy sent to M. S. Lodge March 17th, and Tracy and Lancey were initiated March 13th. From these and other facts in the case, your committee cannot come to any other conclusion than that M. S. Lodge proceeded in this matter in bad faith towards R. V. Lodge, with a full knowledge of the wrong they were committing.

After carefully examining the whole matter, and considering it in all its bearings, your committee have unanimously come to the conclusion that the transactions of M. S. Lodge in these particulars, were willful violations of the regulations of the Grand Lodge, and of masonic duty.

We therefore recommend that M. S. Lodge, be suspended till our next annual communication,—Charter, Seal, Records, Jewels and other property, delivered up to the D. D. G. Master of the 7th Masonic District, and to be kept under the direction of the Grand Master until ordered to be restored to said lodge by this Grand Lodge; and that if, at the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge, the members of M. S. Lodge shall present the recommendation of the two lodges nearest to them, approved by the D. D. G. Masters, with evidence of reformation, this Grand Lodge will then consider the propriety of restoring them the charter, &c., and empowering them to resume work.

B. F. MUDGETT,
H. G. O. WASHBURN, } *Committee.*

The foregoing report having been read, was duly considered and discussed in the Grand Lodge, when, on motion, it was

Voted, That the same be amended by striking out so much thereof as relates to the suspension of said M. S. Lodge, and the surrender of its Charter, Records, Seal, &c., &c., and inserting instead thereof, "That this Grand Lodge pass a vote of censure against said M. S. Lodge, for highly improper and un-masonic conduct in relation to the acceptance and initiation of P. H. Tracy and Confucius Lancey, as exhibited before the committee, and set forth in their report aforesaid."

And thereupon the report was accepted as amended.

REPORT IN CASE OF GEORGE NICHOLS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to which was referred the appeal of George Nichols from a sentence of expulsion passed against him by Meridian Splendor Lodge, No. 49, at Newport, after hearing and considering the evidence in the case, are satisfied, and report that, in their opinion, the charges against said George Nichols are not sustained, nor do any sufficient reasons appear why said lodge should, in the exercise of masonic charity, expel said Nichols from the honors and benefits of Masonry.

Your committee are of opinion, however, that the said George Nichols has been too unguarded in his conversations with individual masons and others, and recommend that he be reprimanded by the Grand Master; and in case he shall make a suitable apology, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That Bro. George Nichols be, and he is hereby restored to all the rights and benefits of Freemasonry.

B. F. MUDGETT,	} Committee.
H. G. O. WASHBURN,	
JOSEPH COVELL,	

Report read and accepted, and the resolution adopted.

Called off until 8 o'clock P. M.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 7, 1852.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 8 o'clock P. M. The M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

On motion,

Voted, That, in addition to reasonable notice in one or more public newspapers, the Grand Secretary be required hereafter to notify all meetings of the Grand Lodge, by addressing circulars to the several officers and permanent members thereof, and one also to each subordinate lodge, stating therein the time when their returns should be made, dues paid, &c.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to whom was referred the memorial of L. H. Green and others, members of Hermon Lodge, at Gardiner, made a report thereon, which was read and discussed, and thereupon, on motion, it was

Voted, That the subject be indefinitely postponed.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of twenty dollars be appropriated and paid to R. W. Bro. Henry H. Boody, for his services as Grand Treasurer the past year.

On motion,

Voted, To appropriate a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars for the purchase of blank diplomas, under the direction of the Grand Secretary.

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

Attest, CHARLES B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

R. W. Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Maine :

I meet you at this annual communication with feelings of pleasure and satisfaction. Under the watchful care of the Great Architect of the Universe we have been preserved during another year, and are permitted once more to assemble in Grand Lodge under the most gratifying auspices, to deliberate upon measures most intimately connected with the welfare of the order. In watching over the masonic interest committed to my charge, I have endeavored (so far as my feeble abilities would permit) "to keep our fair

fabric in good and healthful condition," and now submit to you an account of my stewardship during the last year, and will avail myself of the opportunity to make suggestions or recommendations for future action, as I may think the good of the craft requires.

It will be recollected that a dispensation was issued to Blue Mountain Lodge on the 12th of July, 1850, and that at the annual communication in May last, it was continued in force until the present time. Consequently, further action will be necessary for the legal existence of that lodge at the present convocation. On the 23d day of October last, a dispensation was issued to Bros. M. R. Hopkins and als., for a new lodge at Searsport, called Mariners' Lodge, and also on the 28th day of November last past, a dispensation was issued to Bros. A. L. Dennison and als., for a new lodge at Frankfort, both of which dispensations will be for such action of the Grand Lodge as they, in their wisdom, may think proper.

The committee which was chosen at the last annual communication to revise the work and lectures, with a view to uniformity, have been devoting much "time, patience and perseverance" to accomplish that object, and from the intelligence and masonic knowledge of the brethren who compose it, I anticipate a favorable result. The question will then present itself in what manner the lectures and work shall be dispensed among the subordinate lodges, and permit me to say (without recommending any particular mode among the many ways which may be adopted) that, in my opinion, they can never be disseminated with any degree of correctness with what scattering crumbs the members may pick up and retain at this or any other convention of the Grand Lodge. Therefore, if it is intended that any permanent good shall result from the labors of your committee, there ought to be some method adopted by the Grand Lodge, to transmit the desired information to the subordinate lodges.

"Material aid" is one of the great purposes of Masonry, and to possess this, some clear, definite and permanent system should be adopted by the subordinate lodges as well as by the Grand Lodge to procure it. I know of no better way than for the Grand Lodge to take some action upon the subject, whereby a certain portion of the income of the subordinate lodges shall be funded for this particular object, and the interest appropriated for that purpose only. The lodges will then have something that they can rely upon, and be able to fulfill in a measure one of the obligations we are under to "help, aid and assist all poor and distressed masons, their wives and children, widows and orphans." And in the belief that the Grand Lodge would entertain a project of this kind, I did, on the first day of January last, issue the following circular to the D. D. G. Masters under this jurisdiction:

BRUNSWICK, Jan. 1, 1852.

Dear Sir and Brother:—I would respectfully suggest to you the propriety of ascertaining, so far as you conveniently can, from each of the lodges under your jurisdiction, the particular state and condition of their funds, and how they are managed, with a view to communicate this information to

the Grand Lodge in your report at the next annual communication, in order that the Grand Lodge may be enabled to judge of the propriety of adopting some general regulation for a permanent Charity Fund, to be maintained by each subordinate lodge in the state, that shall not be liable to be encroached upon for other purposes.

I would suggest some questions to the lodges, which you can adopt if you think proper, or take your own method for ascertaining the facts.

What is the date of your charter?

Have you any fund called a Charity Fund?

What is the amount of your Charity Fund?

How long has it been maturing?

How did it accumulate?

Do you ever encroach on the principal, either for charity or otherwise?

By whom is your fund managed?

When you receive pay for initiating, crafting and raising a candidate, to what account do you credit the proceeds?

If a part of it goes to the credit of the Grand Lodge—how much? If to Charity Fund—how much? And if to your incidental expenses—how much? Or is it all credited to one general account?

Please state about what amount is distributed by your lodge annually for charitable purposes.

Do the members of your lodge pay quarterages?

How much does each member pay yearly?

Will the amount received meet your current expenses?

Other pertinent questions may present themselves to your good judgment, proper to elicit the information desired, in regard to the financial concerns of the lodges.

Your attention to procure the foregoing information, to be used in the contingency indicated, will oblige

Yours fraternally,

JNO. C. HUMPHREYS, *Grand Master.*

It would have afforded me much pleasure to have been able to have visited more of the lodges throughout the state, during the last year; but the necessity for this has been obviated by the attentions of the D. D. G. Masters in the several masonic districts, who, I have no doubt, have exercised due diligence in the discharge of this very important duty.

In the discharge of the ordinary duties connected with my office, and in answering the various communications from different parts of the state, asking for information on subjects to which a correct decision is necessary for the well being of the institution, I have sought to adhere to the ancient "Landmarks" of the order, so far as my knowledge and ability would permit. If I have in any instance departed from this course, it was not intentional, because I consider one of the greatest beauties of the order is its antiquity. As I have been taught to believe, "that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry," so I would wish to practice, and recommend a strict adherence to this principle to our whole fraternity,

You will be favored, as usual, with much valuable and interesting information from your able and talented Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and I have no doubt this Grand Lodge will feel under renewed obligations for the continuance of their labors with the masonic family through the civilized world.

One other subject I have to present to your consideration, although unpleasant to me, yet as Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, it becomes my duty to set forth the facts as near as my memory and correspondence on the subject will permit, not only to justify my own official action in the premises but for the purpose of having justice rendered to all concerned; and with the confident hope that where the sound of the "Gavel" has been silenced, it may again be heard, and peace and good fellowship restored.

As the subject referred to relates to matters of difference existing in a subordinate lodge, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, I propose to submit a separate report* thereon for your consideration.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, *Grand Master.*

*The Grand Master deems it unnecessary to publish this report in detail. It refers to differences in Adoniram Lodge, alluded to in the report of a select committee. See page 218.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence are again permitted to present their annual report, and with devout acknowledgments, to recognize the continued care of a Divine and watchful Providence for the interests and prosperity of our cherished institution. The All-Seeing Eye that slumbers not, neither grows weary, has watched over the progress and prosperity of the masonic order in our loved country, and the favoring smiles which have cheered our pilgrimage, and shed light on our pathway, should inspire us with devout thankfulness. In view of the cheering intelligence which comes to us from almost every masonic jurisdiction, we have abundant reason to "thank God and take courage." Your committee are favored with Grand Lodge communications from Vermont, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, District of Columbia, Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Arkansas, Mississippi, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, Delaware, Missouri, Louisiana, Texas and California. Also from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West. We are also favored with various addresses and communications, illustrating the state and progress of the order. The East thus re-

ceives salutations from the West, the North, the South and the broad central valley, showing that the great heart of our country is warm and vital with the strong pulsations of masonic life, and luminous with masonic light and intelligence. It is delightful to witness the increasing zeal and success from year to year of our fraternity in all parts of our country, and to see the happy fruits of well directed labor in promoting what is good and pure and right in all branches of this wide spread family. In our former reports we have felt called upon to deplore some lingering evils and trials of masonic faith and patience and charity in the jurisdictions of a few of our sister Grand Lodges. We have thought it a clear though unpleasant duty to enter somewhat earnestly into the examination of perplexing questions and controversies which had agitated branches of the masonic family, particularly in New York and Louisiana. The Grand Lodges of these states had been rent and marred by the unhallowed workings of human frailty, passion and prejudice, which masonic discipline ought to have healed, or prevented, so as not to disturb the peace and harmony of the great family, or require fraternal chastisement or rebuke. In dealing frankly with the controversies and faults which have thus called our attention, and bestowing censure and reproof as we have believed was due, we have taken far less pleasure than we feel in recording the restoration of harmony, and the new career of prosperity on which the Grand Lodges of these sister states are now entering.

In some of the new states of the Union there is evidence of delightful progress and prosperity. The Grand Lodge of Michigan, which had its day of trial, now sends us a beautiful copy of her proceedings at the annual communication in Detroit, Jan. 14, 1852. She has a list of forty-four subordinates with charters, and six under dispensation. Nearly all of the lodges were represented, and a noble address in opening was given by the Grand Master, one or two passages of which we submit for your consideration :

"Impressed with the solemn duties and responsibilities of our position, standing as we do, at the end of the old, and the commencement of a new masonic year, it is emphatically '*good to be here.*' It is a salient point in the tide of time, that here, each for himself and all together, may profitably pause and commune with the past—with the present—with ourselves—with our fellows. We should carefully inspect the work we have done; try its foundation, strength and proportions by our strict masonic test; examine well the main pillars of the mighty edifice we are rearing—its foundations—its proportions and its workmanship, and then carefully inquire when and where we can best enlarge, elevate, strengthen, beautify and adorn this great temple of humanity in all coming time. With this moral discipline faithfully performed, and with an humble confidence in God, the soul and centre of our system—under the guidance of the light of His revealed word, as the man of our counsel, we may safely push forward, with the Ark of our Covenant, into the dark night of the future, fearing no danger. Should clouds and darkness settle on our pathway, they will soon melt under the bright effulgence of the '*blazing star,*' radiant with light and hope—with joy and gladness.

"My Brethren: We avow ourselves masons, and by being *HERE*, we also avow ourselves firm believers in the benignity of the mission of Masonry to

man. When darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people, the genius of Masonry stepped forth and lit her torch at the altar of divinity, and went forth in strength and beauty, on a great and glorious mission of love and charity among the children of men. At her approach, science 'clapped her hands and shouted for joy,' and with renewed energy arose to pursue her onward course, and unfolded the great truths which nature, in her mighty works, teaches to man. She planted schools, and kindled within them the fires of philosophy and literature. She measured the earth and brought to light the hidden EUREKA, and in the exuberance of her joy she leaped from earth to sky, and there, by the aid of astronomy, counted, named and measured the starry host. The arts, too, arose and shook themselves from the dust of ages, and by her light and power conquered the obstacles of nature that surrounded her, and finally erected on Mount Moriah, a temple to the living God, the grandest triumph—the proudest trophy the world ever saw! But Masonry stopped not here—onward she sped her way, among the nations of the earth, of every kindred, tribe and tongue,—humanizing, harmonizing, socializing and civilizing all. And yet each year's history of the world gives us increasing and unerring evidence that her mission is not ended. She has done much, still, much remains to be done; she must paralyze the tongue of personal slander; she must extract the scorpion sting of envy, hatred and malice; she must hush the fierce collisions of unhallowed ambition of nations and individuals; she must, by the purity of her precepts and by the virtue of her practice, bind in one common brotherhood the whole family of man. Then, and not till then, will her mission be ended, her triumph complete."

WISCONSIN.

The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin presents an array of thirty lodges in a prosperous condition, and seems to give promise of fulfilling its noble destiny, to which allusion was made in a former report. The W. G. Master, in his opening address, more than a year since, thus spoke:

"Our hearts are irresistibly led on to pour out our grateful thanks, our boundless praises, to the Supreme Architect of the world, for all his manifold benefactions to the creatures of his will. In responding with expanding delight to such a call, and in humbly acknowledging the extent of benefits conferred by the hand of our heavenly Father on each of us individually, let us also devoutly pray for the continuance of all his blessings on the whole fraternity of man.

"Such is a part of our duty as masons; and in the full exercise of that duty will be found a faithful performance of all the obligations which man owes to his fellowman. Not alone the discharge of such duties as one brother of the mystic tie may rightfully be called upon to render unto another; not the limited extension of kindly acts, of charitable deeds, of heart cheering sympathies, of healing consolations and of timely and properly administered admonitions to those alone to whom the lights of our order are known, and with whom we have long sojourned in the same dwelling and traveled in the same path, fraternally; but the free diffusion of all the noble charities of our order, in word and in deed, to the whole family of man."

INDIANA.

The Grand Lodge of Indiana enrolls one hundred and twenty-two chartered lodges and thirteen under dispensation; giving evidence of rapid growth and prosperity. We indulge the hope that her moral growth and

masonic discipline may keep pace with the increase of her members. The address of the Grand Master embraces a subject of special interest, which we give in his own language :

"As American citizens, we all know that the settlement of the northwest—the thrilling adventures of those pioneers who first pitched their tents in this vast wilderness—forms one of the most brilliant pages in our history. While we venerate the memories and admire the heroic actions of those who founded our eastern empire, we feel equally grateful to those who founded the western. Among both were individuals not only illustrious for their virtues, intelligence and patriotism, but many among them, and those too of prominence and efficiency, were ardently attached to the principles and landmarks of Freemasonry. True devotion to the great interests of humanity were the leading influences which moved them. Though acting in different localities and by different circumstances, they all breathed the same spirit ; and as genuine craftsmen, were animated by the same lofty hopes and noble aspirations of the soul, whether on the shores of the Atlantic or Chesapeake, or on the banks of the Hudson or Potomac, Ohio or Wabash. It has been the fortune of Freemasonry, in all past time, to have enrolled in her archives a large number of these honored names, connected with human progress and advancement ; but in no land is there a brighter and a purer registry than ours. In the western galaxy of departed worth and usefulness our stars cluster thickly, while we rejoice that the names of our brethren who were conspicuous in the early settlement of our Atlantic, transmontane regions have been handed down to us, and while we acknowledge our obligations to them, not only for their heroic examples but their sacrifices, we cannot but regret our past indifference in not preserving the masonic history of many eminent individuals in the west. Much of this history is of a deeply interesting nature, and is connected with the most exciting scenes of frontier adventure. Of this, as a portion of the northwest, Indiana has been in times past an important theatre. Some two years ago, we called the attention of the Grand Lodge to the subject of our masonic history, both in its civil and military relations and aspects. The intimation was favorably received by the Grand Lodge, and a distinguished historian of our own state was appointed a committee to perform this duty. Had he been able to have done it, there can be no doubt but that it would have been much more acceptable than in its present form. In consequence of his inability and the rapidly approaching time of our Grand Communication and the dedication of our hall, as it was deemed important to have as much information as could be collected in regard to those brethren who came in early times with the great lights into this wilderness, we have endeavored to gather up and arrange the fragments in as much order as possible."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence notice with cordial approval our report on the New York difficulties and the resolutions adopted by this Grand Lodge, sustaining the Grand Lodge of which J. D. Willard was then Grand Master.

ILLINOIS.

Illinois also gives us a list of ninety-five chartered lodges and twenty under dispensation. The acting Grand Master thus speaks of his jurisdiction :

"As a society, the Grand Lodge of Illinois has cause for thankfulness and rejoicing. No previous year has shown such prosperity among our subordinate lodges, as the one now drawing to a close. Good men and true are knocking at our doors and obtaining admittance. New lodges are springing into existence in various portions of our state, and the sound of the gavel is

now heard where but a short time since no signs of civilization could be distinguished. Ignorant and malevolent opposition have in a great degree ceased, and no danger need now be apprehended from without. But if ever the beautiful columns of our masonic edifice are to be broken or defaced, the vandal hand that strikes the blow will come from within its sacred courts. How important, then, that the entrance to our sanctum sanctorum should be guarded against the approach of the unworthy. How important that our membership should ever bear in mind that too great care cannot be exercised in selecting the material with which to construct our noble fabric, so that its 'several parts will fit with exactness.'

"But while we have cause for thankfulness, my brethren, we have also cause to mourn. In passing along the journey of life, we are constantly reminded of the stern lesson that 'we are born to die.' Since our last annual communication this warning has been again repeated to us. Our Grand Master is no more! He who occupied the highest place within our gift has passed from his labors on earth, we confidently trust, to everlasting refreshment in the paradise of God."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is well prepared, giving a brief notice of the Grand Lodges of some fifteen states, and paying a generous compliment to the Grand Lodge of Maine. They copy nearly a page from our last year's proceedings, which they say "are well prepared and are very interesting to the craft." They are pleased to say of us, "Our brethren 'away down East' are alive to every good word and work in Masonry. The Foreign Correspondence Committee presented an able and masterly report." They copy with high approval the remarks we last year submitted in behalf of our National and Masonic Union, in connection with the national monument now being erected to the memory of the Father of his Country.

IOWA.

Iowa has twenty-eight chartered lodges, and three under dispensation, although the Grand Lodge is but eight years old. In his address, the Grand Master says:

"An anniversary like the present, presents an occasion upon which, individually and collectively, we can, so to speak, stand still in our journey of life, and hold communion with our inmost souls, and seriously and soberly ask, 'Is it well with thee?' And if the glad response comes back, sincerely and conscientiously, 'It is well,' then, with a determination to overcome all that is evil, so that when the time of our departure is at hand, we may say, 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day.'" * * * "In relation to the transactions of the year past, I have but little information to give you. Freemasonry within this jurisdiction has proceeded steadily onward; its course has been marked by no unnatural growth, indicating a diseased, instead of a healthy state of the body politic. The additions to our number have been, many of them, I hope all, such as we may well be proud of, and such as will insure the prosperity and perpetuity of our order in this state."

TEXAS.

The course of masonry in Texas is onward, and adapted to do much to advance and elevate that new state. The Grand Lodge has about seventy

subordinates. The Grand Master was detained from meeting the Grand Lodge, by feeble health. In a brief communication to that body, he says :

“ Nothing could have been more gratifying to me, after the flattering compliment paid me of elevating me to my present office, than to have met you, and I fully intended to have done so until very recently, when exposure during the past inclement weather, has rendered me unable to leave home, and I am further admonished by my advanced years, that my work will soon have to be brought to a close in these temples of mortality, in which I have endeavored to labor with zeal and fervency, almost to the limit of three score years and ten, and to leave to those who may follow, the principles of an order, whose blessings have extended and been felt over the whole world, and if more talent and ability abound in your councils than is possessed by your humble brother, none can lay his hand on his breast and say that he has been either more zealous or ardent.”

The Committee of Correspondence pay a handsome compliment to the Grand Lodge of Maine.

CALIFORNIA.

From California, too, we have cheering intelligence, in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge for May and November, 1851. There are now fourteen subordinate lodges in a prosperous state, and though severely taxed to meet the sickness and sufferings to which they referred in a communication last year, they are still courageous and hopeful. The Grand Master's communication in November thus speaks of their affairs :

“ In reviewing the progress the order has made since first established, a few months back, in this state, there is, indeed, much to excite in us gratitude and pleasure. In the goodness of the Most High, our institution has prospered beyond our most sanguine expectations, and not only in this far west, but throughout the civilized world ; although for a long period assailed in other states by persecutions, she has gloriously triumphed, and silently, though surely, have we witnessed its progress ; bringing in its train wherever established, peace to the hearts of its followers, carrying love to the families of its members, suppressing vice, producing peace and good-will, and tending, especially by its influence, to alleviate the sufferings of hundreds, who, without friends or means, found on their arrival here, those who, although strangers, were yet brothers ; brothers ready and willing to minister to the utmost of their abilities, to their necessities incident to coming to a strange and far off country, far from home, overcome by appalling sickness and disease, engendered and consequent on tedious travel, and beggared by its consequences. The glorious and glad work of charity thus begun is still on its onward march, and will triumph so long as the duties inculcated by us are adhered to, and little fear need be entertained but that the principles of our institution will remain pure and unsullied, so long as we abide by its peculiar discipline ; and the hopes that such will always be so, should animate us to persevere in the path to which it leads and instructs.”

OREGON.

Oregon has recently formed a Grand Lodge, and commenced its masonic career with encouraging prospects. We wish prosperity to those who are planting the institutions of Christian civilization on the shores of the Pacific,

and bid them God-speed in every effort to raise high their standard and fling their banner to the breeze, inscribing on its ample folds the emblems of Masonry as well as the stars of empire.

While the new states are thus entering on their masonic labors with all the vigor of youth, the old states are not relaxing their efforts, but increasing in all the attributes of masonic excellence.

KENTUCKY.

Among these, Kentucky holds a conspicuous rank. In his address in August, 1851, the Grand Master thus spoke :

"For many years, Masonry continued gradually to extend itself with the extension of our population. At length a storm, terrible in our annals, burst upon our time-honored institution; and, whilst clouds and darkness enveloped it, the thunder and lightnings of popular fury and prejudice were let loose, and played fearfully against the ancient walls of our masonic temple. During its prevalence, the spirit of desolation spread her blighting influence over us, and many of our lodges ceased to work. But, when at length the storm had swept by, and its fury passed away, hope planted her rainbow colors on the dark and fleeting clouds; the breaches in our temple walls were rebuilt, and far brighter prospects gradually beamed upon the craft, as the sound of the gavel was again distinctly heard. The genius of Masonry arose again purified by the effects of the tempest that had passed over her. A higher tone of moral feeling pervaded the order, its principles and the duties arising out of them were better understood, and the institution has continued to advance steadily, until it has become more magnificent, from its extent and wide-spread usefulness."

Kentucky has two hundred and twenty-nine chartered lodges, and twenty new ones have been organized under dispensation, during the year ending in August. The cause of education and the masonic university of Kentucky, occupy a conspicuous place in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. An address before the Grand Lodge, by W. M. O. Smith, is also published, unfolding views of deep interest in connection with the history and principles of Freemasonry. His closing remarks in relation to the order of Knights Templar, we submit, as worthy of attention :

"What is to be done? Are mankind to grope along in their progression, surrounded by darkness and curses? The promise made to Eve says no. The Jewish religion by its types and shadows, says no. The prophet says no. Our order says no; and the last degree in Masonry points to the grand final accomplishment of the promise, when the Son of God appeared as man on this earth—took steps for the restoration and redemption of man—made an atonement by offering himself a sacrifice for man's sin—and when his great work was completed—

"The rising God forsook the tomb,
In vain the tomb forbade his rise;
Cherubic legions guard him home,
And shout him welcome to the skies."

"The last degree of Masonry—the degree of Knight Templar—stands alone the only one in the series relating to this grand event—the others all point to it. But when you have taken and studied them all, you have been studying but types and shadows—speculative Masonry all pointing to this degree and

the events upon which it is founded. There is nothing speculative about this degree. These were actual occurrences, and you have now at last got to the point in Masonry where you see the *Greatest Light of Masonry*—the means of salvation—and the last and only hope for the restoration of mankind to the image of their Creator.

"I need not remind you that the order of Knights Templar was originally a military and benevolent order, established to protect and furnish succor and assistance to the Christian pilgrims who visited the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. When the war of the Crusades was declared, the order had increased in numbers and wealth to such an extent that they took the field, headed by their Grand Master, and their valor was attested in characters of blood on many a well fought field. 'Whatever was splendid in deeds of chivalry—whatever was gallant and great in the early ages of refinement—sprung from these noble orders. They taught the courtesies and graces of life—took from war its ferocity and from passion its sensuality. They rescued the female world from degradation and extended charity to the unfortunate; and when at last, as was *supposed*, the order was about to be extinguished, hundreds of them suffered martyrdom because they would not confess crimes of which they were innocent, and died firm in their faith and principles.' Need I remind you what those principles were. Every Knight Templar knows them; and though we live in an age when the religion of Jesus does not have to be protected by, nor the honor of females guarded at the point of the sword, yet we as men need the redeeming influences of that religion. Our teachings all point that out as the grand consummation of Freemasonry; yes, not only of Freemasonry but of every other institution that is worth anything—for upon the events on which this last degree is founded depends the restoration of mankind and the world.

"And is the Christian religion adequate to the task? Look how mankind have been advancing, morally, politically, socially, since the tragedy of Calvary. Each age has far outstripped the age previous—if we except a few ages called the dark, when wicked men undertook to regulate the mighty influences of this holy religion, and take it in their keeping. Thank God, these ages are long past. Religious freedom is extending over the world, and in its wake civil liberty; science and Christianity, which at one time were supposed to be enemies, now go hand in hand in the great work of progression and restoration. Man's efforts are becoming gigantic in every department, compared with what they used to be. Not only as in Eden do the beasts of the earth bow submissive to his will, but steam and lightning are his servants—do his bidding—and carry his messages with the rapidity of thought. Even old mother earth, so long cursed, under new and improved systems of agriculture, is sending forth fruit and flowers where used to be thistles and thorns. Mountains are scaled—cut down or cut through—if they stand in the way of man's progress. The ends of the world are brought together and the nations of the earth have social intercourse in Glass Palaces. Education is no longer locked up, to be used only by the favored few who hold the golden key, but is becoming as free as God's air. Christianity, and with it civilization, liberty and improvement, are extending over the world, and will continue to extend, on and on, until mankind shall be free, happy and good—until the earth is restored, and (in the eloquent words of Bascom,) 'Eden be revived on every barren heath.'"

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina has one hundred and thirty-six subordinates. The Grand Master in his address to the Grand Lodge says:

"We continue to receive from the hands of a kind and indulgent Providence the blessings of health, prosperity and happiness; and we would fall far short of duty, as Christians and masons, if we failed to make devout

acknowledgment to a beneficent Creator for these and other mercies which have been unsparingly lavished upon us."

Some progress has been made in the lodges of North Carolina in raising subscriptions for a masonic college, in accordance with a proposition made some years ago.

In their notice of the report of this Grand Lodge for 1850, they say :

"Our brethren in Maine are the men to accomplish what they undertake ; and we feel assured they will do all that can be done, to promote the harmony and interests of the craft. The Grand Lodge of Maine is a bright star in the masonic galaxy. May she shine forever."

TENNESSEE.

The Grand Lodge of Tennessee reports 218 subordinates, and the interests of the order are in a flourishing condition. The Grand Master's address is excellent, and touches on important subjects. He says :

"In reviewing the history of the past year, we find much cause of congratulation. While some of our sister Grand Lodges have been unfortunately racked and torn by internal dissensions, we have escaped divisions among ourselves ; and I can truly say that peace and harmony prevail within our borders. The tocsin of strife has been unheard, and intruders have not disturbed the peaceful labors of the workmen."

He also replies forcibly to the objections made by some that Masonry is a secret society, and by others, that it arrogates to itself duties properly belonging to the Christian religion. His replies to these are worthy the consideration of objectors. An able report on foreign correspondence was presented by W. Charles W. Fuller in place of P. G. M. Tannehill, who for several years has performed that duty with great ability, but was then laid aside by illness. Maine receives a very handsome compliment in this report. A lengthened extract from our last report in relation to our national union, and the mission of Freemasonry in regard to it, is introduced with the following remarks :

"The Grand Lodge of Maine held its session in May, 1851. The proceedings before us indicate a prosperous condition of the lodges. The Committee on Correspondence submitted an able and interesting report, from which we take the following extract, *embodying a sentiment that will be responded to by every mason in our land.*"

The Grand Lodge, we doubt not, will be glad to hear such responses to the union sentiment of her last report from the far south.

VIRGINIA.

The report of Virginia recorded 142 lodges, and represents the order in a healthful condition. The report of the Committee of Correspondence is very brief, and embraces but few subjects. The Grand Master's address is able, and thus speaks of the prosperity of Masonry in the old Dominion :

"At no period in the history of our beloved institution in this jurisdiction, has there been more cause of congratulation, than the present; new lodges are rapidly springing up around us; old lodges are calling for the renewal of their charters; men, good and true in every department of life, are knocking at our doors for admission. The old mason who had permitted his zeal to abate, is asking to be again admitted, and re-kindle the fire that once burned so brightly and so usefully in his bosom. The reproaches of the ignorant and designing, are no longer, or but seldom heard against it. The pure principles which Masonry teaches, the quiet benevolence of its character, its universality for good, its reprobation of the immoralities of life, quietly pursuing the even tenor of its way, without entering into any of the trials and commotions which agitate society, have awakened an interest in the subject, among the intelligent and worthy, in every part of our beloved Commonwealth, and put to shame and reproach all apparent causes of opposition."

GEORGIA.

In Georgia we find the Grand Lodge in a vigorous condition, having one hundred and forty-two subordinates. The revenue of the Grand Lodge for the year 1850, was \$5,427—showing a rapid increase of members. A very large part of the printed proceedings is occupied with the returns of these subordinates, and we miss the report of a Committee of Correspondence. It would be gratifying to find in the report a vigorous discussion of the great principles and interests of the order, for the benefit of its young members, and perhaps the report for 1851 will give us this when it shall come to hand. Indeed the Grand Secretary, in a note, partially explains the failure or loss of a report which was prepared for the Grand Lodge.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Grand Lodge of Mississippi sends us a report of 256 pages, and a list of one hundred and twenty-four subordinates.

The Committee of Correspondence, through the Grand Secretary, present an extended report, in which the New York difficulties are reviewed at some length. They copy a series of resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, in which they express regret for the existence of those difficulties, and the opinion that they "admit of being adjusted in a manner honorable, and to the interest of both parties." They urge the brethren to take the necessary steps for adjustment, and offer their mediatorial aid in the settlement of them. They also "Resolved, That until the existing difficulties in the Grand Lodge of New York be amicably adjusted, or some new feature developed, this Grand Lodge cannot recognize either one of the present organizations." They commend the course of the Grand Lodge of Maine in collecting and arranging its published proceedings, and those in correspondence with it, as the beginning of a masonic Library. The Grand Master's address is an able one, but our limits forbid selections.

FLORIDA.

From Florida we have a report of twenty-six working lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. The Committee of Correspondence give a report of more than sixty pages, embracing a great variety of matter, arranged in alphabetical order, in which we have the action of a number of Grand Lodges. The action of those Grand Lodges which have adopted measures to secure libraries is highly commended, also the efforts to secure a history of Masonry in each state, through its Grand Lodge. Some good suggestions occur in this report, on the desirableness of inquiries into the ancient history of the masonic fraternity.

"We have now twenty-three lodges in this state, all of which are working under regular warrants except the one at Alligator, which will apply for a warrant at the present session; and the required number of Master Masons, duly recommended, are knocking at our door for a warrant to open a lodge at Mecnopy in East Florida, and others for another lodge in Gadsden County. Throughout this state, Masonry is enjoying a high degree of prosperity, and the respective lodges are working with due regularity.

"The sphere of Masonry is as broad as humanity itself, and where the true interests of man are to be found there should the mason be seen in his round of duties; and in no other manner can those interests be better supported than by promoting the cause of education. In England, Germany, Denmark and Sweden, under the auspices of Masonry, schools have been established, which have furnished the lights of education and knowledge to thousands of poor but worthy children, who else might have suffered in indigence, ignorance and want. One of the schools alone in Germany, in the space of five years, educated eleven hundred children in the elements of knowledge and the principles of morality and virtue.

"In other countries, and especially in England, much has been done; and I have the pleasure to say that many, and I believe most of our Grand Lodges in these United States, have taken decisive measures in regard to education, and I am proud to add that Florida is not entirely behind the age in this matter. She has taken steps, the tendency of which is to cause all the children of deceased worthy Master Masons to be educated at the expense of the fraternity."

LOUISIANA.

The Grand Lodge of Louisiana comes out of her long severe trials, profited we hope by the severity of her discipline. The voice of the Grand Lodges of the Union, in regard to their former troubles, was not appealed to in vain, and the thorough investigations of the questions at issue between the two bodies once claiming to be Grand Lodges there, and between them and the Grand Lodge of a neighboring state, were of real service to the great body of Masons elsewhere, as well as Louisiana. The perplexing law suit forced upon the Grand Lodge of Louisiana by a former Treasurer, to which we referred last year, was decided in favor of the lodge, and the effort of an unworthy member to injure the lodge defeated; and his unfitness to be in the order clearly demonstrated. The acting Grand Master, in his address to the Grand Lodge, says:

"We meet at this time under the most favorable circumstances. Since the adoption of our new constitution, I am happy to say, peace, concord and brotherly love prevail; and let me tell you it has been to me a source of pleasure and joy to have contributed in carrying out this most happy state of things. And before entering upon the duties that have called us together, the first offerings of our hearts should be our sincerest prayers of gratitude to the Grand Master above, who so kindly inspired us to forget the unfortunate difficulty heretofore existing among us, and to unite without distinction of local or sectional feelings, for the everlasting honor and glory of Masonry. In every part of this jurisdiction, Masonry is now flourishing beyond all former precedent."

The Committee of Correspondence enter on their work like men in earnest. In their report, they say:

"We are pleased to find that a spirit of inquiry and thirst for investigation into the principles, history, government and jurisprudence of our institution, are fast pervading the minds of our brethren: and that, although all proper respect is paid to the knowledge of the ritual and ceremonies of the order, these are no longer considered as the summit—the "*ne plus ultra*" of masonic learning and acquirements. This is most fully exemplified in the proceedings submitted to us, which exhibit, in many instances, a profound knowledge and skillful application of the customary, conventional and constitutional law and history of the order; and we believe that the reports of the committees of correspondence of the various Grand Lodges of the Union, independently of their literary merits (which are of a high character), form as admirable an analysis, as enlightened a commentary and as fine a practical illustration of these subjects as can be found in any matter wherein mental investigation has been employed. We most heartily congratulate the fraternity upon this rise from mechanical to the intellectual part of our profession. We augur from it the happiest results—the elevation of mind in those who pursue such researches, the eliciting of truth from discussion, and the spread of information resulting from their labors. While we thus rejoice in the physical and intellectual development of our beloved order, and hail in them the guaranty of a long future of prosperity and usefulness, let us not forget the evils and dangers of the past. Let us not be unmindful of the warnings of experience. Let us not leave the altars of our fathers to seek after strange idols; and we may rest assured that the Grand Master of the Universe will continue to bless our labors and cement us in the bonds of brotherly love."

Since the above was written, indeed since this Grand Lodge assembled, the committee have received the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, for January, 1852. This is an interesting document of about 250 pages. We have no time to examine it in detail. The Grand Master's address is able, and among other things he urges the establishment of a Grand Lodge charity fund, and unfolds some excellent views in relation to the proper work of the Grand Lodge. The Committee of Correspondence speak of the Grand Lodge of Maine with fraternal feelings. They say, "the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence contains an able and comprehensive summary of the principal points of interest in the transactions of many sister Grand Lodges." * * * "They appear to be in possession of no other intelligence from us than of the suit brought by the late Grand Treasurer, upon which they remark:

"We regret to learn that the trials of our Louisiana brethren are not yet ended, and most ardently desire that they may soon experience a happy de-

liverance, and be able to resume their work in the most successful manner.' We heartily thank them for their sympathy and good wishes. They have ere this learned that they were realized on the occasion for which they were tendered, and we doubt not, on learning our new troubles, the same kind aspirations, to be followed by decisive action, will have again been offered us."

The new troubles to which our Louisiana brethren refer, arise from the course of some three of their subordinates, in withdrawing from its jurisdiction, since the new Constitution was adopted, and receiving charters from what claims to be the Grand Consistory or Supreme Council, in the Valley of the Mississippi. Their course in this matter is condemned by the Grand Lodges generally, and if it were needful, we feel assured that the Grand Lodge of Maine will speak with equal decision on the subject. Louisiana now speaks kind words to New York, and deals manfully with their troubles growing out of the division, there, and also out of the action of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg in chartering a lodge in that state. Your committee believe that the Grand Lodge of Maine heartily respond to the sentiments they express on this subject.

"It is time that the Grand Lodges and other supreme masonic bodies in the United States, should speak out in loud and unmistakable language their firm and unalterable determination to permit no foreign interference in their respective jurisdictions. The times are rife with the evidences of the disposition to intrude upon our territory by European masonic powers, and they must be told in clear and positive terms, that much as we rejoice in their friendship, and are desirous, as is our duty, to preserve with them the closest alliance, and interchange of brotherly affection, and services, yet they must not attempt to dictate to us our line of policy in our own jurisdictions, support usurpations in our limits, or do any act, which, however well-adapted to their manners, customs, or habits of thought, may be opposed to the interests, or conflict with the opinions and feelings of the brethren in this Union. We have always pursued this course, and as we have never attempted ourselves, so should we never hereafter permit interference directly or indirectly, so long as we remove not the ancient landmarks of the order.

"It is but a short time since Virginia had to complain of the violation of her jurisdiction by the Grand Orient of France, and although the cause of complaint was removed, when it was protested against, yet that eminent body could not have been ignorant that she was encroaching upon the territory of a power equal in rank and privileges to herself. And had she not given her countenance and support to a spurious consistory and Supreme Council in New Orleans, in flagrant violation of the rights of the legitimate bodies in the United States, they would not have possessed the power or had the hardihood to violate the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of this state, seduce her lodges from their allegiance, and produce a schism, the effects of which are painfully felt by all those who were before united in the most fraternal intercourse, and would have continued so forever, but for their machinations.

"We do not wish to be understood as accusing the Grand Orient of France of any willful act of hostility, or breach of masonic comity to her sisters and compeers in the United States, but we believe she is often imposed upon by false representations, and is led into a commission of the acts complained of by a too great facility in according all that is asked of her, a fact not much to be wondered at, when we consider the complex character of her organization."

ALABAMA.

The report of the Grand Lodge of Alabama for 1850, gives the proceedings to the close of that year. Number of lodges 133. The increase of the order during that year was greater than any previous period of the same length. Seventeen lodges were chartered, and twenty-eight received dispensations during the year. Receipts of the Grand Lodge \$3,307.01. The Report on Correspondence is less full and explicit than the interests of so many young brethren just entering the order could desire, but an interesting address delivered before the Grand Lodge is published with the proceedings. Both the address and the report of a Committee on Education, take high ground on the subject of educating the rising generation of that state. The report for 1851 has come to hand since the above was written, and gives evidence of increasing prosperity. The number of lodges reported this year is 168, being an increase of 35 lodges the past year. The Committee of Correspondence failed of receiving the report of the Grand Lodge of Maine. The Grand Master's address and the correspondence report, are pervaded with a noble spirit, which shows itself in advocating the objects of paramount importance.

The report of the Committee on Education is one of great interest, and shows that several literary institutions are prospering under the fostering care of the lodges of the state. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence also speaks on this subject, as follows :

"In examining the proceedings of the Grand Lodges down to the latest period for which they have come to hand, your committee have been particularly struck with the extraordinary attention which seems lately to have been given to the cause of education. Whether this circumstance might have been looked for or not, it is extremely gratifying; for your committee are satisfied that eventually education must be the grand distinguishing benevolent feature of Freemasonry. To protect the widow and orphan, to clothe the naked, to feed the hungry, and to contribute to the relief of the necessities of the poor, the oppressed, and the indigent, must of course, forever be part and parcel of it; for without these, it would be but a splendid pageant, or a holiday show, gotten up as mountebank exhibitions are, to employ the vacant hours of the vain, the silly, and the listless; or to attract the gaze of an idle and thoughtless crowd! But Masonry has a higher mission, far, and nobler duties to perform. It must not only cherish and comfort the physical man, but it must nurture and educate the immortal soul. An important part of its duty is to teach men how to live as reasoning, thinking, godlike beings, and in proportion as this duty is thoroughly and efficiently performed, the demand for the performance of the other will become less and less."

OHIO.

Ohio sends us at a late hour her report of the annual communication of four days at Cleveland, commencing on the 24th of October, 1851. The address of the Grand Master gives a comprehensive view of masonic principles and duties, an extract from which we here present :

"Look well, then, to your duties as masons; have respect for yourselves and your high estate as such. Your lodges are more numerous in this than in any other state in the Union. Your influence for the good of your fellow men, as well as for posterity, is not in proclaiming and not following your principles and seeking to make proselytes to your order—not in processions and gaudy displays for the gaze and stare of the idle and the curious—but by so living, by so practicing out of the lodge the principles taught in it, that others seeing your good works may follow after, and all thus add glory to the Grand Architect of the Universe. How delightful the thought, of all masons living and acting in perfect accordance with their principles and duties as taught them. I allude to no modern Masonry, to no innovations from the time of Solomon. What Masonry *was*, Masonry *is*; and what Masonry taught us and required of its members in King Solomon's time, it teaches and requires now. Let us see what would be the estate and condition of each mason if all among us were true and faithful to the order!"

The Committee of Correspondence close their report with the following resolutions, all but the third of which were adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the happiness of the fraternity in Ohio requires the entire abolition of the office of Grand Lecturer.

"*Resolved*, That as many of the principles of our Order have been often unsettled by the conflicting opinions of the various committees of the several Grand Lodges of the Union, a work on masonic jurisprudence, carefully compiled, would at this time prove of great value to the craft.

"*Resolved*, That it is both proper and expedient that this Grand Lodge should create a fund for general relief.

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge, as heretofore, continue to recognize the Grand Body in New York, known as the Willard Grand Lodge, and as heretofore, will have no masonic communication with any other body that assumes to exercise, in that jurisdiction, the powers of a Grand Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has adopted the only proper course to maintain her authority, by excluding from the privileges of the order those lodges within her jurisdiction that assume to derive their charters from any unauthorized and spurious body."

MISSOURI.

Missouri reports one hundred and thirty-six lodges, most of which are in a working state. A masonic college is located in Lexington, which appears to be in a flourishing condition, and an excellent report is submitted by its President and curator to the Grand Lodge, and forms a part of its proceedings. We submit the closing remarks of the President:

"In conclusion, I am happy in being permitted to state that the prospects of our college are decidedly more encouraging than at any period since its location at the city of Lexington. It is now getting to be understood that the officers are all at their proper places, with 'the working tools of their profession' all in good order, ready for the duties and responsibilities before them. Public attention is turning towards us very favorably, if we may credit the many assurances given us on this score; and we expect, if sustained by your worshipful body a few years longer, to be able to take our stand by the side of the most flourishing institutions of learning in our land."

We will hope to see in her proceedings the present year a full and thorough report of the Committee of Correspondence. Missouri has masonic talent fitted for it.

ARKANSAS.

Arkansas returns forty-four lodges. The Grand Master, after enumerating some of the leading principles of the order, then remarks :

"Did our lives correspond with the excellent precepts taught in our several masonic lectures ; were those excellent tenets of our order carefully observed by us and practiced in our lives, what a different state of things would be exhibited to the world.

"Instead of being looked upon with a jealous or suspicious eye, the world would be constrained to cry out 'see how these masons love each other,' and Masonry assume that station to which she is justly entitled—the handmaid to Christianity. Some may ask, are these things so ? Has Masonry so far degenerated in the State of Arkansas ? Let facts speak. Why this lukewarmness on the subject that we see manifested throughout the state ? Why this utter disregard of the ties that should bind us together as a society of brethren ? Why this difficulty in lodges composed of forty or fifty members in getting a quorum to transact business ?"

NEW JERSEY.

From New Jersey we have communications for 1851, and January, 1852. Both documents are very brief, and the report of a Committee of Correspondence is among the deferred articles. The number of subordinate lodges is twenty, one of which was recently formed.

DELAWARE.

For the first time for many years, we are favored with proceedings from the Grand Lodge of Delaware. We are happy to welcome her salutations. In the Grand Master's address occurs the following passage :

"The cathedrals of Europe, upon which volumes have been written, edifices equalling, if not surpassing in grandeur and beauty, the noblest creations of Grecian architects, were conceived and executed by our ancient brethren. I have, my brethren, suggested and can only do so, enough to prove that masons have a literature of which they may be proud enough to show that to the inquiring mason, who would be an accomplished lecturer, a field is opened, wide indeed of research, requiring many volumes and the study of years to master them. If this generous thirst for masonic knowledge be excited, it will demand books to slake it, the supply will follow and the formation of libraries by individuals and by lodges will be as easy as it will be certain."

MISSISSIPPI.

The report of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, of more than three hundred pages, reached the committee too late to be fully examined. The report of the Correspondence Committee is extended and able, and its bearing towards the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, since its reorganization, is courteous in the main, as it is towards the order generally. About one hundred

and fifty subordinates are numbered in Mississippi, and most of them appear to be in a prosperous condition, and capable of fulfilling a noble masonic destiny in the south.

MARYLAND.

The Committee of the Grand Lodge of Maryland in 1850, acknowledge the receipt of the reports of only twelve of the thirty-two Grand Lodges now existing. Maine is not included in the list. The report of the Committee of Correspondence notices the proceedings of several Grand Lodges, and notices some of the past efforts to establish a General Grand Lodge, but without going extensively into the discussion of the question.

Since writing the above, the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maryland for July, 1851, have been received, in which she speaks of her sister in Maine with fraternal affection. Maryland, as well as some of the other Grand Lodges, publishes the report of the Grand Lodge of England on the schism in New York, and her justification of the legitimate Grand Lodge in that state. She also publishes a pleasant description of the stone furnished by the Grand Lodge of Maryland for the Washington National Monument, but your committee forbear to publish this description lest it should awaken unpleasant recollections of the fate of a proposition made last year to furnish a block for the same object. Maryland numbers ninety-six subordinate lodges, and has apparent prosperity.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

From Washington we have communications embracing the sessions of the Grand Lodge for May, July, November and December, 1851. We have also an address on the masonic character and standing of Washington by W. G. Master Benjamin B. French, whose masonic skill and instructions we were permitted to share, a few years since, on a festive occasion in this city. The address was delivered at the tomb of Washington, the 24th of June, 1851. Your committee are persuaded that the deep interest all men and masons feel in all that belongs to Washington will justify our use of the closing part of the address. After copious extracts from various authorities showing the love of Washington for our order, the address thus proceeds :

"All this incontrovertible evidence goes to show that Washington often mingled with the craft in their public celebrations, and was present in their lodges. And we cannot doubt that one or the other of the constructions I have given to his letter to Mr. Snyder is the true one; and our departed brother to whose ashes we have come to-day to manifest our love and our veneration for his memory was a true and worthy brother from the day of his initiation, in 1752, to the day when he yielded up his spirit to his Maker.

"We have seen, from the record of Alexandria Lodge, that an emergent meeting was held for the burial of General Washington, and it is proper that I close this portion of these remarks by adding that, in accordance with

the proceedings of the lodge at that meeting, the remains of Washington were consigned to the tomb with masonic honors. Among those who composed the procession to the tomb, according to the account given in the appendix to the Life of Washington, by Sparks, and copied from the very particular and interesting narrative of his last illness by Mr. Lear, an inmate of his household, appears 'Lodge No. 23'; and, of the services at the tomb, it is said, 'The masons performed their ceremonies, and the body was deposited in the vault.'

"I have been thus particular, my respected brethren, in gathering together and laying before you the evidences of the masonic standing, character and opinions of Washington, for the reason that no pains have been spared by the enemies of our order to wrest from us the honor of calling him *our brother*.

"At the ceremonies attending the laying of the corner stone of the noble monument to his memory, now in progress in Washington city, I had the high honor of addressing the immense body of masons there assembled. That address was no sooner before the public in printed form than some of those restless spirits, who sought to ride into public favor on the anti-masonic hobby of 1829-'30, commenced addressing letters to me, controverting some of the statements contained in that address. I frankly admitted that rumor had led me into a single error. I had alluded to General Arnold, and stated that he was not a mason. I was mistaken; for I have since seen an authenticated copy from the records of a lodge in New Haven, showing that he was a member of our fraternity. I can only add, here, that he proved himself to be a most unworthy one. The other controverted points were, touching the masonic character and standing of Washington. I went immediately into a thorough examination of his masonic history, and was happy to find that every assertion I there made in relation to him was more than proved by the record, and by unquestionable tradition. The first appropriate opportunity that presented was taken by me to allude to the subject before the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and I then pledged myself to pursue the subject and, upon the first appropriate occasion, to embody all the facts in such a manner as should convince any reasonable individual that we claim nothing for Washington as a Freemason that is not fully sustained by either authentic history or undoubted oral tradition.

"No more proper time, place, or occasion than the present could have presented, and I have endeavored here to redeem my promise. I hope I have done it to your satisfaction, although I have extended my remarks on this part of my subject to a greater length than I had intended this entire address should have occupied.

"While, as freemasons, we cherish, and we guard as we would the apple of our eye, the masonic character of Washington; as American citizens, and individuals of this Union of States, which he founded, we are always ready to recur to his memory, as that of one who was born to be the benefactor of his race; and who,

"Moving on from high to higher,
Became, on fortune's crowning slope,
The pillar of a people's hope,
The centre of a world's desire.'—

"To use the language of our eloquent Brother Chandler, 'The nation felt that his existence was connected with every pulsation of its heart; and the world looked in admiration at the bright luminary of the West, that poured back upon his race the accumulation of the wisdom and prudence of mankind, a golden light, that lay upon the earth in evening beauty—rich and enriching—lovely in itself, and diffusing loveliness on all upon which it shone.'

"Of the character of Washington as a General, a Statesman, a great and a good man, we can say nothing new; it has *all* been written, not only in books, but upon the hearts of his countrymen. Age cannot efface the record; time cannot blot it; but, like the light of that star which blazed

over Bethlehem, and which blazes still among the constellations as brightly as it did on that night when the wise men saw it, shall the name and the memory of Washington blaze on and on, and grow brighter and brighter, as generations succeed generations, till time shall be no more."

The published proceedings of this Grand Lodge give a very interesting detail of the ceremonies of laying the corner stone for the new addition to the Capitol at Washington, but our limits forbid a further notice.

NEW YORK.

The proceedings of the legitimate Grand Lodge of New York received, are from October, 1850, to June, 1851. The report of the Committee on Correspondence occupies more than eighty closely printed pages. Of these, nearly eight are devoted to the Grand Lodge of Maine, and its proceedings for 1850. Their notice of us is very carefully drawn, and is respectful and fraternal. They say:

"The Committee on Foreign Correspondence review the proceedings of twenty-three Grand Lodges; and the subjects chiefly treated of, are the difficulties in New York, Grand Lodge certificates, difficulties in Louisiana, and a General Grand Lodge, all which are ably and dispassionately treated."

This committee also explain the reason why Maine received no reports from Louisiana Grand Lodge in 1850. They say:

"A box of documents for the Grand Lodges of the Northern States, including some for Maine, fell into the hands of those 'who took forcible possession of the Grand Secretary's office and its contents, at the time of their trouble in New York.'"

They supposed that this circumstance might have deprived us of the version of the Louisiana troubles as given by the old Grand Lodge; but if they had examined the Maine report for 1849, they would have seen that we had given a fair hearing to the whole question, and that the four resolves recommended by us in 1850, and adopted by this Grand Lodge, were submitted and adopted in view of all the aspects of the case. Possibly this fact might have saved them the long argument they entered upon to justify the old Grand Lodge in its course of cumulating different rites. We do not deem it necessary now, to review their argument or justify those resolutions, inasmuch as the final settlement of the troubles in Louisiana, with the restoration of harmony there, which gave us so much joy last year, was precisely on the basis urged in the resolutions of this Grand Lodge, in 1850. Could the committee be as successful in striking out a course and laying a foundation on which a similar union could be brought about between the two conflicting bodies, claiming to be Grand Lodges in New York, we would willingly review the whole controversy again, as "dispassionately" as we did those of Louisiana in 1849 and 1850, and as we did their own troubles in 1850 and 1851. The Grand Lodge of Maine has substantially upheld the position of the Grand Lodge, whose report is now under review. We call it the only

"legitimate" Grand Lodge in New York. We have rejoiced in the settlement of the controversy between her and the St. John's Grand Lodge. Why may we not rejoice in another victory of reason, of faith, hope and charity over all the frictions of party strife? Why should Masonry in the Empire State be as a kingdom divided against itself? We will, at least, rejoice that the severity of excited passion and hostility is abated. When "sober second thought" shall prevail, and kind affectionate feelings shall sway all parties, we will hope for re-union in New York. Some attempt has been made to secure a union. Let not one failure discourage effort. "*Try, try again,*" is the motto. If the parties cannot agree on the terms of union, why not enlist the kind offices of competent brothers, mutually chosen from the lodges in other states, who shall act as a Committee of Reference? Is it not time to make an earnest effort to heal the "strifes among the workmen at the temple" in the great and able jurisdiction of this sister state? Cannot the noble hearted brothers of the Grand Lodge be not only just, but generous and magnanimous in this matter?

VERMONT.

The last annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Vermont was held at Burlington, January 13, 1852. A noble zeal for masonic labor is exhibited by our Vermont brethren, since the revival of their Grand Lodge. The founders of the Grand Lodge in 1794, did not allow that body the right of revising their Constitution, but required that *two-thirds* of the subordinates should first petition the Grand Lodge for revision, and that the Grand Master should issue his warrant to all the lodges, requiring them to elect each a representative to meet in convention at a time and place specified by the Grand Lodge, and that this convention should have full power to revise and amend the Constitution. All these conditions have been complied with, and a revised Constitution is now published, as the result.

The address of the M. W. Grand Master, Philip C. Tucker, is one of the most full and thorough that your committee have seen in its discussion of important questions now extant in the Grand Lodges of this country.

The Committee of Correspondence commence their notice of the several Grand Lodges, with a liberal quotation from the last year's report of this Grand Lodge. The notices of the several Grand Lodges appear to be able, fair and manly. The Grand Master is chairman of the committee.

CONNECTICUT.

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut held its last annual communication at Hartford, in May, 1851. Seventy-eight subordinates are numbered, but several are not in active operation. The Committee of Correspondence give a somewhat extended report, embracing most of the Grand Lodges of the

Union, which seems to be fairly and discriminately prepared. Their notice of the Grand Lodge of Maine is very respectful.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CANADA WEST.

The committee are sure that the Grand Lodge of Maine are happy to receive the salutations of their brethren in Canada and the other British Provinces in this country. We still hope, at no distant day, that the iron horse will not only carry these salutations more frequently and surely, but also render our intercourse with those brethren as much more frequent as it will be convenient.

WASHINGTON FESTIVAL.

Among the circulars received from various masonic bodies, one is from the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, with an extract from their minutes, dated Natchez, February 3, 1851, as follows :

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommend to all lodges under its jurisdiction, that they celebrate in appropriate manner on the 4th day of November, 1852, the one hundredth anniversary of the reception of the illustrious Washington into the masonic fraternity.

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge respectfully recommends the adoption of similar resolutions to all Grand Lodges with which it holds correspondence, and the adoption of similar resolutions to all Grand Lodges with which it holds correspondence, and that the Grand Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to said Grand Lodges.

"A true copy.

Attest :

WM. P. MELLE, G. S."

SUBLIME MASONRY—SUPREME COUNCILS.

Several documents have been sent to this Grand Lodge from bodies claiming to be Supreme Grand Councils of Sovereign Inspectors General. These documents have been sent, no doubt, for the purpose of being duly considered and passed upon by the bodies to which they are sent. To your committee it seems inexpedient to report particularly on these documents at this time. Several reasons might be given for this :

1. The length of this report is an objection.
2. The subjects presented in these documents, if dealt with at all, should be treated with mature consideration, and not hastily decided.
3. There are several bodies, each of which maintains claims either inconsistent with another or with the rights of existing lodges.
4. Another, and a serious one, is, that conflicting claims in some cases, descend to unamiable personalities, and lead masons of long experience who ought to be models of propriety, to display unlovely traits of character. The committee feel it to be wise to suspend judgment in the premises, and

advise the parties to change their course of conduct, or change their motto so it shall not read "*Ordo ab chao*." Some of the articles written by the conflicting parties will otherwise need to be labelled "confusion worse confounded."

Should it become necessary to discuss this subject hereafter, the documents might properly be placed in the hands of your committee, when appointed for another year. There are four of these Grand Councils claiming jurisdiction in this country. One is at Charlestown, S. C.; one in the Valley of New Orleans. The other two claim authority in New York and New England.

The one at Charleston and the one at the North, which has W. Charles W. Moore of Boston as its Secretary, are the only two which recognize each other as legitimate bodies. The other body, at New York, claiming authority in this part of the country, has as its champion W. Henry C. Atwood, who was lately at the head of St. John's Grand Lodge. His course in regard to the other body, as exhibited in the Masonic Sentinel, is certainly very unmasonic, and much of his language in regard to Bro. Moore and the Freemasons' Magazine at Boston, is exceedingly offensive and uncharitable. It would be fortunate if nothing had been said in reply equally offensive. These personalities and bitter controversies between masonic brethren and those who have received high honors deserve severe rebuke. They will do much to bring reproach on the bodies they represent and upon the masonic fraternity. The "Supreme Council" for the Valley of New Orleans, as we have seen, has claimed and exercised the right to charter lodges in Louisiana, regardless of the jurisdiction and rights of the Grand Lodge of that state—a course of conduct justly exposed and rebuked in the prompt action of that Grand Lodge and its excellent Grand Master, and responded to by many of the Grand Lodges of this Union.

The Grand Lodge of Maine will doubtless coincide with all other Grand Lodges in resisting all attempts of such bodies to interfere with their jurisdictions. If these Supreme Grand Councils have a mission to fulfill, a first duty is manifestly to lay aside all bitterness and strife and evil speaking, to settle their intestine strifes, and cease from all attempts to interfere with the regular and established authority of the Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters of the Union. Then those of us who now are comparatively ignorant of their merits, may be disposed to give them a fair hearing.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this report, the committee crave the indulgence of the Grand Lodge for its length. We could not well make it shorter without injustice to the advancing interests of our beloved and rapidly increasing order. We have desired to let the members of this body enjoy with us a taste of "the

feast of reason and flow of soul" which Masonry is annually preparing in our land, and that our subordinates, now rapidly filling up with earnest men, desiring "light" and "*more light*" in Masonry. We might have given them still more evidence of the deep interest felt in other states in what is passing here in Maine, but this we have not thought desirable. Indeed, it might flatter our vanity too much to tell them all the kind things which our brethren in other states say of us as a masonic fraternity.

No Grand Lodge in the Union has received more respectful notice in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of other states. No reports are more complimented or liberally and approvingly copied from, than the reports emanating from this body.

While we gratefully accept the salutations and sympathies of our brethren in other states, let us receive them only as incitements to increasing activity and fidelity in our masonic labor. A blessed work is committed to our hands. Though placed in the "north-east corner" of our glorious Union, let us show ourselves worthy to share in the glorious work of building the temple of freedom and national greatness, whose pillars of wisdom, strength and beauty shall stand in the East, in the West, in the North and in the South,—stand firmly and imperishably—whatever tempests shall sweep around their base, or threaten the social fabric, and the national institutions and interests which we highly prize and which our order is fitted to preserve.

In addition to their other duties, the Committee of Correspondence were instructed to correspond with other Grand Lodges of the Union, and to urge the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. On this subject, your committee ask leave to submit a separate report.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,	} Committee.
ALLEN HAINES,	
F. BRADFORD,	

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The following report, submitted by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, upon the subject of the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, having been approved and adopted by this Grand Lodge, was ordered to be published with

our proceedings, and also in the form of a circular, and forwarded to the several Grand Lodges and to the principal officers thereof, as well as to the elective officers of the Grand Chapters and Grand Encampments of the United States; with the expression of our desire that the several Grand Lodges will give their early attention to the subject, and indicate their views and action thereon in an early reply.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE IN
RELATION TO A GENERAL GRAND LODGE OF THE
UNITED STATES.

To the W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

At the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge, it was

Voted, That the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be, and are hereby requested to correspond with the several Grand Lodges in the United States, recognized by this Grand Body as such, urging upon them the necessary steps for forming a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

As the committee were not instructed in relation to the method of correspondence or the time of presenting the result of their labors, they have felt somewhat embarrassed as to the best method of complying with the resolution and meeting the wishes of this Grand Lodge. From the results of efforts thus far made to secure a General Grand Lodge, the committee were satisfied that nothing could be gained by precipitation, but that if such a body was to be formed with any prospect of success, it must be a work of time and mature deliberation.

It has seemed to them desirable that if another attempt were made to organize such a body, it should be done when this branch of the masonic fraternity could be generally and ably represented, and without involving heavy expense to the several state Grand Lodges.

It has also seemed desirable that such an attempt should be made when there were no exciting influences or perplexing controversies to disturb the deliberations of a preliminary meeting, or enlist any of the Grand Lodges against the measure, or against each other.

The committee have also desired to profit by the experience of the General Grand Bodies in the other departments of Masonry, and by whatever

light the communications from the several Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters of the Union might incidentally reflect on this subject the present year.

They have believed that the most favorable time for attempting an organization would be at the time of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, which bodies are to assemble in Lexington, Kentucky, in September, 1853.

For these and other reasons, your committee have thought proper to delay addressing the sister Grand Lodges on this subject till their views could be better matured and submitted to this Grand Lodge, and if approved, to send them out in connection with the proceedings of this annual communication, and also in the form of a circular, to all the elective officers of the several Grand Lodges in the United States, inviting the early attention and reply of their respective bodies to this proposition.

Such being the views of the committee, they will indicate briefly the outlines of this question as they understand it:

1. They believe the interests of Freemasonry in our country, in all its departments, would be greatly promoted by the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, with appropriate powers and limitations.

2. That the voice of a decided majority of the Grand Lodges of this country has been clearly expressed in favor of such an organization.

3. That the diversities of sentiment as to the precise duties, powers and limitations of such a body, so far as expressed, do not at all discourage the hope of essential agreement on a satisfactory basis, whenever a suitable meeting of delegates can be assembled.

4. That the progress already made in the settlement of long standing difficulties in some of the states, is one of the most encouraging evidences that a General Grand Lodge may be harmoniously and successfully organized.

5. If all the difficulties of jurisdiction and the intestine strifes in the several states were healed, so far from diminishing the necessity of a General Grand Lodge, the difficulties in the way of its organization would be removed and the way successfully opened for its beneficent career.

6. That such an organization is highly desirable, that it may complete our national masonic organization and co-operate successfully with the other national bodies, the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment. Such an organization should hold its sessions in connection with the other two, and in some cases the same individuals could represent each department of the order, and the expense of representation be shared equitably by their several bodies.

In this way all the interests of Masonry would be brought into notice and in a way most likely to harmonize and promote the interests and prosperity of all the departments.

Such a gathering of the masonic family, in all its branches, would bring together masons of high character, talent and moral worth, familiar with the

wants of the various departments of the order, and the happiest results might be anticipated from their labors.

7. Your committee believe that such an organization, with proper regulations, would be of great value, not only to the masonic fraternity in this country but to the interests of our order throughout the world. It would be the centre of correspondence for all the Grand Lodges of the world, and a masonic union of these United States would present to our brethren of all lands a most happy illustration of our national motto, "*E Pluribus Unum*."

8. In conclusion, the committee suggest that such an organization, meeting regularly with the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, and bringing together from all parts of the country, noble minded men, imbued with the spirit of Masonry and charged with the responsibilities of legislating for its welfare, would be most happy in its influence on the stability and welfare of our Union. The meetings of this body might sometimes occur near our halls of national legislation, and give them an example of legislation which knows "no North, no South, no East, no West," and has no "Mason and Dixon's line."

In the report on Foreign Correspondence for the last year, the committee gave some views of the mission of Masonry in relation to our national Union, to which they respectfully refer.

Should this Grand Lodge approve these suggestions of the committee, they would propose that they be sent out to the fraternity as proposed, with an introductory note, desiring early attention and reply.

They would also propose that a copy of the circular be sent to the elective officers of all the Grand Chapters and Grand Encampments of the United States.

CYRIL PEARL,
ALLEN HAINES, } *Committee.*
F. BRADFORD, }

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FIRST DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The District Deputy Grand Master of the first masonic district, respectfully asks leave to present the following report :

There are in this district seven working lodges, which I will briefly notice.

1. Cumberland Lodge, No. 12, at New Gloucester, consists of twenty

members, and has initiated five candidates the past year. In this lodge the right spirit seems to prevail, and there is every indication of prosperity.

2. Freeport Lodge, No. 23, at Freeport, is now in a flourishing condition. It consists of twenty-eight members, of the right stamp. They return thirteen initiates, and one deceased, during the last two years, as they made no return to the Grand Lodge at its last annual communication.

3. Casco Lodge, No. 36, at Yarmouth, have now but twelve members, and have done no work during the past year, although they have held their regular monthly meetings, and the members have attended punctually.

4. Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 17, at Portland, I regard as one of the most flourishing in the state. They have ninety-four members, and return thirteen initiates, two rejected and two deceased during the past year.

5. Portland Lodge, No. 1, is the largest as well as one of the most prosperous in this district. It consists of one hundred and ten immediate, and twenty honorary members. The return of this lodge exhibits seventeen initiated, crafted and raised, and two raised who had been previously initiated and crafted.

6. Harmony Lodge, No. 38, at Gorham, is in a good working state, and exhibits good evidence of the masonic ability and character of its officers and members. Fifteen candidates have been initiated in this lodge the past year, and the number of its members is fifty.

7. United Lodge, No. 8, at Brunswick, is one of the oldest in the state, as well as one of the most prosperous. It consists of forty members. The regular meetings of this lodge are punctually attended, and the brethren are always anxious to see that the "Ancient Landmarks" of the order are strictly adhered to. During the past year they have initiated, crafted and raised seven candidates.

I find that three of the lodges only (in this district) have a charity fund, viz: Ancient Landmark and Portland Lodges, at Portland, and United Lodge, at Brunswick.

The Ancient Landmark Lodge has a fund of about \$3,000. Portland Lodge about \$1,300, and the United Lodge about \$1,300, all invested in stocks and other property, the income of which is appropriated for charitable purposes.

In these lodges a sufficient amount is paid by the members, either by quarterages or annual assessments, to meet their current expenses.

During the past year I have received from the Grand Treasurer, twenty-two dollars, to be appropriated by me in charity. I have thought proper to distribute this amount equally among the lodges under my jurisdiction, and have accordingly paid the amount to the Treasurers of the several lodges, to be paid out by them under the direction of the managers of their charity funds.

By the returns, I find that there are in this district, three hundred and fifty-four members, and that there have been sixty-five initiated the past year.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL S. WING, D. D. G. M. *First District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SECOND DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

Having received your appointment as D. D. G. Master of the second masonic district under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, I accepted the trust with great diffidence. My age and infirmity, as to health, rendered it very uncertain whether I should be able to discharge its duties in a proper manner; the lodges being extended over a large extent of territory and my residence being on the extreme easterly border of the district.

I have distributed the blanks and other communications of the Grand Lodge, as I have received them from the Grand Secretary, to the several lodges in this district; have visited several lodges in person and two of them by appointment.

I visited Tranquil Lodge, No. 29, at Danville, on the 28th of January; found them in good working condition, apparently well united and prosperous. I installed the officers and addressed them briefly. Their members number fifty-two and they have initiated ten during the last year, have made their returns in good order, with their dues, to the Grand Lodge.

Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, at Livermore, I visit often, being a member thereof; which lodge is in good working condition—meets regularly every month. Number of members, thirty-four. Records well kept, and harmony prevails.

I visited Blazing Star Lodge, No. 30, at Rumford, by my appointment, on the second day of April. But by reason of the deranged state of the mails they did not receive my notice in season to assemble the lodge (the members being scattered over several of the adjoining towns). I found the Master absent in Massachusetts—the Secretary in the Legislature—the members divided in opinion in reference to the location of their lodge, &c., which I feared would terminate much to their disadvantage.

That lodge made no regular return last year, as will be seen by Bro. Washburn's report and his letter to me on the subject. I examined their records with Bro. Frost, the S. W., found some omissions and other irregularities, which he promised me should be corrected, and the returns for 1851 and 1852, together with dues to the Grand Lodge, should be made out in due form and forwarded to me before the first day of May. But I have heard nothing from them since.

Pythagorean Lodge, No. 11, at Fryeburg, Oxford Lodge, No. 18, at Paris, King Hiram Lodge, No. 57, at Dixfield, have been dormant for many years, and no prospect, so far as I can learn, of their resuscitation, and have long since forfeited their charters and ought no longer to incumber the records of the Grand Lodge.

I have written to them, directed my letters to the Master, Secretary or any member of the lodge at Fryeburg and also at Paris, requesting them to inform me of their condition and suggesting the propriety of their surrender-

ing the charter to the Grand Lodge, but have received no answer whatever. Some two or three of the members of King Hiram Lodge promised me most solemnly that they would communicate with me on the subject, but have failed to do so.

I see, by Bro. Washburn's report of last year, that Mount Moriah Lodge, at Denmark, was reported dormant. But that lodge has since commenced work, and I appointed Bro. L. P. Sawyer to visit that lodge as well as the lodge at Bridgton, and to discharge my duties at those two lodges; and for the information of the Grand Lodge, I herewith submit Bro. Sawyer's letter to me in reference to them.

The traveling has been so impassable during the past winter, by reason of snow and blows, that it was dangerous to get far from home with any assurance of getting home again in due season; so that visiting the lodges in the interior has been attended with great hazard and inconvenience.

Since writing the above, I have received the return from Oriental Lodge at Bridgton, together with the dues to the Grand Lodge.

The amount received from a part of the lodges in the second district is \$39.25, which sum I have paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

All which is respectfully submitted,

CORNELIUS HOLLAND, *D. D. G. M. Second District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF THIRD DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The District Deputy Grand Master of the third masonic district in this state would respectfully report:—That the appropriate duties of the office have been attended to during the last revolving year, which now opens a new era in our masonic progress. In that time, he has held frequent and friendly intercourse with the several lodges composing this extensive district, and has distributed such books and blanks as the duties of the office seem to contemplate, and has visited each lodge in the district at least once, and is now able, with pleasure, to congratulate this Grand Lodge on the evident marks of improvement since our last meeting. Visited Lafayette Lodge in Readfield, November 16th, and found the brethren awake to their interests, and cautiously pursuing their even way. Installed their officers publicly, attended by a very intelligent and respected audience, who were addressed very appropriately and interestingly, by Rev. Brother Eaton, assisted by a good choir of singers, who added much interest to the meeting. Early in December, visited Bethlehem Lodge at Augusta, where was witnessed a decided improvement from bygone years, in a laudable disposition to ascertain

what is true genuine masonry, and adhere strictly to it. Installed the officers, and with a very respectable company of ladies, partook of a fine collation at Bro. Hamlin's, where the audience was addressed by several brethren.

December 16. Visited Hermon Lodge at Gardiner, when the officers were installed in fine style, by Right Worshipful Bro. Springer, attended by the brethren and their ladies, who were pleased to grace the scene. This lodge is under the care of R. W. Brother Webber, and I need not say, is well conducted, and on the basis of Ancient Landmark Masonry,—a language for the world.

February 19. Visited our young sister, the Blue Mountain Lodge, at Phillips, with the expectation of dedicating their new and commodious hall; but the weather was inclement, so that it was thought most advisable to postpone it to the 24th of June; when the brethren would be happy to meet the brethren of other lodges, to join in the ceremonies of the occasion. This lodge, under the superintendence of our Hon. Brother Sherburne, is conducted in a very commendable style, and does high honor to her station.

February 20. Returning, visited Maine Lodge at Farmington—distributed the necessary blanks, then attended to some work, and discussed several interesting masonic subjects. This lodge keeps very commendably in the ancient line of what masonry was, and is in good order.

January 7. Visited Old Kennebec Lodge, under, for the present year, W. Brother Day. In this lodge, there has been some trifling difficulty, but it has been arranged by the *rule*. There is a good spirit apparent in the lodge, and no objection can be made to the method or mode of work.

March. Visited Central Lodge, in China, which bore a very good examination; is a little careless in phraseology, but displays a good spirit, and is prosecuting a good work. This is a good lodge.

March. Visited Northern Star Lodge, North Anson, lately removed from Solon Village; is doing well; not fully attended; noticed some incorrect phrases; discussed questions. It manifests a commendable spirit to know the right, and do it.

Did not visit Waterville till April; though several communications passed. This lodge reports well, and is doing a fair business, in pretty good style.

It may be observed that in some lodges there is no Chaplain. It is believed to be a subject of regret, while "Masonry is so far interwoven with religion" that any lodge should habitually meet without a regular Chaplain. Some interesting enquiries have been opportunely instituted with regard to the funds of lodges. This is believed to be a subject of the first importance. The question may be pertinently asked, whose are the funds? In answer to the question propounded, it may be stated, with a few exceptions, that the income of the lodge from all sources is carried to a general fund, from which is paid the necessary expenses of the lodge, and all donations; generally appropriated by a vote of a majority of members present. Accounts and bills are passed by auditors chosen, or as is more general, by the War

dens and Secretary, and ordered by the Master, and it may be here stated, that in general, a good degree of economy is observed. Most of the members pay to the Grand Lodge, per quarterages and initiates, according to the law applicable thereto. An opinion prevails to some extent, that the funds belong to the local lodge, to be used at discretion, but it is not in accordance with the spirit of a "universal" institution. The subject of physical disability has been called up and both sides given as impartially as could be done, and the result is, so far as ascertained, favorable to existing law.

And finally, it may be stated, the subject of legislation as to what is Masonry, has been brought before the lodges, and its pernicious and destructive effects exposed with all the power that time and talent would permit, and the true ground marked out to seek what Masonry was and is, and not what we will make it. The nature of the institution has been explained, its origin and its character; objections obviated, the character of opposers and seceders exposed—reasons assigned for not making its benefits general, and excluding some worthy classes which have apparently given satisfaction. The landmarks explained, and exhortations given to observe all the minor, as well as the major points of masonic instruction. The third district is composed of ten working lodges, and four which were reported as doing nothing, and recommendation was offered in the report that they be stricken from the rolls of the Grand Lodge, which was accepted. Blue Mountain Lodge has been under dispensation two years and now asks for a charter. Vassalboro Lodge, too, asks a renewal, which is a subject for action. The returns have in several instances come in in an informal state, but no material defects are observable. The several lodges report one hundred and thirty-five unaffiliated masons. Three hundred sixty-two members. Eighty-two initiated; the fees to the Grand Lodge on them, exclusive of clergymen, amounts to one hundred and fifty-eight dollars, and the members' fees to forty-five dollars ninety-nine cents. Total to the sum of five hundred and four dollars. There are many subjects which might well claim attention, but the length of this report forbids an extension.

Respectfully submitted,

EUSEBIUS WESTON, *D. D. G. M. Third District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FOURTH DISTRICT.

The undersigned, D. D. G. Master for the fourth masonic district, respectfully asks leave to present the following report of the condition of the lodges in said district.

Lincoln Lodge, at Wiscasset, one of the oldest and best conducted in the state, returns forty-four members and fourteen initiations for the past year.

Fees to the Grand Lodge, \$33.50. This lodge works with a great degree of smoothness and accuracy, and transacts all its business with unusual decorum and propriety.

Solar Lodge, at Bath, returns thirty-three members and five initiations; fees to Grand Lodge, \$24.12. Although the additions to this lodge are few in number, yet it affords me great pleasure to say what ought to be said, in truth by every lodge *in* the state and *out* of it, that extreme caution and circumspection have been used in selecting candidates for admission.

Orient Lodge, at Thomaston, returns twenty-six members and four initiations. Fees to Grand Lodge, \$9.25. This lodge was, during the last year, it will be recollected, destitute of a place of meeting, and added but one to its number. It is now, I am happy to say, in a prosperous condition, and bids fair so to continue; its members working harmoniously together, and keeping the good of the craft constantly in view.

Union Lodge, at Union, on account of causes beyond my control, I was not able to visit personally, but forwarded a dispensation to R. W. Brother Lindley, requesting him to perform that service. Brother Lindley says:

"Although no candidate has been initiated yet, the lodge has met, generally, once in two weeks, and employed the time in gaining instruction in the work and lectures, to much profit, and is, in all respects, in good condition."

Returns forty-six members. Fees to Grand Lodge, \$5.75.

Alna Lodge, at Damariscotta, returns twenty-one members and sixteen initiations. Fees to the Grand Lodge, \$30.62. This branch of the masonic family justifies the favorable anticipations indulged in regard to it, at the time of its resuscitation two years ago, and promises to take a place among the most prosperous lodges in the state.

Aurora Lodge, at Rockland, has sixty-two members, and returns sixteen initiations. Fees to Grand Lodge, \$39.75. It is the largest and one of the most prosperous lodges in the district.

King Solomon's Lodge, at Waldoboro', returns thirty-three members and seven initiations for the past year. Fees to Grand Lodge, \$18.12½.

Richmond Lodge, at Richmond, has forty-five members and has initiated eight candidates for the year now ended. Fees to Grand Lodge, \$21.62. The charter to this lodge was granted at the annual communication of this Grand Body in 1850. It has done a sufficient amount of work and has exercised a good degree of caution in the admission of candidates; thus showing that the confidence of the Grand Lodge was not misplaced.

In obedience to a resolve of the Grand Lodge, passed at its last annual communication, in regard to admitting maimed persons to our order, the several subordinate lodges in this district have all expressed, by vote, an opinion, except Lincoln Lodge, at Wiscasset. These opinions, as thus expressed, will be found annexed to the annual returns, by which it will be seen that Aurora Lodge, at Rockland, has taken the same view of the sub-

ject, or perhaps somewhat more liberal than that implied in the 4th section, article 3d, of the fourth part of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge; and Union Lodge has expressed the same opinion. The other six are of opinion that a candidate should be physically able to comply with all his masonic obligations—in other words, should have all his senses reasonably perfect, and limbs not materially impaired.

The liberal, if not vague regulation in the constitution just referred to, seems to require some more precise explanation than is to be therein found; otherwise, serious difficulties may, and probably will grow out of it. To require a man, under the solemnities of our masonic obligations, to perform certain specified duties, when, at the same time, we *know* that it is to be physically impossible for him to comply with the obligations thus imposed upon him, is a matter appertaining to sound morality as well as ancient Masonry. Or, if masons are not required to fulfill *all* their masonic obligations, perhaps it would be as well for this Grand Body so to amend its constitution that it may not be left to conjecture which are and which are not to be regarded as binding upon them, otherwise, some will be disposed to disregard one obligation and some another, and others again will place the whole in one category.

In obedience to a circular from the M. W. Grand Master, under date of January 1, 1852, I herewith submit the annexed tabular view of the condition of the lodges in the fourth district, by which it will be perceived that none of them have any permanent fund set apart exclusively for charitable purposes, and I am not informed if any more than *one* lodge has any invested funds at all.

There still continues the same discrepancy in the mode of work, as practiced in the different lodges in this district, heretofore complained of. It is to be hoped, however, that all cause of complaint on this subject will soon cease.

The additions to the lodges in this district, so far as I can learn, are, with one or two exceptions, composed of such materials as will bring credit to the order.

The question of the extent of the jurisdiction of each lodge has been raised, and no satisfactory solution of it seems to have been arrived at. Does it extend beyond the geographical limits of the town in which a lodge is located?

The term is several times ^{used} in the constitution, and it would seem reasonable that each lodge should have some way of knowing precisely what are its limits in this respect.

The total of members of the nine lodges composing the fourth district are three hundred and thirty-eight; initiations the present year, seventy-four; fees to Grand Lodge, \$184.24.

The amount appropriated at the last annual communication of this Grand

Body for charitable purposes in the fourth district still remains in the treasury.

S. J. TALLMAN, D. D. G. M. *Fourth District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FIFTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned, D. D. G. Master of the fifth masonic district, herewith presents his annual report.

During the past year, your deputy has visited the several lodges within his district—collected the annual returns; together with the dues accruing to the Grand Lodge, amounting to \$65.12½.

Mystic Lodge, at Hampden, although one of the youngest in the state, gives promise of great success.

The records show that their meetings are held weekly; that they are well attended, and that harmony and brotherly love prevails among the brethren.

Under the influence of faithful and efficient officers, an interesting and zealous brotherhood, this lodge promises the happiest results.

Felicity Lodge, at Bucksport, is one of the oldest in the state. It is no less a pleasure than a duty to speak of this lodge in terms of high commendation. The most perfect order, harmony and fraternal feelings prevail here. The ancient landmarks, as well as all the essentials of our order, are carefully and rigidly observed; and the whole organization is carried forward with ability, vigor and success.

Lygonia Lodge, at Ellsworth, I feel compelled to say, does not present a very prosperous condition. For several years past this lodge has not sustained the character for zeal and activity in Masonry, which it formerly enjoyed. Much of its effort to improve seems to have been misdirected. Since its reorganization, several unworthy subjects have been admitted; one of which has been suspended, and perhaps some others should be.

I am happy, however, to believe that under the auspices of worthy officers and faithful brethren—striving to set aside existing difficulties—to restore friendship and brotherly love—so essential to our order—as well as the observance of more caution and prudence in the acceptance of candidates, this lodge will yet recover from its past reverses, and henceforth take her place among the best lodges in the state.

Answers to the several questions proposed by the Grand Lodge to the subordinate lodges in this district, are received and accompany this report.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. MOOR, D. D. G. M. *Fifth District.*

ELLSWORTH, May 1, 1852.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SIXTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge :

The undersigned, D. D. G. Master, having attended to the duties of that office during the past year, would respectfully report :

That he has received returns from Warren Lodge, No. 2, with fees due to the amount of four dollars and fifty cents. Also, from St. Croix Lodge, No. 46, with fees due, to the amount of ten dollars sixty-two and a half cents ; making in the whole, the sum of fifteen dollars, twelve and a half cents. All of which has been forwarded to the Grand Treasurer by mail.

From Eastern Lodge, No. 7, I have received no return.

From Washington Lodge, No. 46, I have received no return ; it will be made direct to the Grand Lodge, on the return of the Master, who is now absent.

Agreeably to the suggestion from the R. W. Grand Master, sundry questions were proposed to the several lodges, and answers required in relation to the financial concerns of the same.

Answers have been received from Warren Lodge, No. 2, and from Eastern Lodge, No. 7, which accompany this report. Washington Lodge, No. 37, and St. Croix Lodge, No. 46, have returned no answers ; they will, probably, before long. I have distributed to the several lodges within this district, all the documents received from time to time from the Grand Secretary, for that purpose, and would here say that all the lodges are in want of blanks.

The lodges in the district hold their regular communications monthly. Some, however, suspend them during the warm season, and most of them hold them weekly, during the winter season, when there is much work to be done.

There has not been so much work done in the lodges in this district the past year, as in some years formerly, but what has been done has been well done ; it has added to the respect of the lodges within and without ; and I have the satisfaction to say that the lodges stand well ; harmony prevails amongst the members with a good degree of attention to the ancient usage, customs and order of the institution which is advancing in science and morality, and its influence is felt, and has a good effect on all around ; and may we not fondly look forward to its advance in virtue and piety, till its influence shall be universally felt by the whole human family ? Then every man will be disposed to hail his fellow-man as brother, and to extend to him the hand of charity and good will, the same which he would wish to receive, and that glorious time come which is predicted in Scripture ; when none shall have to say to his neighbor, " Know ye the Lord, for all shall know him from the least to the greatest." So mote it be.

J. C. TALBOT, *D. D. G. M. Sixth District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. M. OF SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The seventh masonic district in Maine contains on its list eight lodges.

Rising Virtue, No. 10, at Bangor, was chartered in 1802, and returns twelve initiates and thirty-seven members.

Penobscot, No. 39, at Dexter, was chartered in 1822, and returns eleven initiates and thirty-nine members.

Piscataquis, No. 44, at Sebec, exists only in name ; and I respectfully recommend that her name be stricken from the list of lodges in this jurisdiction.

Meridian Splendor, No. 49, at Newport, chartered in 1826, returns nine initiates and twenty-nine members.

Mosaic, No. 52, at Dover, chartered in 1827, returns seven initiates and twenty-four members.

Star in the East, No. 64, at Oldtown, chartered in 1848, returns seventeen initiates and fifty-four members.

Pacific Lodge, No. 64, at Stetson, chartered in 1851, returns fifteen initiates and twenty-five members.

Mechanics', No. 66, at Orono, chartered in 1851, returns twenty-five initiates and forty-two members.

The whole number of initiations in the seventh district during the past masonic year is ninety-six ; and the number of members as returned, two hundred and fifty. Whole amount of dues, \$219.25 ; all of which has been promptly paid by the lodges.

The resolution passed at the last communication of this Grand Body, requiring a return of masons not members of subordinate lodges, has been partially complied with, but four lodges having acted in the matter. They return two hundred and nineteen.

On the resolution sent out for the action of subordinate lodges, as to what physical disability should debar a man from the honors of Masonry, so far as action has been had and reported there seems a difference of opinion among the lodges ; two recommending a strict adherence to the ancient landmarks and four favoring a modification, so far as that if the disability do not amount to a disqualification for obtaining an honest livelihood, and from being instructed in the mysteries of the order, it shall not preclude him from the honors and benefits of Masonry.

I have visited every lodge in the district once, and the most of them several times, and have either seen or assisted in work in each. There is a much greater uniformity in the work and lectures than I had previously supposed ; there being but few differences observable, and those in matters generally regarded as non-essential.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

LEWIS BARKER, *D. D. G. M. Seventh District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned would respectfully ask leave to report :

That there are three lodges in the eighth masonic district, viz: Saco Lodge, No. 9, at Saco, York Lodge, No. 22, at Kennebunk, and Freedom Lodge, No. 42, at Limerick, which are in a flourishing condition. The brethren are united, and appear to be striving to observe and sustain the ancient landmarks of our order.

There have been the following initiations during the past year, viz: In Saco Lodge, two, in York Lodge, five, and in Freedom Lodge, eight.

In visiting these lodges, I have been pleased to find friendship and union among the brethren.

Adoniram Lodge, No. 27, at Limington Corner, in attempting to change their location to another part of the town, got very much divided, and surrendered their charter, temporarily, in October last, to await the decision of the Grand Lodge. This was the largest lodge in the district, and might do much good to the cause of Masonry, but is now exerting a very bad influence in the community, and it is hoped that the Grand Lodge will be able to adjust all their difficulties—restore harmony, and return their charter. I have received a return from Adoniram Lodge for the first five months of the last masonic year, and find that there have been three initiations during that time, and the Treasurer has paid me the dues up to April 30, 1852.

Fraternal Lodge, No. 55, at Shapleigh, has never revived since the loss of their hall and a part of their jewels and furniture, by fire, some years since. A petition, however, will be presented at this session of the Grand Lodge, for leave to remove Fraternal Lodge from Shapleigh to Alfred, where it is believed that it will flourish and prosper.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. HERRICK, *D. D. G. M. Eighth District.*

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following R. W. brethren have been appointed by the Grand Master to be D. D. Grand Masters for the ensuing year, viz :

First District—R. W. SAMUEL S. WING, of Brunswick.

Second District—R. W. CORNELIUS HOLLAND, of Canton.

Third District—R. W. STEPHEN WEBBER, of Gardiner.

Fourth District—R. W. THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, of Wiscasset.

Fifth District—R. W. JOHN L. MOOR, of Ellsworth.

Sixth District—R. W. JOHN C. TALBOT, of East Machias.

Seventh District—R. W. LEWIS BARKER, of Stetson.

Eighth District—R. W. JOSHUA HERRICK, of Alfred.

Ninth District—R. W. BENJAMIN KELLY, of Belfast.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF LODGES,

UP TO APRIL 1, 1852.

- Portland, 1, Portland. Richard W. Kennard, m; Thomas J. Sanborn, sw; John Russell, Jr., jw; Samuel Chase, Jr., tr; Moses Dodge, s; Joseph Fowler, sd; John Carr, jd; Samuel Bryant, ss; Jacob Chaplin, js; Isaac Davis, t. Members, 110; initiates, 17. District 1
- Warren, 2, East Machias. John Harris, m; William H. Tobey, sw; Charles H. Talbot, jw; Charles H. Sevey, tr; F. Loring Talbot, s; Frederick A. Wilson, sd; Elijah Hall, jd; Nathan W. Foster, ss; Stephen T. Harris, js; Charles Townsend, t. Members, 20; initiates, 1. 6
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. Thomas B. Johnston, m; Erastus Foote, Jr., sw; Daniel K. Kennedy, jw; William Lowell, tr; S. P. Baker, s; Calvin R. Haraden, sd; James Smith, jd; Erastus Cunningham, ss; Ezra B. Carr, js; Sullivan Wright, t. Members, 44; initiates, 14. 4
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. Stephen Lord, m; Greenleaf Robinson, sw; Hiram Fuller, jw; Jeremiah M. Getchell, tr; Thomas Hovey, s; William Nye, sd; David Russell, jd; Charles G. Batchelder, ss; Simon Johnson, js; Alonzo Tenney, t. Members, 37; initiates, 8; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 3
- Amity, 6, Camden. Austin Sweetland, m; James R. Glover, sw; Samuel Chase, jw; E. G. Knight, tr; J. P. Hall, s; George W. Glover, sd; Benjamin Crabtree, jd; Paul Stevens, ss; Edward Bradbury, js; Isaiah Barbour, t. Members, 54; initiates, 5; rejected, 1. 9
- United, 8, Brunswick. John D. Lincoln, m; Octavius A. Merrill, sw; Ward Coburn, jw; Richard Greenleaf, tr; Ephraim Brown, s; John Crawford, sd; John R. Haley, jd; Isaiah G. Simpson, ss; Jacob Sands, js; Moses M. Marsh, t. Members, 40; initiates, 6. 1
- Saco, 9, Saco. Frederick D. Edgerly, m; Thurston Libby, sw; Elijah Smith, jw; Jacob Marston, tr; John Elden, s; Alphonso S. Godfrey, sd; Daniel B. Emerson, jd; Warren Ware, ss; Stephen Everett, js; John Harmon, t. Members, 25; initiates, 2. 8
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Jabez True, m; Ebenezer G. Rawson, sw; William T. Hilliard, jw; Joseph C. Stevens, tr; George W. Snow, s; Silas Alden, sd; Charles S. Crosby, jd; Gustavus F. Sargent, ss; Alfred Kirkpatrick, js; Simeon Everton, t. Members, 37; initiates, 12; rejected, 3. 7
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. Thomas Johnson, m; Abner M. Nutting, sw; Alpheus Rollins, jw; William Hatch, tr; Isaac H. Keith, s; Benjamin Morse, sd; Ezra Tobie, jd; David Allen, ss; Nathaniel Bray, js; Pelatiah Lyon, t. Members, 20; initiates, 2. 1
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. Nathaniel Pease, m; James Flint, sw; John Kilborn, jw; George Peirce, tr; Ebenezer Kilborn, s; Edward L. O.

Adams, sd; Abner Smith, jd; Jacob Emerson, ss; William T. Kilborn, js; Anson Harris, t. Members, 20; initiates, 3. District 2

Solar, 14, Bath. A. J. Fuller, m; John S. Elliot, sw; John H. Kimball, jw; Davis Hatch, tr; Henry E. Palmer, s; George Ross, sd; S. W. Tucker, jd; B. T. Currier, ss; J. P. Allen, js; John Young, t. Members, 32; initiates, 5. 4

Orient, 15, Thomaston. George Crawford, m; William Singer, sw; Isaac McLellan, jw; Robert Walsh, tr; C. H. Smith, s; J. D. Barnard, sd; George W. Robinson, jd; David J. Starrett, t. Members, 26; initiates, four. 4

St. George, 16, Warren. Edward Weston, m; Edmund B. Hinkley, sw; James Teague, jw; Amos H. Hodgman, tr; William H. Wetherbee, s; James Andrews, sd; James Kirkpatrick, jd; John Andrews, ss; Samuel Hinkley, js; Lewis S. Kirk, t. Members, 28; initiates, 4; deceased, 1. 4

Ancient Land-Mark, 17, Portland. William Allen, m; Joseph Smith, sw; Amos E. Howell, jw; Henry H. Boody, tr; William A. Quincy, s; Charles Fobes, sd; Stevens Smith, jd; Archelaus L. Fox, ss; Lewis Leighton, js; John Dain, t. Members, 94; initiates, 13; rejected, 2; deceased, 2; suspension for non-payment of dues, 16. 1

Felicity, 19, Bucksport. Daniel C. Homer, m; John H. Sherman, sw; Nahun T. Hill, jw; Sewall Lake, tr; Thomas Goodale, s; James B. Parker, sd; Nelson Varnum, jd; James W. Patterson, ss; William Oakes, js; Samuel Dorr, t. Members, 18; initiates, 6; deceased, 1. 5

Maine, 20, Farmington. Edwin Ellis, m; John H. Willard, sw; A. F. Ham, jw; J. M. Cutler, tr; William Randall, s; J. C. Harper, sd; Albert Bailey, jd; S. B. Walker, ss; David Jennings, js; N. Maddocks, t. Members, 21; initiates, 8. 3

Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Joseph Covell, m; Jefferson Coolidge, sw; Peter T. Hathaway, jw; Otis Pray, tr; Gideon Ellis, s; Moses Stone, chap; Henry C. Noyes, sd; John W. Eaton, jd; Ebenezer Hinds, ss; Aaron Coolidge, js; Samuel P. Holman, t. Members, 34; Suspended for non-payment of dues, 18. 2

York, 22, Kennebunk. Isaac Downing, m; Stephen Perkins, sw; Amos Lunt, jw; William Downing, tr; Orin Kimball, s; George Smith, sd; Lewis C. Hill, jd; Mark Pool, ss; William Brooks, js; Alvah Cook, t. Members, 20; initiates, 5; deceased, 1. 8

Freeport, 23, Freeport. John Collins, m; Samuel Thing, sw; Amasa Sylvester, jw; William R. Kendall, tr; William A. Mitchell, s; William Randall, sd; Melzar Byram, jd; John G. Dillingham, ss; Hiram Denison, js; Joseph Dillingham, t. Members, 28; initiates, 13. 1

Phoenix, 24, Belfast. Benjamin Kelley, m; W. O. Poor, sw; David Howard, jw; Josiah Farrow, tr; Oshea Page, s; N. T. Merritt, sd; William Holt, jd; E. C. Keene, ss; David Paine, Jr., js; Benjamin A. Jackson, t. Members, 40; initiates, 15. 9

Adoniram, 27, Limington. Eben'r McLellan, m; Ivory Harmon, sw; William D. Boulter, jw; Moses E. Sweat, tr; Stephen C. Watson, s; William C. Lord, sd; Josiah Quimby, jd; Thomas Lord, ss; D. F. Rolfe, js; Benjamin Blake, t. Members, 29; initiates, 3; rejected, 1. 8

Northern Star, 28, Anson. John Pierce, m; William Rowell, sw; Isaac W. Adams, jw; Benjamin Steward, tr; Albert Morse, s; Oliver R. Batchelder, sd; Moses Moore, jd; Robert Moore, ss; Joel Colby, js; Walter Spaulding, t. Members, 40; initiates, 3. 3

Tranquil, 29, Danville. Samuel H. Wilson, m; Dan Read, Jr., sw; E. H. Jones, jw; Marshall Ford, tr; Benjamin G. Barrows, s; George A.

- Gordon, sd; Samuel Cobb, jd; Edward P. Shehan, ss; William Skelton, js; Almon C. Pray, t. Members, 52; initiates, 10. Dist. 2
- Union, 31, Union. Lewis Andrews, m; Gilbert M. Blackington, sw; William G. Hawes, jw; Ebenezer Cobb, tr; William Gleason, s; Calvin Robinson, sd; John C. Robbins, jd; Philo Thurston, ss; Asa Gowen, js. Members, 46. 4
- Hermon, 32, Gardiner. Stephen Webber, m; E. A. Chadwick, sw; J. W. Hanson, jw; William H. Byram, tr; Charles A. White, s; Thomas Briery, sd; John Brown, jd; William A. Lawrence, ss; Charles H. Davis, js; Robert Withee, t. Members, 46; initiates, 11; Rejected, 1. 3
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Jeremiah Arnold, m; Jacob M. Crooker, sw; Paul C. Bailey, jw; John Webber, tr; Edward H. Piper, s; Wadsworth Chipman, sd; William A. Caffrey, jd; Thomas W. Herrick, ss; Josiah H. Drummond, js; Stephen Tozier, t. Members, 33; initiates, 16. 3
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. Joseph Philbrick, m; Joseph Bigelow, sw; Abraham Wyman, jw; John Whittier, tr; Charles M. Willard, s; Samuel Bickford, chap; William B. Morrill, sd; James Frost, jd; Paoli H. Steward, ss; Daniel McPherson, js; Darius Daggett, t; Henry A. Wyman, mar. Members, 46; initiates, 5; dimitted, 2. 3
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Leonard Goss, m; Moses E. Hamlin, sw; Orin Rowe, jw; Jacob H. Arnold, tr; Jabez Churchill, s; Amasa Kelley, sd; F. W. Albee, jd; C. T. Libby, ss; B. C. Robinson, js; Joshua Rollins, t. Members, 54; initiates, 7; rejected, 2. 3
- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. O. A. Hill, m; Benjamin Oakes, sw; O. E. S. Walker, jw; Perez Drinkwater, tr; Gad Hitchcock, s; A. P. C. Winslow, sd; Giles Merrill, jd; James Field, ss; John Gurney, js; George Bruce, t. Members, 12. 1
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. William M. Burton, m; William Silla, sw; Merrill Thomas, jw; John R. Larrabee, tr; George L. Darling, s; Thomas J. Hasty, sd; Edward Anderson, jd; Arthur M. Benson, ss; Edward S. Palmer, js; Robert Craig, t. Members, 50; initiates, 9. 1
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. George Fitzgerald, m; Freeman Knowles, sw; Simon Foss, jw; Albert G. Scott, tr; William Morgan, s; Reuben Flanders, sd; Lawrence Greene, jd; Isaac M. Russ, ss; Tristram P. Sawyer, js; John Safford, t. Members, 39; initiates, 11; rejected, 1; deceased, 2. 7
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. Seth Paddleford, m; N. A. Joy, sw; Stillman H. Sawyer, jw; Asa McAllister, tr; Amory Otis, s; Edward B. Fifield, sd; William Mayhew, jd; Charles H. Barton, ss; Daniel P. Lake, js; Nathan Moore, t. Members, 32; initiates, 3; suspended, 2. 5
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. Gilman Lougee, m; William Cobb, sw; William Gage, jw; Robert Cole, tr; Mark Wood, s; A. N. Bradbury, sd; Thomas P. Place, jd; George Roberts, ss; Gideon Straw, js; Abner Libby, 2d, t. Members, 20; initiates, 8. 8
- Alna, 43, Damariscotta. Ezra B. French, m; Peaslee M. Wells, sw; Isaac Chapman, jw; William Hitchcock, t; Joseph Day, Jr., s; Lemuel S. Hubbard, sd; E. Nelson Shaw, jd; Henry Mellus, ss; Charles A. Jones, js; David B. Catland, t. Members, 21; initiates, 16; rejected, 1. 4
- Central, 45, China. Thos. B. Lincoln, m; Edward Gray, sw; John Hatch, jw; Alonzo Taylor, tr; Bela Burrell, s; Alfred Fletcher, sd; Amasa Taylor, Jr., jd; John Homans, ss; Oliver Hanson, js; W. M. Maxfield, t. Members, 36; initiates, 8. 3
- St. Croix, 46, Calais. Alexander Todd, m; Sumner T. Waldron, sw; Charles H. Garland, jw; Matthew Hastings, tr; Charles F. Washburn, s; Sam-

- uel Wheelock, *sd*; George W. Spratt, *jd*; John Trimble, *ss*; John L. Young, *js*; William McHenry, *t*. Members, 53; initiates, 2. Dist. 6
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. Josiah F. Taylor, *m*; William C. Fuller, *sw*; George S. Currier, *sw*; Daniel Smith, *tr*; Emery O. Bean, *s*; Ira S. Chapman, *sd*; Cromwell P. Hunton, *jd*; Asahel Brainard, *ss*; John Stevens, *js*; Matthew Hayward, *t*. Members, 34; initiates, 12. 3
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Hezekiah Lancaster, *m*; Joseph Knight, *sw*; Elijah M. Dearborn, *sw*; Edmund Pillsbury, *tr*; Benjamin F. Furber, *s*; John S. Nay, *sd*; Peleg H. Tracy, *jd*; John Q. A. Davis, *ss*; A. H. Buzzell, *js*; N. L. Hayden, *t*. Members, 29; initiates, 9; expelled, 1; deceased, 2. 7
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. D. M. Mitchell, *m*; Samuel Libby, *sw*; F. M. Blackington, *sw*; Constant Rankin, *tr*; E. H. Cochran, *s*; Samuel B. Perry, *sd*; Christopher Dyer, *jd*; John Anderson, *ss*; John C. Moody, *js*; Nathaniel Meserve, *t*. Members, 62; initiates, 16; rejected, 2; deceased, 1. 4
- Mosaic, 52, Dover. John W. Sherwood, *m*; Judah M. Hackett, *sw*; Caleb G. Robbins, *sw*; Paul Douglass, *tr*; James S. Wiley, *s*; Elihu B. Averill, *sd*; William P. Brown, *jd*; Joseph Tyler, *ss*; Sands Bailey, *js*; Caleb Gray, *t*. Members, 24; initiates, 7. 7
- Mount Moriah, 56, Denmark. William Pingree, *m*; Cyrus Ingalls, *sw*; Joseph B. Watson, *sw*; Leonard K. Ingalls, *tr*; Sewall Fly, *s*; Dominicus G. Tarbox, *sd*; Alpheus Gould, *jd*; Joseph G. Swan, *ss*; Joseph Milliken, *js*; William Allen, *t*. Members, 14, initiates, 8; rejected, 1. 2
- Unity, 58, Freedom. Samuel B. Dodge, *m*; William Ross, *sw*; John Winslow, *sw*; Ivory Lord, *tr*; Moses O. Robinson, *s*; James Weed, *sd*; Ivory Whitten, *jd*; Charles Elliot, *ss*; Jeremiah Webb, *js*; Aaron Davis, *t*. Members, 30; initiates 8. 9
- Mount Hope, 59, Hope. Walter Philbrick, *m*; Josiah Hobbs, *sw*; Hiram Fish, *sw*; Moses C. Metcalf, *tr*; Henry Hobbs, *s*; Daniel Howard, *sd*; Ebenezer Philbrick, *jd*; Church Fish, *ss*; George W. St. Clair, *js*; Thomas P. White, *t*. Members, 16; initiates, 5. 9
- Star in the East, 60, Oldtown. Eli Hoskins, *m*; John H. Smith, *sw*; Samuel W. Haskins, *sw*; Hiram Smith, *tr*; Solomon Moulton, *s*; Albert F. Hixon, *sd*; Zebulon H. Foss, *jd*; Ansel Smith, *ss*; John Newbegin, *js*; Joseph Moulton, *t*. Members, 54; initiates, 17; rejected, 3; deceased, 3. 7
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoboro'. Lewis S. Soule, *m*; Joseph Miller, *sw*; James Cole, *sw*; William Eugley, *tr*; S. S. Marble, *s*; Abram T. Moses, *sd*; Hiram Brown, *jd*; Alden F. Miller, *ss*; Benjamin Lermond, *js*; Charles Vannah, *t*. Members, 33; initiates, 7; expelled, 1. 4
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. A. D. Knight, *m*; J. Decrow, Jr., *sw*; Minot Crehore, *sw*; James Perry, *tr*; David Howe, *s*; Henry Crehore, *sd*; David B. Decrow, *jd*; G. M. Bray, *ss*; J. Coombs, *js*; Thomas Witham, *t*. Members, 28; initiates, 6. 9
- Richmond, 63, Richmond. James C. Boynton, *m*; Abiel Libby, *sw*; George H. Hatch, *sw*; William Patten, *tr*; Abiel Avery, *s*; Daniel Witham, *sd*; Isaac S. Cox, *jd*; Joseph D. Springer, *ss*; Thaddeus McFarland, *js*; Lebbeus Jenkins, *t*. Members, 45; initiates, 8. 4
- Pacific, 64, Stetson. Horace Shepley, *m*; Charles B. Wood, *sw*; John Rogers, *sw*; Joseph Wiggin, *tr*; Lewis Barker, *s*; David Barker, *sd*; William B. Ireland, *jd*; John W. Gilmore, *ss*; Samuel S. Coburn, *js*; Thatcher S. Anderson, *t*. Members, 25; initiates, 15; rejected, 2. 7
- Mystic, 65, Hampden. Benjamin F. Mudgett, *m*; R. K. Stetson, *sw*; Joshua Hill, *sw*; H. L. Hopkins, *tr*; John Crosby, Jr., *s*; G. B. Starbird, *sd*

Isaac Snow, JD ; D. S. Stone, ss ; S. E. Mudgett, JS ; Samuel S. Garland, T. Members, 23 ; initiates, 19. District 5

Mechanics', 66, Orono. Henry H. Brackett, M ; Thomas McMillan, sw ; Abner Starrett, JW ; Jacob Banks, TR ; Charles H. Colburn, S ; Charles O. Russ, SD ; Hiram Joy, JD ; Samuel Buffum, ss ; Elijah Webster, JS ; John Deane, T. Members, 42 ; initiates, 25 ; deceased, 1. 7

Blue Mountain Lodge, 67, Phillips. Moses Sherburne, M ; Philip M. Stubbs, sw ; Curtis Smith, JW ; Joel W. Hoyt, TR ; Daniel Hoyt, S ; B. F. Eastman, SD ; Seward Dill, JD ; ———, ss ; ———, JS ; Ephraim Rand, T. Members, 21 ; initiates, 4. 3

Mariners', 68, U. D., Searsport. M. R. Hopkins, M ; Augustus Lanphers, sw ; Isaac Carver, JW ; John Towle, TR ; Josiah Blethen, Jr., S ; Sumner A. Patten, SD ; Bradford McLannathan, JD ; Peleg Nichols, ss ; Benjamin C. Colson, JS ; Peter Sweetser, T. Members, 5 ; initiates, 14.

Howard, 69, U. D., Frankfort. A. L. Dennison, M ; Charles Abbot, sw ; J. B. Little, JW ; Nathaniel Atwood, TR ; T. H. Cushing, S ; Billings P. Hardy, SD ; William Holmes, JD ; Daniel Williams, ss ; Ebenezer Hall, JS ; Patrick McShea, T. Members, 10 ; initiates, 3.

NON-AFFILIATED MASTER MASONS.

The whole number of non-affiliated, resident Master Masons, returned to the Grand Lodge by thirty-two lodges, is *five hundred and sixty-nine*.

From the remaining lodges, *no* returns upon this subject have been received.

Grand Lodge of Maine,

1853.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine was holden at Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on the first Tuesday in May, 1853, being the fifth day of said month, and was opened in ample form, in the third degree, at nine o'clock A. M., with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

PRESENT.

M. W. JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	Grand Master ;
R. W. FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Deputy Grand Master ;
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	Senior Grand Warden ;
" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	Junior Grand Warden ;
" _____,	Grand Treasurer ;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary ;
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain ;
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	Grand Marshal ;
" E. G. RAWSON,	Grand Senior Deacon ;
" JOSEPH COVELL,	Grand Junior Deacon ;
" JOHN J. BELL,	Grand Steward ;
" S. B. DOCKHAM,	Grand Sword Bearer ;
" O. A. MERRILL,	Grand Pursuivant ;
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Abner B. Thompson and Joseph C. Stevens,
Past Grand Masters. R. W. Stephen Webber, Past Junior Grand Warden.

On motion,

Voted, That Master Masons in good standing be invited to take seats as visitors during the session.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Bradford,

Voted, That a Committee on Credentials be appointed, to report from time to time during the session.

And, thereupon, Bros. True of Bangor, Willard of Farmington and Johnston of Wiscasset, were appointed by the Grand Master to constitute said committee.

This committee, after attending to the duty assigned them, reported:

That the brethren hereinafter named were severally entitled to seats as representatives of the following lodges, viz:

- 1 *Portland*, at Portland, by William Kimball, WM; John Russell, Jr., SW; Joseph Fowler, JW.
- 3 *Lincoln*, at Wiscasset, by F. O. Soule, Proxy.
- 5 *Kennebec*, at Hallowell, by Daniel Russell, SW.
- 6 *Amity*, at Camden, by Samuel Chase, SW; E. G. Knight, JW.
- 8 *United*, at Brunswick, by Ebenezer Swett, Proxy.
- 9 *Saco*, at Saco, by Thurston Libby, SW; Thomas P. Tufts, Proxy.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, at Bangor, by Jabez True, WM; E. G. Rawson, SW; John Williams, Proxy.
- 12 *Cumberland*, at New Gloucester, by Charles Megquier, WM; John Hatch, SW.
- 13 *Oriental*, at Bridgton, by K. M. Byram, Proxy.
- 14 *Solar*, at Bath, by A. J. Fuller, WM; George Ross, Proxy.
- 15 *Orient*, at Thomaston, by C. H. Smith, JW.
- 16 *St. George*, at Warren, by John Miller, Proxy; Stephen B. Dockham, SW; Robert Davis, Proxy.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, at Portland, by William Allen, WM; Joseph Smith, SW; Stevens Smith, JW.
- 19 *Felicity*, at Bucksport, by Samuel Carter, Proxy.
- 20 *Maine*, at Farmington, by John H. Willard, WM.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, at Livermore, by Joseph Covell, WM; Aaron Coolidge, JW; D. G. Plummer, Proxy.
- 22 *York*, at Kennebunk, by Amos Lunt, SW; Isaac Downing, Proxy.
- 23 *Freeport*, at Freeport, by Samuel Thing, SW; William A. Mitchell, JW; R. R. Kendall, Proxy.
- 24 *Phoenix*, at Belfast, by Joseph T. Noyes, SW.

- 27 *Adoniram*, at Limington, by John B. Sweat, WM; Harding Libby, JW; Arthur McArthur, Proxy.
- 28 *Northern Star*, at Anson, by O. R. Batcheller, JW.
- 29 *Tranquil*, at Danville, by George A. Gordon, WM; Dan Reed, SW; Augustus Callahan, Proxy.
- 30 *Blazing Star*, at Rumford, by E. A. Boyd, Proxy.
- 31 *Union*, at Union, by Ebenezer Cobb, SW.
- 32 *Hermion*, at Gardiner, by E. A. Chadwick, WM; James McCurdy, SW.
- 33 *Waterville*, at Waterville, by John Ranstead, SW; Wadsworth Chapman, Proxy.
- 34 *Somerset*, at Skowhegan, by Abraham Wyman, SW; Benjamin P. Pearson, JW; Eusebius Weston, Proxy.
- 35 *Bethlehem*, at Augusta, by Moses E. Hamlin, WM.
- 36 *Casco*, at Yarmouth, by Gad Hitchcock, WM; Benjamin Oakes, SW; A. P. C. Winslow, Proxy.
- 38 *Harmony*, at Gorham, by William Silla, WM; Merrill Thomas, SW; Thomas J. Hasty, JW.
- 40 *Lygonia*, at Ellsworth, by S. B. Thomas, SW.
- 42 *Freedom*, at Limerick, by William Gage, SW.
- 45 *Central*, at China, by Edward Gray, WM.
- 46 *St. Croix*, at Calais, by Sewall Waterhouse, Proxy.
- 48 *Lafayette*, at Readfield, by G. S. Currier, SW.
- 49 *Meridian Splendor*, at Newport, by Grenville Flint, Proxy.
- 50 *Aurora*, at Rockland, by Josiah Getchell, SW.
- 52 *Mosaic*, at Dover, by E. B. Averill, Proxy.
- 53 *Alna*, at Damariscotta, by Ezra B. French, WM; Everett A. Stetson, JW.
- 54 *Vassalborough*, at Vassalborough, by Philip M. Stubbs, WM.
- 58 *Unity*, at Freedom, by S. B. Dodge, WM.
- 59 *Mount Hope*, at Hope, by John Lermond, JW.
- 60 *Star in the East*, at Old Town, by Ira Wallace, WM.
- 61 *King Solomon's*, at Waldoboro', by M. M. Rawson, Proxy.
- 62 *King Davids'*, at Lincolnville, by Minot Crehore, WM; David Howe, SW.
- 63 *Richmond*, at Richmond, by Daniel Witham, SW; R. W. Lawson, Proxy.
- 64 *Pacific*, at Stetson, by David Barker, Proxy.
- 65 *Mystic*, at Hampden, by Elias J. Dudley, WM; B. F. Mudgett, Proxy.
- 66 *Mechanics'*, at Orono, by John Deane, Proxy.

Which report was read and accepted.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed R. W. Moses Dodge, of Portland, Grand Treasurer, *pro tem*.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be a committee to receive from the ex-

ecutrix of the estate of the late Grand Treasurer, Bro. Henry H. Boody, the books of accounts of the Grand Lodge, together with all the Grand Lodge papers, files, notes, certificates of stocks, and other property of the Grand Lodge, in her hands.

The following D. D. Grand Masters were present and made their annual reports, viz :

First District—R. W. Samuel S. Wing.

Second District—R. W. Cornelius Holland.

Third District—R. W. Stephen Webber.

Fourth District—R. W. Thomas B. Johnston.

Seventh District—R. W. Lewis Barker.

Eighth District—R. W. Joshua Herrick.

Ninth District—R. W. Benjamin Kelley.

Which reports were severally referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

The M. W. Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following standing committees, viz :

On Dispensations and Charters.—Bros. McArthur of Limington, Barker of Exeter, Lawson of Richmond.

On Doings of the Grand Officers.—Bros. Noyes of Belfast, Joseph Smith of Portland, Witham of Richmond.

On Returns.—Bros. French of Damariscotta, Thomas of Ellsworth, Batcheller of Anson.

On Grievances and Appeals.—Bros. Mudgett of Bangor, Dockham of Warren, Weston of Skowhegan.

On the Pay Roll.—Bros. Bell of Carmel, Dodge of Portland, Russell of Hallowell.

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered his annual address, as follows :

BRETHREN :

Our Grand Master in heaven has permitted us once more to meet in Grand Lodge on earth, to congratulate each other on the happy and prosperous condition of our ancient and honorable institution throughout the length and breadth of our land, and for an opportunity to thank Him as the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, for the many favors we have received at His hands during the past year ; also, to pray for a continuance of that protection during the year that is before us, and in carrying forward the great aims we have in view.

But, my brethren, amid so many and such varied blessings, William King,

our first Grand Master, has been cut down like a shock of corn fully ripe, and gathered to his fathers. Though in life he had occupied the first station in the councils of our state, yet the highest honor we can pay to his memory is, that on earth he was a just and upright man and mason.

Another worthy brother has fallen, and one who was more intimately known to us as an efficient member and an invaluable officer. As he was faithful over the treasury of our earthly Grand Lodge we doubt not he will receive the reward in heaven of "well done, good and faithful servant."

The able reports which we have usually had from our Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and the report we may expect the present year, supersede the necessity of any allusion by me to the various communications which have been received from sister Grand Lodges the past year. I doubt not our committee have given them all that consideration and attention which their importance and interest demand, and that we shall have the benefit of a knowledge of the standing and prosperity of our time-honored institution throughout our country.

The following dispensations have been granted since the last annual communication, viz :

June 10, 1852, to Stephen C. Watson and others, for a new lodge at Standish, to be called the "Steep Falls Lodge."

October 18, 1852, to J. H. Sawyer and others, for a new lodge at Orland, to be called "Orland Lodge."

October 26, 1852, to Joseph Pollard and others, for a new lodge at Plantation No. 11, to be called "Pioneer Lodge."

January 21, 1853, to George Moore and others, for a new lodge at Minot, to be called "Fraternal Lodge."

February 10, 1853, to William Redington and others, for a resuscitation of "Vassalborough Lodge."

March 1, 1853, to Peaslee M. Wells and others, for a new lodge at Bristol, to be called "Bristol Lodge."

All are returnable to this communication of the Grand Lodge, and subject to its action thereon.

All applications for dispensations for new lodges the past year have been granted. The localities, so far as could be judged, and the respectability of the applicants, have all commended themselves to a favorable consideration. I have, however, had great doubts of the propriety of increasing the number of lodges to the extent which seems to be anticipated by the present prosperity of Masonry. What may now be considered prosperity may prove hereafter to be adversity. I doubt not the same thing has suggested itself to many now present, whether we are not creating too many lodges, and that, in the end, some may prove to be the nurseries of individuals who ought not to be admitted to the institution. This may be matter for your consideration.

The several masonic districts within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge

are supplied with able and talented brethren, who, I have no doubt, have attended to the important duties of their districts and will be able to give us such reports of the present condition of Masonry and its progress in our state as will gladden the hearts of the members of the Grand Lodge.

At the last annual communication, I called the attention of this Grand Lodge to the all important subject of providing for the maintenance of a permanent charity fund in each of the subordinate lodges under this jurisdiction, and I would respectfully refer you to that communication on the thirty-fourth page of last year's printed proceedings. Subsequently, by a vote of the Grand Lodge at the same meeting, I was requested to present at the next annual communication a project for establishing such a fund. In compliance with that vote, I would now respectfully present for your consideration the following plan for the accumulation and maintenance of such a fund:

In every subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction there should be established a permanent charity fund, which should be formed and increased from time to time by adding thereto all moneys received from initiates, after deducting the dues to the Grand Lodge and four dollars from each initiate, to help defray the incidental expenses of the lodge.

The charity fund, as well as all other property of the subordinate lodges, should be under the direction, control and management of a board of trustees, chosen annually, and consisting of at least five members, of whom the first three officers shall be, *ex-officio*, a part of said Board. It should be their duty to devise means for securing the funds of the lodge, to draw all orders on the Treasurer, and audit all accounts, including those of Secretary and Treasurer, previous to every annual meeting. The Board of Trustees shall invest the charity fund as they shall consider most safe and profitable, and no part of the principal of said fund shall be expended for any purpose whatever. The interest only shall be appropriated for charitable purposes, such as "clothing the naked" and "feeding the hungry"; and at the expiration of each year, any balance of interest not dispensed to objects of charity, shall be added to the principal. The Treasurer of each subordinate lodge shall receive all moneys and other property of his lodge, and shall report to the Board of Trustees when he is in funds more than twenty dollars in money belonging to the lodge. He shall keep four distinct and separate accounts—one for noting all money as it is received, belonging to the Grand Lodge; one for noting all money set apart for the charity fund; one for keeping an account of that portion of the money intended to defray the expenses of the lodge and for all moneys received for quarterages, memberships, and any other income of the lodge; lastly, an account with the income of the charity fund, how and to whom it is dispensed. He shall settle his account with the Board of Trustees, when called upon, and shall give reasonable bonds for the faithful discharge of his duty. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, except by an order signed by a majority of the trustees.

It shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Masters to make annually to the Grand Lodge, a report of the amount, state and condition of the charity fund of each subordinate lodge under their jurisdiction.

I have been thus particular in bringing this subject to the notice of the Grand Lodge, because it is very important that a uniform system should exist in all the lodges, and, so far as I am informed, there are but very few which now maintain a charity fund.

If the maintenance of such a fund is the duty of masons, all lodges should do their part. It is not, in my opinion, in accordance with a correct masonic principle, to apply the funds received for conferring the degrees, to any other than charitable purposes. It is a deposit of money, the earnings of which should go to the poor brethren, their wives and children, widows and orphans. It is true, in this recommendation, this principle is departed from in a measure, by appropriating four dollars from each initiate to defray the expenses of the lodge. But, even with this deduction, it is better that a part should be saved for the benefit of the poor and distressed, than that all should be appropriated to wrong uses and lost.

It may be suggested, that the helpless condition of many of the lodges will not permit this large amount to be carried to the credit of the charity fund. Permit me to ask, when, then, *shall* we commence to build up a fund to answer one of the great purposes for which speculative Masonry is practiced? When we joined the institution, we pledged our honor as men, that it was "for a desire of knowledge, and a sincere wish to be serviceable to our fellow creatures." Let us redeem that pledge by preserving this fund for the benefit of our poor brethren, and their widows and orphans.

I think no complaint can be made by members of lodges in regard to their incidental expenses, as small quarterly payments with the four dollars from each initiate, will discharge those. Experience has fully convinced me that small yearly payments by the members is more conducive to the well-being and prosperity of the lodge, than a free admission to all its privileges.

The amount now paid to the Grand Lodge is two dollars for each person receiving the degrees in a subordinate lodge. The question may suggest itself to you, in connection with this whole subject, whether or not this sum could not with propriety be reduced to *one* dollar, as that would probably cover all the expenses of the Grand Lodge, and leave more in the hands of the subordinate lodges, who, I think, will be better dispensers of charity, provided charity funds are established.

Having had the honor of holding various offices in the gift of this Grand Lodge, within the last few years, having been twice honored with an election as your Grand Master, and being about to retire from the labors and responsible duties with which you have been pleased to invest me—I should do injustice to my own feelings, did I not improve this opportunity to tender to each and to all of you my sincere thanks for the unmerited honors which you have from time to time conferred upon me.

And now, brethren, in closing with you my relations as Grand Master, permit me to express the wish that each and all of you, while members of this earthly tabernacle, may so erect your temporal building as to fit you for that spiritual building—that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, *Grand Master*.

Whereupon, on motion of Bro. Thompson, of Brunswick, so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the establishment of Charity Funds in the several subordinate lodges, was referred to a select committee of five, consisting of Bros. Thompson, Chadwick, Barker, Covell and Tufts.

On motion,

Voted, That the residue of the Grand Master's address be referred to the Committee on the Doings of Grand Officers.

The M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, in a very feeling and impressive manner, then announced the decease, during the past year, of Hon. William King, Past Grand Master; R. W. Joseph M. Gerrish, Past Grand Treasurer; and R. W. Henry H. Boody, Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge; and concluded his address by the introduction of the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, viz:

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 5, 1853.

Whereas, It has pleased the Supreme Disposer of human events in his inscrutable Providence, to remove by death, during the past masonic year, Hon. William King, the first Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, Joseph M. Gerrish, Esquire, Past Grand Treasurer, and Henry H. Boody, Esquire, Grand Treasurer, be it therefore

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge deeply regret the loss they have sustained in the decease of those worthy brethren, who were esteemed and respected for their many virtues during life, and, by their ready co-operation in every good work, sustained the principles and conferred new honors upon our venerable institution.

Resolved, That we sincerely condole with the families of the deceased in the afflictive bereavement they are called to experience, and would tender to them our heartfelt sympathies.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to the memories of our deceased brethren, the jewels and furniture of this Grand Lodge be clothed in mourning.

Ordered, That the above preamble and resolutions be entered upon the

records of this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary forward them to the families of the deceased.

The following proposition was then submitted by M. W. Bro. Dunlap, viz :

It is proposed that the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine be amended in section ninth, article first, part fourth, by striking out the "*two dollars*," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "*one dollar*."

The M. W. Grand Master then, in accordance with a provision of the constitution, put the question, "Will the Grand Lodge sustain the proposition?" which question was decided unanimously in the affirmative.

The proposition was then referred to Bros. Joseph S. Noyes, Daniel Witham and Joseph Smith, who, after duly considering the same, reported that, in their opinion, "such alteration should be made."

The proposition, therefore, in accordance with a further provision of the constitution, was ordered to be sent out to the subordinate lodges in the printed proceedings, and lie over until the next annual communication for final action and decision.

Petitions of Joseph Pollard and others, for extension of the dispensation granted to Pioneer Lodge at Plantation No. 11,—and of Daniel Stone and others, for a dispensation to open a new lodge at Plymouth, were presented and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

On motion,

Voted, That the Trustees of the charity fund be requested to cancel and deliver up the note of \$50, held by the Grand Lodge against sundry members of Freeport Lodge.

Petition of Stephen C. Watson and others, for a charter to Steep Falls Lodge, and for other purposes, was presented, and referred to a select committee, consisting of Bros. Miller, True and Carter.

The Grand Lodge then called off until 2½ o'clock P. M.

MAY 5, 1853.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers then made the following report, which was read and accepted :

MASONS' HALL, May 5, 1853.

Your committee, to whom was referred the doings of the Grand Officers, have attended to the duty assigned them, and beg leave to report: That they recommend this Grand Lodge to accept the reports of the several D. D. G. Masters, and that said reports, together with the very able communication of the M. W. Grand Master, be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

The committee would also report upon the proposition introduced by Bro. Dunlap, in relation to altering the Constitution of the Grand Lodge in section ninth, article first, part fourth, by striking out the words "*two dollars*," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "*one dollar*," that such alteration should be made.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH S. NOYES, }
DANIEL WITHAM, } Committee.
JOSEPH SMITH, }

On motion,

Voted, That Bros. Stevens, Carter, Dodge, French, Willard, Covell, Allen, Noyes and McArthur be a committee to consider and report to the Grand Master such plan as they may deem most expedient for dividing the state into masonic districts.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the establishment of charity funds in the several subordinate lodges, made a report thereon, which was read and laid upon the table.

ELECTION.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, and the following brethren were duly chosen for the ensuing year, viz :

M. W. FREEMAN BRADFORD,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Portland ;
R. W. TIMOTHY CHASE,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Belfast ;
" JABEZ TRUE,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Bangor ;
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Wiscasset ;
" MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland ;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	<i>Rec. Grand Sec.,</i>	Portland.

Bros. John Williams of Bangor, Jacob M. Crooker of Waterville, and Charles Megquier of New Gloucester, were elected Trustees of the charity fund.

Bros. Freeman Bradford, Abner B. Thompson and Jonathan Smith were elected a Committee of Finance for the ensuing year.

On motion,

Voted, That to-morrow, at ten o'clock, be assigned as the time for the installation of the Grand Officers.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Attest:

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

PORTLAND, May 6, 1853.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 9 o'clock A. M.

The report of the committee upon the subject of establishing charity funds in subordinate lodges, was then called up, when a minority report was submitted upon the same subject. The matter having been freely discussed, was finally disposed of as follows:

Voted, That, the plan for the establishment of charity funds in subordinate lodges, submitted by the M. W. Grand Master, be furnished to the subordinate lodges in the printed proceedings; and that the Grand Lodge earnestly recommends that it be adopted by them.

The following report was then submitted:

The undersigned, a Committee on Charters and Dispensations, having attended to the duty assigned them, beg leave to report:

1st. That they recommend the extension of the dispensation heretofore granted to Joseph Pollard and others, of Plantation No. 11, Aroostook County, to the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge.

2d. That they recommend the granting of a charter to the lodge at Orland, now working under a dispensation, and that the name of said lodge be changed from "Orland" to "Rising Sun."

3d. That they recommend the granting of a charter to a certain lodge in Minot, now working under dispensation by the name of "Fraternal Lodge," but that the name of said lodge be changed to "Tyrian."

4th. That they recommend the granting of a charter to Howard Lodge at Frankfort.

5th. That they recommend the granting of a charter to Mariners' Lodge at Searsport.

6th. That they also recommend the granting of a dispensation to Daniel Stone and others, for a new lodge at Plymouth, called Plymouth Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR MCARTHUR, }
DAVID BARKER, } Committee.

The above report was read and adopted, and the several dispensations and charters therein recommended were ordered to be issued.

On motion,

Voted, That a new charter be issued to Vassalborough Lodge at Vassalborough, in place of one which has been lost, free of charge except the Secretary's fee.

The following report was presented and adopted:

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 6, 1853.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, having attended to the duty assigned them, ask leave to report that the good feeling throughout the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge is such, that this committee have had nothing before them for their action.

All which is respectfully submitted,

B. F. MUDGETT, }
EUSEBIUS WESTON, } Committee.
S. B. DOCKHAM, }

INSTALLATION.

The M. W. John C. Humphreys then installed, in ample form, the M. W. Freeman Bradford as Grand Master for the ensuing year, who thereupon proceeded to install, in ample form, the remaining Grand Officers elect; after which the Grand Master announced the appointment of the following subordinate Grand Officers, who were also installed by him in ample form, viz:

W. E. A. CHADWICK,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Gardiner.
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Portland.
" CYRIL PEARL,	" "	Baldwin.
" JOSEPH HUTCHINSON,	" "	Brunswick.
" CALEB D. PILLSBURY,	" "	Bangor.
" URIAH BALKAM,	" "	Wiscasset.
W. JONATHAN SMITH,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Westbrook.
" E. GILMAN RAWSON,	<i>Grand Senior Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
" JOHN H. WILLARD,	<i>Grand Junior Deacon,</i>	Wilton.
" LEWIS BARKER,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Stetson.
" J. M. CROOKER,	" "	Waterville.
" O. A. MERRILL,	" "	Topsham.
" WILLIAM ALLEN,	" "	Portland.
" J. C. BOYNTON,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Richmond.
" JOHN B. SWEAT,	" "	Parsonsfeld.
" STEPHEN B. DOCKHAM,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Warren.
" JOHN DAIN,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

The following brethren were then appointed a Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the ensuing year, viz :

CYRIL PEARL, of Baldwin.

E. A. CHADWICK, of Gardiner.

E. GILMAN RAWSON, of Bangor.

The usual proclamation was then made by the Grand Marshal.

Bro. Octavius A. Merrill, of Topsham, submitted the following resolution, which was read and unanimously adopted, viz :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to M. W. John C. Humphreys, 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 interests 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.

Bro. B. F. Mudgett, of Bangor, then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, viz :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be extended to R. W. William Somerby for his valuable services as Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, and for the great interest he has evinced in the prosperity of the fraternity.

On motion of Bro. Covell,

Voted, That the Grand Lodge re-affirm, and cause to be published with

the proceedings, the following report and action of the Grand Lodge thereon, adopted thirty years ago, 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 D. D. G. 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 with white rods,
- "3d. Deacons with black rods,
- "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 D. D. G. Master enters between them, preceded by the Marshal. Being entered, the brethren salute him in ancient form. The Marshal then 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 will sit uncovered at the right of the Master.

"CHARLES FOX,
"GEO. THATCHER, JR., } Committee.

"January 10, 1823.

"Which report was duly considered and unanimously adopted."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence then presented their annual report, which was read and adopted and ordered to be published with the proceedings, as follows, viz :

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully report :

Another year of masonic labors has been performed, and its records are now a part of masonic history. It has been a year of progress. Much work has been done the last year, and we trust in general well done. Your committee feel a special pleasure in reviewing the reports which have come to hand, that there is so little to censure, or criticise with severity, in the action of the several Grand Lodges of the country. In Louisiana we find a healthful and vigorous progress since harmony has been restored. In New York,

the Grand Lodge and its faithful subordinates seem but slightly disturbed by the complaints and erratic action of the body assuming to be a Grand Lodge, whose claims and course of conduct have been so freely criticised by us in former reports. We could wish some good genius or some kind Providence might lead back those erring brethren and the lodges they control, to a good understanding and fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge, so as to give assurance that strife and division shall no more disturb the masonic labors of the Empire State. But we have no time or heart for a further effort to secure that result at present.

In California, a new trial has arisen through what has been represented as unwarrantable and blame-worthy action of the Grand Master. The censures bestowed on him, and his reply and attempted vindication, have reached us in a pamphlet form, but we do not deem it expedient to detail the circumstances of the controversy now. We trust all questions at issue there may be justly settled by the parties, without the interposition of the Grand Lodges in other states. A great field is open before our brothers there, and a work is on their hands, which should leave no time or disposition to indulge in intestine strifes. Why should the work cease because the Master falters in his oversight? Why cause division and strife by delinquency, or seeming rashness of labor and counsel? We will hope that the result of the criticisms of the craft, and the explanations of the Master, will cause the truth and right to triumph, and that no further exposure or censure of the wrong, or vindication of the right, will be required at our hands.

We love not the work of censure nor the tone of reproof, and rejoice that so little demand for it is apparent in the work of the order which comes for our inspection. We have returns from the Grand Lodges of

New Hampshire,	Virginia,	North Carolina,
Vermont,	Georgia,	South Carolina,
Massachusetts,	Kentucky,	Missouri,
Connecticut,	Tennessee,	Mississippi,
Rhode Island,	Alabama,	Louisiana,
New York,	Texas,	Florida,
New Jersey,	Michigan,	Arkansas,
Pennsylvania,	Indiana,	California,
Maryland,	Wisconsin,	Oregon.
District of Columbia,		

We have also a communication of fraternal sentiments from ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 481, of Canada West. It is addressed to us as a branch of the great masonic family, and we insert their brief communication as a part of this report. We feel assured the Grand Lodge of Maine reciprocate masonic courtesies and greetings, wherever they may concentrate, and feel a very cordial sympathy with our brethren in Canada West, as also throughout the British Provinces of this continent. As the power of steam and the iron horse are now about to make us near neighbors, we will hope to know and

love each other better, both as men and masons. We would suggest that our Wor. Grand Secretary be requested to send our proceedings of the last year and also of the current year, when published, in return for their communication which here follows :

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. $\frac{3}{10}T$,
KINGSTON, Dec. 27, A. L. 5855.

SIR AND BROTHER :

I have the pleasure to transmit, herewith, by command of the Worshipful Master, the list of the officers of St. John's Lodge, No. $\frac{3}{10}T$, Kingston, Canada West, for the ensuing masonic year.

The St. John's Lodge tender their heartfelt wishes for the continuing prosperity of your lodge, with the customary congratulations of the season to its members.

We trust that our united efforts will add yet another pillar to adorn our time-honored institution, and that brotherly love will ever prevail among us.

Brother SAMUEL DEADMAN FOWLER, Worshipful Master.

" JAMES GEORGE FORTIER, Senior Warden.

" ELLERY WANZER PALMER, Junior Warden.

" HENRY ARMSTRONG, Treasurer.

" WILLIAM RUDSTON, Secretary.

" THOMAS PERKINS, Senior Deacon.

" WILLIAM MARTIN, Junior Deacon.

" JOHN ALEXANDER HARVEY, Director of Ceremonies.

" ROBERT STEWART, } Stewards.

" HUGH FRASER, }

" THOMAS DUNCAN, Inner Guard.

" JAMES GIBSON, Tyler.

I beg to remain, sir and brother,

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM RUDSTON, *Secretary*.

To the Secretary of ——— Lodge, No. —.

Your committee invite particular attention to the interesting communication from the Grand Orient of France, and the cordial greetings of the Prince Lucien Murat, on his elevation to the office of Grand Master of the masonic order in France. We submit a free translation prepared by one of the committee :

GRAND ORIENT
of France.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE }
of

The Masonic Order in France. }

ADDRESS OF G. O. :

To the Grand Orient of France.

RUE DES MATHURINS—Saint }
Jacques, 10. }

TT. CC. et ILL. FF.

I have the high honor to transmit to you the letter which the new Grand Master of Masons in France, Prince Lucien Murat, writes to the masons of other countries owing allegiance to the Grand Orient, in order to announce to them his accession to that high office, and to draw closer the bonds which attach the masons of the whole world to those of France. I avail myself of this circumstance TT. CC. and TT. ILL. FF., in order to assure you of all the devotedness which I have the honor, of V. S. P. L. M. L.

S. and av. the H. Q. V. S. D.

For the Secretary General of G. O.

By the Chief Assistant of the Secretary General, HUBERT, 33D.

AFFRANCHIR :

To make free.

ORIENT OF PARIS, 1st May, 1852.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

To the glory of the G. A. of the Universe.

O. OF PARIS, May 1, 1852.

THE GRAND MASTER OF THE MASONIC ORDER IN FRANCE,
To the Grand Lodge of Maine in Portland.

S. S. S.

TT. CC. and ILL. FF.

In taking possession of the high duties which have been confided to me by the Grand Orient of France, and in bringing this event to your knowledge, I embrace with eagerness the occasion which is offered me to say how happy I shall be to witness the continuance of those friendly relations which exist between you and the masonic body in France.

The favor which has been conferred upon me, which I have not sought, but of which I feel all the value, I have accepted with the design of being useful to our sublime institution which embraces the whole world.

In order to accomplish the design which I propose, I count upon the goodwill and the efforts of all French Masons; permit me, TT. CC. and ILL. FF., to rely on your sympathies and on your information, for our institution has no limits, and from whatever source noble and generous suggestions come to us, it is always with happiness we hasten to welcome them.

Accept, TT. CC. and ILL. FF.,

The assurance of my highest consideration
and of my devotion.

Grand Master of the Masonic Order in France:

PRINCE LUCIEN MURAT, 33°.

It will be noticed that this communication is from the highest source of authority in the masonic order in France, and is signed by the distinguished head of the order as of the 33°. It is sent to the Grand Lodge of Maine, as your committee understand its object stated by the Grand Secretary, as a fraternal act, frankly stating to us what "the new Grand Master of Masons in France, Prince Lucien Murat, writes to the masons of other countries owing allegiance to the Grand Orient, in order to announce to them his accession to that high office, and to draw closer the bonds which attach the masons of the whole world to those of France." We do not understand him as assuming that the masons of these United States, whether of French origin, or whatever their nationality, own any particular allegiance to the Grand Orient of France or to its illustrious head, as the representative of its Supreme Grand Council. We have no idea that any masonic authority or jurisdiction of that body is claimed over any masonic body in this country. We understand this fraternal letter as embodying the genuine masonic feeling, as expressed in the language of the Prince, when he says: "I embrace with eagerness the occasion which is offered me to say how happy I shall be to witness the continuance of those friendly relations which exist between you and the masonic body in France."

Your committee are sure this Grand Lodge will concur with them in the most cordial reciprocation of this feeling, and we cherish the hope that a frequent interchange of such civilities will draw closer the cords of brotherly love and union, and thus fulfill the appropriate destiny of our order, which, in two great nations, though severed by the wide ocean, should do something to unite the family of man and secure the peace of the world. This

Grand Lodge will rejoice in the hope which is inspired by the elevation to the Grand Mastership of the order in France, of a Prince so well able, by his position in respect to the ruling sovereign and government of that empire, to give protection, strength and prosperity to the order there. There was a time when serious apprehensions were felt in this country lest the hostility to our order, manifested at Rome, might harm our brethren in France, and bring their fidelity to the severest test. That fear, we trust, has passed away forever, and we will hope that our brethren in that country, so closely linked with the early struggles of our own, will share with us in the cherished anticipation that the friendship of the two nations shall be like that of Washington and Lafayette, based on noble, generous sentiments, adorned with every virtue and compacted with the true masonic "cement of brotherly love."

Permit us to suggest the propriety of binding, in a neat form, the proceedings of this body for the last four years, with those of this communication, when printed, accompanied by an introductory note to the Grand Master of our order in France, and desiring a continued interchange of masonic correspondence.

Before proceeding to other topics, your committee beg leave to call attention to the following circular of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and the accompanying note of its Secretary :

CLAY MONUMENT.

IN THE GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY,
September 2, 1852.

The following resolution was read and adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the subordinate lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, in the State of Kentucky and throughout the Union, be requested to subscribe such amount as in their discretion they may think proper, to aid in the erection of a monument over the remains of our late worthy and esteemed brother HENRY CLAY, of the city of Lexington, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and that said subscriptions be forwarded to HENRY T. DUNCAN, President of the 'Clay Monumental Association,' Lexington, Ky."

A copy. Attest: P. SWIGERT, *G. Secretary*.

OFFICE CLAY MONUMENTAL ASSOCIATION,

Lexington, 22d September, 1852.

SIR:—Above you will find a copy of a resolution, adopted by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, recommending the lodges in the United States to subscribe means to aid in erecting over the remains of our illustrious countryman, HENRY CLAY, a monument which is to mark the spot where his body will repose—and commemorate the virtuous deeds of his long and glorious life.

A rapid organization of State Committees is making, and the grateful work has been commenced in many of the states, to raise means to promote the enterprise, and as soon as practicable, a like organization of the remaining states for the same object will be made.

May we not hope that your body will regard the object as worthy their patronage and favor? and that you will make such appropriation in aid of the work as may seem best.

HENRY CLAY was a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of this state ;

his name is presented as a member of the fraternity, and as one of the most distinguished patriots and benefactors of the nineteenth century.

The cordial co-operation of your fraternity is confidently relied on.

Very respectfully,

H. T. DUNCAN, *Chm'n C. M. A.*

Lexington, 21 Oct., 1852.

SIR AND BROTHER:—I have to request of you a list of the lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maine—with the places of their location; this will enable me to carry out the request of our Grand Lodge, prefixed.

Fraternally,

JNO. B. BAXTER, *Sec. C. M. A.*

Grand Sec'y Grand Lodge of Maine.

It is our conviction that this Grand Lodge will respectfully notice and respond to this appeal of our sister Grand Lodge, and yet we do not forget that the column at our nation's capital, has no stone from our own state, to remind the future visitor to its hallowed base, that Maine or the Grand Lodge of Maine reveres with affection and gratitude the memory of the "FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY." The action which, at a former communication of this body, defeated the proposition to engrave the name of the Grand Lodge of Maine in one of her marble or granite blocks, as a memorial that Maine loves the father of his country and founder of its Union, makes us cautious how we recommend a worthy tribute to the memory of HENRY CLAY, who, through so many and severe ordeals, has ever been its champion and defender. But if the Grand Lodge of Maine, now in her maturity and strength, would be self-moved to a noble deed in memory of both, we believe her future sons who mingle here when our places shall know us no more, will love their mother all the more and respect the fathers quite as much, who thus show a proper veneration for the fathers of their country and the eminent patrons of our fraternity.

Of one thing we are sure: the memory of CLAY and of WASHINGTON will be green and fragrant when we and the action of this Grand Lodge in the premises will be forgotten, whatever we may think proper to do in relation to their memory now.

GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

A subject of paramount importance, at this time, is the proposal to form a General Grand Lodge. It will be recollected that at our last communication, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a special report, proposing to the Grand Lodges of the Union, to unite in the plan of organizing such a body at Lexington, Kentucky, in connection with the meeting of the General Grand Encampment and General Grand Chapter, in September, 1853. This proposition, we are happy to announce, has been received with a great degree of favor, by most of the Grand Lodges whose reports have been made and forwarded to us, since our report and circular reached them. We have reason to hope that, following their example, other sister Grand Lodges will approve this course, and authorize representatives to meet at the

time and place proposed, to unite in organizing a General Grand Lodge with proper powers and limitations, to hold its triennial sessions at the same time and place with the other bodies, so that these gatherings of the fraternity may consult for the good of the whole country and of all branches of our cherished institution. A few of the Grand Lodges still hold objections to the creation of a General Grand Lodge, but on the whole, the current of sentiment seems to set in favor of it, and we anticipate a degree of harmony in the proposed measure, which, one year ago, did not seem likely to occur at this early day. In the state of New York, perhaps a stronger opposition has been made to such a body than has elsewhere appeared. In the Grand Lodge report of that state, we notice nothing this year particularly deserving attention on this question. We have, however, received from the chairman of the Committee on Correspondence in the Grand Chapter of New York, an extract from his late report to the Chapter, which deserves a passing notice. It comes to us in the "Masonic Union" for March, and is intended for our special notice, as is respectfully indicated. And as it is perhaps one of the best versions of the arguments against a General Grand Lodge now existing, we cheerfully review it in the same spirit of fraternal courtesy which sends it to us for this purpose.

Let it be remembered that this report, from which we extract, was presented, not to the Grand Lodge of New York, but to the Grand Chapter, in February last, and that the distinguished author, Companion Finlay M. King, editor of the "Masonic Union," is also chairman of the Committee of Correspondence for the Grand Lodge, which is to hold its next session in June.

The following is his language :

"The entire independence of this Grand Chapter from the *Grand Lodge* of New York, renders it a matter of extreme delicacy for your committee to approach the subject of a *General Grand Lodge*, to which their attention has been called by the Grand Lodge of Maine; and but for the fraternal courtesy due to that distinguished body of masons, we would hardly feel justified in advancing any opinion thereon. Yet, in expressing the willingness which the Grand Chapter of New York ever feels, to regard her co-laborers in the masonic vineyard, with the consideration and respect that are due to their positions, and for that purpose to advance near to the edge of her legitimate sphere, her committee may feel somewhat relieved, in the present instance, from the embarrassment which might otherwise attach to their positions as the organ of the Grand Chapter, in the realization that the chairman of this committee holds the same official relations with the Grand Lodge of New York that he does with this Grand Body, and is presumed to know something of its views.

"Our brethren in Maine believe that 'The interests of Freemasonry in our country, in all its departments, would be greatly promoted by the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States;' that 'the voice of a decided majority of the lodges of this country has been clearly expressed in favor of such an organization;' that 'the progress already made in the settlement of long standing difficulties in some of the states, is one of the most encouraging evidences that a General Grand Lodge may be harmoniously and successfully organized;' and 'that such an organization is highly desirable, that it may complete our national masonic organization.'

"These we believe to be the main reasons why they desire such an organization; and we will briefly answer them, *seriatim*, according to the views entertained by this committee. And, taking the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the United States for our guides, there are many of them—and for the sake of the argument we will concede that they form but a minority, yet we are far from being sure of this—who are decidedly hostile to such an organization. They believe that the Grand Lodges are legitimately *supreme* in their respective jurisdictions; that the formation of a power above them, would curtail the rights and privileges that they have ever exercised, and to which they are justly entitled; that it would absorb all powers within itself, and strike down state jurisdictions whenever they did not strictly conform to its exacting behests. The expense of maintaining it would be greater than the benefits to be derived, and, in any event the objects of the institution would be better carried out in devoting that expense to charitable purposes. Its existence would be a source of jealousy, of ill-feeling and of constant irritation on the part of the non-conforming jurisdictions; and such an organization is unheard of in the history of Blue Masonry, unless it may find a parallel in the United Grand Lodge of England and its Provincial vassals, at which the republican genius of Masonry in America very naturally revolts.

"Again, all or nearly all seems now to be *peace* in the symbolic jurisdictions of the Union. We think, therefore, that the *interests* of the institution cannot be promoted by the organization of such a body. Again, the 'settlement of long standing difficulties in some of the states,' there being general prosperity in that branch of Masonry throughout the country, is the strongest evidence that can possibly be adduced, why we should not disturb the well regulated system of Grand Lodge jurisdictions; and this but confirms us in the long entertained opinion that it is not possible for human wisdom to devise a mode of arbitrament, of adjudication and settlement of difficulties, more just, more equitable or less expensive than that now afforded in the thirty-three Grand Lodges of the Union acting in their unbiassed, independent and sovereign capacities. We do not deny that a *closer union* may be formed between the Grand Lodges of the country, nor that their decisions may be made more authoritative than they are at present, but we have not the time nor is here the place to present such a project.

"That the institution of a National Grand Lodge is 'highly desirable, that it may complete our national masonic organization,' your committee have extreme doubts. 'Under the auspices and direction of our present system of [Grand Lodge] government,' if we may be permitted to adopt the language of the chairman of this committee used on another occasion, 'the institution has been directed and controlled till it now enjoys a prosperity unprecedented in the annals of history. The Grand Lodges steadily and successfully move in their regular and legitimate orbits; through their agency, the masonic empire of the Union is happily controlled; punishments are regulated and the rights of brethren vindicated. Kind and forbearing in the exercise of power, these bodies are composed of officers and members of subordinate lodges, who, coming annually from the great body of masons throughout each state, truly reflect the character, wants and merits of their respective constituencies.' Fully endorsing these views, and entertaining the firm belief that the establishment of a General Grand Lodge would be productive of more evil than good, your committee feel it their duty to express their decided disapproval of the project. It is thought by this committee that no advice or instructions are necessary to be given to the representatives of this Grand Chapter, to influence their action in the contemplated convention at Lexington, either favorably or adversely to the formation of a General Grand Lodge; as whatever they may say or do therein will be outside of their authority as such representatives, and upon their individual responsibilities, so far as this Grand Chapter is concerned.

"To conclude, the committee feel that they ought to disclaim for themselves and for this Grand Chapter any thought of influencing, in the slightest degree, any other Grand Body in this state from expressing such opinion

or from taking such action on the important questions upon which we have here commented, as their enlightened wisdom may dictate. The *secession* of a Grand Chapter and the *dissolution of the General Grand Chapter* are matters which deeply concern this jurisdiction; and, respecting the formation of a General Grand Lodge, we could not say less than we have said, while influenced by fraternal courtesy to our brethren of Maine."

1. In relation to this cordial statement of objections, your committee remark in the first place, we are unable to see but that every objection here raised would be just as valid against the creation and continued existence of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, as against the creation of a General Grand Lodge. If such a body as is proposed to be organized—created by the Grand Lodges of the states, by their united wisdom and mature ability—would be dangerous to the independence, rights, jurisdiction, harmony and successful action of the Grand Lodges of any of the states, by what parity of reasoning is it possible to vindicate the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment? What objection stated by our excellent companion that does not apply in all its force to the other General Grand Bodies referred to? And yet we have some five out of seven pages, of this same report, devoted to a very able and successful vindication of the General Grand Chapter, against all propositions to dissolve it or secede from it. To our minds, this defence of the Grand Chapter goes further to establish the importance of creating the proposed Grand Lodge than almost any argument we have elsewhere met. Compared with the two pages of objections it strikes us that they sustain a far higher relative force than five has to two.

2. We remark, in the second place, that the objection as to the assumption of arbitrary power, and impairing the freedom of the state Grand Lodges, is not indicated by the history or recent acts of the General Grand Chapter. On the contrary, the chief complaints against that body are, that it hesitates in its decisions, and does not legislate with sufficient boldness to meet the demands of this rushing age of steam. We have no fears of any such effect from the creation of a General Grand Lodge at the time and place proposed, as suggested by the New York committee.

3. We are fully impressed with the conviction that the creation of such a body at the time and place proposed, would do more than anything else to give strength and practical utility to both the General Grand Chapter and the General Grand Encampment, and that they in turn would aid and strengthen this, and illustrate the proverbial strength of "a three-fold cord," which is not easily broken.

4. It seems equally clear that this course would obviate all reasonable objection to the expense of representation. If a state delegation is far from the place of meeting, it would be easy to relieve the burden of expense, by uniting on one delegate to represent the three bodies; and, surely, with three such organizations as our state masonic bodies are rapidly becoming, it could not be a severe tax to send a delegate to a great national masonic

festival once in three years. Your committee do not fear that such a tax would greatly diminish the charity that visits and relieves the widow and the orphan. Thus reviewing what seem to us the chief and the only serious objections to the creation of a General Grand Lodge in the manner proposed, we submit to this body the propriety of co-operating with the Grand Chapter and Grand Encampment of Maine, in securing a delegation from this body, with full power to co-operate in the formation of a General Grand Lodge, at the time and place proposed, *provided a majority of the Grand Lodges in this country shall unite in the proposed convention.*

PHYSICAL DEFORMITY.

Much time and space are devoted in some of the reports, in discussing the physical qualifications essential to masonic instruction and progress; but as this subject is in the hands of a special committee, instructed to report at this meeting, your committee refrain from further comment.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

There are several subjects of importance discussed in the various and elaborate reports of the several Grand Lodges of this Union, to which your committee would gladly give attention, were there not other matters they deem of higher moment to the best interests of our order.

Public addresses of deep interest reach us in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges and in the public celebrations which occur throughout the country.

These addresses not only show the rapid spread of our order and growing attachment to its principles, its ancient landmarks and historical treasures, but exhibit also an increasing interest in the great moral truths and practical duties which Masonry inculcates. This feature of progress is one of the most hopeful in our present position, and inspires the expectation that our whole country will feel the pressure of that influence for good which our institution must surely exert, when its own members subject heart and life fully to the dominion of their avowed principles.

The thirst for intelligence is also a hopeful feature of the proceedings before us. A higher order of talent now sits in the oriental chair in nearly all parts of the country, and the reports of the Committees of Correspondence have rapidly increased in value since we were first called to their examination.

It may properly be remarked at this point that the Grand Lodge of Maine has contributed not a little to this result, by the example she has set in honorably compensating the labor bestowed by their Committee on Correspondence. This example is now extensively emulated, and its effect is seen in the rich harvest which the lodges are reaping from the researches of elevated minds in the wide fields before them.

We may gratefully pay this tribute to the Grand Lodges of the country, in view of the very flattering terms in which they are pleased to notice the proceedings of this body. Our annual reports continue to receive the most respectful treatment, even where the writers differ from us in relation to any point discussed. Where we have most severely criticized, we have yet had the credit of honest convictions and sincere good will; and, in general, the satisfaction that this unwelcome duty of censure has not been wholly in vain. In order to show how little relish we have for the work of fault-finding, we freely express the high degree of satisfaction we feel that so little now demands this service at our hands, and gladly turn to another subject, which we trust will be acceptable to this body and to those in correspondence with it, as it is important in its practical bearings. We propose to speak of THE RELATIONS OF FREEMASONRY TO THE MORAL AND RELIGIOUS ELEMENT IN MAN, AND ITS AFFINITY FOR THE RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD. The enquiry is the more important, because of the frequent mistakes occurring both among the friends and the enemies of our institution.

Our attention is the more appropriately called to this question, now that the preventive obstacles to its free discussion are so extensively removed, and the aspirations everywhere apparent in our order, are actively demanding light on this vital question. We also notice that an appeal has been made by our Hebrew brethren to the lodges of this country, that we would dispense with the New Testament in the administration of masonic obligations. This appeal, and the noble reply to it by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, are worthy of profound study. It is well that the principles involved in all questions relating to the religions of the world, as connected with masonic obligations, should be definitely settled and well understood. In proceeding to this question, it is proper in the outset to lay down a few simple propositions.

1. In the first place, it is to be remembered that Masonry, whether speculative or operative, is the art of building, and constructing. In the one, as in the other, there is a result to be reached; there are materials to be moulded, and methods to be pursued. Operative Masonry builds habitations to shelter human beings; and churches, colleges, temples, halls of legislation and justice for their instruction, elevation, progress and protection.

FREEMASONRY proposes another kind of architecture, with results, materials and processes peculiarly its own. It proposes to secure human welfare, peace on earth, good will to men, by moulding men, and fitting them as living stones, in the great temple of humanity, steadily rising on the earth; and to do it by moral forces addressed to the understanding and the heart of free moral agents, and designed to fit them for the Master Builder's use.

2. Another proposition which needs but a brief illustration, is, that the process and methods of building are not stationary and stereotyped, but progressive, with the progress of ages of nations and of man. Yet there are certain principles of architecture that are not fleeting and subject to incess-

ant changes, like the fluctuations of fashion and caprice. Architectural taste and skill have certain fixed laws and proportions, that find a response in the very nature of man ; and thus some of the old structures, erected by the masters of our art, in the rude ages of the past, remain as models to be studied and admired, even in their ruins. Thus it is that certain tools and instruments of the master's art are established as " immovable jewels," reminding us perpetually of the immutable nature of truth and virtue, as the elements of that divine art, which from age to age, is to fashion man for a higher work than that of building the noblest structures of wood, brick, granite or marble.

Freemasonry proposes to take man in his rude, unshapely state, and mould him for his nobler destiny. It must of necessity adapt its methods to his condition and his needs. However varied the processes, they must all be in, around, and with, his nature and necessities. It must meet the original and fundamental wants of our common humanity. It seeks to do this, by employing its endeavors on materials adapted to the results desired. It does not propose to waste fruitless endeavors on hopeless materials, and therefore requires certain intellectual and moral qualities, in candidates for its discipline. It does not hope to make good masons of atheists, mad-men or idiots. For this or other reasons, the ancient masters had some regard to physical qualifications, and required that candidates should be whole in body, upright in form, of sound limbs, and of lawful or mature age. This requisition had regard, doubtless, not merely to capacity in the rugged toils of operative Masonry, but had a symbolic meaning, as in the ancient temple worship in the Hebrew commonwealth.

In moulding such materials, Masonry requires certain laws of fitness and adaptation, in dealing with the human necessities. Among his original and fundamental elements, it perceives the principle of reverence and necessities for worship. This element displays itself in the fact that all men, in all time, unless sunk to the level of the brute, will have some object to reverence and worship. All the idolatries of earth grow out of the perversions of this principle, and demonstrate the fact that all systems of human elevation must embrace this ultimate truth. Masonry thus, by a fixed necessity, must ally itself to man's moral nature and religious wants. Hence its affinity for the religions of all nations. Hence the solemnity of taking its obligations on the sacred books that men regard as revealed truth. Men thus feel after, if haply they may find the fountain of light and truth. Thus they see the fitness of asking and receiving, seeking and finding, knocking and finding open the gates of divine truth and wisdom.

If Masonry did not thus recognize the religious element, and adapt itself to these imperishable necessities, it would be false to its high trust, and with all its alleged antiquity and its brilliant emblems, it would prove but a splendid failure. It is because that it recognizes this sublime element in man's nature, that it keeps pace with religious development on earth, and has often

fed the fires of religious truth on its sacred altars, when the nations and the masses of men were walking in the valley and shadow of death. It is thus that Masonry has had successive additions and developments, which, in their rise, have been regarded as innovations on ancient landmarks. It is thus that Masonry, which, in other ages and nations, was more nearly allied to natural religion, came at length to be domesticated in the Hebrew commonwealth, and build temples to Jehovah, as it had anciently to the worship of the sun. Thus it was, that, when a greater than Solomon appeared to build the walls of a spiritual temple, in which all nations may worship, we find the great reformer who heralds his approach, and the loved one who leans on his bosom, adopted as the patron saints of our order. Masonry reveres their teachings as worthy of all acceptance, and from that period hails them as teachers and masters of the art of living, helpers and exemplars of zeal, hope and charity, and henceforth and in all time, these lights of the world meet the young mason early in his pilgrimage, to cheer him in his labors and his journey towards the land of silence, and encourage him to enter fearlessly the dark valley, aided by their counsels and superior work. Now Masonry has reached a point of rest, so far as its great essential principles and man's eternal necessities require. It has found its Messiah, through His faithful guides. It has found Him, of whom the prophets did write—Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It can now build its earthly sanctuaries, its temples of worship and its heavenly hopes, on the foundation of prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ being the chief corner stone. The stone which the ancient builders rejected, "has become the head stone of the corner." And now, with reverence, let us approach to the Holy of Holies in the ancient temple and see the vail removed. Let us rejoice that we may enter, because no more occasion remains that the mitred priest should enter there alone to offer atonements and sacrifices for sin, because our Great High Priest, who has passed into the heavens, has offered one perfect, all-prevailing sacrifice, and having rent the ancient, emblematic vail, amid the rending of rocks and the earthquake, he has broken down the middle wall of partition, so that all nations may come and worship and listen to the startling cry of the Baptist, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." We may listen, also, to the cheering words of the evangelist: "He is the propitiation for our sin, and in Him was no sin."

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirit, whether it be of God.

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed on us, that we should be called the sons of God.

"It doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

"He that hath this hope in him, purifieth himself.

"Little children, love one another.

"He that loveth fulfilleth also the law, for love is the fulfilling of the law.

"If any man say, I love God, and loveth not his brother, he is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

We repeat, then, the assertion, Masonry has found a point of rest. Not that its earthy toils and labors for the world's advancement are ended, but it has found the desire of all nations—the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world. Its labors may now have a definite and eminently practical direction. Man, in his ignorance and apostacy, needs no longer rove amid perils in foreign climes among barbarous tongues, in pursuit of light, for the day dawns, and the day star has risen on our world and in our hearts, if we love the truth as it is in Jesus, and find light beaming on our altars, wherever we come from darkness to light. Light—and more light, beams on us from the sacred page, in proportion as we *ask* and *seek* and *knock* at wisdom's gate, following our guide and fearing no danger. We have reached, then, several important, practical conclusions.

1. We cannot now recede from the great, essential landmarks of our order. These are established. They are scattered all along in the history of the past like so many mile stones, measuring the progress of the ages and the march of humanity in the wilderness, till the promised land is reached. The pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire have now fulfilled their mission, and give place to the star in the east as it rises on the vision and guides wise men to the very portals of the ancient temples. Yet it rests not over its majestic dome but over the lowly manger, and angel messengers summon the adoring shepherds to the worship of an *infant Saviour*. The star has now become a glorious sun, and man need no longer walk in darkness. He may have the light of life. He need no longer dig in darkness, amid ruined hopes and despairing dreams. The master builders need not faint nor be discouraged. The key stone is found, the arch may now be completed and the craftsman may work cheerily, assured that, with faith, hope and charity and a patient continuance in well doing, by the grace of the Master Overseer, he shall reap in due time, if he faint not. He will reward every one according to his work.

2. It is of course settled that we cannot grant the request of our Hebrew brothers, to banish the New Testament from the altar of Masonry. We might willingly do all that charity would dictate, but it does not demand that we banish the light of the world. We cannot do this, unless we can roll back the morning sun to accommodate him who prefers the morning star or the dim twilight for his daily guide. We cannot, with sacrilegious hand, thus put out the light on our altars, to accommodate visions still dim with darkness of past ages that have rejected the full orb'd sun. It would be like the attempt to banish from the world the improvements of modern art—the achievements of modern science—to annihilate steam—to abolish the printing press, and stay the lightning's rapid course. No. Our work is in another direction. It is to let the light shine; to aid men from darkness to light; to diffuse the light more and more; to reflect it in a radiant life; the outshining of a good conscience; the pure affections of a purified heart;

the noble achievements of a sanctified will ; and an earnest life devoted to the welfare of man and the glory of God.

3. It also follows that Masonry is not, as some have supposed, a substitute for religion. There is no sense in which this is true, or can, by possibility, be true. It is not, and no man has a right to make it or call it a substitute for anything. It were as ill spoken as to call food a substitute for raiment, or air a substitute for light, or moral truth a substitute for eyes and the soul of man. Masonry is its own self, and is not anything else, nor a substitute for anything else. It is the art of building and erecting, and not a substitute for farming or gardening or navigation or merchandizing. But in its appropriate sphere, it harmonizes with, and benefits and blesses all other honest, useful employments, and is in turn benefited by them. When it builds vessels or steamboats, these are not a substitute for human dwellings or stores or shops or temples on the land, but each has its own element and its adaptation, thus displaying the builder's art, and all contribution to the general good.

So Freemasonry is not a substitution for religion nor education nor jurisprudence nor philosophy nor theology ; but in its own work wisely avails itself of whatever aid its members may receive from all these sources.

Religion, then, has nothing to fear from the progress of our order, unless, forgetful of its own work, it wastes its energies in misrepresenting its character and design, and endeavoring to destroy it or stay its progress. In that case, we might naturally expect, what experience has clearly taught, that such efforts to destroy our order recoil at length on the assailants, whether they be individuals, communities or countries. Such attempts have always proved, not failures merely, but calamities, the bitter fruits of which remain long after the actors in them are dead, or have seen the folly of their course and ceased from it. It is equally certain that masons err sadly, if they substitute the forms and rituals and instructions of the order for vital religion. It is a strange anomaly for a mason to say, Masonry is the only religion I want. He thus shows that he misapprehends three things—his own necessities—the nature of Masonry—and the nature of religion. He thus dishonors all three, and dishonors God, the Author of all. His necessities are greater than he supposes, and he has not yet learned to use either Masonry or religion so as to meet these necessities, and the danger is that he will lose or wreck himself, bringing reproach on religion, and dishonoring the Masonry he has thus made his idol. Let the mason who thus errs, know that he needs religion, pure and undefiled, to meet his own necessities, and equally so to enable him fully to understand and appreciate the beauty and the truth there is in Masonry, and to discharge worthily its duties and obligations.

4. With equal clearness it follows, that religion, in its purest forms, does not supersede or render useless the institution of Masonry. Men commit

great mistakes, when they gravely assume, that while our order may have been useful in the night of the dark ages and in the perils of a barbarous age, it is now obsolete, and to be abandoned as the relic of a barbarous age. As well might they assume that schools and all the appliances of education were well enough, in times of ignorance that God winked at, but in these days of light and progress and refinement, our boys have outgrown them.

As well may they assume that the temples and altars of ancient worship, and the old family Bible were well enough in their day, when men, in childish ignorance, were groping in darkness and sunk in debauchery and "worshiped the hosts of heaven," brute beasts, vile reptiles and graven images, but now that men are of full age it is time to put away childish things, and walk in the light of reason and by the law of love, as every man has a religion of his own and needs no help from the old Bible or its ordained expounders, since he can get his own revelations at will or buy them of the spirit-rappers at a small fee, and as may suit his convenience. It is time to put away such errors and mistakes, which are often uttered by the lips of intelligent men. Masons, especially, should avoid them. It should be our care to correct all such errors by the logic of a pure life, the eloquence of a bright and noble example, the arguments of unfeigned faith, unfaltering zeal, unwavering hope and unselfish charity. Let us calmly and cheerfully bear whatever reproach it may cost us, to maintain the principles of our order in every appropriate way, till errors and doubts shall be dispelled and our principles shall be fully vindicated, by their own appropriate fruits, and the tongue of calumny shall have been silenced forever. A great work is before us, and we cannot descend to the waste of angry strife with those who would hinder our endeavors, or insist that we shall do our work according to the designs on their trestle boards, on the penalty of their displeasure. We will sincerely regret that prejudices and misapprehension should ever lead good men to oppose us and seek to prevent *our* work by arraying their efforts against ours. Especially do we deplore that mistaken zeal that would here and there censure and discipline a Christian disciple who seeks to profit by the disrapture of our order. Religious persecution for kneeling at the altar of Masonry must lead us involuntarily to exclaim, with our atoning Priest, in the hour of his martyrdom, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

Let us thank God and take courage as a brighter day dawns on the altars we love. Let us cheer on our brothers in the east—in the west—in the north—and in the south. In our great central valley, where the sound of the gavel follows the echo of the woodman's axe and the emigrant's song, on the far Pacific shore, in France, in the fast anchored British isle and her vigorous young colonies, now our neighbors, let us cheer them all with the song of the free and the labors of the strong. Let us do with our might what remains for us, while the light and the day remain to us. The drapery of grief around us reminds us impressively that our day of toil is waning.

Our fathers, where are they?—their venerable forms and hoary locks?—our brothers King, Gerrish, Boody? We meet them not in this dense crowd. The places which knew them, know them no more. The strong arms which bore them away will soon bear us, or falter and implore our support. The feet which carried them are at the door and waiting for us—delaying for the next fatal arrow, till it is sped from the king of terrors into the ripening harvest of death—and we but wait our turn. Let us be found with our harness on and our work done, and we prepared to anticipate the verdict, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,
ALLEN HAINES, } Committee.
F. BRADFORD,

The Committee on Returns reported as follows, viz :

IN GRAND LODGE, May 6, 1853.

The Committee on Returns of subordinate lodges, having attended to their duty, report, that returns have been made from fifty-seven subordinate lodges, showing the number of initiations, during the past year, to have been four hundred and twenty-four, and the number of present members, two thousand and twenty-five.

Your committee further report, that a want of compliance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge is too frequently manifest in those returns—the Secretaries failing to return the *date* of each initiation, crafting and raising, and would recommend that the attention of the officers of each lodge should be especially called to this subject, that the omission may be guarded against in future returns.

Respectfully submitted,

E. B. FRENCH,
S. B. THOMAS, } Committee.
O. R. BACHELLER,

The foregoing report was read and accepted.

A petition for remission of dues was received from Mariners' Lodge, and referred to a select committee, consisting of Bros. Mudgett, Silla and Weston.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated and paid to Rev. Bro. Cyril Pearl, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for his extra services in preparing the report of that committee.

On motion,

Voted, Upon the construction of the standing regulation of May 6, 1847,

that no representative of a subordinate lodge is entitled to pay as such, except for actual travel.

On motion,

Voted, That, hereafter, each subordinate lodge be furnished with four copies of the printed proceedings, viz: one copy for the special use of the lodge, and one copy for each of the first three officers.

The following report was then submitted, viz:

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 6, 1853.

The special committee to whom was referred the petition of Mariners' Lodge for remission of dues, having attended to their duty, ask leave to report: In consideration of great expense of the brethren of said lodge in fitting up a hall, &c., your committee would recommend that fourteen dollars of the dues of said lodge be remitted.

Which is respectfully submitted,

R. F. MUDGETT,
EUSEBIUS WESTON, } Committee.
WILLIAM SILLA,

Read and accepted, and the remission ordered.

The Grand Lodge then called off until 2½ o'clock P. M.

MAY 6, 1853.

The Grand Lodge was called to order at 2½ o'clock P. M.

The Committee on the Pay Roll made their report, which was read and accepted, and the Grand Treasurer requested to pay the representatives of lodges in accordance therewith.

PHYSICAL DEFORMITY.

The committee appointed at the last annual communication upon the subject of physical deformity of candidates for Masonry, made the following report, which was read and adopted, viz:

The committee to whom was referred the subject of the physical qualifications necessary to receive the rights and privileges of our order, ask leave to report:

They have found upon their hands some sixteen communications from as

many subordinates of this Grand Lodge, discussing, with various ability, the question before us. Some of these reports exhibit a great deal of research into the ancient Constitutions and regulations of Masonry, and in all we perceive a just regard to the principles and interests of the order.

There is a degree of conflict and diversity of opinion in the different lodges, that have spoken on this question, but nothing like severity or capitious fault-finding, either with the article in our Constitution, which has given rise to this discussion, or the practice which has prevailed in our lodges, as the practical comment on the article in question. Your committee believe that the differences expressed are rather *seeming* than *real*, and arise from diversities of interpretation of the article before us. They are confirmed in this view by the various comments of our brethren and companions throughout the country.

It is worthy of notice that the subject embraced in this apparently harmless article of our Constitution, has attracted unwonted attention throughout our entire fraternity in this country. It may also be remarked, that many of the ablest writers of the masonic family have presented able reports on this question, and that these eminent writers differ very much, as do the different lodges in this jurisdiction. The result of all these discussions and examinations has been, in the minds of your committee, a conviction that a just and fair masonic interpretation of the said article conveys a just view of the question, while a slight perversion or misapprehension of its import is capable of serious mischief. Let us then recur to the article referred to. It is the fourth section of article third, under the head of subordinate lodges, and reads thus:

"By the ancient regulations, the physical deformity of an individual operates as a bar to his admission into the fraternity. But as this regulation was adopted for the government of the craft, at a period when they united the character of *operative* with that of *speculative* masons, this Grand Lodge authorizes such a construction of the regulation, as that, when the deformity of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Freemasonry, and does not amount to an inability honestly to acquire the means of subsistence, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institution."

Now your committee believe that the whole difficulty in the minds of those who have censured the article here quoted, has arisen from misapprehending the true meaning of a single sentence—"when the deformity is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Freemasonry."

Your committee do not see how any mason can otherwise understand this language than that the candidate must have no such deformity as shall interfere with his *giving and receiving all masonic signs and salutations in due form*. If this is not its meaning, its phraseology should be changed. If its meaning has been so extensively misapprehended that practical evils grow out of it, your committee are not informed of the fact and they appre-

hend no serious evils as growing out of it. They believe that the discussions over the country, as well as in this state, have fairly disposed of the subject for all practical purposes, and that no change is necessary in the article of the constitution, and no further action is now necessary by this body except the publication of this report in the general minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,	} Committee.
LEWIS BARKER,	
JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	

The committee appointed to consider the subject of re-organizing the Masonic Districts in the state, and to report to the Grand Master their views in relation thereto, having performed the duty assigned them, the M. W. Grand Master proceeded to the re-organization of said masonic districts throughout the state, and thereupon announced the same to the Grand Lodge, as follows, viz:

DISTRICT NO. 1.

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 9 Saco, <i>Saco</i> . | 47 Buxton, <i>Buxton</i> . |
| 23 York, <i>Kennebunk</i> . | 51 St. John's, <i>South Berwick</i> . |
| 27 Adoniram, <i>Limington</i> . | 55 Fraternal, <i>Alfred</i> . |
| 42 Freedom, <i>Limerick</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 2.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 11 Pythagorean, <i>Fryeburg</i> . | 29 Tranquil, <i>Danville</i> . |
| 13 Oriental, <i>Bridgton</i> . | 39 Blazing Star, <i>Rumford</i> . |
| 18 Oxford, <i>Paris</i> . | 56 Mount Moriah, <i>Denmark</i> . |
| 21 Oriental Star, <i>Livermore</i> . | 73 Tyrian, <i>Minot</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 3.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 Portland, <i>Portland</i> . | 23 Freeport, <i>Freeport</i> . |
| 8 United, <i>Brunswick</i> . | 36 Casco, <i>Yarmouth</i> . |
| 12 Cumberland, <i>New Gloucester</i> . | 38 Harmony, <i>Gorham</i> . |
| 17 Ancient Land-Mark, <i>Portland</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 4.

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|--------------------------------|--|
| 3 Lincoln, <i>Wiscasset</i> . | 43 Alna, <i>Damariscotta</i> . |
| 14 Solar, <i>Bath</i> . | 61 King Solomon's, <i>Waldoborough</i> . |
| 15 Orient, <i>Thomaston</i> . | 63 Richmond, <i>Richmond</i> . |
| 16 St. George, <i>Warren</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 5.

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5 Kennebec, <i>Hallowell</i> . | 35 Bethlehem, <i>Augusta</i> . |
| 20 Maine, <i>Farmington</i> . | 41 Morning Star, <i>Litchfield</i> . |

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| 25 Temple, <i>Winthrop</i> . | 45 Central, <i>China</i> . |
| 28 Northern Star, <i>North Anson</i> . | 48 Lafayette, <i>Readfield</i> . |
| 32 Hermon, <i>Gardiner</i> . | 54 Vassalborough, <i>Vassalborough</i> . |
| 33 Waterville, <i>Waterville</i> . | 67 Blue Mountain, <i>Phillips</i> . |
| 34 Somerset, <i>Skowhegan</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 6.

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 6 Amity, <i>Camden</i> . | 59 Mount Hope, <i>Hope</i> . |
| 24 Phoenix, <i>Belfast</i> . | 62 King David's, <i>Lincolnton</i> . |
| 31 Union, <i>Union</i> . | 68 Mariners', <i>Searsport</i> . |
| 50 Aurora, <i>Rockland</i> . | 69 Howard, <i>Frankfort</i> . |
| 58 Unity, <i>Freedom</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 7.

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| 10 Rising Virtue, <i>Bangor</i> . | 60 Star in the East, <i>Old Town</i> . |
| 39 Penobscot, <i>Deater</i> . | 64 Pacific, <i>Stetson</i> . |
| 49 Meridian Splendor, <i>Newport</i> . | 65 Mystic, <i>Hampden</i> . |
| 52 Mosaic, <i>Dover</i> . | 66 Mechanics', <i>Orono</i> . |

DISTRICT NO. 8.

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 19 Felicity, <i>Bucksport</i> . | 71 Rising Sun, <i>Orland</i> . |
| 40 Lygonia, <i>Ellsworth</i> . | |

DISTRICT NO. 9.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 Warren, <i>East Machias</i> . | 37 Washington, <i>Lubec</i> . |
| 7 Eastern, <i>Eastport</i> . | 46 St. Croix, <i>Calais</i> . |

The M. W. Grand Master then announced the following appointments of District Deputy Grand Masters for the ensuing year, viz ;

First District.—R. W. JOSIAH HERRICK, of Alfred.

Second District.—R. W. JOSEPH COVELL, of Jay.

Third District.—R. W. JOHN D. LINCOLN, of Brunswick.

Fourth District.—R. W. EZRA B. FRENCH, of Damariscotta.

Fifth District.—R. W. STEPHEN WEBBER, of Gardiner.

Sixth District.—R. W. BENJAMIN KELLEY, of Belfast.

Seventh District.—R. W. BENJAMIN F. MUDGETT, of Bangor.

Eighth District.—R. W. SAMUEL CARTER, of Bucksport.

Ninth District.—R. W. JOHN C. TALBOT, of East Machias.

On motion,

Voted, That the several D. D. G. Masters be authorized to solicit contributions of money from the members of the fraternity in their several districts, which shall be appropriated by the Grand Lodge to furnishing a block of granite or marble for the National Washington Monument.

The select committee to whom was referred the petition of Stephen C. Watson and others, for charter for Steep Falls Lodge, and for other purposes, submitted the following report:

The undersigned, a committee to whom was referred the petition of Stephen C. Watson and twenty others, members of Steep Falls Lodge, have had the same under consideration and report: That your committee have examined the records and by-laws of said lodge, and do not discover anything particularly objectionable, and, so far as they are concerned, we see no reason why a charter should not be granted.

Your committee have also made particular inquiry in regard to the report of the committee made to the Grand Lodge on the same subject, last year, and find that said report did not specify the amount to be paid by Adoniram Lodge, nor the conditions on which it should be paid, but that a verbal report was made by the said committee, touching this subject; and your committee are satisfied, from the evidence before us, that Adoniram Lodge ought to pay for the warrant of dispensation, and for the charter to Steep Falls Lodge (if granted), and the further sum of forty dollars to said Steep Falls Lodge, whenever a charter is granted and accepted by them. Said charter to be for a lodge in the town of Standish, but said lodge to be permitted to hold their meetings in the town of Limington, until such time as they may be able to procure a suitable place of meeting in the town of Standish; and that Adoniram Lodge and Steep Falls Lodge each have concurrent jurisdiction in said town of Limington.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN MILLER,	} Committee.
SAMUEL CARTER,	
JABEZ TRUE,	

The foregoing report was read and discussed, when on motion,

Voted, That so much thereof as provides for giving to Steep Falls Lodge concurrent jurisdiction in the town of Limington, be stricken out.

And the report was then adopted as amended; and thereupon ordered that a charter be issued to Steep Falls Lodge in accordance with said report.

The following resolution was then submitted by Bro. Pearl and adopted unanimously, viz:

Resolved, That the delegate from the Grand Chapter of Maine, who may be authorized to represent that body in the next triennial session of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, to be holden at Lexington, Ky., in September of the present year, be authorized as the representative of this Grand Lodge and invested with full power to unite with the repre-

sentatives of the several Grand Lodges of our Union in the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, with appropriate powers and limitations, provided a majority of the Grand Lodges shall then and there be represented for this purpose; and report the result of his mission to this Grand Lodge as early as practicable after his return.

On motion,

Voted, That Bros. Charles B. Smith, Jonathan Smith and Abner B. Thompson be a committee to audit and settle the account of the late Grand Treasurer; and to transfer the accounts, certificates of stock, funds and properties of the Grand Lodge to the Grand Treasurer.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure such number of blank diplomas and other blanks as he may deem necessary during the ensuing year.

York Lodge, at Kennebunk, by their W. Master, then tendered to the Grand Lodge an invitation to participate with them in the festival of St. John the Baptist, at that place, on the 24th of June next.

On motion,

Voted, That the invitation be accepted.

The Grand Lodge, having disposed of all the business before them, was then closed in ample form.

Attest, CHARLES B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FIRST DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The District Deputy Grand Master of the first masonic district respectfully asks leave to present his annual report:

There are in this district seven lodges, all of which have made their annual returns.

1. Cumberland Lodge, No. 12, at New Gloucester, consists of thirty members, and has initiated during the past year sixteen candidates, and one has been rejected.

2. Freeport Lodge, No. 23, at Freeport, consists of thirty-one members, and has initiated two candidates the past year, and crafted and raised one who had been previously initiated.

3. Casco Lodge, No. 36, at Yarmouth, has thirteen members, and returns none initiated the past year.

4. Portland Lodge, No. 1, consists of one hundred and one members. The return of this lodge exhibits five candidates initiated, crafted and raised, and one raised who had been previously initiated and crafted, sixteen suspended for non-payment of dues, withdrawal, &c., and two deceased.

5. Harmony Lodge, No. 38, at Gorham, returns sixty-five members and fourteen candidates initiated, crafted and raised during the past year.

6. United Lodge, No. 8, at Brunswick, consists of thirty-seven members. They have initiated, crafted and raised nineteen candidates the past year.

7. Ancient Land-Mark Lodge, No. 17, at Portland, returns one hundred and twenty-two members, twenty initiated and two deceased during the past year, and that six members have been suspended for non-payment of dues.

By the returns of all the lodges in this district, I find three hundred and ninety-nine members, and that seventy-six have been initiated and four deceased the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL S. WING, *D. D. G. M. First District.*

Portland, May 6, 1853.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SECOND DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the second masonic district of Maine, asks leave to submit the following report of said district :

I have distributed to the several lodges in the district the pamphlet containing the doings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, at its annual communication in May, 1852. Also, duplicate blanks for returns, and other blanks to which the several lodges were entitled, as I have received them from the Grand Secretary.

I have made official visits to Oriental Star Lodge at Livermore, Blazing Star Lodge at Rumford, and Tranquil Lodge at Danville.

I was prevented, by reason of ill-health, from visiting Oriental Lodge at

Bridgton, or Mt. Moriah Lodge at Denmark; therefore, I appointed W. Bro. Joseph Covell, as my proxy, to perform that service for me, which service he has performed in a very prompt and faithful manner.

On visiting Blazing Star Lodge, at Rumford, I found many of the members cold and inattentive to their masonic duties; their records in a deranged and very imperfect condition; so much so that they were unable to make a correct annual report, they having made no annual report to the Grand Lodge for the last three years; but they have now made a report of two years out of the three, viz: for 1852 and 1853 and have paid the dues to the Grand Lodge, amounting to \$10.37, and have promised to correct their doings and be more prompt in future.

Oriental Star Lodge, at Livermore, I visit monthly, being a member thereof. This lodge is well instructed in the work and lectures, their records are correctly and well kept and harmony prevails. Their returns have been made in good order and their dues paid to the Grand Lodge, amounting to \$4.

Tranquil Lodge, at Danville, is in a very flourishing condition, is well instructed in the work and lectures, under prompt and efficient officers, have made their returns to the Grand Lodge in a very neat and correct manner, and paid their dues to the Grand Lodge, amounting to the sum of \$31. I visited this lodge on my way to this city, was much pleased with their condition, passed a lecture and addressed them briefly.

King Hiram Lodge, at Dixfield, have never resuscitated, I believe, since 1828, and have surrendered their charter and need no longer encumber the records of the Grand Lodge.

Pythagorean Lodge, at Fryeburg, have never come to life since 1828, and I cannot learn that there are any members remaining. This lodge will probably remain dormant, at least for the present.

The Oxford Lodge, at Paris, has been entirely dormant for the last twenty-five years; but I have learned very recently that they are about coming to life again, and will probably commence work during this month.

The whole amount of dues to the Grand Lodge, from the several lodges now at work in the second masonic district, is fifty-eight dollars and thirty-seven cents, all of which I have paid over to the Grand Treasurer, for which he has signed duplicates.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

CORNELIUS HOLLAND, *D. D. G. M. Second District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF THIRD DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the third masonic dis-

trict, having attended to the duties of that office, the past year, submits the following as his report :

There are eleven working lodges in this district, ten of which have made returns up to April 1, 1853. They return three hundred and eighty-three members, and fees, \$47.87; sixty-three initiations; amount of fees, \$126; making in the whole, \$173.87; all of which I have paid to the Grand Treasurer.

Vassalborough Lodge has made no returns, having just resumed work under very favorable circumstances, after having laid dormant some twenty years.

I have visited most of these lodges twice, during the year, and some more than that; I find them exceedingly well united among themselves, as members of their several lodges; perfect harmony also exists among the sister lodges. There are no complaints made, and no grievances to redress in the district. There is as much uniformity of work and lectures as could be expected, being little or no difference, although some of the lodges need information in the lectures, not being so well posted in them as in the work.

No lodge in this district, that I can learn, has any fund set apart for charity, because all the funds they have are considered as a charity fund, and are freely used for that purpose, and that alone, except their necessary expenses. A large majority think the masonic funds should never be used for any other purposes whatever.

Some few of the lodges own halls, but most of them rent halls for their meetings.

I am pleased to report that the future prospects of the fraternity in this district, are very good.

STEPHEN WEBBER, D. D. G. M. *Third District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FOURTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned begs leave to report that there are ten lodges in operation in the fourth district, being an increase of four since 1849.

Solar Lodge, Bath. This lodge has improved in activity since the last communication of the Grand Lodge. Fees, \$17.25.

Richmond Lodge, Richmond. This lodge is rapidly becoming one of the best in the state. Fees, \$25.62.

Lincoln Lodge, Wiscasset. This lodge is in a very good condition. Fees, \$17.25.

Alna Lodge, Damariscotta. This is one of the best working lodges I have ever visited. Fees, \$21.25.

King Solomon's Lodge, Waldoborough. This lodge is improving very fast. My last visit to them was highly satisfactory to myself. Fees, \$4.25.

St. George Lodge, Warren. This is a very bright and well-informed lodge, well versed in the theory of Masonry. Fees, \$7.50.

Orient Lodge, Thomaston. This lodge is not very active. A lodge of Odd Fellows in the same village, appears to absorb all the interest of the young men in such matters. Fees, \$7.87.

Aurora Lodge, Rockland. This lodge has done a fair amount of work the past year. Fees, 17.87.

Union Lodge, Union. This lodge has made a great improvement during the past year. Fees, \$8.62.

Bristol Lodge, Bristol. This is a new lodge (dispensation granted in March last,) the establishing of which, I am satisfied, was a wise and judicious measure. As their labors commenced when the masonic year was about closing, I have required from them neither returns or dues.

Since the last communication of the Grand Lodge, I have visited Solar, Alna, King Solomon's, St. George, Orient and Aurora Lodges, twice each. I have also made five visits to Richmond Lodge, three to Union Lodge and one to Bristol Lodge.

I have installed the officers of Lincoln, Alna and Amity Lodges, in public, and the officers of Richmond Lodge in private.

I have conferred the degree of Past Master upon the Masters elect of Richmond and Lincoln Lodges, and instructed them in the lecture of the same.

I have likewise conferred degrees in Union, Alna, Richmond, Bristol, Lincoln and King Solomon's Lodges, and have administered reproof, admonition and advice, whenever and wherever I have found it necessary.

These duties, in addition to the labor of installing the officers of King Solomon's Chapter, at Rockland, attending a masonic funeral at Richmond, and conferring the chapter degrees upon a large number of candidates at home, have absorbed all my time for the last twelve months.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, D. D. G. M. *Fourth District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FIFTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The District Deputy Grand Master of the fifth masonic district herewith presents his annual report:

During the past year, the several lodges in this district have been regularly visited, some in person, and some—by reason of personal engagements—by proxy. And I am happy to say, they were all found in a flourishing condition—striving with each other to carry forward the great principles of our order.

Lygonia Lodge, located at Ellsworth, I have the satisfaction to say, has in a great degree recovered from her past reverses, as indicated by the number of her initiates, as well as certain other evidences of prosperity which have come under my personal observation.

The brethren at Orland, working under a dispensation, are making commendable proficiency, and will ask for a charter, which it is hoped will be granted.

In the month of March, 1852, I received from the Grand Treasurer, twenty-two dollars, to be appropriated to the calls of charity. Of this sum, the amount of seventeen dollars still remains in my hands.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN L. MOOR, *D. D. G. M. Fifth District.*

Ellsworth, May 2, 1853.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SIXTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the sixth masonic district, having attended to the duties of that office the past year, would respectfully report:

That there are in said district four lodges in working order, all of which have received more or less of my official attention, during the time aforesaid, and are found to be in a good, healthy condition, harmonious and well united—regarding the ancient landmarks and attentive to the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge, and also to the principles and practice of the fraternity, as generally understood.

Their annual returns, with their dues, have been returned, to wit:

Warren Lodge, No. 2, two initiations and members' fees,	\$ 4.25
Eastern Lodge, No. 7, " " " " " "	23.12½
Washington Lodge, No. 37, no return.	
St. Croix Lodge, No. 46, two initiations and members' fees,	27.25
Total,	<u>\$54.62½</u>

Amounting, in the whole, to the sum of fifty-four dollars, sixty-two and a half cents, all of which has been forwarded to the Grand Treasurer by mail.

All communications made to me, intended for the several lodges, have been made known to them, and documents and blanks from time to time received from the Grand Secretary have been distributed, and they will all require a new supply the coming year.

The several lodges in the district hold regular monthly meetings; some of them suspend them during the summer season, and most of them hold weekly meetings during the winter season if they have work to do.

It affords me pleasure to be able to say that the lodges in this district stand well; their members are industrious, temperate, moral, respectable citizens and good and true masons,—well disposed towards the institutions of the country, with a high regard for the ancient institutions of our order. There have been a number of additions to the lodges during the past year of such as, we have good reason to believe, will honor the profession by living within compass and acting on the square.

But while we speak of our prosperity, we are constrained to say that the messenger of death has been suffered to visit us, and the scythe of time has cut down one and another on the right hand and on the left, and the countenances of several of our brethren have been changed and taken away, to meet with us no more until we meet in the Grand Lodge above.

St. Croix Lodge have been called to mourn the loss of their W. Master Alexander Todd, and their venerable Chaplain, the Rev. Josiah Eaton; Eastern Lodge, the loss of Dr. Rice, a valuable member of the fraternity, taken suddenly away from his labors in the prime of his life and in the midst of his usefulness; Washington Lodge, the loss of an honorable member, Dr. H. G. Balch, called to a higher lodge, as we hope. Warren Lodge has been called to weep over the open grave of a departed member, Warren F. Hovey, called away in the prime of his life, in the midst of his usefulness, and when he was much needed by his family and friends.

These have been all called from our midst within a short time, never more to return; and we are hourly admonished of the shortness of time, the uncertainty of life and the importance of constantly living with reference to our latter end, for we know not how soon we may be called to follow our departed friends to that bourn from which no traveler ever returneth.

All which is respectfully submitted,

J. C. TALBOT, *D. D. G. M. Sixth District.*

May 5th, 1853.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

During the past masonic year I have visited all the lodges in the seventh district, except Mosaic Lodge, at Dover, examined their records, found them well kept and the lodges all in good working order. I went to Dover for the purpose of visiting Mosaic Lodge, but in consequence of a misapprehension as to the day of their meeting, I did not find them assembled. Their returns were well made and seasonably forwarded and the dues promptly paid; and I have no doubt, from the known masonic ability of its officers and members and from what information I have on inquiry obtained, that all its affairs are properly conducted.

The dues to the Grand Lodge, which have been all promptly paid, are as follows, viz: Rising Virtue, No. 10, \$31.75; Penobscot, \$21.50; Mosaic, \$19.00; Meridian Splendor, \$14.00; Star in the East, \$22.62; Mechanics', \$28.25; Pacific, \$20.38; amounting in all to \$157.50.

Whole number of initiates in the seventh district, 61; whole number of affiliated masons, 283; non-affiliated, 119.

LEWIS BARKER, *D. D. G. M. Seventh District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the eighth masonic district, would respectfully beg leave to report:

That there are in said district, four lodges in operation, viz: Saco Lodge, No. 9, at Saco; York Lodge, No. 22, at Kennebunk; Adoniram Lodge, No. 27, at Limington; and Freedom Lodge, No. 42, at Limerick. The first three are flourishing well, and are steadily at work; and although Freedom Lodge have not had many applications for initiation during the past year, they have lived, and I believe improved themselves in Masonry. I would here state, that since the charter of Adoniram Lodge was returned, they have made great improvements in their work, and the furniture of their lodge room—have quite an addition to their list of members, and now deserve to be ranked with our best lodges.

Saco Lodge have a new lodge room, finely furnished—have taken a new start, and are doing a good work.

I am sorry to be obliged to report that Fraternal Lodge has not been able as yet to go into operation at Alfred, for the want of a suitable room. The members in the vicinity of Alfred are few in number, and they have not felt able to build. They have now, however, a prospect of having a fine room in a building that is now being erected, and also a prospect of having a plenty of work, as soon as they are prepared to do it.

I have visited all the lodges in my district during the past year, and have been highly gratified in finding them all doing well.

In Saco Lodge there have been	15 initiations.
In York Lodge “ “ “	8 “
In Adoniram Lodge there have been	12 “
In Freedom Lodge “ “ “	1 “
Making in the whole,	36

The amount received for the Grand Lodge, is eighty-three dollars and eighty-six cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. HERRICK, *D. D. G. M. Eighth District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF NINTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned would respectfully beg leave to report :

That there are seven working lodges in the ninth masonic district, (two of which are acting under dispensation) and which I will briefly notice in their order.

Amity Lodge, at Camden, is the oldest in the District, and consists of fifty members, well united, and have returned, the last masonic year, twelve initiations. There is not that fluctuation with them that there is in some lodges ; they have a convenient supply of labor, and it is very convenient for them to perform it.

Phoenix Lodge, at Belfast, returns forty-two members and eight initiations, for the past year, and I am proud to say, being a member, that it has been, for several years, one of the most active lodges, perhaps, in the state. And, although the additions are few this year, comparatively with previous years, yet I indulge the pleasing hope that, under the influence of the present zealous and efficient officers, it will retain a rank among the most prosperous and harmonious of her sister lodges.

Unity Lodge, at Freedom, is in a healthy state, as might be expected, from the well directed efforts of our worthy brother, Samuel B. Dodge, their present Master. Although it is to be regretted that there has been some un-masonic feeling existing between some of the brethren in by-gone years, yet it now affords me great pleasure to believe that harmony and brotherly love prevails, and no objections can be made to their mode of work.

Mount Hope Lodge, in Hope. This is the only lodge in the district, but what I have had the pleasure of visiting the present year. Having conferred with Bro. Henry Hobbs, formerly Master of said lodge, I requested him to send me a statement of their condition. Since this request was made, I have learned that he has been elected their present Master. After stating their present condition, he said : "Our future prospects are as flattering as they were three years ago. We do not expect to do the amount of work they do in the cities or large towns—but our expenses are small, our numbers are small, and harmony strengthens and supports us at present." They return fourteen members and three initiations the present year.

King David's Lodge, of Lincolnville. This lodge I visited once in February and installed the officers ; and although the returns show a less amount of work than in former years, yet it affords me much pleasure that harmony and brotherly love prevail among its members and that they are competent to prove themselves workmen that need not be ashamed.

Mariners' Lodge, at Searsport. This lodge has been acting under a dispensation granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, on the 23d day of October, 1851, and was extended by the Grand Lodge at its last session to the present time. This young lodge has been very prosperous since its or-

ganization, having made some twenty-nine valuable accessions to its numbers; still it has been unfortunate in another respect and has labored under embarrassing circumstances since its first operations. In less than two months from its commencement our worthy and Rev. Brother M. R. Hopkins, the present Master, was prostrated by sickness, since which time he has not been able to be present with his lodge but two or three times. The original petitioners and their recruits, many of them mariners, have not been able to attend often, and seldom has any of the members acted as officers except *pro tempore*. Certainly it has needed the fostering care of the District Deputy Grand Master, and has actually received much assistance from the brethren of Phoenix Lodge, who have ever evinced a deep interest for the welfare and reputation of the more feeble lodges, and ever ready to aid, counsel and direct them when necessity requires it. They have furnished themselves with a safe and commodious hall, and I have no doubt they will, when fully organized, do honor to themselves and credit to the fraternity generally.

Howard Lodge, at Frankfort. This new lodge is also acting under a dispensation issued by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, on the 28th day of November, 1851, and was extended by the Grand Lodge in session in May last to the present time, when they now pray for a charter, which, no doubt, will be for the benefit of the order to grant. This lodge is situated at the head of winter navigation, in the flourishing town of Frankfort on the Penobscot river, and have returned seventeen initiations during the past year, and I am happy to say that every appearance indicates a continuance of harmony and success, and have no doubt, if chartered, will gain and sustain a very respectable rank among her sister lodges.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

BENJ. KELLY, D. D. G. M. Ninth District.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF LODGES,

UP TO APRIL 1, 1853.

- Portland, 1, Portland. William Kimball, m; John Russell, Jr., sw; Joseph Fowler, jw; Samuel Chase, Jr., tr; Moses Dodge, s; James R. Milliken, sd; Jacob Chaplain, jd; Lemuel Bryant, ss; Joseph Merrill, js; Isaac Davis t. Members, 101; initiates, 5; suspended for non-payment of dues, 16; deceased, 2. District 1
- Warren, 2, East Machias. John F. Harris, m; William F. Tobey, sw; Charles H. Talbot, jw; Charles H. Sevey, tr; F. Loring Talbot, s; Frederick A. Wilson, sd; Elijah Hall, jd; Nathan W. Foster, ss; Stephen T. Harris, js; Charles Townsend, t. Members, 18; initiates, 1. 6
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. Erastus Foote, Jr., m; Daniel K. Kennedy, sw; James Smith, jw; William Lowell, tr; Samuel P. Baker, s; Erastus Cunningham, sd; Ezra B. Carr, jd; Sullivan Wright, ss; Benjamin F. Porter, js; Job L. White, t. Members, 42; initiates, 6. 4
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. Greenleaf Robinson, m; Daniel Russell, sw; Augustine Lord, jw; Jeremiah M. Getchell, tr; Thomas Hovey, s; Leverett Lord, sd; Alonzo Tenney, jd; Edmund J. Smith, ss; Charles G. Bachelder, js; William Nye, t. Members, 36; initiates, 6. 3
- Amity, 6, Camden. J. K. Glover, m; Samuel Chase, sw; E. G. Knight, jw; Benjamin Crabtree, tr; J. P. Hall, s; George W. Glover, sd; Oliver Andrews, jd; Paul Stevens, ss; D. P. Boynton, js; Isaiah Barbour, t. Members, 40; initiates, 12. 9
- Eastern, 7, Eastport. John L. Bowman, m; Joseph Gunnison, sw; Andrew R. Bradford, jw; Thomas Parker, tr; Stephen G. Erralt, s; Charles Jackson, sd; Samuel Kyle, jd; Charles James, ss; Frederick Bell, js; Joseph H. Claridge, t. Members, 41; initiates, 9; deceased, 1. 9
- United, 8, Brunswick. John D. Lincoln, m; Ward Coburn, sw; John Crawford, jw; Richard Greenleaf, tr; John Greenleaf, s; John R. Haley, sd; Ebenezer Swett, jd; A. W. Purinton, ss; Andrew T. Campbell, js; Moses M. Marsh, t. Members, 37; initiates, 21. 1
- Saco, 9, Saco. Frederick D. Edgerly, m; Thurston Libby, sw; Elijah Smith, jw; Jacob Marston, tr; John Elden, s; T. J. Murray, sd; Daniel B. Emerson, jd; Warren Ware, ss; Nathaniel M. Towle, js; Perez Hill, t. Members, 33; initiates, 15; deceased, 3. 8
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. Jabez True, m; Ebenezer G. Rawson, sw; William T. Hilliard, jw; Joseph C. Stevens, tr; George W. Snow, s; Gustavus F. Sargent, sd; Jeremiah Fenno, jd; Augustus Silber, ss; Owen Moran, js; Simeon Everton, t. Members, 46; initiates, 15; rejected, 2; ejected from membership, 1. 7
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. Charles Megquier, m; John Hatch, sw;

- Alpheus Rollins, *fw*; William Hatch, *tr*; H. B. Farwell, *s*; Moses Plummer, *sd*; Isaac H. Fuller, *jd*; William Barnes, *ss*; George W. Plummer, *js*; Isaac H. Keith, *t*. Members, 30; initiates, 15. 1
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. James Flint, *m*; Edward L. O. Adams, *sw*; Asa Warren, *fw*; R. M. Byron, *tr*; Ebenezer Kilborn, *s*; Charles Andrews, *chap*; George Small, *sd*; Anson Harris, *jd*; Jacob Emerson, *ss*; Abner Smith, *js*; William T. Kilborn, *t*. Members, 23; initiates, 3; deceased, 1. 2
- Solar, 14, Bath. John A. Fuller, *m*; John S. Elliot, *sw*; John H. Kimball, *fw*; Davis Hatch, *tr*; D. R. Wylie, *s*; George Ross, *sd*; J. P. Allen, *jd*; B. F. Carrier, *ss*; O. F. Battey, *js*; John Young, *t*. Members, 42; initiates, 6. 4
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. George Crawford, *m*; O. J. Fernald, *sw*; C. H. Smith, *fw*; Robert Walsh, *tr*; W. H. Blood, *s*; J. D. Barnard, *sd*; E. B. Hinkley, *jd*; ———, *ss*; ———, *js*; David J. Starrett, *t*. Members, 31; initiates, 2. 4
- St. George, 16, Warren. John Miller, *m*; S. B. Dockham, *sw*; James Teague, *fw*; Amos H. Hodgman, *tr*; William H. Wetherbee, *s*; James Andrews, *sd*; Alden M. Wetherbee, *jd*; Edward Weston, *ss*; John Andrews, *js*; Lewis S. Kirk, *t*. Members, 28; initiates, 3; deceased, 1. 4
- Ancient Land-Mark, 17, Portland. William Allen, *m*; Joseph Smith, *sw*; Stevens Smith, *fw*; Charles Fobes, *tr*; William A. Quincey, *s*; Calvin Gay, *sd*; Warren Phillips, *jd*; William Andrews, *ss*; Oliver H. Perry, *js*; John Dain, *t*. Members, 122; initiates, 20; suspended for non-payment of dues, 6; deceased, 2. 1
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. David C. Homer, *m*; Samuel Dorr, *sw*; James W. Patterson, *fw*; Sewall Lake, *tr*; James B. Parker, *s*; John H. Sherman, *sd*; James Goodale, *jd*; ———, *ss*; ———, *js*; ———, *t*. Members, 17; initiates, 6. 5
- Maine, 20, Farmington. John H. Willard, *m*; Alanson B. Caswell, *sw*; James C. Harper, *fw*; Isaac M. Cutler, *tr*; Joseph D. Prescott, *s*; Albert Bailey, *sd*; George W. Whitney, *jd*; Sumner B. Walker, *ss*; John A. Trask, *js*; William Frost, *t*. Members, 21; initiates, 3. 3
- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Joseph Covell, *m*; Peter T. Hathaway, *sw*; Aaron Coolidge, *fw*; Otis Pray, *tr*; Gideon Ellis, *s*; Moses Stone, *chap*; Henry C. Noyes, *sd*; John W. Eaton, *jd*; Ebenezer Hinds, *ss*; Daniel Austin, *js*; Francis Lawrence, *t*. Members, 32. 2
- York, 22, Kennebunk. Stephen Perkins, *m*; Amos Lunt, *sw*; William Downing, *fw*; Orin Kimball, *tr*; H. H. Chadbourne, *s*; Alvah Cook, *sd*; Edward P. Burnham, *jd*; William Storer, *ss*; Ebenezer Hodge, *js*; Alfred Littlefield, *t*. Members, 29; initiates, 8. 8
- Freeport, 23, Freeport. John Collins, *m*; Samuel Thing, *sw*; William A. Mitchell, *fw*; William R. Kendall, *tr*; J. M. Smythe, *s*; John L. Kelsey, *sd*; Melzer Byram, *jd*; William Curtiss, *ss*; Davis Randall, *js*; Joseph Dillingham, *t*. Members, 31; initiates, 2. 1
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast. William O. Poor, *m*; Joseph S. Noyes, *sw*; L. W. Howes, *fw*; Josiah Farrow, *tr*; Oshea Page, *s*; A. D. Chase, *sd*; W. C. Frederick, *jd*; C. R. Thombs, *ss*; J. E. Stevens, *js*; Benjamin H. Jackson, *t*. Members, 42; initiates, 8; rejected, 1. 9
- Adoniram, 27, Limington. John B. Sweat, *m*; Benjamin C. Libby, *sw*; Isaac H. Libby, *fw*; Moses E. Sweat, *tr*; Arthur McArthur, Jr., *s*; James McArthur, *sd*; John McArthur, *jd*; Thomas Lord, *ss*; Joseph C. Small, *js*; Benjamin Blake, *t*. Members 33; initiates, 12, deceased, 1. 8
- Northern Star, 38, North Anson. Moses Moore, *m*; Isaac W. Adams, *sw*; Oliver R. Batchelder, *fw*; Benjamin Steward, *tr*; John Pierce, *s*; An-

- drew McFadden, sd; Calvin L. Getchell, jd; Edward Paul, ss; Robert Moore, js; Thomas Hilton, t. Members, 42; initiates, 4; rejected, 1; deceased, 2. 3
- Tranquil, 29, Danville. George A. Gordon, m; Dan Read, sw; Thomas A. D. Fessenden, jw; Rufus Penley, tr; Benjamin G. Barrows, s; Augustus Callahan, sd; George Webb, jd; Theodore Ladd, ss; William S. Kelton, js; Samuel Cobb, t. Members, 56; initiates, 12. 2
- Blazing Star, 30, Rumford. Benjamin W. Tingley, m; William Frost, sw; James N. Brickett, jw; Alvin Bolster, tr; Alden Chase, s; Edward A. Boyd, sd; Walter B. Boyd, jd; Aaron I. Abbott, ss; I. A. Putnam, js; Farnum Abbot, t. Members, 15; deceased, 2. 2
- Union, 31, Union. Gilbert M. Blackington, m; Ebenezer Cobb, sw; Philo Thurston, jw; Joseph Vaughan, tr; Asa Messer, s; B. B. Blackington, sd; J. C. Robbins, jd; Moses Robinson, ss; Almond M. Thompson, js; Calvin Robinson, t. Members, 37; initiates, 2; suspended, 10; deceased, 1. 4
- Hermon, 32, Gardiner. Edmund A. Chadwick, m; James McCurdy, sw; James Tarbox, jw; William H. Byram, tr; Daniel C. Palmer, s; Thomas Briery, sd; John Brown, jd; William A. Lawrence, ss; Charles Osgood, js; Frederick Blood, t. Members, 43; initiates, 6. 3
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Thomas W. Herrick, m; Josiah H. Drummond, sw; John Ranstand, jw; William L. Maxwell, tr; Edward H. Piper, s; David Burbank, sd; O. C. Tozier, jd; Jeremiah Arnold, ss; Wadsworth Chipman, js; Stephen Tozier, t. Members, 31; initiates, 6; deceased, 1. 3
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. Joseph Philbrick, m; Abraham Wyman, sw; Benjamin P. Pierson, jw; Francis Drew, tr; Eusebius Watson, s; N. S. Robinson, sd; James Frost, jd; Ebenezer Ayers, ss; Amasa B. Pratt, js; William B. Morrill, t. Members, 49; initiates, 9. 3
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Moses E. Hamlin, m; Orrin Rowe, sw; D. C. Stanwood, jw; Jacob H. Arnold, tr; Jabez Churchill, s; Amasa Kelly, sd; Ephraim Ballard, jd; F. W. Albee, ss; G. W. Ricker, js; Joshua Rollins, t. Members, 53; initiates, 14; deceased 2. 3
- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. Gad Hitchcock, m; Benjamin Oakes, sw; Edmund S. Walker, jw; Perez Drinkwater, tr; A. P. C. Winslow, s; O. A. Hill, sd; James Field, jd; Nathan Oakes, ss; John Gurney, js; George Bruce, t. Members, 13; rejected, 1. 1
- Washington, 37, Lubec. John C. Talbot, Jr., m; Levi Caswell, sw; G. T. Hunter, jw; Joseph Sumner, tr; T. Comstock, s; James Starbird, sd; Jacob McGregor, jd; S. Nickerson, ss; ———, js; John Davidson, t. Members, 21; deceased, 4. 9
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. William Silla, m; Merrill Thomas, sw; Thomas J. Hasty, jw; John R. Larrabee, tr; Edward S. Palmer, s; Christopher Way, sd; Arthur M. Benson, jd; Jonas Raymond, ss; George Chadbourn, js; George L. Darling, t. Members, 65; initiates, 14. 1
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. Lysander Cutler, m; Simon Foss, sw; Otis Cutler, jw; Albert G. Scott, tr; Josiah Crosby, s; Reuben Flanders, sd; Isaac M. Russ, jd; John Martin, Jr., ss; Walter D. Eaton, js; Asa Merrill, t. Members, 60; initiates, 7; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 7
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. Amory Otis, m; S. P. Thomas, sw; William Mayhew, jw; Asa McAllister, tr; N. J. Miller, Jr., s; William H. Chaney, sd; Eleazer Whitcomb, jd; S. B. Woodard, ss; Albert G. Brooks, js; Nathan Moore, t. Members, 36; initiates, 10; rejected, 1. 5
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. William Cobb, m; William Gage, sw; Aaron N.

- Bradbury, *fw*; Robert Cole, *tr*; Mark Wood, *s*; Thomas P. Place, *sd*; George Roberts, *jd*; Gideon Straw, *ss*; Charles D. Staples, *js*; Abner Libby, *2d*, *t*. Members 16; initiates, 1. 8
- Alna, 43, Damariscotta. Ezra B. French, *m*; Isaac Chapman, *sw*; Everett W. Stetson, *fw*; William Hitchcock, *tr*; Joseph Day, Jr., *s*; E. Nelson Shaw, *sd*; Charles A. Jones, *jd*; Henry Mellus, *ss*; Marshall P. Martin, *js*; David B. Catland, *t*. Members, 26; initiates, 10. 4
- Central, 45, China. Edward Gray, *m*; Thomas Clark, *sw*; John Hatch, *fw*; James Fowler, *tr*; Thomas S. Foster, *s*; Alfred Fletcher, *sd*; Amasa Taylor, Jr., *jd*; John Thomas, *ss*; Frederick McLaughlin, *js*; William Maxfield, *t*. Members, 40; initiates, 7; deceased, 1. 3
- St. Croix, 46, Calais. Francis Williams, *m*; Charles H. Garland, *sw*; Samuel Wheelock, *fw*; Matthew Hastings, *tr*; Charles F. Washburn, *s*; C. L. Hyde, *sd*; J. N. Nash, *jd*; William T. Simms, *ss*; John Stillson, *js*; William McHenry, *t*. Members, 42; initiates, 11; deceased, 2. 6
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. Josiah F. Taylor, *m*; George S. Currier, *sw*; Cromwell P. Hutton, *fw*; David Smith, *tr*; Emery O. Bean, *s*; John Vosmus, *sd*; F. A. A. Williams, *jd*; Asahel Brainard, *ss*; William B. Briggs, *js*; Matthew Hayward, *t*. Members, 34; initiates, 4. 3
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. Joseph Knight, *m*; Elijah M. Dearborn, *sw*; John S. Nay, *fw*; Abel W. Chase, *tr*; Benjamin F. Furber, *s*; Peleg H. Tracy, *sd*; Orin Footman, *jd*; George W. Prescott, *ss*; Nathan L. Hayden, *js*; Asil Stilson, *t*. Members, 32; initiates, 5; deceased, 1. 7
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. Larkin Snow, *m*; Josiah Gitchell, *sw*; Christopher Dyer, *fw*; Constant Rankin, *tr*; A. C. Tibbetts, *s*; John C. Moody, *sd*; George C. Nichols, *jd*; C. H. Caples, *ss*; B. W. Blackington, *js*; Nathaniel Meservy, *t*. Members, 31; initiates, 7; rejected, 2. 4
- Mosaic, 52, Dover. G. S. Wiley, *m*; Elias J. Hale, *sw*; Mordecai Mitchell, *fw*; Paul Douglas, *tr*; Sands Bailey, *s*; J. W. Sherwood, *sd*; E. B. Averill, *jd*; Joseph Tyler, *ss*; William Paine, *js*; Peter Q. Ames, *t*. Members, 24; initiates, 8. 7
- Mount Moriah, 53, Denmark. Levi P. Sawyer, *m*; Cyrus Ingalls, *sw*; Joseph B. Watson, *fw*; Leonard K. Ingalls, *tr*; Sewall Fly, *s*; Joseph Milliken, *sd*; Alpheus Goold, *jd*; Jonathan Ingalls, *ss*; Joseph Bennett, *js*; William Allen, *t*. Members, 17; initiates, 3. 2
- Unity, 58, Freedom. Samuel B. Dodge, *m*; William Ross, *sw*; John Winslow, *fw*; John C. Glidden, *tr*; Moses O. Robinson, *s*; William McCray, Jr., *sd*; Samuel A. Webb, *jd*; Charles Elliot, *ss*; William B. Baker, *js*; Aaron Davis, *t*. Members, 34; initiates, 1; deceased, 1. 9
- Mount Hope, 59, Hope. Henry Hobbs, *m*; Josiah Hobbs, *sw*; John Lemon, *fw*; Moses G. Metcalf, *tr*; Church Fish, *s*; David Howard, *sd*; Hiram Fish, *jd*; Ebenezer Philbrick, *ss*; John G. Fish, *js*; E. G. S. Ingraham, *t*. Members, 14; initiates, 3. 9
- Star in the East, 60, Old Town. Ira Wallace, *m*; Charles D. Jameson, *sw*; Isaac M. Hobert, *fw*; Hiram Smith, *tr*; Solomon Moulton, *s*; George P. Sewall, *sd*; Lorenzo Moore, *jd*; John Newbegin, *ss*; Edwin R. Alfred, *js*; Joseph Moulton, *t*. Members, 53; initiates, 8. 7
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoborough. Joseph Clark, *m*; John Balch, *sw*; C. C. Atwell, *fw*; Alden F. Miller, *tr*; M. M. Rawson, *s*; William Engley, *sd*; William Bearce, *jd*; ———, *ss*; John W. Tibbetts, *js*; Charles Vannah, *t*. Members, 34; initiates, 1. 4
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. Minot Crehore, *m*; David Howe, *sw*; James Perry, *fw*; A. D. Knight, *tr*; Henry Crehore, *s*; N. A. Eells, *sd*; David B. Decrow, *jd*; Samuel Rackliff, *ss*; John F. Gilkey, *js*; Thomas Witham, *t*. Members, 30; initiates, 2. 9

- Richmond, 63, Richmond. Abial Libby, m; Daniel Witham, sw; George H. Hatch, jw; Elias Colby, tr; Abiel Avery, s; Thaddeus McFarland, sd; Isaac S. Cox, jd; Hezekiah P. Dinsmore, ss; Francis B. Ring, js; Elias H. Witham, t. Members, 45; initiates, 10. 4
- Pacific, 64, Stetson. Charles B. Wood, m; John Rogers, sw; James Hawes, jw; Horace Shepley, tr; Lewis Barker, s; Thatcher S. Anderson, sd; Charles B. Whitney, jd; Charles M. Spooner, ss; Jonathan Hill, js; David Barker, t. Members, 35; initiates, 8; rejected, 3. 7
- Mystic, 65, Hampden. E. J. Dudley, m; John Crosby, Jr., sw; D. S. Stone, jw; G. A. Curtis, tr; A. H. Stuart, s; G. B. Starbird, sd; D. Crockett, jd; J. Hill, ss; S. E. Mudgett, js; Samuel S. Garland, t. Members, 30; initiates, 14; deceased, 1. 5
- Mechanics', 66, Orono. Thomas McMillan, m; P. McAdams, sw; Hiram Joy, jw; John Deane, tr; W. E. Jones, s; David McMillan, sd; O. P. Merriman, jd; Jacob Banks, ss; Abner Starrett, js; Samuel Buffam, t. Members, 34; initiates, 12; deceased 3. 7
- Blue Mountain, 67, Phillips. Philip M. Stubbs, m; Curtis Smith, sw; Seward Dill, jw; Joel Hoyt, tr; Daniel Hoyt, s; H. L. Whitcomb, sd; Sylvanus Robbins, jd; ———, ss; ———, js; Samuel A. Blanchard, t. Members, 34; initiates, 5. 3

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

[The following interesting and fraternal communication has been received since the close of the annual session of the Grand Lodge, and, by direction of the Grand Master, is here inserted, for the information and gratification of the fraternity generally, to whom it is addressed.]

ROYAL GLOUCESTER LODGE, No. 152,

SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND.

To the W., the Lodges of Free Masons in the State of Maine, U. S.

W. AND DEAR SIRS AND BRETHREN :

We avail ourselves of the intended visit to his native country, of our estimable "Brother" Joseph Rodney Croskey, the much respected and excellent representative of the United States at this port, to convey, through him, our greetings of fraternal good will to the Free Masons of the United States of America.

It is always most gratifying to us to be visited by those brethren of the craft from other countries, who may make this place the port of their arrival or departure, but none will meet a more hearty welcome, or more cordial reception, than our "Brethren of America."

We feel a deep interest in the progress, and have an ardent wish for, the success of the craft, in the extensive regions of your vast country, believing, as we firmly do, that no human institution is better calculated to promote universal good will, than those "grand principles of brotherly love, relief and truth," upon which Freemasonry is founded.

Brethren, we hope that the communications thus commenced, will not be few nor far between; that we shall hear of, and from you; that your members, when occasion shall bring them to England, will visit Southampton and our lodges, so that a better knowledge of each other may arise, tending not only to strengthen the bands of masonic affection between the members

of the craft, but also to promote a cordial understanding and regard between the respective populations of our native countries.

We commend to your consideration "Brother" Joseph Rodney Croskey, whom we are proud to rank among our members as a faithful "Brother," worthy of your highest esteem, as an active and useful citizen, and an honor to that great country, of which he is the worthy representative at this port.

With every assurance of our most fraternal regard,

We are, W. Masters and Brethren,

Most faithfully yours,

On behalf of the Royal Gloucester Lodge,

DAVID G DOUGLAS, *W. M.*

THOMAS N. FIRMIN, *P. M. and Sec'y.*

[*L. s.*]

Dated at Southampton, }
this 14th February, 1853. }

Grand Lodge of Maine.

1854.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, was holden at Masons' Hall, in the city of Portland, on the first Thursday in May, 1854, being the 4th day of said month, and was opened in ample form, in the third degree, at 9 o'clock A. M.

PRESENT.

M. W. FREEMAN BRADFORD,	Grand Master;
R. W. JABEZ TRUE,	Senior Grand Warden;
“ THOS. B. JOHNSTON,	Junior Grand Warden;
“ MOSES DODGE,	Grand Treasurer;
“ CHARLES B. SMITH,	Rec. Grand Secretary;
“ E. G. RAWSON,	Grand Senior Deacon;
“ JOHN H. WILLARD,	Grand Junior Deacon;
“ WILLIAM ALLEN,	Grand Steward;
“ O. A. MERRILL,	“ “
“ S. B. DOCKHAM,	Grand Marshal;
W. & Rev. CYRUS CUMMINGS,	Grand Chaplain;
“ CYRIL PEARL,	“ “
Bro. JOHN DAIN,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. JOSHUA HERRICK.
“ JOSEPH COVELL.
“ JOHN D. LINCOLN.
“ EZRA B. FRENCH.

R W. STEPHEN WEBBER.
 " BENJAMIN KELLEY.
 " SAMUEL CARTER.
 " B. F. MUDGETT.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. ROBERT P. DUNLAP, P. G. M.
 " ABNER B. THOMPSON, "
 " JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, "

On motion,

Voted, That Master Masons in good standing, be invited to take seats as visitors during this session of the Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed R. W. Bros. B. F. Mudgett, R. W. Kennard and John H. Willard, a Committee on Credentials, who proceeded forthwith to the performance of their duty, and subsequently reported that the following named brethren were entitled to seats as representatives of the following lodges, viz:

- 1 *Portland*, at Portland, by Thomas J. Sanborn, WM; R. W. Kennard, SW; Joseph Fowler, JW.
- 3 *Lincoln*, at Wiscasset, by D. K. Kennedy, WM.
- 5 *Kennebec*, at Hallowell, by William Nye, Proxy.
- 6 *Amity*, at Camden, by Samuel Chase, WM; E. G. Knight, SW; John Glover, Proxy.
- 8 *United*, at Brunswick, by Ward Coburn, WM.
- 9 *Saco*, at Saco, by Elijah Smith, WM; T. J. Murray, SW; W. B. Bartlett, Proxy.
- 10 *Rising Virtue*, at Bangor, by E. G. Rawson, WM; S. B. Brown, Proxy.
- 12 *Cumberland*, at New Gloucester, by Moses Plummer, WM.
- 14 *Solar*, at Bath, by A. J. Fuller, WM; D. R. Wylie, SW; J. T. Furber, Proxy.
- 15 *Orient*, at Thomaston, by George Crawford, WM; O. J. Fernald, SW; George Carr, Proxy.
- 16 *St. George*, at Warren, by John Andrews, WM; Isaac Chapman, SW; James Andrews, JW; John Milton, Proxy.
- 17 *Ancient Land-Mark*, at Portland, by Stevens Smith, WM; William Andrews, SW; A. P. Stinson, JW.
- 18 *Oxford*, at Paris, by Alden Palmer, WM.
- 19 *Felicity*, at Bucksport, by J. H. Sherman, WM.
- 20 *Maine*, at Farmington, by John H. Willard, WM.
- 21 *Oriental Star*, at Livermore, by David G. Plummer, Proxy,

- 22 *York*, at Kennebunk, by Isaac Downing, Proxy.
 23 *Freeport*, at Freeport, by R. R. Kendall, Proxy.
 24 *Phoenix*, at Belfast, by Daniel Howard, SW ; Hiram Chase, proxy.
 27 *Adoniram*, at Limington, by Arthur McArthur, Proxy.
 28 *Northern Star*, at North Anson, by O. R. Bachellor, WM ; Benjamin Steward, Proxy.
 29 *Tranquil*, at Danville, by A. C. Callahan, WM ; R. H. Rose, JW.
 31 *Union*, at Union, by Ebenezer Cobb, WM ; Lewis Andrews, Proxy.
 32 *Hermon*, at Gardiner, by James McCurdy, WM.
 33 *Waterville*, at Waterville, by W. Chipman, WM ; W. A. Caffray, SW.
 34 *Somerset*, at Skowhegan, by B. P. Pearson, WM ; A. S. Robinson, SW.
 36 *Casco*, at Yarmouth, by George Woods, Proxy.
 38 *Harmony*, at Gorham, by Merrill Thomas, SW.
 39 *Penobscot*, at Dexter, by J. M. Russ, WM.
 46 *St. Croix*, at Calais, by Francis Williams, Proxy.
 48 *Lafayette*, at Readfield, by George S. Currier, WM ; Emery O. Bean, SW.
 50 *Aurora*, at Rockland, by John Anderson, JW ; John C. Moody, Proxy.
 52 *Mosaic*, at Dover, by Paul Douglass, Proxy.
 54 *Vassalborough*, at Vassalborough, by John Homans, SW ; Edward Gray, Proxy.
 56 *Mt. Moriah*, at Denmark, by A. C. Lord, Proxy.
 58 *Unity*, at Freedom, by John Winslow, WM ; Benjamin Williams, Proxy.
 59 *Mt. Hope*, at Hope, by Henry Hobbs, Proxy.
 60 *Star in the East*, at Old Town, by Solomon Moulton, Proxy.
 61 *King Solomon's*, at Waldoboro', by Joseph Miller, WM.
 63 *Richmond*, at Richmond, by David Witham, WM ; J. S. Chapman, JW.
 64 *Pacific*, at Stetson, by David Barker, Proxy.
 65 *Mystic*, at Hampden, by A. P. Warren, WM ; George B. Starbird, SW.
 66 *Mechanics'*, at Orono, by Samuel Buffum, Proxy.
 67 *Blue Mountain*, at Phillips, by Seward Dill, JW.
 68 *Mariners'*, Searsport, by Josiah Blethen, Proxy.
 69 *Howard*, at Frankfort, by T. H. Cushing, SW.
 71 *Rising Sun*, at Orland, by Benj. C. Landers, Proxy.
 73 *Tyrian*, at Minot, by George Moore, WM ; S. B. Hutchins, SW.

The report was read and accepted.

The M. W. Grand Master then made to the Grand Lodge the following address, which was referred to the Committee on the Doings of the Grand Officers :—

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, May 4, 1854.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :—

We have again assembled around our masonic altar, and, agreeably to the provisions of our constitution, have met to counsel with one another, and to

legislate for the general welfare of the craft within our jurisdiction. We have invoked the divine blessing upon our deliberations—that peace and harmony may prevail among us, and that a unity of sentiment and kindly feeling may characterize our intercourse as masons. May this our offering and our prayer be accepted and heard by Him, from whom come wisdom to direct, and strength to support. We have abundant cause of gratitude to that Divine Providence who has watched over and prospered our beneficent institution in every part of the civilized world, and who has preserved *us* thus far in the journey of life. But yet we are continually reminded that we are mortal. Death, the great leveler, has been in our midst, and has stricken down many whom we have long known and honored. Whilst the aged of our order are receding from the stage of time, we are revived and rejoiced, in beholding a vast and goodly number of young and ardent votaries pressing onward to gain admission to our mystic circle, and uniting themselves with us in works of charity and brotherly love.

Within our own jurisdiction, Masonry is not only rapidly advancing, but has taken an elevated position. The great body of the fraternity are actuated by the noblest impulses, and are awakened to new convictions of masonic duties and obligations. Decayed lodges have been aroused from the lethargy of years, to vigorous action, and a spirit of enlightened inquiry marks our onward progress. Nothing has occurred within the past year, to my knowledge, to mar that universal peace and harmony that ought to characterize our noble order within this jurisdiction.

An important subject has been before this Grand Lodge for the past two years. I shall at once be understood as alluding to a uniformity of working and lectures throughout our jurisdiction. At your annual communication in 1852, the work and lectures in the first and second degrees, as reported and exemplified by your committee, after some few amendments, were confirmed by the Grand Lodge, and the consideration of the third degree was postponed until its then next communication. Owing to the press of other matters at our last session, no action was taken on the subject, and thus our subordinates are left to work without any express sanction upon the third degree. I deem the subject matter of paramount importance, and if the individual members will direct their efforts to contrive, strengthen, and adorn, the structure commenced will be speedily and harmoniously completed. Let every brother present his material, wrought and perfected with his utmost skill, and sure I am that but a small portion will be rejected as unfit for use.

A proposition will come before you at the present session, relative to an amendment of the constitution. This amendment contemplates the reduction of fees for initiation, now payable by subordinate lodges to the Grand Lodge, one-half. Our act of incorporation contemplates the establishment of a permanent fund, the avails of which are to be distributed to the relief of the distressed and destitute. In addition to these, our beneficence can be most worthily bestowed on such lodges as have lost their all by fire or other cas-

ualties. The funded property of the Grand Lodge has not yet reached a tenth part of what our act of incorporation authorizes, and that, too, after an existence of thirty-four years, during which period about one-half of the lodges under our jurisdiction have received their charters. Our Grand Lodge expenses are yearly increasing, and may not the apprehension be well founded, that in taking from her means so large a portion as the amendment contemplates, we render her powerless for doing good?

On the tenth of May, 1853, I granted a dispensation to certain brethren to form and open a lodge at Plymouth, Penobscot County, by the name of Plymouth Lodge. The application was accompanied by the requisite recommendation of the nearest lodge and the approval of the District Deputy Grand Master, and the dispensation is returnable at the present session.

On the nineteenth of May last, I extended the dispensation of Bristol Lodge, Lincoln County, upon the petition of Bros. Peaslee M. Wells and others. The prayer of the petition was approved by the District Deputy Grand Master, and the brethren are required, under their dispensation, to make return of their doings at the present communication of the Grand Lodge.

On the eighteenth of June last, I granted a dispensation to Cumberland Lodge, New Gloucester, to form a public procession, on the occasion of dedicating their new hall, and appointed R. W. Jno. D. Lincoln, the D. D. Grand Master, to conduct and perform the ceremonies.

I have also consecrated and solemnly dedicated Tyrian Lodge, located at Mechanic Falls, Minot, and installed its officers within the past year, in which service I was ably assisted by the R. W. Junior Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, and the D. D. Grand Master of the second masonic district.

On the fourth of July last, I dedicated Steep Falls Lodge, Standish, and installed its officers in public, assisted by Bro. Marcian Seavey and the Grand Tyler.

On the sixteenth of July last, I granted a special commission to R. W. Timothy Chase, the D. G. Master, to consecrate Mariners' Lodge, at Searsport, and install its officers, which service was performed by him on the nineteenth of said month, and a return of his doings has been made to the Grand Secretary.

On the second of September last, I consecrated Rising Sun Lodge, Orland, and installed its officers in public, on which occasion I was assisted by the D. G. Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens and other officers of the Grand Lodge, and also by the Rev. and R. W. William A. Drew, who performed the service of Grand Chaplain, and delivered an able and interesting address to the brethren of the new lodge.

On the fifth of November, 1853, I specially appointed our R. W. Bro. John Miller, as Grand Lecturer, to give instruction in Saco Lodge, which instruc-

tion I am assured is highly appreciated by our brethren in that vicinity, and has been productive of much good.

On the seventeenth of January, 1854, I specially appointed M. W. R. P. Dunlap to consecrate and dedicate Howard Lodge, at Frankfort, and install its officers, which service was performed on the second of February last, in public.

On the sixteenth of February, 1854, I granted a special dispensation to Hermon Lodge, Gardiner, to continue work under their present organization, their charter having been destroyed by fire, which dispensation is returnable at the present session.

Several questions of masonic jurisprudence have been submitted to me during the past year, to all of which I have given answers. I have felt the need of some standard and approved work on this subject, and I believe that no appropriation could be more judiciously made by this Grand Lodge, than that for the purpose of purchasing the Freemason's Monthly Magazine, published by our Bro. C. W. Moore, of Boston. The possession of this work, entire, would be an invaluable acquisition to our masonic library. Questions of high importance, affecting the prosperity of the order, and involving the fundamental principles of the institution, are continually occurring, especially in our own country. Errors in practice are creeping into lodges in various quarters, which require authoritative and speedy correction. These questions are equally interesting to every mason under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, as well as elsewhere. It is important that the means of enlightenment be afforded to the young and ardent seeker for masonic truth, and it appears to me to be the duty of this Grand Lodge to continue its appropriations annually for the increase of our masonic library, and thus go on to the accomplishment of that worthy object commenced in years past.

I have received, within the past year, several communications relative to the unfortunate difficulties that have again arisen among our brethren in the State of New York. I commend to your special consideration the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, made at the quarterly communication in December last. It becomes our duty to make an effort to restore peace and harmony among our brethren in that State. Something should be done speedily to stay the great mischief arising from the strife and confusion existing there, and an expression is earnestly looked for from you, by many of our sister Grand Lodges, at this communication.

Brethren, it is a just cause of congratulation in tracing the progress of Masonry within our jurisdiction for a few years past, and in comparing it with what it was only eight years ago. Then, only eleven lodges were represented at our annual communication; now, our average representation is more than four-fold that number, and our persevering efforts have presented to us the cheering fact, that but few lodges within our extended jurisdiction have fallen into irretrievable decay. I repeat it, it is a just cause of congrat-

ulation, and should, as no doubt it will, stimulate us to the performance of every duty that may devolve upon us. We should suffer no selfish views or illiberal policy to disturb our deliberations, but let a generous magnanimity, mutual concession, and enlightened judgment, be the stand-point of our acts and our doings, and then we shall fulfill the high expectations of the various lodges we have the honor to represent.

FREEMAN BRADFORD, *Grand Master*.

The following Standing Committees were then announced by the M. W. Grand Master, viz :

- On Dispensations and Charters*,—Bros. French, Rawson and Moore.
- On Doings of the Grand Officers*,—Bros. Mudgett, Fuller and Glover.
- On Returns*,—Bros. Webber, Swett and C. B. Smith.
- On Grievances and Appeals*,—Bros. Herrick, Bachellor and Woods.
- On the Pay-Roll*,—Bros. Kelley, Chapman and Sanborn.

A petition from Oxford Lodge, praying for the removal of said Lodge from Paris to Norway, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

A petition, presented to Oxford Lodge, by J. F. H. Turner, in behalf of the widow and family of Nathaniel Harlow, deceased, praying for a diploma to be made out in the name of said Nathaniel Harlow, and delivered to his widow, and by said Oxford Lodge referred to the Grand Lodge, was presented and referred to the M. W. Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 3 o'clock P. M.

Attest:

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

AFTERNOON, May 4, 1854.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 3 o'clock P. M., the M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

Petitions for remission of dues were presented from Tyrian Lodge, Pioneer Lodge, Hermon Lodge and Plymouth Lodge, and severally referred to a select committee, consisting of R. W. Bros. Humphreys, Kendall and Allen.

Petitions for charters were presented from Pioneer Lodge, Plymouth Lodge, Hermon Lodge and Bristol Lodge, and also from sundry brethren for a new lodge at Kennebunkport, to be called Arundel Lodge, were received and severally referred to the Committee on Dispensations and Charters.

The time for the election of Grand Officers having now arrived, the M. W. Grand Master presented the following special communication, which was read by the Grand Secretary, viz :

GRAND LODGE, May 4, 1854.

BRETHREN :

I am deeply grateful to the Grand Lodge, for the repeated expressions of its confidence in electing me to the high and responsible offices I have had the honor to fill for several years past. When I trace the history of this Grand Lodge, from its organization to the present period, and view the roll of worthy and illustrious names of those who have preceded me as Grand Master, I am filled with mingled sensations of pride and regret—pride of the distinction in which I have been honored—regret of my unworthiness of the honor conferred. The duties of Grand Master are pleasant, but laborious. I have devoted myself to those duties with cheerfulness and zeal, and to the best of my poor abilities.

An expected absence, occasionally, from this jurisdiction, during the next masonic year, renders it imperative on me to decline being a candidate for re-election. No abatement of my zeal, or interest for our beloved institution, prompts me to make this announcement. On the contrary, I have well founded hopes and an abiding confidence that the principles of our order will continue to be cherished, loved and revered through all coming time, and especially within our own jurisdiction.

I commend you, my beloved brethren, to the guidance of Him in whom is our strength and our salvation.

FREEMAN BRADFORD.

On motion of M. W. Bro. Dunlap, it was unanimously—

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to M. W. Bro. Freeman Bradford, Past Grand Master, for the ability and uniform courtesy manifested by him, while presiding over its deliberations ; and that our best wishes for his continued health, prosperity and happiness will ever attend him.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz :—

M. W. TIMOTHY CHASE,	<i>Grand Master,</i>	Belfast ;
R. W. JABEZ TRUE,	<i>Deputy Grand Master,</i>	Bangor ;
“ EZRA B. FRENCH,	<i>Senior Grand Warden,</i>	Damariscotta.

On motion,

Voted, To postpone the further election of Grand Officers until to-morrow morning.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Attest:

C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

MASONS' HALL, PORTLAND, May 5, 1854.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 8 o'clock A. M., the M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

The Grand Lodge proceeded in the further election of Grand officers, and the following brethren were elected, viz:

R. W. THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	<i>Junior Grand Warden,</i>	Wiscasset;
" MOSES DODGE,	<i>Grand Treasurer,</i>	Portland;
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	<i>Rec. Grand Secretary,</i>	Portland;

Trustees of the Charity Fund.

R. W. BROS. JOHN H. WILLARD, WILLIAM ALLEN.

Committee of Finance.

R. W. BROS. FREEMAN BRADFORD, ABNER B. THOMPSON, JONATHAN SMITH.

R. W. Bro. Humphreys was, at his request, excused from serving on the special committee on sundry petitions for remission of dues, and R. W. Bro. Herrick was appointed in his stead.

The M. W. Robert P. Dunlap then announced, in appropriate and feeling terms, the decease, during the past year, of M. W. Simon Greenleaf and M. W. William Swan, Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, and submitted the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, viz:

Whereas, it has pleased the Supreme Disposer of human events, in his inscrutable Providence, to remove by death, during the past masonic year the M. W. Simon Greenleaf and the M. W. William Swan, Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, be it therefore

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge deeply regret the loss they have sustained in the decease of those worthy brethren, who were highly esteemed and respected for their many virtues during life, and for their eminent services and devotion to the sublime principles of our venerable order.

Resolved, That we sincerely condole with the families of the deceased, in the afflictive bereavement they are called to experience, and would tender to them our heartfelt sympathies.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect for our deceased brethren, the jewels and furniture of the Grand Lodge be clothed in mourning.

Ordered, That the foregoing preamble and resolutions be entered upon the records of this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary forward copies thereof to the families of the deceased.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.

MASONS' HALL, May 5, 1854.

The Committee of Finance have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, for the past year, and find that there has been received by him, since the commencement of the last annual communication, the sum of \$2,127.44½, which includes the balance received from the executrix of the late Grand Treasurer, viz: \$212.12.

Your committee also find that the Grand Treasurer has paid out during the past year the sum of \$1,276.34, for all of which he has exhibited satisfactory vouchers.

This sum of \$1,276.34 includes \$500 invested in bank stock; and we find that there remains in his hands a balance of \$851.10½.

The committee would recommend as salary to the Grand Secretary, the sum of \$75.

All which is respectfully submitted,

FREEMAN BRADFORD, }
A. B. THOMPSON, } Committee.

The foregoing report was read and accepted.

On motion of R. W. Bro. True,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed for the use of the Grand Lodge, 500 copies of its Constitution and By-Laws; and that he cause the same to be published also with the proceedings of this communication of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Chase, of Belfast, presented a proposition to amend the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, in relation to the appointment of proxies by subordinate lodges, when the question, "Will the

Grand Lodge sustain the proposition?" was put, and decided in the negative, and so the proposition was lost.

On motion,

Voted, That a set of jewels, now in possession of the Grand Lodge, be loaned to Hermon Lodge, at Gardiner, they duly receipting for the same, to be returned on demand.

Bro. Lawson, having exhibited certain plans for new and additional furniture to be used in a Fellow Craft's Lodge,

On motion,

Voted, That Bros. Chase, Miller and Moulton be a committee to examine and report upon the same.

The following report was then submitted:

The special committee on the remission of dues have attended to the duty assigned them, and beg leave to report—

That twenty-six dollars be remitted to Tyrian Lodge, it being the amount of dues to the Grand Lodge for initiations under their dispensation.

That thirty-three dollars be remitted to Pioneer Lodge, it being three-fourths of the dues to the Grand Lodge for initiations under their dispensation.

That the amount of fees paid into the Grand Treasury for initiations the past year, by Hermon Lodge, be remitted.

That fourteen dollars be remitted to Plymouth Lodge, it being the amount of dues to the Grand Lodge for initiations during the past year, under their dispensation.

All which is respectfully submitted,

J. HERRICK,	} Committee.
R. R. KENDALL,	
WILLIAM ALLEN,	

Report read and accepted.

Bro. Arthur McArthur was appointed on the Committee on Returns, in place of a member who has left.

INSTALLATION.

The M. W. Grand Master proceeded to install, in ample form, the several Grand Officers elect.

The following appointments of subordinate Grand Officers were then announced from the chair, viz:

W.	E. A. CHADWICK,	<i>Cor. Grand Secretary,</i>	Gardiner.
W. & Rev.	CYRUS CUMMINGS,	<i>Grand Chaplain,</i>	Portland.
"	CYRIL PEARL,	" "	Baldwin.
"	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON,	" "	Brunswick.
"	CALEB D. PILLSBURY,	" "	Bangor.
"	URIAH BALKAM,	" "	Wiscasset.
W.	STEPHEN B. DOCKHAM,	<i>Grand Marshal,</i>	Warren.
"	E. GILMAN RAWSON,	<i>Grand Senior Deacon,</i>	Bangor.
"	JOHN H. WILLARD,	<i>Grand Junior Deacon,</i>	Wilton.
"	J. D. WARREN,	<i>Grand Steward,</i>	Gardiner.
"	J. M. CROOKER,	" "	Waterville.
"	O. A. MERRILL,	" "	Topsham.
"	J. J. BELL,	" "	Carmel.
"	J. C. BOYNTON,	<i>Grand Pursuivant,</i>	Richmond.
"	JOHN B. SWEAT,	" "	Parsonsfield.
"	WILLIAM ALLEN,	<i>Grand Sword Bearer,</i>	Portland.
Bro.	JOHN DAIN,	<i>Grand Tyler,</i>	Portland.

And they were severally duly installed, and the usual proclamation was made by the Grand Marshal.

The Committee on the Pay Roll made their report, which was read and accepted, and the Grand Treasurer directed to pay the delegates in accordance with the same.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence then submitted their annual report, which was read and accepted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings, as follows:—

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Maine.

The committee entrusted with the foreign correspondence of this body, rejoice in the privilege of submitting once more their annual report. More fully than ever are they impressed with the magnitude of the work assigned them, and of the deep and abiding interest involved in this effort to explore and record the legislation, the progress and work of our order. They are expected to bring forward appropriate subjects for the consideration of those here assembled, not merely to enjoy the passing hour, but to labor and legislate for a growing constituency, now looking to us for light and counsel, which shall guide to present duty, and which shall cheer our successors when these eyes shall be closed, and these voices hushed in the silence of the grave.

No one can trace from year to year the onward course of Freemasonry in

this country, without being impressed with the favorite words of the eloquent Hungarian exile, who loved to speak of the political union of this country as a "power on earth." Freemasonry in these United States is emphatically a "power on earth," and we are summoned by the highest motives to understand the elements of this power, and what is necessary to its right direction and its benevolent results. The rapid growth of the order in this country calls earnestly not merely for joy and gratitude, but still more earnestly for circumspection—for the most sacred regard not only to ancient landmarks, and constitutional legislation, but for the primary application of all the educational and moral forces that can be wielded by our principles, our emblems, and our heartfelt aspirations.

The correspondence of this Grand Lodge has been more varied and voluminous the past year than ever before, increasing materially the labor of the committee, and the difficulty of condensing their report within a desirable compass. There have been before us some forty communications, varying from eight to three hundred and fifty pages each. They are from the following jurisdictions:

Alabama,	Indiana,	New Jersey,
Arkansas,	Kentucky,	North Carolina,
Connecticut,	Louisiana,	Ohio,
California,	Massachusetts,	Oregon,
Canada West,	Maryland,	Rhode Island,
Delaware,	Mississippi,	South Carolina,
District of Columbia,	Missouri,	Tennessee,
Florida,	Michigan,	Texas,
Georgia,	Minnesota,	Virginia,
Iowa,	New York,	Wisconsin.
Illinois,	New Hampshire,	

These documents contain an aggregate of nearly four thousand pages, and afford evidence of a progress more rapid than has ever been known before in the history of our order. In general, these communications exhibit a high order of talent, and a decided improvement upon those of previous years, in the higher qualities which make up a good report. From almost every quarter we find evidence that zeal and fidelity on the part of the overseers, is meeting and skillfully training the corresponding zeal which urges multitudes of the active and intelligent enquirers for light and truth to knock for admission at our temple gates. In some quarters, however, the voices of warning and complaint are heard that sentinels have slept or faltered, while those have crept in who wear the lamb skin with no honor or profit to themselves or those who have welcomed them.

THE GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA.

No jurisdiction has so deeply felt the mischiefs of hasty admissions and

defective masonic discipline, as our brothers in California. They suffer, not so much from the work of their own hands, as from lodges this side of the mountains, and especially in the Western states. Their remonstrances are finally heard and it is hoped will be heeded. It seems that multitudes who had lived indifferent if not in hostility to the order, till seized with the California *fever*, have rushed hastily into the western lodges as they would into an insurance company, and thus deposited their fees with the home lodges; but carried their ignorance and incompetence and unskillful workmanship to those in California, where their unfitness for becoming workmen in the temple could scarcely exceed their impudence in claiming masonic sympathy and charity. Many, we are assured, have thus proved a detriment or dead weight upon the order, and charity has often been extended to those who probably could not have gained admission to their respective lodges at all, except on condition of leaving the country. The remedy for this evil, it would seem, has already been applied in some quarters, and it is to be hoped the disease will not spread, now that its exciting cause is distinctly traced.

The difficulty between the Grand Master Hyam, of California, referred to last year, was spread somewhat widely before the Grand Lodges of the country, which met at a later day than ours, and were promptly passed upon by able committees. They have been adjusted in a manner to suggest a salutary caution to all concerned, and we do not deem it necessary to detail them at this time. It is proper simply to state, that, in the judgment of all who have investigated the troubles, the Grand Master, on the one hand, claimed and exercised powers which were doubtful or unwarranted, and that his accusers in the Grand Lodge, on the other hand, censured him unjustly in some particulars. It is gratifying to find that the parties have been able to settle these difficulties so promptly, and enter on their more important work.

APPEALS FOR AID.

In renewing their appeals for aid, our brothers in California have stated more fully the precise nature and reasons of their claims. It is not to aid in sustaining members made or received in their own lodges, but in relieving them of a burden of debt incurred in that prompt exercise of charity which relieved the early sufferings of multitudes who had gone to seek their fortunes from the lodges of the older states. It was an earnest call, in short for the eastern lodges to aid in sustaining or relieving their own members—to refund some portion of the money which had been paid into their treasuries. Whether Maine has not good reason to respond to this call, and share in lifting this burden of debt, the committee will submit to the consideration of this body.

DIFFICULTIES IN NEW YORK.

The jurisdiction of New York is still rent in a manner to call for the sympathy and wise counsels of sister Grand Lodges. It is not deemed necessary to re-open the questions which we have so fully discussed and passed upon in previous reports, but it seems to your committee that a decided word should be spoken by all the Grand Lodges, in relation to those who still disturb the peace of that state, and wrong the order whose name they bear. It will be remembered that this Grand Lodge, like most of the others, has decided to recognize but one Grand Lodge in New York—the one of which Chancellor Walworth was last year installed the M. W. Grand Master. It may be known that his installation was protested against by some able members of the Grand Lodge, and certain objections urged on account of opinions or declarations ascribed to him in the dark hours of persecution, but which were promptly explained and the objections obviated.

It may also be known that at a convention of a large number of subordinates, chiefly in the western part of the state, during the year, they adopted a resolution to the effect that it is expedient to divide the Grand Lodge of the state into two jurisdictions. The remonstrance against this, in many of the Grand Lodges, has been prompt and earnest. And why should it not be? Why will not our brothers in that great state, be content to heal all their dissensions, and live and labor and love as brethren ought to do? This ceaseless love of change—this impatience under trial—this alienation—is not right nor honorable. It is not worthy of the men, or their mission as masons. Let them cease from all other strifes and desires till they have overcome the elements of disunion which the demon of discord has sown in their fruitful soil. The hour of trial may be dark, but the day of deliverance will dawn the more cheerfully, if they watch for the morning with their lamps trimmed and burning. We will not despair of their patient endurance, or their final victory. Kind counsels and fraternal mediation is offered in various quarters. One proposition, emanating from a distinguished source, we present as worthy of consideration. It is as follows:—

“SAINT LOUIS, Oct. 1st, 1853.

“In looking calmly at the affairs of Masonry in the State of New York, and the causes as developed in the long continued strife and confusion in that jurisdiction, I am induced to make an effort to settle the conflict, restore peace and harmony, or, in the event of a failure, to advise a separation, in order to avoid the consequences which must inevitably result from their present reckless and unmasonic course.

“After mature reflection, I am fully convinced that it is the bounden duty of the several Grand Lodges of the Union, to make one simultaneous effort to settle the difficulties there pending, or take such action as will free themselves from all participation, or affiliation, with the discord now stalking abroad in that portion of the masonic vineyard, and by which legitimate Masonry is made to bleed at every pore.

“But how shall so desirable an event be accomplished, is a question, the solution of which requires the united wisdom of the several Grand Lodges of the Union.

"That the best interests of the craft imperiously demand the speedy adjustment of these difficulties, none can doubt who have paid any attention to their proceedings, and that thus far they have been unable to settle their differences, with such assistance as the several Grand Lodges have given them, is equally certain; for it is a lamentable fact, that every effort hitherto made, has but increased the storm, and widened the breach to such an extent, that it is now impossible to recognize any of the beautiful and sublime workings of Masonry in their midst, or to ascertain with any certainty who and *who are not* worthy of our confidence and esteem.

"With these impressions, and others that will readily suggest themselves to all who reflect on the cause and effect of such things in connection with Masonry, I have deemed it my duty, as the chairman of foreign correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, to consult you by letter and elicit from you as well as from my brethren in the several states, your views on the unhappy state of affairs in that jurisdiction, and thus prepare the Grand Lodges of the United States for one vigorous and timely effort to banish forever the discord now existing among our brethren of New York.

"In view of the magnitude of the subject, I would venture the following suggestion: that the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and Virginia, *because they are the oldest*, be appointed by the several Grand Lodges as arbitrators to settle the entire difference, to hear all parties, and dispose of all questions in connection with the conflict now raging in New York, at least so far as ancient craft Masonry is concerned or compromised; and in case of disagreement or inability to settle the difficulties aforesaid, they shall be empowered to call to their aid a similar committee from any Grand Lodge jurisdiction they may think proper.

"To carry out the foregoing views, with your concurrence, I expect to append to my next report the following resolutions:

"1. That the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and Virginia are hereby fraternally solicited each to appoint a committee on behalf of the Grand Lodges of the United States, to examine and adjust all differences existing among the fraternity in the State of New York; and the Grand Lodge of New York is hereby fraternally requested to submit the entire difficulties of that jurisdiction to the aforesaid committee, so far as the same is connected with ancient craft Masonry; that all parties interested be permitted and required to lay their grievances before the said committee, that they may be finally and forever healed.

"2. Should the aforesaid committee of Massachusetts and Virginia be unable to adjust the differences thus submitted to them, they are hereby empowered to call to their assistance an equal number of brethren from any other Grand Lodge in the Union.

"I have forwarded a copy of the foregoing to the Secretary or Chairman of Foreign Correspondence of each Grand Lodge in the Union, and will be pleased to hear from you on the subject, at your earliest convenience. Masonry has suffered so much from the unhappy differences which have agitated that jurisdiction, that, in my opinion, it behooves the craft throughout this continent to look well to the future.

"Fraternally,

JOSEPH FOSTER."

If the brethren of New York will listen to counsels like the above, and call to their aid a committee of reference so able as Virginia and Massachusetts can give them, we see no reason to doubt that a final settlement can be made, honorable to all who are willing to do right. In the meantime, we cheerfully submit, as expressing happily our own views, the very able and carefully drawn report of a committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in relation to the duty of other Grand Lodges while the difficulties in New York are unsettled.

"REPORT.

"To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts :

"At the quarterly communication of this M. W. Grand Lodge, in September last, the following vote was referred to the undersigned, with instructions to consider and report on the subject therein embraced :

"*Voted*, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration what instructions should be given to the lodges in this state in reference to *visiting members* of subordinate lodges from New York."

"Affecting as it does, to some extent, the free and brotherly intercourse which this Grand Lodge, for nearly three-quarters of a century, has sustained to brethren hailing from a neighboring jurisdiction, your committee could not fail to regard the subject-matter of the inquiry contemplated by the foregoing resolution, as of the highest importance. And they have endeavored to conduct the necessary investigation, impressed with a deep sense of the obligations resting upon them and all good masons, to regard those things which make for peace, while seeking to maintain the integrity of those fundamental laws and principles which are essential to the purity and preservation of our ancient and honored institution.

"Your committee cannot enter upon this report without an expression of their deep regret at the condition of the fraternity in New York, as developed by their investigation. Dissensions among brethren of the same household of faith, are to be lamented ; but, constituted as human nature is, they are not, unfortunately, always to be avoided. We find them in all the various orders and classes of society—in the family circle—in the Christian church. They began while the world was yet in its infancy, and they will end only with the consummation of the great purpose for which man and the world were created. It is one of the designs of Masonry, and the tendency of its sublime teachings, so to subdue and harmonize the passions of its disciples, as to lessen the frequency of such differences, and to soften their asperity whenever, from unavoidable or other causes, they may unhappily occur. No merely human institution can do more than this. And wherever this great purpose of Masonry has been accomplished—wherever the beneficent spirit of its teachings has been allowed to work its way into the heart—*there* the door of reconciliation is found thrown back upon its hinges—wide open to the free entrance of the spirit of *peace*. May we not still hope for the realization of this truth—a living manifestation of its redeeming power—at the hands of our unreconciled brethren in New York ? Have we not a masonic and moral right to expect so much of them ? Or must we be driven to the sad conclusion, that their actions are never to correspond with their professions ?

"Your committee have not desired, nor are they instructed by your vote, to extend their inquiries into the causes which have led to the unhappy divisions that exist among our brethren in New York ; nor yet to seek the means of reconciling them. Neither would they assume to dictate to the Grand Lodge of that or any other state, as to its duty in the government of its lodges, or in the administration of its internal affairs. With these they would not unnecessarily interfere ; nor, indeed, from any consideration other than that they are so conducted as to endanger those essential landmarks which were set up by the ancient fathers in Masonry, as guides for the government and preservation of our institution, in its purity and integrity. They have, therefore, limited their investigations to the actual condition of the order in New York, with a view to recommend, for the action of this Grand Lodge, such protective measures as the exigencies of the case submitted for their consideration, seem to demand.

"From the best sources of information of which your committee have been able to avail themselves, they learn that there are at the present time, in the city of New York, the following organizations, exercising control over the three degrees of ancient craft Masonry :

"1. The Grand Lodge of the State of New York, over which the Hon.

Reuben H. Walworth presides as Grand Master. This body has under its jurisdiction about two hundred and fifty lodges,—seventy of which are located in the city. This number includes, with the exceptions hereafter named, all those spurious lodges, which, prior to the year 1851, were working under the body known as St. John's Grand Lodge, and had been unlawfully created by that illegal organization. And it may not be out of place here to notice, that those lodges, and their members—the latter numbering about one thousand—were, at the time of the 'union,' received and acknowledged by the lawful Grand Lodge, by a *resolution* of reconciliation, agreed upon by the parties. It is true, that many of the persons so received, are among the best and most steadfast masons in the city; and, as men, are of much respectability. But it is also true, that many of them are among that class of masons who reflect no honor on the institution.

"2. The Philips Grand Lodge, so called, over which the Hon. Mordecai Myers presides as Grand Master. It will be recollected, that this is the body which separated from the lawful Grand Lodge, at the eventful session of 1849. It has under its jurisdiction, at the present time, twenty-two lodges, as follows:

"No.	1. St. John's,*	New York City.
	4. St. Patrick's.	
	19. Fortitude,	Brooklyn.
	20. Abrams,†	New York City.
	21. Washington,	"
	23. Adelphi,	"
	26. Albion,	"
	27. Mount Moriah,	"
	28. Benevolent,‡	"
	54. German Union,	"
	56. Hohenlinden,	Brooklyn.
	64. Lafayette,\$	New York City.
	66. Richmond,	Staten Island.
	69. Naval,\$	New York City.
	94. Strict Observance,	"
	106. Manitou,	"
	141. Oltmans.	
	142. Rising Sun,	Yonkers.
	143. Mount Moriah,	Albany.
	Delta,	Brooklyn.
	Hiram.	
	—, (new,)	Staten Island.

"The number of masons affiliated with these lodges, and acknowledging the authority of the parent body, is estimated at about seven hundred. They are illegal or recusant masons, and cannot be lawfully admitted into any regular lodge in the country; but it is undoubtedly true, that they frequently visit and are received by lodges in other states. Whether this is done with a knowledge of their true masonic character and relations, it is impossible to say. They are mainly highly respectable as men, and your committee cannot doubt, that many of them are conscientious in their persistence in what they believe to be their inherent and legal rights. All that need be said farther in relation to them, is, that this Grand Lodge, in common with their brethren throughout the world, has decided that they are in the wrong.

"3. St. John's Grand Lodge. This spurious body, which was merged in the Grand Lodge of New York in 1851, was revived on *Sunday*, the 12th of

* There are four lodges of this name, and three of the same name and number in New York.

† There are three lodges of this name in the city.

‡ There are three lodges of this name, and two of the same name and number in the city.

\$ There are two of this name and number. Also two under the name of Franklin—one irregular.

June last, by two seceding lodges from the lawful Grand Lodge, with the co-operation of its former Grand Master, and other members of city lodges. The name of its first officer is *Richard Thum*; and it has under its jurisdiction, three lodges, viz: Benevolent and Key-Stone, (old,) and Freeman, (new,) with about two hundred avowed adherents.

"4. Foreign lodges. There are two of this class of lodges in the city, working under warrants from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, viz: Pythagoras and Franklin, numbering about one hundred and thirty members. The first named lodge was formerly under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York; but, becoming dissatisfied with the management of that body, or from some other cause, it a few years since surrendered its charter, and took out a new warrant under the Grand Lodge of Hamburg. Both of these lodges are so far irregular, as not to allow of their recognition by the Grand Lodges in this country. Independently of this circumstance, they are believed to be well conducted and respectable bodies.

"5. Scottish Rite Lodges. There are two spurious lodges of this rite in the city, viz: St. John's, No. 1, and La Sincerité, No. 2, with, it is supposed, about one hundred adherents. The person who formerly presided over the St. John's Grand Lodge, and has probably caused the brethren in New York more trouble, and brought more shame on the institution there, than any other mason in the city; and who, it is understood, has recently been a second time expelled and cast off by his Grand Lodge, is at the head of the schismatic body and imposture, under which these pretended lodges are working.

"It will be seen from the foregoing, that there are five classes of lodges in the city of New York. Four of these classes are made up of unlawful lodges,—amounting in the aggregate to twenty-nine,*—all actively at work and multiplying. The number of members affiliated with them, is from ten to twelve hundred,—all of whom, by the rules of Masonry, are to be regarded as irregular and clandestine masons; and, as such, to be excluded from all regular lodges. In addition to these, there are a large number of brethren, who, though in regular standing in their lodges, are, nevertheless, either in open rebellion, or secretly engaged in fomenting dissension among the craft, and in attempts to subvert the lawful authority of the Grand Lodge of their state. Your committee are fully aware of the extreme delicacy of this point of the inquiry; but they cannot allow the fact, that such a dangerous and suicidal state of things exists,—not only in many of the lodges in the city, but in the bosom of the Grand Lodge itself,—to pass unnoticed and unrebuked. They desire to put upon it, and upon those masons who have so far forgotten their obligations and duties as to be engaged in it, the stamp of reprobation. Their conduct is not only pregnant with destruction to the peace of their own Grand Lodge, but is subversive of all masonic law and government. It is setting an example, the evil influence of which, if not checked in its incipency, cannot fail to disturb the peace of other jurisdictions than that of New York. Far better for the repose of their Grand Lodge, and the welfare of the fraternity abroad, that such members should secede, and join its more honorable, because more open and manly, enemies.

"In view of the preceding facts, and of the unfortunate condition of the order in our sister state,—in view, also, of the dangers to which our own lodges are continually exposed, from the great difficulty of distinguishing the true from the false, among the many visiting brethren from New York, who are daily knocking at their doors for admission, your committee recommend, as a protective measure, the adoption, by this Grand Lodge, of the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are hereby instructed to require of all persons assuming to be masons, and hailing from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, who may apply at their doors for admission as *visitors*, (unless known and avouched, by a brother present, to be as herein provided,) a diploma, or

*It is probable there may be others, not known to your committee.

certificate, under the signature and official seal of the R. W. G. Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, of which the M. W. and Hon. Reuben H. Walworth is Grand Master, certifying that the brother therein named was made a mason in a regularly and duly constituted lodge, which, at the time of said making, was working under the authority of a constitutional and lawfully organized Grand Lodge; that the said brother is now in regular standing as a mason; and that he is no schismatic, or disturber of the harmony of the craft; but true in his allegiance, and obedient to the laws and authority of the Grand Lodge of New York, aforesaid.

"*Resolved*, That in case the person named in said diploma, or certificate, was made a mason in an unlawful or irregularly formed lodge, or under any authority which, at the time of said making, was not recognized by this Grand Lodge, then, and in that case, said diploma, or certificate, shall certify, under the signature and official seal of the R. W. the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, aforesaid, that the brother therein named, has been duly and lawfully 'healed' and obligated, by competent authority, and in the only form and manner sanctioned by the usages and customs of Masonry; that he is now in good and honorable repute and standing as a mason, obedient to the laws, and acknowledging the jurisdiction and supreme authority of the only lawful Grand Lodge of the State of New York, aforesaid.

"*Resolved*, That the lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, are hereby strictly forbidden, under the penalty of forfeiture of charter, to receive as *visitors*, or hold masonic intercourse with any persons hailing from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York, who do not furnish the evidence required by the preceding resolutions, of their regularity and present good standing as masons.

"Respectfully submitted,

SIMON W. ROBINSON,
EDWARD A. RAYMOND,
E. M. P. WELLS,
J. V. C. SMITH,
THOMAS RESTIEAUX,

Committee."

Boston, Dec. 12, 5853.

Your committee believe this report covers the whole question admirably, and furnishes safe ground for this Grand Lodge to stand upon.

PHYSICAL DEFORMITY.

The committee are happy to find evidence that the views presented by the special committee on physical deformity, and adopted by this Grand Lodge, at its last session, are likely to harmonize the great body of masons in our country. Few things in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, have been more censured than the article of our constitution upon this point, yet the natural interpretation of it, as given in last year's report, harmonizes perfectly with the able report to the General Grand Chapter, at its late session, and the resolution adopted by that body. It is as follows:

"Your committee, then, having treated the question as one resting upon constitutional, paramount authority, and not upon mere regulation; having investigated the authority which, in their opinion, should govern the decision upon it, and having satisfied themselves that the subject matter is not a question of mere policy, but one which involves an 'ancient landmark' of the order, have reached the unavoidable conclusion, that *it is competent and masonically lawful for Royal Arch Chapters, as well as Blue Lodges, to confer the respective degrees of Masonry, properly conferrable by each, upon*

all candidates whose defects of bodily qualifications are not such as to prevent them from conforming literally to what the several degrees respectively require of them. If their physical capacities enable them to do this, they are admissible, and can comply with every requisition of the order.

"Your committee are perfectly aware that the Ahiman Rezon contains a different rule, and requires a candidate to be *perfect in every bodily qualification*; but they have already said that they do not acknowledge that work as authority, when it conflicts with the constitutions of Anderson.

"*Resolved*, That it is incompetent for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the respective degrees of Masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from conforming literally to all the requirements of those degrees."

MORAL DEFORMITY.

One part of our proceedings last year brings to light a serious case of moral deformity which is somewhat freely criticised in various quarters. It is the action of this body in relation to the case sent up from Meridian Splendor Lodge, detailing the conduct of the Master of said lodge, and the complaint from Rising Virtue Lodge. After spreading all the details of this case upon the pages of their report, the committee of correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut remark:

"The action of the enlightened Grand Lodge of Maine, strikes us as rather strange. When a subordinate lodge, or its Master, so far loses sight of the principles of Masonry, as to violate, deliberately and willfully, the laws of the Grand Lodge, and that, too, in spite of the earnest remonstrance of a Grand officer; and especially, when, to this violation of written law, is added an utter disregard of the first principle of Masonry, which requires that a candidate for the honors of Masonry shall be 'of good report;' when a masonic lodge will so far demean itself as to admit within its walls a candidate who is '*so drunk at the time as to render it difficult for him to either walk or speak*,'—it does appear to your committee, that for the Grand Lodge merely to pass a 'vote of censure' against such lodge or master, is not measuring punishment according to the enormity of the offence. We doubt whether there is another Grand Lodge in the United States, that would not have promptly annulled the charter of the offending lodge, and expelled its master from all the rights and benefits of Masonry,—and we are surprised that this course was not pursued by the Grand Lodge of Maine."

This criticism comes with all the more keenness, from the well-known candor and courtesy of the excellent chairman, while on the same page, as in previous reports, he pays a very high compliment to this Grand Lodge and the reports of its committee. Similar criticisms from other quarters are not very flattering to our sense of honor or acknowledged temperance principle. They cannot be very flattering compliments to the "meridian splendors" of our masonic jurisdiction, but it is hoped they may be salutary as they are just. It is reasonable that brethren who thus criticize, should be aware that this Grand Lodge has had so little occasion for discipline, that for first offences she may be allowed to lean towards the side of mercy. Should not this mild treatment effect a cure, we can safely pledge the fidelity of this Grand Lodge to a course of treatment which will effectually reach the disease.

FRATERNAL NOTICES.

It is with special pleasure that your committee meet with the most friendly notices from all parts of the Union, of the doctrines and discussions which have been published in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge. We have repeatedly referred to this feature in the communications of past years. In no previous year have these cordial responses been so full and varied as in the reports now before us. It would be easy to fill many pages with the most cordial approbation of the various discussions embraced in our reports. They come to us from the far south, the far west, and from the great central valley. Whole pages are copied and endorsed with a heartiness never anticipated by the committee. They are alluded to merely as an illustration of the growing interest felt all over our country, through all branches of our order, in the higher questions of morals, the great problems of human improvement, and the progress of our race towards a higher standard of perfection. The only unfriendly criticism we have noticed, is one which so clearly misapprehends the subject referred to, that we copy it as a curiosity. It is from the report of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, for November, 1853.

"The Committee on Foreign Correspondence devote a large portion of their report to what they are pleased to term 'the relations of Freemasonry to the moral and religious element in man, and its affinity for the religions of the world.'

"Their remarks on this subject evince much learning and ability, but savor more of philosophical speculation than practical masonic utility; and whilst we approve of many of the noble sentiments which they utter, and would gladly copy them for the benefit of the fraternity in this jurisdiction, if our limited space would allow of it, we do not concur in all their conclusions.

"We agree with them in their conclusion, that Masonry is not a substitute for religion, and that, on the other hand, religion does not supersede or render useless the institution of Masonry—that both have their appropriate spheres and purposes; but we do not coincide with them in what would seem to be the leading feature of their argument, that Masonry and especially ancient craft Masonry, recognizes and enjoins the *Christian* religion in *exclusion* of all other religions.

"Masonry clearly teaches the existence of God, the resurrection of the dead, the immortality of the soul, and future rewards and punishments, but as to the peculiar modes and forms of religion, every brother is left to the dictates of his own conscience, and to his own preference of religious organizations and creeds.

"If Masonry were to undertake to prescribe any peculiar creed, in detail, it would be the source of the same unhappy divisions and strifes which have disturbed the harmony of the religious world, and would mar that universal concord which prevails among the vast numbers who offer up their devotions, around her altars, to the true and ever-living God."

How very singular, that our Arkansas brothers do not see their total misapprehension of our argument, when they speak of its "leading feature" as being "that Masonry, and especially ancient craft Masonry, recognizes and enjoins the *Christian* religion in *exclusion* of all other religions!" How is it possible to make this mistake, while the very point to be illustrated was "the relations of Freemasonry to the moral and religious element in man,

and its affinity for the religions of the world!" If our brothers will re-examine that argument, they will see that this thought pervades it, and that the historical illustration develops clearly the progress of Masonry along with the religions of all nations, not stopping in its onward course to stagnate with either of the older types, but traveling on till it welcomes the advent of Christianity, and adopts the Baptist and the Evangelist as its patron saints, and recognizes the "stone which the builders refused as the head stone of the corner." Do our brothers not concur in these "conclusions"?

PROGRESS OF IDEAS AND PRINCIPLES.

No features of the Grand Lodge correspondence are more delightful than the great moral truths—the weighty and eternal principles of virtue and morality which are more and more fully interwoven in the addresses of Grand Masters and reports of their Deputies, the communications of Grand Secretaries, the reports on foreign correspondence, and the numerous orations on public occasions, which come to us from all parts of the country. Many of these reports display a thoroughness of research into the history of the past, in its dim and shadowy distance, there finding the germs of ideas which gradually come into the light of day. Some seize upon the history of its legislation, and elaborate its organic laws—others seize its cherished emblems—the implements or working tools of the craftsmen, and wield them with a master's hand, in fashioning the rough elements of our untutored natures to rules of action and forms of beauty and grace—thus the varied gifts and diverse culture of masters and teachers blend in the schools of instruction, each borrowing ideas and methods from his brother, while imparting his own light, and using, as best he may, the full measure of his gifts, the rich treasures of his experience.

It is delightful to witness the progress of a single year in putting rich thoughts upon the wing. The change in this respect, since your committee first began to trace the movements of the Grand Lodges, is surprisingly great. Then, the reports, with few exceptions, were comparatively lifeless, wanting in method, in aim and in results; now, they come to us earnest, vitalized, pregnant with ideas, principles, motives, and manliness. A generous emulation spreads from state to state—each noble endeavor rouses several others to equal or excel—"mind acts on mind," and subjects rough natures to its sway. A sort of inspiration, a kindling of the fires of genius is manifest, which, if wisely fostered, will lead to blessed results in the prosperity of our order, and the welfare of our race. It were an easy, as well as pleasant task to fill this report with beautiful gems from scores of eminent masters, whose gifted pens are moved by this magic spell. Take a passage from the address of Bro. Kinkead, the Grand Orator of Kentucky, before the Grand Lodge, in September, 1853:

"An instance at this time is going the rounds of the press, strange above

all the romance of fiction, exhibiting the universal sympathy cherished in the true mason's heart. I allude to the expedition that has lately embarked from our shores to seek for that undaunted explorer, Sir John Franklin. The responses of the eminent brother, Dr. Kane, the commander of this expedition, to the farewell addresses given him, as he touched at New Foundland, on his way to the North Pole, should be written in living characters upon every true mason's heart. Hear it, and treasure it as a precious memorial of masonic eloquence:

"No language that I can command, could give utterance to the feelings it has awakened in my heart, to be thus received by brethren and Englishmen, and thus parted with, on leaving this portion of the British territory, perhaps the last we may touch at on our way, is indeed most cheering to my spirit, and encouraging to my hopes; for the cause in which I am embarked, is one which involves the feeling of universal brotherhood, bound by no limits and contracted by no sectarian views or national prejudices, for it springs from a sympathy that embraces the wide family of man, and extends its efforts to relieve, wherever suffering, distress, or want, mark out a path for it to follow.

"Such a feeling and such a sympathy is that which sent forth one hundred and thirty-eight of your brave countrymen, who are now locked up in those distant regions whither the course of our expedition is directed, and should it be our lot to pass a period of our time in the long night which in those regions succeeds the day, amid a frozen wilderness, in the deep solitude of darkness so palpably dense as to be almost tangible—where, over the wide waste of desolation, unbroken silence reigns—still, even there, despondency will find no resting-place in our bosoms, but the cheering hope will animate them, that when the day shall again dawn upon us, a bright and glorious morrow will break forth, to be rendered brighter and more glorious still, by the crowning of our hopes, and the reward of all our anxieties and toils, in the recovery and restitution to society of England's nobly enterprising son, *your* countryman, and mutually *our* brother—Sir John Franklin."

"In the opinion of many scientific men, Sir John Franklin may yet be discovered and rescued. We can then imagine the scene that would transpire in those cheerless lands, where for eight years he has waited the approach of succor. A company from their ice-bound home are watching anxiously the coming of distant sails. As the vessels approach nearer, hope awakens within their hearts; they look at each other and whisper of deliverance. Still nearer comes their unknown visitor. One among that isolated company catches the sight of an emblem, a symbol painted upon the foresail of the foremost vessel. He recognizes it, and his heart swells with emotion. Would you know the cause of this sudden gush of feeling? It is that time-honored and world-wide symbol of Freemasonry, the square and compass, that the gallant Kane has inscribed upon his sails! Oh, what feelings does it excite in the heart! how it carries back the memory to scenes long left, over which despair had drawn a dark veil of oblivion!"

We select a page also from the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi:

"In the wisdom of the Almighty Architect of the universe, we are again called upon to make our annual report on the foreign correspondence of the Grand Lodge. During the year which has passed since your last grand communication, no change became visible in the general aspect of masonic affairs. Nothing of great moment has occurred, if we except the addition of another Grand Lodge to the constellation of Grand Lodges of the United States, which completes the zone of brotherly love, relief and truth, which now encircles the earth. The grandest dream of human progress and civilization forty years ago, did not anticipate that less than centuries of labor and toil of our hardy pioneers, would open the way through our vast forests and over our vaster prairies, to the shores of the Pacific. Who then believed that before a half century had disappeared in the eternity past, that the

sound of the gavel with the Sabbath bell, would be heard in the valleys of the Willamette and Yuba, and re-echo among the cliffs of the Rocky Mountains? Nay, farther, that the joyful sounds should be wafted by the western breeze from the distant Sandwich Islands? Yet already our youthful sister of California greets the still younger Oregon, while Honolulu looks up to the former as a mother. Oregon not yet arrived to her majority as a political state, has already erected her Grand Masonic altar, on which to sacrifice the unholy passions of the human heart. Before quarrying the granite of her eternal hills, her moral ashlar is already prepared for an eternal habitation. She claims that no mountain range shall form a barrier to her recognition as a legitimate child of Freemasonry, by her sisters of the great valley and the Atlantic. The mystic tie has no measure—it can be severed by neither ocean, plain nor mountain, and to this we respond with our welcome and congratulations. Whether a Grand Lodge be held in the city of Portland, in the State of Maine, or in the village of Portland, in the Territory of Oregon, she is equally near and equally dear to us—entitled alike to the friendship and consideration of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi. We greet our brethren of Oregon.

“RECOGNITION OF OREGON.—The Grand Lodge of Oregon was formed by a convention of masons, on the 13th day of September, 1852, at which were present the officers of Multnomah Lodge, No. 84, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri; Willamette Lodge, No. 11, and Lafayette Lodge, No. 15, by that of California, and several Master Masons. The proceedings being in accordance with a custom which has prevailed for the past fifty years in the United States, we present for your consideration a resolution recognizing that Grand Lodge.

“RELIEF TO CALIFORNIA.—There is no estimate of the amount of good which these young Grand Lodges and our brethren of the distant west may be instruments, under Divine Providence, of performing, not only by the unobtrusive but certain infusion of masonic principles throughout this young nation in the west, hastily formed by a congregation from all parts of the globe, and not yet become homogeneous and national, and whose members, from locality or other circumstances, are inaccessible to higher teachings; and we should not only greatly rejoice in the prosperity of the craft there, but if necessary, gladly render them friendly and pecuniary assistance.

“That the land which was flooding the world with her rich minerals—that this land of gold should require aid, was hardly realized last year, in considering the application of the Grand Lodge of California, in behalf of her brethren. But on investigation, it appears that these individuals, in their zealous and most praiseworthy effort during the prevalence of an epidemic, and a period of great distress, established a masonic hospital, and the beneficiaries were so numerous, that those brethren became deeply, and in some instances, ruinously involved, their private resources exhausted, and a debt of several thousand dollars incurred, which still hangs over them.

“To be relieved from this burden, the appeal was made last year to the generosity of the Grand Lodges of the United States, which appeal has been renewed this year. The debt, we believe, is about fourteen thousand dollars. For the few members of lodges who have been made there, or have affiliated, this amount is large. We cannot resist this appeal. Texas has generously donated two hundred and fifty dollars for this purpose, as well as one hundred and fifty dollars to Union Lodge, at Panama. We submit a resolution for your approval, and though we think a statement of the facts sufficient, we offer one suggestion in its support. We may be only returning the money expended for the benefit of some of our own initiates, who may have floated westward with the human flood in search of wealth among the golden sands of the Pacific, but whom misfortune and disease have overtaken, and destitute and friendless, far from home and among strangers, they must have perished, but for the timely assistance furnished them by that noble band of brothers.”

These passages, selected almost at random, illustrate what we mean by

the progress of ideas and principles through the genius and institutions of Freemasonry. A blessed day will it be for us, when such sentiments and sympathies mould our opinions, pervade our affections, and control our lives.

A GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

Your committee rejoice in the evidence that their labor has not been in vain, which has been devoted to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge. Not that such a body has been created or even the purpose to establish one decided upon. Indeed, the resolution adopted at the convention in Kentucky, last September, was expressly, "*that, in their opinion, it is inexpedient at this time, to attempt the formation of a General Grand Lodge.*"

This was unquestionably the best result to which the convention could have attained at that time. If we mistake not the signs of the times and the interests of the craft, the whole tendency of this movement, and the action of that convention, is to bring about a General Grand Lodge in the best possible mode, and at the right time. It would be, of necessity, a work of time—a result of careful deliberation—the fruit of fraternal sympathy and love. The necessity of some organization to reach the objects contemplated by a General Grand Lodge, is now plainly recognized, and it matters little whether we call it a *National Confederation* or a *General Grand Lodge*. Its mission must be the same in either case, and this cannot fail to be seen and felt. The prejudices against a General Grand Lodge, will give way and the masonic charity and courtesy which can fraternize in the objects necessarily aimed at in the proposed *Confederation*, will inevitably tend by the laws of attraction, to the very thing we have urged repeatedly upon the Grand Lodges of the country.

The doctrines put forth by this Grand Lodge, last year, and the year before, are leavening the whole country with a directness and force delightful as it is unexpected. It would not be at all surprising if the convention proposed at Washington, in January, 1855, should result in a *General Grand Lodge*, thoroughly matured and perfected. But there need be no tenacity as to names or favorite theories. It is hardly conceivable that such a convention should be held at Washington, for the "*specific objects*" proposed, and that the convention should mature a plan for disposing of such *objects*, without providing for future meetings as often at least, as once in three years.

It will, ere then, be clearly seen that the *General Grand Chapter* has been silently, but surely, demonstrating its own utility, and thus disposing of the most perplexing objections against creating a GENERAL GRAND LODGE. With these views, the committee cheerfully copy the proceedings of the national convention, and will submit a resolution, in which they believe this Grand Lodge will heartily concur.

"NATIONAL MASONIC CONVENTION.—A convention of masonic delegates from several Grand Lodges in the United States, in attendance on the triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, was held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Lexington, State of Kentucky, on the 17th day of September, A. L., 5853, pursuant to previous request and notice.

"On motion, M. W. Nathan B. Haswell, of Vermont, was appointed President and R. W. John L. Lewis, Jr., of New York, and R. W. Eliphalet G. Storer, of Connecticut, were chosen Secretaries.

"The following named delegates appeared, produced their credentials and took their seats in the convention as members:—

"Maine.—M. W. A. B. Thompson.

"Vermont.—M. W. Nathan B. Haswell, M. W. Philip C. Tucker.

"Rhode Island.—M. W. William Field, W. J. A. D. Joslyn.

"Connecticut.—M. W. David Clark, R. W. Eliphalet G. Storer, R. W. George F. Daskam.

"New York.—R. W. Ezra S. Barnum, R. W. John L. Lewis, Jr., W. Thomas C. Edwards.

"The objects of the convention were briefly and pertinently stated by the President to be the consideration of a suitable plan to be presented for a National Grand Lodge, or Confederation of Grand Lodges of the masonic fraternity in the United States, for the speedy and final adjustment and decision of matters in difference, which may arise between the various Grand Lodges, to promote uniformity in work and to cultivate the general good of the fraternity.

"On motion of M. W. Bro. Clark, of Connecticut,

"Resolved, That representatives from other states, present, attending the General Grand Bodies and not accredited as delegates, be invited to take seats in the convention and participate in its proceedings.

"Whereupon the following brethren enrolled their names:—

"District of Columbia.—M. W. Benjamin B. French.

"Kentucky.—M. W. Isaac Cunningham, R. W. Philip Swigert.

"Illinois.—R. W. Levi Lusk.

"Georgia.—M. W. Philip T. Schley.

"Michigan.—R. W. Ezra Platt.

"Indiana.—R. W. Isaac Bartlett.

"Missouri.—R. W. Joseph Foster, W. G. H. Melody.

"Alabama.—R. W. Amand P. Pfister.

"Ohio.—R. W. John Brown.

"Mississippi.—R. W. Charles Kopperl.

"Virginia.—R. W. John Wilson.

"On motion of M. W. Bro. Tucker, of Vermont,

"Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, to report suitable resolutions, embracing a plan of action for the consideration of this convention at an adjourned meeting.

"The following brethren were appointed such committee, (M. W. Bro. Tucker having been, at his own request, excused from service thereon):—

"M. W. A. B. Thompson, of Maine.

"M. W. William Field, of Rhode Island.

"M. W. Benjamin B. French, of District of Columbia.

"M. W. David Clark, of Connecticut.

"R. W. John L. Lewis, Jr., of New York.

"The convention then adjourned to Monday evening.

"MONDAY EVENING, Sept. 19, 1853.—The convention re-assembled, pursuant to adjournment, M. W. Nathan B. Haswell presiding.

"M. W. Bro. Thompson, of Maine, from the committee appointed for that purpose, submitted the following report, which, having been read and considered, was unanimously adopted:—

"The committee appointed by the delegates of several Grand Lodges of the United States, assembled in convention at Lexington, Kentucky, September, 1853, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposition sub-

mitted by the Grand Lodge of Maine, to form a 'General Grand Lodge of the United States,' having duly considered the proposition, ask leave to report:—

"That, in their opinion, it is inexpedient at this time to attempt the formation of a General Grand Lodge; but from a free interchange of opinion among the delegates assembled, your committee believe that a proposition for a *National Confederation*, for specific objects, would meet the approbation of the several Grand Lodges of the Union. They therefore submit the following plan therefor:—

"1. That all matters of difficulty which may hereafter arise in any Grand Lodges, or between two or more Grand Bodies of the same order, which cannot by their own action be satisfactorily adjusted or disposed of, shall, if the importance of the case or the common welfare of the fraternity demand it, be submitted, with accompanying evidence and documents to the several Grand Lodges, in their individual capacities; and the concurrent decision thereon of two-thirds of the whole number, officially communicated, shall be held authoritative, binding and final, on all parties concerned.

"2. That from and after the adoption of the foregoing proposition by two-thirds of the several Grand Lodges, its provisions shall be considered ratified, and all matters therein contemplated for adjustment, shall then and thereafter take the course prescribed.

"3. That each of the Grand Lodges be requested to adopt a resolution (if they accede to the proposed measure) pledging themselves to abide the concurrent decisions of two-thirds of the several Grand Lodges, relating to all matters submitted to their action.

"For the purpose of further maturing the plan for the proposed Confederation, your committee propose that the several Grand Lodges be respectfully requested to send one or more delegates each to a convention to be held at Washington, D. C., on the first Wednesday of January, 1855, to consider such propositions as may be submitted by the several Grand Lodges in relation thereto.

"The committee further recommend that the proceedings of this convention be officially communicated to the several Grand Lodges in the United States.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. B. THOMPSON,
JOHN L. LEWIS, JR.,
B. B. FRENCH,
DAVID CLARK,
WILLIAM FIELD,
Committee.

"LEXINGTON, KY., Sept. 19, 1853.

"On motion of R. W. Bro. Swigert, of Kentucky,

"*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this convention, attested by its officers, be published under the direction of the Secretaries, and transmitted to the several Grand Lodges, and that their publication be respectfully requested in the various masonic periodicals of the United States.

"The convention then adjourned without day.

NATHAN B. HASWELL, *President.*

JOHN L. LEWIS, JR., }
E. G. STORER, } *Secretaries.*

The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions in relation to the action of the national masonic convention:

1. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge re-affirms its repeated declarations of opinion that the formation of a General Grand Lodge, with appropriate powers and limitations, would greatly advance the interests of our masonic order in this country and throughout the world.

2. *Resolved*, That we believe the time has fully come when this work can be undertaken with the fairest prospects of complete success.

3. *Resolved*, That we cordially approve the action of our delegates at the convention whose proceedings are recorded above, and the proposition to call another convention at Washington, in January, 1855.

4. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will at this time select two delegates to the said convention, with discretionary power to co-operate in forming a General Grand Lodge of the United States, or to mature a Confederation for the "specific objects" which the interests of ancient craft Masonry in our country, require; and that the M. W. Grand Master be instructed to draw his order on the Grand Treasurer for their necessary expenses.

5. *Resolved*, That so much of this report as pertains to the General Grand Lodge, be immediately printed and transmitted by the Grand Secretary to all the Grand Lodges of the country.

The reasons for prompt action will be clearly seen, as a great portion of the Grand Lodges of the country will hold sessions between this time and the date fixed upon for the proposed convention. It is well that all of them should understand the position of Maine upon this question.

OPERATIVE AND SPECULATIVE MASONRY.

In many of the Grand Lodge reports, and in public addresses, there are found learned and critical disquisitions on the relations of *operative* and *speculative* Freemasonry. Some of these assume that the period of operative Masonry has passed; and that now we have only the speculative type of it. Your committee do not altogether like this mode of treating the subject. If we mistake not, there is danger that we shall have too much of the speculative and too little of the operative. We certainly need to apply vigorously the operative, till we clear the masonic temple of all such rubbish as the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has noticed in the light of our "meridian splendor." Doubtless, if the moral telescope were turned and swept through the galaxy of the Grand Lodges of the Union, or through their published reports, it would be easy to apply the "common gavel" with great force, even where jewelled emblems of authority clothe a nakedness of *moral deformity unworthy of our order*. We do not propose to cast stones, certainly while reminded that we live in glass houses; but we may well rejoice to see the earnestness of the overseers in many of the jurisdictions, in the inspection of their work and the application of the appropriate tests. We copy with great pleasure a page from the opening address of M. W. Archelaus M. Hughes to the Grand Lodge of Tennessee:

"A mason's love and devotion to Masonry, can generally be measured by the amount of light and information he has attained of the objects and principles of our order. Show me a bright mason, and I will show you an ardent lover of the craft. Cannot some means be devised for the more thorough instruction of our new members? The eleventh edict of this

Grand Lodge, does not effect the object of its passage. I would suggest that it be so amended as to require all those hereafter initiated in our lodges, to understand, and be able to repeat the entire lecture on the first degree in Masonry, before they are permitted to pass to the second; and so of the second, before they are raised to the third. If this were done, and its spirit and letter obeyed, we would hear no more of the want of uniformity in our work, or the scarcity of workmen in our lodges. All would understand their duty, and be willing to perform it. Whilst we may be permitted to rejoice in the restoration of our time-honored institution to public confidence and esteem, let us enjoy our prosperity with meekness. Let us not, by our deportment, furnish fuel to enkindle afresh the fires of persecution, which have so long retarded our progress; let us cultivate a spirit of forgiveness, and unite our energies with the good and wise of all classes and conditions in life, in making men happier, by making them wiser.

"Let me then, my brethren, in the relation we sustain to each other, urge you to sustain or adopt some system of education that will fulfill the requirements of our whole duty—some system that will reach the wants of all the poor and destitute children of masons in our state; so that no mason's child within our borders shall be raised in ignorance. Much good has already been accomplished by union and concert of action.

"We have, or should create for ourselves, a high standard of moral action. It is but just that the world should expect our lives and conduct to conform to our profession. We ought, then, to be circumspect in our deportment. The purity of our precepts can only be manifest by our actions. 'Walk worthy, then, of the vocation wherewith you are called; cultivate among yourselves a spirit of unity, and withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the traditions of the order.' Be careful in guarding against all intemperance and excess. No wisdom, no reputation, no public honors, can secure you against the desolating influence of intemperance. This fearful vice is found in the cottage and in the palace, in the church and in the halls of legislation, and, I fear, too often, in our lodges. It has robbed age of its support, youth and innocence of its protection, and the domestic fireside of its peace and happiness.

"And whilst we are careful to avoid the besetting sin of drunkenness and intemperance, let us remember that we are bound to abstain from another vice which I know is practiced by some of our brethren; I allude to the detestable and unmasonic practice of swearing by, and invoking the solemn name of our great and glorious God, on the most trifling and frivolous occasions. This vice has not one motive or inducement, in my humble opinion, to sustain the practice of it. It is practiced by the vulgar, and that alone should constitute a good reason why masons should abstain from it, if no other. But it is in direct violation of the express command of Deity himself: 'For our God is a jealous God, and will not hold him guiltless who taketh his name in vain.'

"There is one other practice indulged in by evil disposed and uninstructed masons, occasionally, which, though not so sinful, is, if possible, more despicable in a man or mason; I mean the habit of slandering and envying a worthy brother. I can find no language strong enough to express my contempt for it. It has no sanction in the teachings of Masonry, and no 'good mason, and true' will be guilty of it. The noble eagle seldom condescends to prey upon a dead carcass; it is the *flesh fly*, the vilest of his tribe, that instinctively finds, and alights upon the diseased parts of the system; so with the slanderer. He has praise for no one; brotherly love, relief and truth have no abiding place in his bosom, but envy, hatred and malice are always cherished by him. Such a man is unworthy the name of mason, much less the association of 'good men and true.'"

This is what we may claim as the true *operative* Masonry which our order and this age and country greatly need. Let the master builders see to it that they "set the craft to work and give them proper instructions" in this

department of labor. We must not rest satisfied with becoming merely intelligent masons in the emblems and ceremonials of its ancient rituals. It is not enough that we become versed in the history and jurisprudence of the order. We must not feel that our work is done when we have perfected our organizations, and settled perplexing difficulties among the workmen. There is a vital force to be imparted to all the energies which can give direction and impulse to the elevation of man and welfare of the world.

Freemasonry will prove a *splendid failure*, if it does not aid in accomplishing this work. Having the motive and opportunity to select its materials and reject what is refuse and worthless; having working tools of plastic power, with which to mould these materials and fit them for their place in the temple; having principles of art to guide us, fixed and definite as our immovable jewels; and having before us a long array of masters and teachers, whose skill and work are fitted to inspire a lofty and generous emulation, and call forth our best endeavors; we shall deserve execration, if we do not contribute something worthy of our high professions towards rearing a temple for the instruction of our common humanity—a bethel for purer worship—a Bethesda for healing the maladies which afflict our race, where the poor, the tempted and fallen shall find succor—the sick and sorrowing shall find the balm of Gilead, and the “good physician,” as well as good Samaritan.

But we are at the same time admonished by past experience not to neglect this higher and nobler, *practical* work of operative Masonry. The age is now eminently practical. There is everywhere prevalent, scrutinizing all pretences, the searching questions, “What are your objects? What are you doing? What results do you propose? And where are the fruits of your labor? Give us specimens of your work?” These and the like challenges are to meet us at every door of the temple. If we cannot answer them honestly and without a blush, we may as well abandon our work as a failure, and “disperse into the country”—become hewers of wood and drawers of water, and no more pretend to be master builders and overseers. The instructive experience of those who were active workmen and careful watchmen, a quarter of a century ago, must not be lost upon us. We must not build the temple now with waste material—wood, hay and stubble, unless we desire to invite and hasten the day of fire, which shall prove every man’s work of what sort it is. Fiercer flames will burn than those mere bonfires kindled by a Morgan and his satellites, if we prove recreant to our high calling.

MASONIC HISTORY.

Many of the lodges and chapters of this country are just waking to the importance of seizing and fixing in a permanent and accessible form, the important facts of their history. It is an important work, and will be regarded far more important, fifty years hence, than it is now. It is then important

for something to be done effectually, in gathering the scattered materials, many of which are still unwritten but treasured in faithful memories with true masonic affection, but which, with the fathers who cherish them, will soon pass from our reach. Your committee would suggest that some specific mode be devised and speedily put in operation, to gather such materials for the early history of Masonry in Maine, and place them on record, before they are lost to the world. Perhaps such materials, if gathered, could be published in the Grand Lodge proceedings, and form a part of the annual instruction diffused among the lodges. Such an effort, if made, should not be content with merely collating the facts which are already on the records of the Grand Lodge and its subordinates, but materials should be gathered from the older and well instructed masons, who could now furnish them in abundance. Such materials, when gathered, would need careful revision and condensation, so as to convey in brief compass, the materials worth preserving for those who come after us.

MASONIC CHARITY AND CHARITY FUND.

It is doubtless remembered, that in the address of M. W. Grand Master J. C. Humphreys, published in 1853, it was earnestly recommended that a charity fund be established and carefully fostered, with some practical hints upon the best mode of doing this. It was recommended that the District Deputy Grand Masters ascertain, and report each year, the amount of such fund in the several lodges, and report the same to the Grand Lodge. This suggestion was adopted as a part of the proceedings, and it is presumed has been attended to in their reports to be here presented. It should be understood that this movement has awakened a deep interest among the Grand Lodges of the country, whose subsequent proceedings have reached us. The results of this movement in Maine, will have an important influence upon those who, in other states, are now marking its progress. It is hoped that the expectations thus awakened may not be disappointed.

MASONIC PERMANENCY AND PROGRESS.

It will be seen, especially by the subjects discussed in this and previous reports, that we are confidently expecting the permanency and progress of our institution. And why not expect this? It is but a superficial view which the merest tyro of our craft ought to be ashamed of, to suppose that Masonry is to *vanish away or be superseded by modern improvements and devices*. We have had occasion to express this conviction in various forms, in previous reports, but the time has come when we may as well do this somewhat thoroughly, that those not of our number, who may desire to know the reasons of our masonic hope, may see that it is not without foundation. We do not now propose to discuss all parts of this question, nor of its adaptation

to particular ages, countries and diversified conditions of man, or the varying phases of human society. We choose to limit the enquiry now to a single view—THE FOUNDATION FOR THE EXISTENCE AND PERMANENCY OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF FREEMASONRY IN THE ESSENTIAL NATURE AND NECESSITIES OF MAN.

It is needless to remark, that man has necessities and a nature appropriately his own. Made a little lower than the angels, yet he is not a mere brute. He has an animal nature that chains him to earth, with necessities that the earth must supply, in common with other animals. But he has also a higher nature, with necessities—fundamental, eternal necessities and aspirations which soar above the earth—which the world can never fill. He has necessities and yearnings, craving—

“What nothing earthly gives or can destroy,
The soul’s calm sunshine and the heartfelt joy.”

It is folly to ignore these higher necessities; it is madness to live as if they had no existence. It is the path of wisdom to recognize and provide for them by all the appliances in our reach. In training, supplying and controlling these necessities, we need help from each other. We have need of the ardor of youth, the vigorous, mature energy of manhood, and the wisdom of age. We need, also, wise and skilful teachers who can aid our endeavors; and, more than all, we need that wisdom which descends from heaven. These great facts were recognized and deeply impressed when first we knelt at the altar of Masonry and were taught its first lessons, to have faith in immortality and charity to all mankind. When first we saw masonic light, its emblems taught us to look upward and aspire to a habitation above the cloudy canopy, where peace and order eternally reign, and that to climb the emblematic ladder, we must circumscribe and subdue our passions and square our actions by the exact standard of a divine morality. We must discipline our bodies and our souls for a higher and holier destiny than has been common with those who have gone before us, and the claim which we vindicate is, that Freemasonry is adapted to this end, if we will learn to use it well and wisely.

Let us glance hastily at the evidence of this assumption. What are some of those elements of our nature, which our masonic discipline has to deal with? What necessities must be met by this discipline?

1. Those of our animal nature. We must be fed, clothed and sheltered. To meet these wants, we have instinctive appetites, desires and propensities. There is the desire of life and the desire of comfort to urge us on the one hand—the dread of suffering and death to warn us on the other.

The love of gain—the desire of acquisition, stimulates us on one hand, the suffering, reproach and dread of poverty urge us on the other.

Then our necessities are constantly returning. The hunger and thirst we

satisfy to-day will clamor again to-morrow, and other necessities are felt or feared so soon as we have means to satisfy them.

2. But the wants of the soul are still more varied and unceasing.

1. First comes *CURIOSITY*—the desire of knowledge. Each one, like the first mother, desires to pluck and eat of the tree of knowledge. No matter if it is the “knowledge of good and evil”—“of good lost and evil got,” each must taste for himself. Then, too, the world is full of temptation—full of the principles of knowledge just fitted to meet this desire. The whole creation is as if made to waken and draw out this thirst for knowledge, and the soul is fitted to respond to the appeals which come in from the world around us. And how imperative this curiosity! How many are impelled by it to ask and receive—seek and find—knock and find open to them the door and the light of our ancient sanctuary!

2. Then comes the *DESIRE OF SOCIETY*. He must find kindred sympathies to share his knowledge. He loves to compare and communicate. This desire is so strong we have to curb it by the law of silence and secrecy. Man is greatly inclined to tell what he knows and many things which he does not know. He must have society; he is made for it and must seek it.

But he needs *congenial* society—those with whom he may safely commune and whose sympathies shall beat responsively with his own. To gain such society, we must either search till we find it, or else we must seek to create. Our order attempts to do both. Its honest intention is to shut out such as give no promise of ever becoming congenial, and admitting none till, by proper examination, there is found a reasonable hope that they may become fitted to live and labor in harmony with good men. Then it seeks to mould these native elements of character by its own peculiar discipline, so as to unite in fraternal sympathies those whom the factions and antagonisms of life might otherwise sever.

3. There is also the *DESIRE OF CHARACTER*. No one can desire society merely to receive its loathings and execrations. A desire to possess the favor and good will of others, is natural to us and necessary to our welfare. No one can safely be without. A young man who does not care what good men think or say of him, is not far from ruin. There is little hope of him, either for this life or the life to come. Doubtless many have been led to ask for the light of Masonry, because they have seen it reflected from the life and labors of good men whose characters they have desired to share.

How many of us can be indifferent to the fact that honored names, whose praise is on all lips, were once recorded as the youngest apprentices, and learned, like us, the first lessons of this art which we highly prize!

4. *THE DESIRE FOR IMPROVEMENT*. It is an idle wish to possess the credit of a good character, without the corresponding reality. It is difficult to admire a noble character and desire the society and approbation of such, without desiring to emulate it. Indeed, the young man must have low notions of life and character and degrading views of our order, who shall

seek admission there without an honest desire to gain help and motives and a discipline which shall make him a better man. He avows this as his impelling motive. He declares his wish and purpose to improve himself in Masonry.

5. **MAN HAS AFFECTIONS TO BE TRAINED.** He comes to the door of the lodge and avows the desire to possess charity—to cultivate good will—to develop an active benevolence. What nobler object can we aim at, than to cultivate that charity, which, while it seeks the good of all mankind, is more especially concerned first to train his own heart, and then to draw out humane and benevolent affections from the hearts of brethren and companions? He does not love others less, because, by creating and cultivating a closer union, he loves a brother more. Let us be more deeply impressed with the beauty of charity and learn to use the trowel more skilfully and earnestly, till our hearts glow with intenser ardor.

6. **KIND WORDS, ACTIONS, AS WELL AS AFFECTIONS,** demand our culture. Selfishness is too strong to be overcome merely by tasking latent feelings. There must be affections which speak out not only in gentle and fraternal words, but in significant acts. Hence the reason why we are urged to establish and maintain an increasing charity fund in the bosom of each lodge. There ought to be a savings bank, where every member should frequently deposit not merely a paltry shilling, as he would in an iron safe or stone vault, but where he can deposit the rich ore of a kindly heart, to be coined into substantial comfort for a worthy and distressed brother, his widow and orphans. Brotherly love, relief and truth, should all be constantly on hand to meet necessities always arising.

7. **PATIENCE, FORTITUDE AND FORGIVENESS.** These are necessities which cluster about our pathway through the world, and the discipline of the lodge room does wisely inculcate these, precept upon precept, line upon line, as we pass along towards the valley and shadow of death.

8. Man has also, necessarily, a **SENSE OF JUSTICE**—a binding recognition of the claims of rectitude. He cannot safely live without this. He must be just, before he can well be generous. He cannot cultivate benevolence with a heart full of injustice. He cannot love a brother as he ought, while meditating injustice or planning mischief.

9. A **SENSE OF HONOR.** Closely allied to justice, is a just appreciation of the claims of honor. A dishonorable man can neither be just or generous. No kindly affection can dwell in his heart. He is unfit for the society of men, and is intensely abhorred of his Maker. And this sense of honor needs cultivation. It will not grow in the garden of man's selfishness, without a fostering care which shall extricate the weeds and thistles of our cherished depravity.

10. **NECESSITY FOR WORSHIP.** The principle of reverence, instinctive in man, needs cultivation and direction, or its perversion and abuse will be among the active agencies of ruin. Perversion of the religious element not

only debases and distorts the character, but it may cause the fiercest passions to burn in the bosom of society. Man needs the elevating tendencies of a pure, spiritual worship to save him not merely from perdition hereafter, but to save him from launching himself and his fellows in perdition now. Well is it required of those who come to the altar, to bow in reverence before the Father of spirits, whose laws and whose counsels are so needful to save us from the perversion and abuse of the wonderful mysteries of the undying soul. But why need we trace this last thought, which was so fully discussed in our report for the last year? Why should we pursue or illustrate this subject further? Is it not apparent that Freemasonry will have a mission on earth, so long as these elements of our nature and these instinctive necessities remain to us?

The answer to this question will indeed turn upon another one; it is this: Does Freemasonry recognize these necessities? Does it provide for them? Can men, by its principles and its discipline, derive substantial aid in meeting these necessities? This is the practical question to which we invite enquiry of honest men. The question is not, whether all who wear its drapery and its emblems, have actually secured appropriate results. It is not, whether we have fully tested its power. We ask men to take its acknowledged text books, its standards of instruction, and tell us if they do not clearly show that the real necessities of man are there recognized. We challenge them to explore the nature and necessities of man and point us to a single want in our nature for which there is not some specific prescription in the instructions and symbols of our order. And here for the present we rest the discussion. We are willing to leave it with the decision of honest and candid men, who will take the trouble to understand what is so completely within their reach.

With this proposition, we turn from this discussion of principles, and in conclusion, merely ask a passing attention to the eloquence of facts.

This Grand Lodge, in its drapery of death, reminds us of two significant facts. Simon Greenleaf and William Swan, two Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, identified with its earliest history and its darkest trials, have spoken to us their earthly farewell. We need not speak their eulogy. It is engraven on every heart which knew them here and elsewhere. Did they not find a use for the discipline of Masonry? They were Christians. Did this compel them to renounce the order whose discipline they had shared in early manhood? Did they learn to despise and disparage it as they drew near the spirit land? Let us just read a brief note, written near the close of life's journey.

"CAMBRIDGE, June 24, 1852.

"HON. R. P. DUNLAP, *General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.*

"DEAR SIR AND COMPANION:—You are already aware that during the war of the revolution, there was a lodge of freemasons in the main army, called Washington Lodge, of which my father, the late Captain Moses Green-

leaf, of the eleventh Massachusetts regiment, was Master. I have often heard him mention the visits of the Commander-in-chief to this lodge, and the high gratification they afforded to the officers and members—especially as he came without ceremony, as a private brother. It has occurred to me that the *records* of this lodge may still be in existence, and that, if so, they ought to be recovered and deposited for safe keeping in the archives of the craft. Permit me, therefore, to invite your attention to this subject, as I know of no member of the fraternity whose position affords equal facilities for the accomplishment of this desirable object.

"Believe me, dear sir, with great regard, faithfully yours,

"SIMON GREENLEAF."

Washington, Swan, Greenleaf! What a meeting! Was it the attractions of kindred spirits across the river of death, which dictated that letter to our M. E. Grand High Priest? We will not seek to solve this problem. No, rather let us solve other problems that more nearly concern us. Let us urge more earnestly that prayer of the ancient worshipper, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Soon will our work be done, and we launch our tremulous bark upon the river of death, which separates us from those who have gone before. So let us buffet the waves and steer our course on life's ocean, that the dangers and terrors of the dark river shall all be dispelled by the visions of the blest haven, the loved companions, and eternal employments of the distant shore.

Respectfully submitted,

CYRIL PEARL,	} Committee.
E. G. RAWSON,	
E. A. CHADWICK,	

The following report was then presented and accepted, viz:

The committee to whom was referred a plan or diagram presented by Bro. R. W. Lawson, the object of which is, by certain fixtures in the lodge room, to render the conferring of the Fellow Craft's degree more striking and interesting, have examined said plan, and are unanimous in the opinion that such fixtures would, in no respect, interfere with the conferring the degree as approved by the Grand Lodge, but would be carrying out the true intent and spirit of the ceremony; and your committee would therefore beg leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge do not consider that the adoption of said fixtures alluded to in the report, would be in violation of any regulation of the Grand Lodge, or of any masonic principle or usage; and that the lodges under this jurisdiction, have full liberty to adopt it, or otherwise, at their discretion.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN MILLER,	} Committee.
SOLOMON MOULTON,	

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, PORTLAND, May 5, 1854.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the doings of the Grand Officers, having attended to the duties assigned them, ask leave to report—

That we recommend the Grand Lodge to accept the reports of the several D. D. Grand Masters, together with the report of the M. W. Grand Master, and that they be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

B. F. MUDGETT, }
A. J. FULLER, } Committee.
JOHN GLOVER, }

The report was read and accepted.

The following report was then submitted, viz :—

The Committee on Dispensations and Charters, having attended to their duty, report and recommend—

1. That a charter be granted for a lodge at Kennebunkport, to be called Arundel Lodge.
2. That Oxford Lodge be removed from Paris to Norway.
3. That a charter be granted to Pioneer Lodge at Plantation No. 11, in Aroostook County.
4. That a charter be granted to Plymouth Lodge at Plymouth.
5. That a charter be granted to Bristol Lodge at Bristol.
6. That a charter be granted to Hermon Lodge at Gardiner, without any additional payment, to replace their old charter that was destroyed by fire, bearing the same date and number, and being as nearly as possible a copy of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

E. B. FRENCH, }
E. G. RAWSON, } Committee.

Which report was read and accepted and the several recommendations therein were adopted.

On motion,

Voted, That the M. W. Grand Master be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to issue a dispensation to Tranquil Lodge for the removal of said lodge from Danville to Lewiston, with the approbation of the nearest lodge, whenever, in his opinion, the good of Masonry may require it.

A resolution was submitted, providing that, on the decease of any Master Mason in good standing, and a member of any lodge under this jurisdiction, a record of his decease, with his age, shall be made in the lodge books, and a certificate of his mem-

bership and standing be issued to his widow or family; and the same was referred to the M. W. Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 2½ o'clock P. M.

Attest: C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

MAY 5, 1854.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor at 2½ o'clock P. M., the M. W. Grand Master in the chair.

On motion,

Voted, That a special communication of the Grand Lodge be holden at Masons' Hall in Portland, on the Wednesday next preceding the first Thursday in May, 1855, at 9 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of considering and deciding upon the true mode of working and lecturing in the third, or Master Mason's degree.

The following report was then presented and accepted, viz:

The Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges have attended to the duties assigned them, and report, that returns have been received from sixty lodges, by which it appears that there have been *four hundred and ninety-eight* initiations therein during the past year, and that the present number of members is 2,153.

The returns, for the most part, are pretty correctly made, but in some of them the defect heretofore complained of, is still manifest, viz: the dates of initiation, crafting and raising candidates are still omitted.

The committee recommend that the Secretaries of the several lodges in the state be particularly requested, in making future returns, to give the date of each initiation and of each degree conferred.

STEPHEN WEBBER,	} Committee.
C. B. SMITH,	
ARTHUR MCARTHUR,	

Bro. Bell presented the following resolutions, which were read and adopted, viz:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge especially approves that portion of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, relative to the diffi-

culties in New York, and, adopting the language and action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in December last,

Resolved, That the lodges under this jurisdiction be instructed, in the examination of visitors hailing from lodges in New York, to follow the mode above recommended.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. Webber, was then adopted, viz :

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, no candidate should be permitted to receive the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason, without a sufficient knowledge of the preceding degree to prove himself as a mason of such a degree in the usual manner, unless in a case of absolute emergency ; and that a more hasty manner is unmasonic and reprehensible.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be requested to procure three hundred copies of parchment diplomas for Master Masons, and that they be furnished to the lodges on the order of the W. Masters thereof, upon the payment of fifty cents for each parchment blank so furnished.

On motion,

Voted, That a committee of three be appointed from the chair, who, after consultation together, shall designate one of their own number, who shall be the delegate of this Grand Lodge to the General Convention of delegates from Grand Lodges of the United States, to be holden at Washington, in the District of Columbia, in January, 1855, to consider the expediency of establishing a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

And R. W. Ezra B. French, B. F. Mudgett and E. G. Rawson, were appointed said committee.

On motion,

Voted, That the sum of twenty dollars be appropriated and paid to the Grand Treasurer, for his official services the past year.

Voted, To appropriate and pay to Rev. Bro. Cyril Pearl, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, the sum of forty dollars, for his extra services and expenses in preparing the report of said committee.

The proposition submitted at the last annual communication, by M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, to amend the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, in section 9th, article 1st, part 4th, by striking out the words "*two dollars*," and inserting in lieu thereof the words,

"one dollar," was called up, and, after due discussion, the said amendment was adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge having disposed of all the business before them, was then closed in due form.

Attest: C. B. SMITH, *Grand Secretary*.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following R. W. brothers have been appointed by the M. W. Grand Master to be District Deputy Grand Masters for the ensuing year, viz :

First District—ISAAC DOWNING, of Kennebunk.

Second District—JOSEPH COVELL, of Jay.

Third District—WILLIAM ALLEN, of Portland.

Fourth District—JOHN MILLER, of Warren.

Fifth District—STEPHEN WEBBER, of Gardiner.

Sixth District—JOHN GLOVER, of Camden.

Seventh District—BENJAMIN F. MUDGETT, of Bangor.

Eighth District—SAMUEL CARTER, of Bucksport.

Ninth District—JOHN C. TALBOT, of East Machias.

June 2, 1854.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FIRST DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the first masonic district, herewith presents his annual report.

There are in the first district four lodges at work ; all of which have been visited during the past masonic year, and all have made their annual returns, and paid their dues promptly ; from which it appears that Saco Lodge consists of forty-seven members, and they have initiated eleven candidates, and show other evidences of prosperity. Their fees to the Grand Lodge are \$27.87½.

York Lodge, at Kennebunk, consists of thirty-nine members, have initiated sixteen candidates, and it is believed that no lodge in the state does their work better than York. Fees to the Grand Lodge, \$36.87½.

Adoniram Lodge, at Limington, consists of thirty-six members, have initiated five candidates, and have a good prospect of further work. Fees to the Grand Lodge, \$14.50.

Freedom Lodge, at Limerick, have eighteen members, and have initiated two candidates, and a prospect of more work soon. Fees to the Grand Lodge, \$6.25.

The whole amount of dues to the Grand Lodge is \$85.50, which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer.

I am happy to say, that I have found harmony and good fellowship throughout the district.

The members of Fraternal Lodge, at Alfred, have not, as yet, been able to procure a suitable room, but will probably have one built the present season.

I have been unable to get suitable blanks for returns, and also a sufficient number of diplomas for all the candidates raised during the past year.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. HERRICK, *D. D. G. M. First District.*

May 4, 1854.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER SECOND DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The District Deputy Grand Master of the second masonic district, respectfully asks leave to submit his annual report.

There are in this district, seven lodges that are in operation, all of which I have supplied with four copies each, of the published proceedings of the Grand Lodge, at its annual communication in May, 1853; also, the blanks to which the several lodges were entitled, and such other communications as I have received for the lodges, from the Grand Secretary.

Pythagorean Lodge, No. 11, at Fryeburg, is a dormant lodge. I visited the place, December 8, 1853; found the last Master of the lodge, Bro. H. C. Boswell; he informed me that there was not the least prospect of resuscitating the lodge from its dormant state. After inquiring into the situation they were in, I came to the conclusion to take what property I could find, which was the charter and records. Their jewels and collars were stolen from the hall, soon after they stopped work; their funds (of which they had several hundred dollars,) were loaned out on notes, which notes have become worthless by the statutes of limitation. The charter and records I returned to the Grand Treasurer, on the twenty-eighth of December, 1853.

During my visits to the lodges in this district, in June, a lady delivered to me a District Deputy Grand Master's jewel, collar and sash, which have been lost to the Grand Lodge for more than twenty years. Having no use for two sets, I returned one to the Grand Treasurer on the twenty-eighth of December.

Oxford Lodge, No. 18, at Paris. I have visited this lodge three times. At my first visit, June 22d, the members met in the Academy, and resuscitated their lodge, which had been dormant for over twenty-five years, by choosing their officers, whom I installed in due form, and gave them instruction in the work and lectures.

On my second visit, December 5th, I found they had made commendable improvement, and had initiated two candidates. The place in which they met was secure but very inconvenient.

My last visit was on March 17, 1854. They had work before the lodge, which they intended to have done at that time, but in consequence of the situation the hall was in, where they met, it was deferred until they could procure a suitable hall, and as there is one at Norway, which they can have, the lodge voted to petition the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge to grant them a dispensation to hold their meetings in Norway.

This lodge has no by-laws. The records are well kept. The members are desirous of having one of the best working lodges in the state, which I have no doubt they will, in due time, by patience, perseverance and due caution. They return seventeen members; four initiated; three crafted and raised;

and nine resident Master Masons not members of any lodge. Dues to the Grand Lodge, \$10.12½.

Oriental Lodge, No. 13, at Bridgton. In June I went to Bridgton, with the intention of visiting the lodge on its stated monthly communication, but in consequence of their meeting at Naples at that time, I did not.

Visited this lodge, December 6th; being a severe storm, but a few members were present; occupied the time in the afternoon and evening in lecturing.

Visited this lodge again on the 20th of March; found but a few members in attendance and these very much discouraged, on account of the inattention of several of the members of the lodge not attending to their masonic duties, by not attending the meetings of the lodge. This lodge is located in a village where there is a Lodge of Odd Fellows and a Division of the Sons of Temperance, which appear to engross the time and attention of a very large portion of that class of the community which generally become masons. They return twenty-two members; nine resident Master Masons, not members of any lodge; one initiated; one deceased; dues to the Grand Lodge, \$4.75.

Oriental Star Lodge, No. 21, Livermore, I visit frequently, being a member thereof; it is in good working order, meetings well attended; peace and harmony prevail, as might well be expected, under the direction of our worthy Brother Reuel Washburn, the present Master, and M. W. Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, whose integrity and fidelity as a man and mason are most appreciated by those who are the most intimately acquainted with him. They return thirty-two members; two initiated; one crafted and raised; thirteen resident Master Masons, not members of any lodge; records well written and correctly kept; by-laws in accordance with ancient Masonry and the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, (except the word *regular*, which should read *stated*.) Dues to the Grand Lodge, \$7.87½.

Tranquil Lodge, No. 29, Danville. This is the largest lodge in the district. My first visit to this lodge was September 28th; found the officers and members well informed; some imperfection in their work, which they have corrected. At my second visit, November 24th, exemplified the opening of the lodge and the work in the third degree. My third visit was on the 15th of March. They have made commendable improvement in the work and lectures within the past year. They have had a large number of copies of their by-laws printed, which is to be regretted, as they do not strictly conform to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and principles of Masonry. George A. Gordon, W. Master of this lodge, on the twenty-first of November, made application to me for a dispensation to authorize them to confer the degrees within their gift, on an applicant, which I declined granting, believing that they should not be granted except in very *extreme* cases, *if at all*. They return sixty-two members; eleven initiated; eleven crafted; ten raised; one rejected; thirteen accepted; two deceased; four resident Mas-

ter Masons, not members of any lodge; dues to the Grand Lodge, \$31; included in this, is \$2 for one who was not initiated in this lodge. Their by-laws provide that any one having received the first degree in any other lodge, and receives the second and third degrees in this lodge, shall pay one dollar extra for each degree. This lodge has appropriated funds for a benefit to individuals, instead of its being an act of charity, which I am assured they will not do again. The funds of a masonic lodge are for specific purposes, and should not be used for any purpose, except in strict accordance with the rules, regulations and principles of Masonry.

Blazing Star Lodge, No. 39, Rumford. I wrote to this lodge, on the thirty-first of October, notifying them that I would visit them on the third day of December, at 10 o'clock A. M., at which time I went to their place of meeting, and found but six members in attendance, and no records. They informed me that their records were at Andover, ten miles distant, and that there was a disaffection among the members, in several particulars, one of which was in regard to their hall, which I examined, and found it an unsuitable and unsafe place to hold a lodge in, so much so, that they suspended the meetings of the lodge, until such time as they could procure a suitable place to hold their meetings in, at which time they were to notify me.

In the evening, I went to Andover, saw the last Master, found the records, but no records made up, for nearly two years; what records there were, during that time, were on loose parcels of paper.

In January, I received a communication from a member of Blazing Star Lodge, informing me that they had procured a place to hold their meetings in, and requesting me to meet with them and attend during the election and installation of their officers, which I did, on the tenth and eleventh of March, and gave them such instruction, admonition and advice as I thought the case required; which, if they adhere to, and extend that charity towards each other, as they are under obligations to, as masons, they will have as good a lodge as there is in this district.

The other matters in regard to this lodge, which I have alluded to, I will make the subject of a special report.

They return sixteen members; five resident Master Masons, not members of any lodge Dues to the Grand Lodge, \$2.

Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 56, Denmark. I visited the place on the twentieth of June; there was no lodge meeting; spent two days in instructing Worshipful L. P. Sawyer, Master of the lodge, in the work and lectures, in the first and second degrees.

Visited the lodge on the seventh of December; lodge met in the afternoon and evening; exemplified the opening and closing a lodge, and the work in the several degrees. Visited the place, March 18th; did not arrive in season to visit the lodge, in consequence of the extreme bad traveling; saw some of the officers and members of the lodge, who informed me that peace and harmony prevailed; examined the records—found them correctly kept; sup-

plied eight extra bank note-paper diplomas to members of the lodge, for which they paid me one dollar. They return sixteen members ; ten resident Master Masons, not members of any lodge ; two initiated, crafted and raised. Dues to the Grand Lodge, \$6.

Tyrian Lodge, No. 73, Minot. This lodge commenced its labors under a dispensation issued by M. W. John C. Humphreys, Grand Master of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine, January 21, 1853, was consecrated and the officers installed in ample form, by the M. W. Freeman Bradford, Grand Master, on the eighteenth of June, 1853. Visited the lodge in the afternoon, and occupied the time in lecturing.

Visited this lodge on the sixteenth and twenty-third of March ; meetings well attended. At the first meeting, a candidate was crafted and raised. Occupied the time at the second meeting, in lecturing, and in the form of opening and closing the lodge. This lodge is composed of young men and masons, with two or three exceptions, who are much interested in Masonry, and prompt in attending their meetings. Their furniture, regalia and implements are equal to any in the state. Their records are well kept ; their by-laws incorrect in some particulars, which is to be regretted, as they have been to considerable expense to have them printed. They return thirty-two members ; twenty-seven accepted ; twenty-six initiated, crafted and raised ; one rejected ; one resident Master Mason, not member of any lodge. Dues to the Grand Lodge, \$54.

W. George Moore, Master, in behalf of this lodge, applied by petition, in form, to me, for a dispensation to form a public procession on the fourth of July, which I had some hesitancy in granting, believing it to be inconsistent with the customs and usages of lodges, and derogatory to their masonic character and standing, to appear as such in public, simply to swell the number and adorn a procession. If I am correct in the view I take of it, a lodge should never be formed as such and be seen in public, except in attending to their own business—business exclusively theirs—such as the burying of a worthy deceased brother,—honoring with due solemnity the anniversary of their holy patrons—laying corner-stones of public edifices, &c. But on learning that they had made their arrangements with other societies, and given public notice of their intentions, on consulting with, and having the approval of the M. W. Grand Master, I granted their request.

On the second of March, I sent to the Treasurers of the lodges in this district, a blank schedule of property, &c., belonging to their lodges, requesting them to fill the blanks and return them to me ; which they have mostly complied with ; from which I make the following statistics : These lodges have a set of regalia and furniture ; cash on hand March 1, 1854, \$220 ; cash due on available notes, \$355. There is due from members for quarterages, and on doubtful notes, \$375. Annual dues of members of Tyrian Lodge, \$1. Oriental Star Lodge, 12½ cents. Blazing Star Lodge, 50 cents. Mount

Moriah Lodge, 12½ cents. Oriental Lodge, 25 cents. Tranquil Lodge, \$1. And Oxford Lodge, not anything—has no hall. Tranquil Lodge meets in a hall which is occupied by a lodge of Odd Fellows, for which they pay \$37.50 annual rent; no insurance on furniture or regalia; paid out the last year, \$112.60, for charitable and benevolent purposes. Blazing Star Lodge occupies a hall exclusively for themselves—pay \$3 a year for rent; no insurance on furniture or regalia. Oriental Lodge hold their meetings in the Odd Fellows' hall, for which they pay \$10 rent; no insurance on furniture or regalia. Mount Moriah Lodge occupies a hall exclusively for their meetings—pay \$12 rent; no insurance on furniture or regalia. Tyrian Lodge has fitted up for their exclusive use, a very convenient hall, for which they pay \$33.33 rent; no insurance on furniture or regalia. Oriental Star Lodge own their hall, which is used exclusively for their meetings. There is \$500 insured on the building, and \$50 on their furniture and regalia.

It appears to me that the frequent losses by fire, by the subordinate lodges, and applications to the Grand Lodge for assistance, should be a sufficient warning and admonition to this Grand Lodge and its subordinates, to always have their property insured.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH COVELL, *D. D. G. M. Second District.*

May 4, 1854.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF THIRD DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Maine :

Unexpected, unsolicited, and, I fear, undeserved, I, at our last communication, received the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master for the third masonic district. Inability to absent myself from home, rather than want of interest in my duties, has made me remiss in my visits to the lodges in my district, and I hope that some other brother may be appointed for the ensuing year, whose knowledge, time and zeal may more than make amends for my short comings.

The number of lodges in my masonic district are seven, viz: Portland, No. 1; United, No. 8; Cumberland, No. 12; Ancient Land-Mark, No. 17; Freeport, No. 23; Casco, No. 36; and Harmony, No. 38.

Portland Lodge, No. 1, like our institution, grows strong with its age, and maintains its rank as No. 1. It numbers one hundred members, and has initiated thirteen the past year.

United Lodge, No. 8, is in a very healthy state; it has forty-three members, and has initiated nine during the past year.

Cumberland, No. 12, has this year erected a new and commodious hall, which was dedicated on St. John's day, by R. W. Bro. Samuel Fessenden. It is in a good condition, numbers thirty-one members, and has initiated five during the year.

Ancient Land-Mark, No. 17, is the largest lodge in the state, and maintains a corresponding rank in work and influence; it numbers one hundred and six members, and has initiated thirteen during the year.

Freeport, No. 23, I have visited this year and find them in a working condition, but they have neglected to send in their returns.

Casco, No. 36, I am happy to state, is rejoicing under its present efficient Master; it has twenty-six members and has initiated twelve during the past year.

Harmony, No. 38, at Gorham, is one of the most prosperous lodges in the district; it numbers fifty-six members and has initiated four during the year.

The whole number of initiations in my district, the past year, has been fifty-six.

The amount of money received by the Grand Lodge, from the lodges, is \$155.24½.

The third masonic district is now in a better condition than ever before, and my only fear is, that a proper discretion may not be used in the reception of members, for by them is the institution judged of by the world.

The funds of the lodges are increasing, and their expenses seem conducted economically, but I would suggest for their recollection, that all moneys received are not to be spent in and about the lodge, but are a sacred fund for charitable purposes.

Some slight discrepancies exist in the work and lectures, but there seems to be a strong feeling of devotion to all the ancient landmarks.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN D. LINCOLN, *D. D. G. M. Third District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF FIFTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the fifth masonic district of Maine, asks leave to submit the following report:

I have visited all the lodges in this district the past year, except Blue Mountain Lodge. I appointed Bro. J. H. Willard as my proxy to perform that duty for me, which he has done in a very faithful manner. I have given them such instruction in the work and lectures as they needed, so far as time would permit.

I have found the lodges in a sound and healthy condition—better posted

in the work than the lectures generally. There are eleven working lodges in the district, all of which have made returns up to April 1, 1854. They return three hundred and fifty-nine members, and dues, \$44.75; initiations, fifty-nine; amount of fees, \$118; making in the whole, \$162.75; all of which I have paid to the Grand Treasurer, for which he has signed duplicate receipts.

I have received the charter, records, &c., of Morning Star Lodge, at Litchfield, and return them to the Grand Lodge, as there is no prospect of their resuming work at present.

Temple Lodge, at Winthrop, has not resumed work, but I have some assurance that it will ere long.

Hermon Lodge, at Gardiner, lost their hall, jewels and furniture, by fire in February; loss about \$800; insured for \$400.

Masonry is very prosperous in this district and peace and harmony prevail. I think it would be well, perhaps, to define the limits of the jurisdiction of some of the lodges, as to what towns and parts of towns they shall embrace.

Central Lodge, at China, has not made any return yet.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN WEBBER, *D. D. G. M., Fifth District.*

May 4, 1854.

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SIXTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the sixth masonic district, herewith presents his annual report :

That there are in said district, nine lodges, all of which have been visited by me once, and some of them oftener; examined their records and found them well kept; should judge that their proceedings were in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge: and from what I have witnessed, I have no hesitancy in saying that they are all in good working order and have been prompt in making their annual returns.

It affords me the highest satisfaction, that each lodge, as a general thing, is in a healthy, prosperous and flourishing condition, and I feel justified in saying that harmony prevails among the members of the several lodges in this district, and that their object is to do good, as they have opportunity.

Amity Lodge, No. 6, at Camden, has fifty-nine members; annual fees, \$7.37½; and have, during the past year, initiated six; fees, \$12; amounting to \$19.37½. They are well versed in the masonic lectures and work.

Phoenix Lodge, No. 24, at Belfast, returns forty-four members; annual

fees, \$5 50; initiated during the past masonic year, seven; fees, \$14; amounting to \$19.50.

Union Lodge, No. 31, at Union, consists of forty members; annual fees, \$5; and have returned one initiated; fees, \$2; amounting to \$7.

By the returns of Aurora Lodge, No. 50, at Rockland, thirty-six members are reported; fees, \$4.50; there have been ten initiates; fees, \$20; whole amount, \$24.50. This lodge is in a flourishing condition.

Unity Lodge, No. 58, at Freedom, has returned forty-three members; fees, \$5.37½; initiated during the past year, eight; fees, \$16; amounting to \$21.37½. This lodge at present is without a suitable hall, but has a large and commodious one in progress, and which they contemplate dedicating on the 24th of June next.

Mount Hope Lodge, No. 59, at Hope, returns eighteen members; annual fees to Grand Lodge, \$2.25; initiated during the past year, five; fees, \$10; making \$12.25.

King David's Lodge, No. 62, at Lincolnville, returns twenty-two members; annual fees, \$2.75; initiated, two; fees, \$4; in all, \$6.75.

Mariner's Lodge, No. 68, at Searsport, have initiated, during the past masonic year, nineteen; fees, \$38; and have returned thirty-four members; annual fees, \$4.25; amounting to \$42.25.

Howard Lodge, No. 69, at Frankfort, returns thirty-three members; annual fees, \$4.12½; initiated, five; fees, \$10; amounting to \$14.12½.

The whole amount from the several lodges in this district is \$167.12½.

The whole number of initiations during the past year, is sixty-three.

Whole number of affiliated masons, three hundred and twenty-nine.

Whole number of non-affiliated masons, one hundred and twenty-seven.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

BENJAMIN KELLEY, D. D. G. M. *Sixth District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine:

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the seventh masonic district, would ask leave to report.

There are in this district ten working lodges, two of which are under dispensation, all which have been visited except Pacific Lodge, at Stetson, and Mosaic, at Dover. I notified all the lodges of the time I should visit them, but there being misapprehension at Stetson, the lodge was not called together; therefore I was deprived the pleasure of seeing their work; but from the well known masonic ability of its members, there can be no doubt of its healthy condition. I was unable to visit Mosaic on account of being pre-

vented from leaving Dexter, on account of deep snows, till after the time I notified the lodge to assemble.

All the other lodges have been visited by me personally, except Pioneer Lodge on the Aroostook road, which was visited in my behalf by Bro. Ira Wallace, of Old Town, who reports the work good, and the officers efficient, and I have no doubt if they will ask for a charter, this Grand Lodge will be pleased to grant it.

Rising Virtue Lodge, at Bangor, is in excellent condition, and ably conducted; fees, \$25.75.

Meridian Splendor Lodge, at Newport, is fast improving and many very active and intelligent masons are interesting themselves in its prosperity and usefulness. Her present officers are young masons and do not seem familiar with the work; dues, \$16.50.

Penobscot Lodge, of Dexter, is an active and flourishing lodge, and composed of very intelligent masons; dues, \$30.12.

Mosaic Lodge, at Dover, I have alluded to before, which I was unable to visit; her dues, \$19.62.

Star in the East is in a very prosperous condition and composed of excellent masons; the dues, \$23.25.

Pacific Lodge, alluded to above; dues, \$10.87.

Mechanic's Lodge, at Orono, is in a very fine condition, and pursues with great zeal the charitable objects of our beloved institution; dues, \$18.50.

Mystic Lodge, at Hampden, is in a good condition, and its members are well qualified to bring forth good work, as she has ever done; dues, \$7.75.

Plymouth Lodge, at Plymouth, under dispensation, has done an excellent work in an excellent manner, and has shown herself well worthy of a charter, which she asks for at the hands of this Grand Lodge; the dues are \$14.87.

Pioneer Lodge, at No. 11, Aroostook road, alluded to above, has done a very large business; dues, \$45.12.

In accordance with the direction of the Grand Lodge, I sent circulars to all the lodges in my district, as prepared by the Grand Secretary, earnestly requesting such masons as felt disposed to contribute what they might think proper to be appropriated by the Grand Lodge towards the erection of the Washington Monument, and I am sorry to inform the Grand Lodge that no mason in district No. 7, thought proper to contribute one cent.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. F. MUDGETT, *D. D. G. M. Seventh District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The District Deputy Grand Master of the eighth masonic district asks leave to report :

There are three lodges in this district, namely: Felicity, No. 19, at Bucksport; Lygonia, No. 40, at Ellsworth; Rising Sun, at Orland; all of which I have visited twice in the course of the season; found them in good masonic condition; examined their records and by-laws—found them in good condition; installed the officers by request; received their returns, together with their lodge dues.

Felicity Lodge,	-	-	\$29.00
Lygonia Lodge,	-	-	32.00
Rising Sun Lodge,	-	-	29.37½
			<u>\$90.37½</u>

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL CARTER, *D. D. G. M. Eighth District.*

REPORT OF D. D. G. MASTER OF NINTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine :

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the ninth masonic district, having attended to the duties of that office the past year, asks leave to submit the following report of said District.

That there are four lodges within the jurisdiction of said district, in successful operation; that harmony and good fellowship prevails amongst the several lodges, and brotherly love and good will one towards the other, prevails in a good degree amongst the members of the respective lodges. Several of the lodges have done considerable labor, and have added a goodly number of worthy young members to the fraternity, such as will in all probability be an honor to the cause, and may be relied upon to maintain good work and labor of love and good will to mankind, when those who are now active may have laid down their tools and ceased to work.

There are belonging to the several lodges in this district, one hundred and thirty-six members. There have been during the last year, thirty-five initiations; amount of fees, \$68; amount of annual fees from the several lodges, \$17.09½, agreeably to returns made from the several lodges to me, making in the whole, the sum of \$85, all of which I have forwarded to the Grand Treasurer, by mail.

It has pleased the Supreme Disposer of human events, recently to remove

by death, Dr. William H. Toby, a beloved member of Warren Lodge, and late D. D. G. Master of the ninth masonic district, in the meridian of life, and in the midst of his usefulness, to the sorrow and grief of all that knew him, particularly in the fraternity, where he was a bright and shining light, and also to his family and a large circle of acquaintances. Such a loss to all, and particularly to the fraternity, cannot be expected to be made up very soon. On the last Sunday, the brethren of Warren Lodge paid their last tribute of respect to his remains, by burying him in due and ancient form, in the presence of a large concourse of people.

There has been a general complaint amongst the lodges in the district, on account of not having received the doings of the Grand Lodge at their last annual communication, and also blanks and other documents, at an early season, which course I hope will be remedied the ensuing year.

All communications made to me, intended for the several lodges, have been made known to them, and documents and blanks from time to time received have been distributed, and a new supply will be wanted.

In 1852, I received from the Grand Treasurer, \$22, to be applied to the calls of charity—which amount still remains in my hands.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. TALBOT, *D. D. G. M. Ninth District.*

East Machias, May 4, 1854.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF LODGES, UP TO APRIL 1, 1854.

- Portland, 1, Portland. Thomas J. Sanborn, m; Richard W. Kennard, sw; Joseph Fowler, jw; Samuel Chase, Jr., tr; Moses Dodge, s; James R. Milliken, sd; John C. Baker, jd; Lemuel Bryant, ss; Joseph Merrill, js; Isaac Davis, t. Members, 100; initiates, 13; rejected, 1; deceased, 5.
District I.
- Warren, 2, East Machias. John F. Harris, m; Charles H. Talbot, sw; James Jenks, jw; Joel W. Kingsley, tr; J. Loring Talbot, s; Charles H. Sevey, sd; Elijah Hall, jd; Luther Hall, ss; Stephen T. Harris, js; Charles Townsend, t. Members, 21; initiates, 9. 6
- Lincoln, 3, Wiscasset. Daniel K. Kennedy, m; James Smith, sw; L. W. Bragdon, jw; James W. Taggart, tr; C. R. Haraden, s; Thomas B. Johnston, sd; Henry Bragdon, jd; William Lowell, ss; Isaac G. Williamson, js; Job L. White, t. Members, 47; initiates, 5. 4
- Kennebec, 5, Hallowell. Daniel Russell, m; Augustus Lord, sw; E. T. Smith, jw; T. M. Getchell, t; Orlando Currier, s; ———, sd; Alonzo Tenney, jd; C. G. Batchelder, ss; Thomas Leigh, js; William Nye, t. Members, 36; initiates, 7. 3
- Amity, 6, Camden. Samuel Chase, m; E. G. Knight, sw; George W. Glover, jw; Benjamin Crabtree, tr; J. P. Hall, s; Oliver Andrews, sd; D. T. Boynton, jd; George T. Crabtree, ss; John Brown, 2d, js; Josiah Barbour, t. Members, 59; initiates, 6; rejected, 1. 9
- Eastern, 7, Eastport. John L. Bowman, m; Thomas Parker, sw; Charles Jackson, jw; Thomas Haycock, t; Samuel Kyle, s; John Regan, sd; Randall B. Clark, jd; Matthew Thompson, ss; John T. Card, js; James Waide, t. Members, 49; initiates, 16; rejected, 1. 9
- United, 8, Brunswick. Ward Coburn, m; John Crawford, sw; John R. Haley, jw; Richard Greenleaf, tr; John Greenleaf, s; Ebenezer Swett, sd; Joseph Stetson, jd; Charles E. Owen, ss; James Alexander, js; M. M. Marsh, t. Members, 43; initiates, 9. 1
- Saco 9, Saco. Elijah Smith, m; Timothy J. Murray, sw; Warren Ware, jw; Jacob Marston, tr; Edward P. Burnham, s; O. D. Boyd, mar; Willard B. Bartlett, sd; John Wescott, jd; Nath'l M. Towle, ss; Joseph Stevens, js; Leander Bryant, t. Members, 47; initiates, 11; suspended, 3; rejected, 2; deceased, 1. 8
- Rising Virtue, 10, Bangor. E. Gilman Rawson, m; Silas Alden, sw; G. F. Sargent, jw; Joseph C. Stevens, tr; George W. Snow, s; Jeremiah Fenno, sd; John T. Harris, jd; Chandler Cobb, ss; John Dowling, js; Simon Everton, t. Members, 42; initiates, 10. 7
- Cumberland, 12, New Gloucester. Moses Plummer, m; T. H. Weymouth, sw; John Jumper, jw; Samuel W. Hatch, tr; Abner M. Nutting, s;

- George W. Plummer, *sd*; Isaac Fuller, *jd*; Spofford J. Jewett, *ss*; Isaac H. Keith, *js*; Ephraim Hilton, *t*. Members, 31; initiates, 10. 1
- Oriental, 13, Bridgton. John Kilborn, *m*; Asa Warren, *sw*; George Small, *fw*; George Peirce, *tr*; Ebenezer Kilborn, *s*; R. M. Byron, *chap*; Nathaniel Pease, *sd*; William E. Gray, *jd*; William T. Kilborn, *ss*; E. L. O. Adams, *js*; John Burnell, *t*; A. M. Savage, *mar*. Members, 22; initiates, 1; deceased, 1. 2
- Solar, 14, Bath. Andrew J. Fuller, *m*; David R. Wylie, *sw*; George Ross, *fw*; Davis Hatch, *tr*; J. A. Allen, *s*; Jonathan T. Furber, *sd*; S. V. Tucker, *jd*; O. F. Battie, *ss*; Samuel Whitehouse, *js*; John Young, *t*. Members, 46; initiates, 12. 4
- Orient, 15, Thomaston. George Crawford, *m*; O. J. Fernald, *sw*; C. H. Smith, *fw*; Robert Walsh, *tr*; B. A. Lowell, *s*; J. D. Barnard, *sd*; E. B. Hinkley, *jd*; Isaac McLellan, *ss*; A. McCaborn, *js*; Nathaniel Liscomb, *t*. Members, 41; initiates, 12; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 4
- St. George's, 16, Warren. John Andrews, *m*; James Teague, *sw*; James Andrews, *fw*; Stoddard Bosworth, *tr*; John Miller, *s*; Samuel Hinkley, *sd*; William H. Wetherbee, *jd*; E. B. Alford, *ss*; James Coburn, *js*; Edward Weston, *t*. Members, 34; initiates, 3. 4
- Ancient Land-Mark, 17, Portland. Stevens Smith, *m*; William Andrews, *sw*; Andrew P. Stinson, *fw*; Charles Fobes, *tr*; Ira Berry, *s*; Warren Phillips, *sd*; Oliver H. Perry, *jd*; Joseph H. Webster, *ss*; Isaac C. Nesmith, *js*; John Dain, *t*; Lewis Leighton, *sen*. Members, 106; initiates, 13; rejected, 1; deceased, 2. 1
- Oxford, 18, Paris. Alden Palmer, *m*; Rufus Stowell, *sw*; Stephen Blake, *fw*; Henry W. Millett, *tr*; George W. Millett, *s*; Emmor Rawson, *sd*; Zenas Maxim, *jd*; Isaac Cummings, *ss*; William Foster, *js*; Amos Winslow, *t*. Members, 17; initiates, 4. 2
- Felicity, 19, Bucksport. John H. Sherman, *m*; Samuel Dorr, *sw*; James W. Patterson, *fw*; Sewall Lake, *tr*; James B. Parker, *s*; Charles H. Rice, *sd*; George M. Pillsbury, *jd*; ———, *ss*; ———, *js*; Peter Stevenson, *t*. Members, 44; initiates, 13. 5
- Maine, 20, Farmington. John H. Willard, *m*; James C. Harper, *sw*; Sumner B. Walker, *fw*; John T. Taylor, *tr*; Joseph D. Prescott, *s*; A. Bailey, *sd*; D. Daisey, *jd*; J. A. Trask, *ss*; P. E. Norton, *js*; Nathaniel Dummer, *t*. Members, 24; initiates, 5; deceased, 1. 3
- Oriental Star, 21, Livermore. Reuel Washburn, *m*; Peter T. Hathaway, *sw*; Aaron Coolidge, *fw*; Otis Pray, *tr*; Gideon Ellis, *s*; Moses Stone, *chap*; Francis F. Haines, *sd*; Isaac S. Daily, *jd*; Ebenezer Hinds, *ss*; Daniel Austin, *js*; Asa Austin, *t*. Members, 31; initiates, 2. 2
- York, 22, Kennebunk. Amos Lunt, *m*; Orin Kimball, *sw*; H. Chadbourn, *fw*; Paul Junkins, *tr*; Evat Willard, *s*; Eben Hodge, *sd*; George B. Littlefield, *jd*; William Downing, *ss*; Samuel Pope, *js*; Alfred Littlefield, *t*. Members, 39; initiates, 16; deceased, 1. 1
- Phoenix, 24, Belfast. Joseph S. Noyes, *m*; Daniel Howard, *sw*; Cornelius Hinds, *fw*; Josiah Farrow, *tr*; Oshea Page, *s*; A. D. Chase, *sd*; W. C. Frederick, *jd*; C. R. Thombs, *ss*; E. C. Keen, *js*; J. W. Holt, *t*. Members, 44; initiates, 7; deceased, 1. 9
- Adoniram, 27, Limington. Joshua B. Sweat, *m*; Isaac H. Libby, *sw*; William Dimmock, *fw*; Moses E. Sweat, *tr*; Arthur McArthur, *s*; James McArthur, *sd*; John McArthur, *jd*; Joseph C. Small, *ss*; Benjamin C. Libby, *js*; Benjamin Blake, *t*. Members, 36; initiates, 5. 8
- Northern Star, 28, North Anson. O. R. Bachellor, *m*; Isaac W. Adams, *sw*; Albert Moore, *fw*; Benjamin Steward, *tr*; Rodney Collins, *s*; Moses Moore, *sd*; Walter Spaulding, *jd*; Andrew McFadden, *ss*; Robert Moore, *js*; Charles Crymble, *t*. Members, 23; initiates, 6. 3

- Tranquil, 29, Danville. Augustus Callahan, m; T. A. D. Fessenden, sw; R. H. Rose, jw; Jacob Herrick, tr; W. H. Waldron, s; William White, sd; George Webb, jd; Charles Clark, ss; Jordan K. Piper, js; Samuel Cobb, t. Members, 66; initiates, 12; rejected, 1; deceased, 2. 2
- Blazing Star, 30, Rumford. Benjamin W. Tingley, m; William Frost, sw; David H. Farnum, jw; Alvan Bolster, tr; James N. Brickett, s; I. A. Putnam, sd; Aaron I. Abbot, jd; Samuel R. Chapman, ss; Walter B. Boyd, js; Farnum Abbot, t. Members, 16. 2
- Union, 31, Union. Ebenezer Cobb, m; George Littlefield, sw; Benjamin B. Blackington, jw; Joseph Irish, tr; William G. Hawes, s; Asa Gowen, sd; Charles F. Blake, jd; Joseph Vaughan, ss; Lewis Andrews, js; John Adams, t. Members, 40; initiates, 1. 4
- Hermon, 32, Gardiner. Edmund A. Chadwick, m; James McCurdy, sw; D. C. Palmer, sw; J. T. Smart, tr; F. H. Weymouth, s; Thomas Briery, sd; J. M. Colson, jd; Moody Palmer, ss; Emerald McCurdy, js; John Brown, t. Members, 55; initiated, 15; rejected, 5. 3
- Waterville, 33, Waterville. Wadsworth Chipman, m; William A. Caffrey, sw; William A. Wales, jw; William L. Maxwell, tr; Edward H. Piper, s; Willard Bailey, sd; Oliver C. Tozier, jd; ———, ss; ———, js; Stephen Tozier, t. Members, 30; initiates, 5; rejected, 1; deceased, 1. 3
- Somerset, 34, Skowhegan. Benjamin P. Pearson, m; Nathaniel S. Robinson, sw; Darius Daggett, jw; Francis Drew, tr; Joseph Philbrick, s; E. H. Neil, mar; Eben. Ayers, sd; A. D. Murray, jd; P. H. Steward, js; Francis Seveno, js; James Pratt, Jr., t. Members, 55; initiates, 3. 3
- Bethlehem, 35, Augusta. Moses E. Hamlen, m; Orrin Rowe, sw; D. C. Stanwood, jw; George W. Ricker, tr; Charles H. Mulliken, s; Elias G. Hedge, sd; William H. Lombard, jd; Llewellyn Sturgis, ss; F. W. Albee, js; Joshua Rollins, t. Members, 62; initiates, 3; rejected, 3. 3
- Casco, 36, Yarmouth. Gad Hitchcock, m; Benjamin Oakes, sw; James Field, jw; Perez Drinkwater, tr; David Gray, s; O. A. Hill, sd; J. M. Buckman, jd; William Mann, ss; A. H. Hill, js; M. L. Storer, t. Members, 26; initiates, 12; suspended for non-payment of dues, 5. 3
- Washington, 37, Lubec. John C. Talbot, Jr., m; Levi Caswell, sw; George T. Hunter, jw; T. Comstock, tr; Joseph Sumner, s; Samuel Starbird, sd; Jacob McGregor, jd; Salathiel Nickerson, ss; W. J. Goodwin, js; John Davidson, t. Members, 19. 9
- Harmony, 38, Gorham. William Silla, m; Merrill Thomas, sw; Thomas J. Hasty, jw; George Warren, tr; James Mann, s; Jonas Raymond, sd; A. M. Benson, jd; Freeman Harding, ss; Jona. Leavitt, js; George L. Darling, t. Members, 56; initiates, 4; deceased, 1. 1
- Penobscot, 39, Dexter. Isaac M. Ross, m; Thomas Brown, sw; William Morgan, jw; Albert G. Scott, tr; Josiah Crosby, s; Reuben Flanders, sd; John Martin, Jr., jd; Levi C. Morgan, ss; Thomas E. Rogers, js; Joseph Shepherd, t. Members, 65; initiates, 11. 7
- Lygonia, 40, Ellsworth. Nathaniel Moore, m; Daniel P. Lake, sw; N. J. Miller, Jr., jw; Asa McAllister, tr; S. P. Thomas, s; ———, sd; ———, jd; ———, ss; ———, js; ———, t. Members, 37; initiates, 14. 5
- Freedom, 42, Limerick. William Cobb, m; William Gage, sw; A. N. Bradbury, jw; Robert Cole, tr; Charles D. Staples, s; Thomas P. Place, George Roberts, jd; Gideon Straw, ss; Henry Merrill, 2d, js; Abner Libby, 2d, t. Members, 18; initiates, 2. 1

- Alna, 43, Damariscotta. Everett W. Stetson, m; Isaac Chapman, sw; E. Nelson Shaw, jw; William Hitchcock, tr; Charles A. Jones, s; Abiel Foster, chap; D. A. Campbell, sd; James D. Huston, jd; M. P. Martin, ss; Hiram Hatch, js; Robert Dixon, mar; David B. Cartland, t. Members, 47; initiates, 23. 4
- St. Croix, 46, Calais. Joshua Veasy, m; Charles H. Garland, sw; John Manning, jw; George Downes, tr; A. Y. Patterson, s; Francis Williams, sd; John N. Nash, jd; Seth Townshend, ss; ———, js; William McHenry, t. Members, 44; initiates, 10; rejected, 1. 6
- Lafayette, 48, Readfield. George S. Currier, m; John Varmus, sw; Emery O. Bean, jw; David Smith, tr; Asa Gill, s; Matthias Smith, sd; E. H. Frost, jd; James Williams, ss; Asahel Brenner, js; Jacob Gilman, t. Members, 34; initiates, 4. 3
- Meridian Splendor, 49, Newport. John S. Nay, m; Peleg H. Tracy, sw; Benjamin S. Judkins, jw; Samuel S. Lang, tr; Benjamin S. Furber, s; N. L. Hayden, sd; John Holbrook, jd; Orin Footman, ss; George W. Prescott, js; Asil Stilson, t. Members, 20; initiates, 7; deceased, 1. 7
- Aurora, 50, Rockland. D. M. Mitchell, m; Jonas Colby, sw; John Anderson, jw; Constant Rankin, tr; William Farrow, s; S. M. Blackington, sd; O. P. Mitchell, jd; L. M. True, ss; B. W. Blackington, js; J. W. Pratt, t. Members, 36; initiates, 10; rejected, 1. 4
- Mosaic, 52, Dover. Elihu B. Averill, m; Luther Chamberlain, sw; Sands Bailey, jw; Paul Douglass, tr; C. M. Cobb, s; J. H. Sherwood, sd; Charles W. Buck, jd; J. L. Barrows, ss; Joseph Tyler, js; A. S. Pat-ten, t. Members, 29; initiates, 9; suspended, 1; deceased, 1. 7
- Vassalborough, 54, Vassalborough. William Redington, m; Ezekiel Small, Jr., jw; Hiram Peshon, jw; J. E. Wing, tr; Thomas Stackpole, s; John Homans, sd; William Ayer, jd; W. P. Whitehouse, ss; William P. Grant, js; Leander Tobey, t. Members, 17; initiates, 9. 5
- Mount Moriah, 56, Denmark. Cyrus Ingalls, m; Joseph B. Watson, sw; L. H. Ingalls, jw; William Pingree, tr; Joseph Bennett, s; L. P. Sawyer, sd; A. C. Lord, jd; Sewall Fly, ss; William ———, js; Jona. Ingalls, t. Members, 16; initiates, 2. 2
- Unity, 58, Freedom. John Winslow, m; James Weed, sw; Samuel B. Dodge, jw; J. C. Glidden, tr; Varney Blackstone, s; Thomas S. Keen, sd; William B. Leach, jd; Joshua N. Walker, ss; William Murray, js; Richard Blake, t. Members, 43; initiates, 8; rejected, 2. 9
- Mount Hope, 59, Hope. Henry Hobbs, m; Josiah Hobbs, sw; John Lermond, jw; Moses G. Metcalf, tr; Church Fish, s; Daniel Howard, sd; Hiram Fish, jd; Ebenezer Philbrick, ss; John G. Fish, js; E. S. G. In-graham, t. Members, 18; initiates, 5. 9
- Star in the East, 60, Oldtown. James H. Burgess, m; Hiram Smith, sw; Mark M. Gammon, jw; George H. Bartlett, tr; Solomon Moulton, s; Stephen D. Brown, sd; Noel Barker, jd; Isaac M. Hobert, ss; Edwin R. Alford, js; John H. Smith, t. Members, 58; initiates, 8; deceased, 2. 7
- King Solomon's, 61, Waldoborough. Joseph Miller, m; C. C. Atwell, sw; William Eugley, jw; J. W. Tibbets, tr; Elijah J. Daggett, s; Wil-liam Bearce, sd; M. M. Rawson, jd; W. S. Cochran, ss; Charles P. Willett, js; Charles Vannah, t. Members, 40; initiates, 6; deceased, 1. 4
- King David's, 62, Lincolnville. Minot Crehore, m; David Howe, sw; Joseph Brewster, jw; Israel Decrow, tr; Henry Crehore, sec; Austin D. Knight, sd; David B. Decrow, jd; James Perry, ss; Thomas Cookson, js; Thomas Witham, t. Members, 22; initiates, 2; deceased, 2. 9

- Richmond, 63, Richmond. Daniel Witham, m; Joseph A. Southard, sw; Jona. C. Chapman, jw; William A. Ramsdell, tr; Abiel Avery, s; Hartley B. Cox, sd; James M. Kelley, jd; Lebbeus Jenkins, ss; Daniel Clark, Jr., js; Charles E. Lawson, t. Members, 59; initiates, 27. 4
- Pacific, 64, Stetson. Lewis Barker, m; James Hawes, sw; Nathaniel E. Brown, jw; Horace Shepley, tr; John F. H. Turner, s; David Barker, sd; James B. Currier, jd; Charles Whiting, ss; Thomas S. Ranney, js; William Southard, t. Members, 37; initiates, 4; rejected, 2; deceased, 2. 7
- Mystic, 65, Hampden. A. P. Warren, m; G. B. Starbird, sw; F. H. Phipps, jw; E. J. Dudley, t; James H. Stuart, s; H. L. Hopkins, sd; W. L. White, jd; J. Crosby, Jr., ss; P. W. Curtis, js; S. S. Garland, t. Members, 30; initiates, 2; deceased, 2. 5
- Mechanics', 66, Orono. N. H. Brackett, m; Henry Snow, sw; O. P. Merryman, jw; John Dean, t; E. P. Butler, s; William E. Jones, sd; Isaac Sanborn, jd; Hiram Joy, ss; Thomas McMillan, js; Samuel Buffum, t. Members, 36; initiates, 7. 7
- Blue Mountain, 67, Phillips. Philip M. Stubbs, m; Curtis Smith, sw; Seward Dill, jw; Joel W. Hoyt, t; H. L. Whitcomb, s; Sylvanus Robbins, sd; Jonathan Cushman, jd; ———, ss; ———, js; Samuel A. Blanchard, t. Members, 22; initiates, 3. 3
- Mariners', 68, Searsport. John Towle, m; Albert H. Barnes, sw; James Field, Jr., jw; Peleg Nichols, t; Josiah Blethem, Jr., s; M. R. Hopkins, c; Eliab Stevens, sd; Bradford McLanathan, jd; Augustus Lampher, ss; John P. Sweetsir, js; Peter Sweetsir, t. Members, 34; initiates, 19.
- Howard, 69, Frankfort. Charles Abbot, m; S. H. Cushing, sw; E. J. Bolan, jw; Nathaniel Atwood, tr; A. L. Dennison, s; H. G. Morgan, sd; James C. Lowe, jd; H. A. Avery, ss; Joseph Clark, js; Patrick McShea, t. Members, 33; initiates, 5.
- Rising Sun, 71, Orland. ———, m; Allen Fraser, sw; William Oakes, jw; Robert O. Gross, tr; John R. Wardwell, s; Jesse Gardner, sd; John R. Gross, jd; Henry W. Gott, ss; Joseph Partridge, js; Benjamin C. Saunders, t. Members, 27; initiates, 13.

NEW LODGES RECENTLY CHARTERED.

- PIONEER LODGE, NO. 72, at Plantation No. 11, Aroostook County.
- TYRIAN LODGE, NO. 73, at Minot, Cumberland County.
- BRISTOL LODGE, NO. 74, at Bristol.
- PLYMOUTH LODGE, NO. 75, at Plymouth.
- ARUNDEL LODGE, NO. 76, at Kennebunkport, York County.

TRUSTEES OF THE CHARITY FUND.

R. W. TIMOTHY CHASE,	Ex Officio.
" JABEZ TRUE,	"
" EZRA B. FRENCH,	"
" THOMAS B. JOHNSTON,	"
" CHARLES B. SMITH,	"
" A. J. FULLER,	elected May 6, 1852, for three years.
" JOHN WILLIAMS,	" " 5, 1853, " "
" J. M. CROOKER,	" " 5, 1853, " "
" CHARLES MEGQUIER,	" " 5, 1853, " "
" J. H. WILLARD,	" " 5, 1854, " "
" WILLIAM ALLEN,	" " 5, 1854, " "

STANDING REGULATIONS.

1847. May 6. *Voted*, 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 thus paid, 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.
1851. May 7. *Resolved*, That no dues of a subordinate lodge be remitted, unless upon the petition of such lodge, and the report of a committee thereon.
1852. May 7. *Voted*, That in addition to reasonable notice in one or more public newspapers, the Grand Secretary be required hereafter, to notify all meetings of the Grand Lodge, by addressing a circular to the several officers and permanent members thereof ; and one to each subordinate lodge, stating the time when their returns should be made, dues paid, &c.

May 7. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that it is contrary to the established rules of Freemasonry, for one Lodge to craft or raise an Entered Apprentice, initiated in another Lodge, without the recommendation and consent of the Lodge in which he was initiated.

1853. May 6. *Voted*, Upon a construction of the standing regulation of May 6, 1847, that no representative of a subordinate Lodge is entitled to pay as such, except for actual travel.
1854. May 5. *Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, no candidate should be permitted to receive the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason, without a sufficient knowledge of the preceding degree to prove himself as a mason of such a degree in the usual manner, unless in a case of absolute emergency; and that a more hasty manner is unmasonic and reprehensible.

PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

M. W. WILLIAM KING,*	P. G. M.
" SIMON GREENLEAF,*	"
" WILLIAM SWAN,*	"
" CHARLES FOX,*	"
" SAMUEL FESSENDEN,	"
" ROBERT P. DUNLAP,	"
" NATHANIEL COFFIN,	"
" REUEL WASHBBURN,	"
" ABNER B. THOMPSON,	"
" HEZEKIAH WILLIAMS,	"
" THOMAS W. SMITH,	"
" JOHN T. PAINE,	"
" ALEXANDER H. PUTNEY,	"
" JOSEPH C. STEVENS,	"
" JOHN C. HUMPHREYS,	"
" FREEMAN BRADFORD,	"
" TIMOTHY CHASE,	G. M.
R. W. PELEG SPRAGUE,	P. D. G. M.
" AMOS NOURSE,	"
" DAVID C. MAGOUN,	"
" ASAPH R. NICHOLS,	"
" JAMES L. CHILD,	"
" ELISHA HARDING,*	"
" SAMUEL L. VALENTINE,*	"
" JOHN L. MEGQUIER,*	P. S. G. W.
" GEORGE THATCHER,	"
" JOEL MILLER,*	"
" STEPHEN WEBBER,	P. J. G. W.
" FRYE HALL,*	"
" WILLIAM SOMERBY,	"

* Deceased.

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