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HISTORY  
OF  
FREEMASONRY  
IN  
NEW YORK.







Thomas J. Webb





HISTORY  
OF THE  
MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY  
OF  
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
IN  
NEW YORK,  
FROM THE EARLIEST DATE.

EMBRACING THE HISTORY OF THE GRAND LODGE IN THE STATE, FROM ITS  
FORMATION IN 1781, AND A SKETCH OF EACH LODGE UNDER ITS JURIS-  
DICTION; PRECEDED BY A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF EARLY MASONRY IN  
ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, AND SEVERAL CONTINENTAL  
NATIONS, TOGETHER WITH AN OUTLINE OF THE  
ORIGIN OF THE INSTITUTION IN THE THIRTEEN  
COLONIES OF THE UNION.

BY  
CHARLES T. MCCLENACHAN,  
HISTORIAN OF THE GRAND LODGE.

VOLUME II.

NEW YORK:  
PUBLISHED BY THE GRAND LODGE.

1892.



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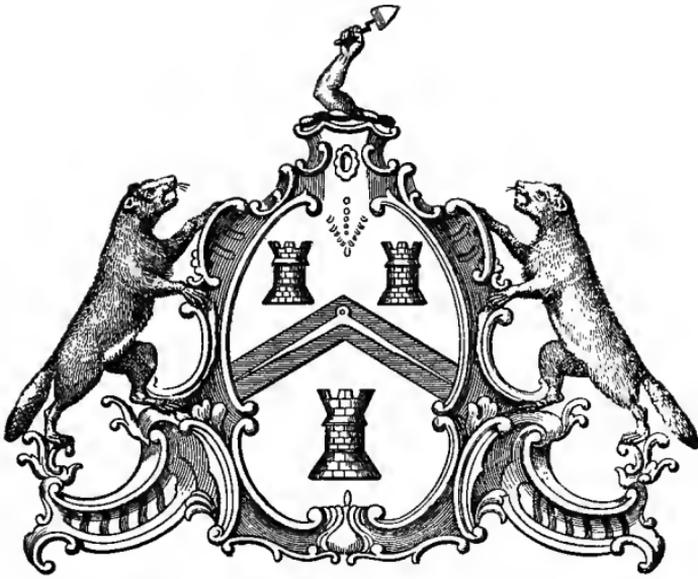
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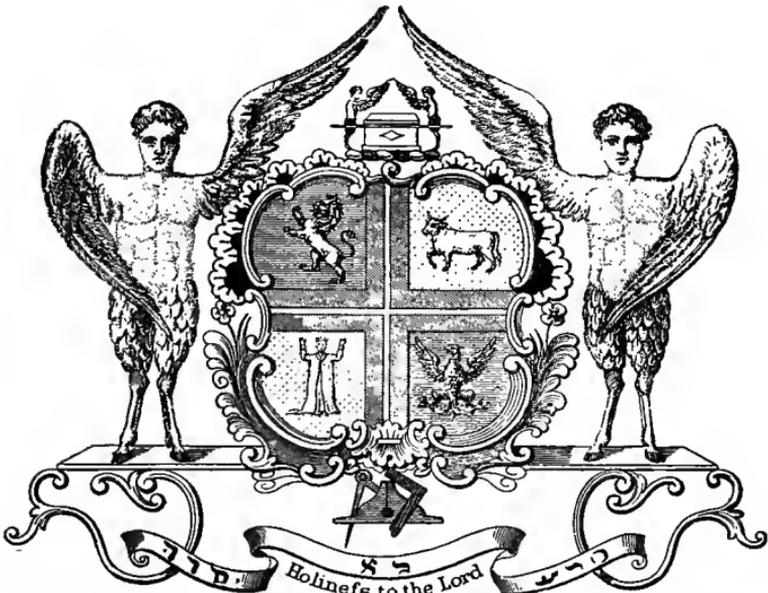
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THE ARMS OF THE "MODERNS," GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.



*The Arms of y<sup>e</sup> most Ancient & Honorable Fraternity  
of Free and Accepted Masons*

"ANCIENTS," GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.



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## INTRODUCTION.

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No historian can have greater difficulty in the accomplishment of his task than one who attempts to record the times, events, and occurrences incident to a secret organization, whose members have been thoroughly imbued with the idea that its existence and success depended upon the shrouding with secrecy their acts and surroundings, and who held the impression that in no manner should aught pertaining to its existence be allowed to become public, if essential, even to the suppression of the entire records, meagre as they were. The Masonic Fraternity, in its earlier days, purposely committed to writing only the smallest amount of record essential to keep trace of its doings—one half dozen lines to note a lengthened Lodge Communication, and those few lines expressed in an abbreviated form and in doubtful language. Matters of grave and interesting importance would meet with no mention, and oblivion seemed to be the favored idea for the burial of all information and historic knowledge.

Much now depends upon tradition and extraneous history; and, where a century has intervened, or over three generations, research for the truth, that it may be placed of record, becomes a difficult task and of uncertain result. Reliance must be partially had upon what has escaped personal or collective vigilance, and which has incidentally been obtained through the curiosity or business tact of the press, or that has been the private memorandum of some enthusiast who had outlived his care and secretiveness. During the later period, time gradually awakened the thoughtful; and the successful contest ended, in which the teachings of the arts and sciences, the philosophy and the principles sought to be inculcated by the symbols and the allegories of the loving Brotherhood, should not be longer trusted to uncertain tra-

dition, but should, in a conserved way, and by the press, be brought to the wider attention of the initiated, if not to the improvement of humanity generally.

Thus the press gradually became the helpmeet of the great Secret Fraternity. Among the fugitive writings of the renowned author, Dr. Albert G. Mackey, we quote upon this subject the following :

“The liberty of the Masonic press and the free expression of their thoughts, which has been now conceded to Masonic writers, is a victory that has not been gained without an arduous struggle. It was the general opinion of those who were high in office, but not deep in Masonic knowledge, that all the learning of Masonry should be confined to a mere recital of the ritual and an acquaintance with the Lodge lectures. They supposed that the whole curriculum of Masonic science and philosophy was embraced within the narrow limits of oral instruction ; or, rather, that they knew nothing of any science or philosophy, and were wont to deem him the most learned Mason who could but recite by rote the stereotyped catechism that he had acquired by frequent repetition.

But there were some few scholars who thought that there was more in Speculative Masonry than was to be found within the meagre limits of the ritual. They believed that this ritual was a mere skeleton, which, to make it presentable to men of cultivated intellects, required to be clothed with elevated thoughts ; that there was, indeed, a system of profound religious philosophy in Masonry, which could only be developed by research ; that of this system, the ritual was only an index pointing out the subjects that were to be investigated ; and, finally, to give to these investigations any value, it was absolutely necessary that they should be given to the world, like the investigations in any other science or philosophy, by means of publications which Masons could read, and thus enlarge within their homes the ideas, the rudiments of which they had first acquired at the Lodge.

Between the friends and enemies of Masonic progress,

whose battle centered on the question of Masonic publications, there was a severe struggle, ending, as such struggles always do, in victory for the right.

Among those who for a long time sought to suppress all Masonic literature, it is with regret that we are forced to name the Grand Lodge of England. Up to comparatively a recent period, this Body, the mother of all modern Freemasonry, seems to have been inspired with hostility toward the art of printing.

It is most fortunate for the progress of Masonic literature that the Grand Lodge of England abandoned this opposition to the press. Had it been continued to the present day, the English Craft, as well as the whole Masonic world, would have been deprived of those valuable historical investigations for which they are indebted to the researches of Hughan, Woodford, and some other able and industrious antiquaries. The persistent condemnation by the highest authority of all publication of the 'concerns of Masonry,' would very naturally have extinguished all ardor for investigation.

The cloud of ignorance seeking to obscure the rays of intellectual light was not confined to England. It extended its baneful influence to other countries.

In France, Clavel published a Masonic History in 1842, and commenced a Masonic journal in 1844. In neither case had he sought the sanction of the Grand Orient, and for this offense a sentence of perpetual exclusion from that body was pronounced against him.

In Germany, Krause and Mossdorf, two of the most learned Masons that the Order in any country can boast, suffered a similar punishment for their valuable contributions to Masonic literature. The treatise of Dr. Krause on the 'Three Oldest Documents of the Masonic Brotherhood' is one of the most learned, the most philosophical, and the most useful of all the books which have ever been issued from the Masonic press. Its destruction, as was desired by some of the German Lodges, would have entailed an irreparable loss on Masonic literature.

In the United States, the spirit of antagonism to Masonic publications has, with rare exceptions, never been exhibited. Too many of the Craft have been indifferent to the cultivation of the literature of the Fraternity, but none has opposed its dissemination.

For a long time, it is true, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania refused to print more than a very brief and inadequate account of its proceedings. But it has abandoned this course of reticence, and there is now no Grand Lodge in the Union whose published transactions are of more value or interest than those of the Keystone State. And its Grand Lodge has shown its patronage of Masonic literature by the foundation of an admirable library. Years ago, the Grand Lodge of Delaware expressed its opinion that Masonic literature was doing more harm than good to the Institution. But this illiterate view has long since been abandoned.

In fact no greater change has within the last half century taken place in the relations of Masonry, internal and external, than its cultivation of the literature of the Society. The effect of this 'change of front' has been most advantageous. From the character of a merely social club, or a benevolent association, it has become a school of philosophy. Books on its history and its science, once so rare, are now abundant. Every country where there is a congregation of Masons has its scholars investigating the character, the aim, and the design of the Institution, and periodical works, conducted, for the most part, with ability, in which the results of these investigations are given to the Craft.

The means of acquiring Masonic learning are within the reach of every Mason. He who is ignorant must attribute his ignorance to his own indifference. He who contents himself with the acquisition of the ritual as given in the Lodge may be in possession of all the forms of initiation, and may call himself 'Bright,' but his brightness will be utter darkness, when compared with the knowledge of him who, from books, has learned the true meaning and significance of that ritual and the real philosophy of that Institution."

The conflict for the freedom of the press has ended, and through its victory there have been, in modern times, saved from utter loss the traditions of the past and such records as could be collated and reprinted of incidents and events that tend to make a connected history and a reliable record. This, however, has been attained only through diligent search and unremitting care and discrimination.

We regret being compelled to add that the following pages will show that the Grand Lodge of New York, in more instances than one, was a party, directly and indirectly, to the loss of some material matter that would have been beneficial to its history.



# HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY

IN

## NEW YORK.

THE GRAND LODGE, FROM THE TIME OF GRANTING THE WARRANT IN 1781 TO THE PRESENT DAY, EXCLUSIVE OF AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF INDIVIDUAL LODGES SO FAR AS PRACTICABLE.

---

### CHAPTER I.

1781-1790.

---

1781.

#### THE INCHOATE GRAND LODGE.

THE Grand Lodge of New York existed as an inchoate organization from January 23, 1781, to December 5, 1782, under Rev. Brother William Walter, M. A., Grand Master.

The records in the archives inform us as follows: "Minutes of Lodge 169, Ancient York Masons, held at their Lodge-room, on Tuesday evening, January 23, 1781, being a Grand Lodge assembled in ample form." This early Grand Lodge formation was organized by the twenty-nine representatives of six Lodges; to wit, Nos. 132, 169, 210, 212, Registry of England, and No. 441, Registry of Ireland, and Sion's Lodge, U. D. Subsequent to the opening of a Grand Lodge in "Due Form" by the Brother James McCuen, Past Master of Lodge No. 169, as temporary Grand Master, Brother Brown as Senior Grand Warden, and Brother Taylor as Junior

Grand Warden, the representatives agreed to enter upon a permanent formation, and with unanimity elected Rev. Brother William Walter, M. A., of No. 169, Grand Master; Brother John Browning of No. 212, Senior Grand Warden; and the Rev. Brother John Beardsley of No. 210, Junior Grand Warden.

In response to the communication transmitted by the committee, requesting the acceptance by these three officers of the positions to which they had been selected, the following letters were received :

GRAND MASTER ELECT WILLIAM WALTER.

“NEW YORK, February 8, 1781.

I take in kind part, my respected brothers, this compliment of congratulation from my parent Lodge, and beg you to assure them that I have all the sense which I conceive they would wish me to have, of the honor done me in the late free and unanimous designation of me to the principal office among the lodges of this province. I only wish that my power to serve them was equal to my inclination. Such as it is, however, I pray them to be assured, that it shall be exerted to the full, for the advancement of the interest and dignity of our truly ancient and honorable institution.

WALTER.

To the very respectful Committee,  
J. McCUEN, Chairman.”

SENIOR GRAND WARDEN ELECT, J. S. BROWNING.

“NEW YORK, February 13, 1781.

SIR: Give me leave to return my sincerest thanks for the honor you and the other brethren of the Lodge, 169, have conferred on me, by electing me Senior Warden of a Grand Lodge, to be established in this country. The pleasure I must feel on so flattering a mark of distinction is much abated by a sense of my great inability to discharge so important a trust. But permit me to assure you, I shall always use every

endeavor in my power to promote the good of the craft, and to acquit myself of the unmerited appointment bestowed on me to the utmost of my knowledge.

I have the honor to be, with respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant and brother,

J. S. BROWNING."

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN ELECT, JOHN BEARDSLEY.

"W. M. AND BRETHREN: I beg leave to return you my most sincere thanks for your very polite address, by the hands of Bro. Warden, and for the honor its contents confer on me. And I request by your advocate, to present my thanks to the members of that respected body, from whom you are a committee, with my best wishes for their health and happiness. I will (with the advice and assistance of my brethren) do all in my power to establish and promote the interest, honor and happiness of the Ancient Craft in this part of the world.

I have the honor to be (Worshipful Master and Brethren) your most obedient and most affectionate brother,

JOHN BEARDSLEY,

R. W., G. J. W., Elect, A. Y. M."

1782.

The inchoate existence of the Grand Lodge continued until the time of the First Meeting of

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE,

at the Assembly Hall at Roubalet's, in the city of New York, on December 5, 1782, convened by authority of the Grand Lodge of England.

The authority for this Provincial Grand Lodge was contained in Warrant No. 219, dated September 5, 1781, the original copy of which will be found of record in the Grand Secretary's Office of the Grand Lodge of New York.

Prior, however, to the organization of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the constitution of an Army Lodge, No. 215, transpired February 21, 1781, by the opening of the Grand Lodge of England, in the city of New York, under an especial authority, as will be seen below.

The following extract is from the Minutes of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, according to "the Old Constitutions," at present in the Archives of the United Grand Lodge of England, Freemasons' Hall, London. This extract is certified by Shadwell W. Clerke, Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge, England, and was delivered to the keeping of John W. Vrooman, the Grand Master of Masons of New York, when in London, 1889, and will be found of record in the Grand Secretary's office, city of New York.

"Grand Lodge opened at 4 o'clock in the city of New York, N. America, on February 21, An. Do. 1782, An. Lap. 5782.

The R. W. and Rev. Bro., William Walter, Dep. G. M. Elect, as D. G. Master.

The R. W. Bro., John S. Browning, Esq., S. G. W. Elect, as S. G. W.

The R. W. and Rev. Bro., John Barkley, J. G. W. Elect, as J. G. W.

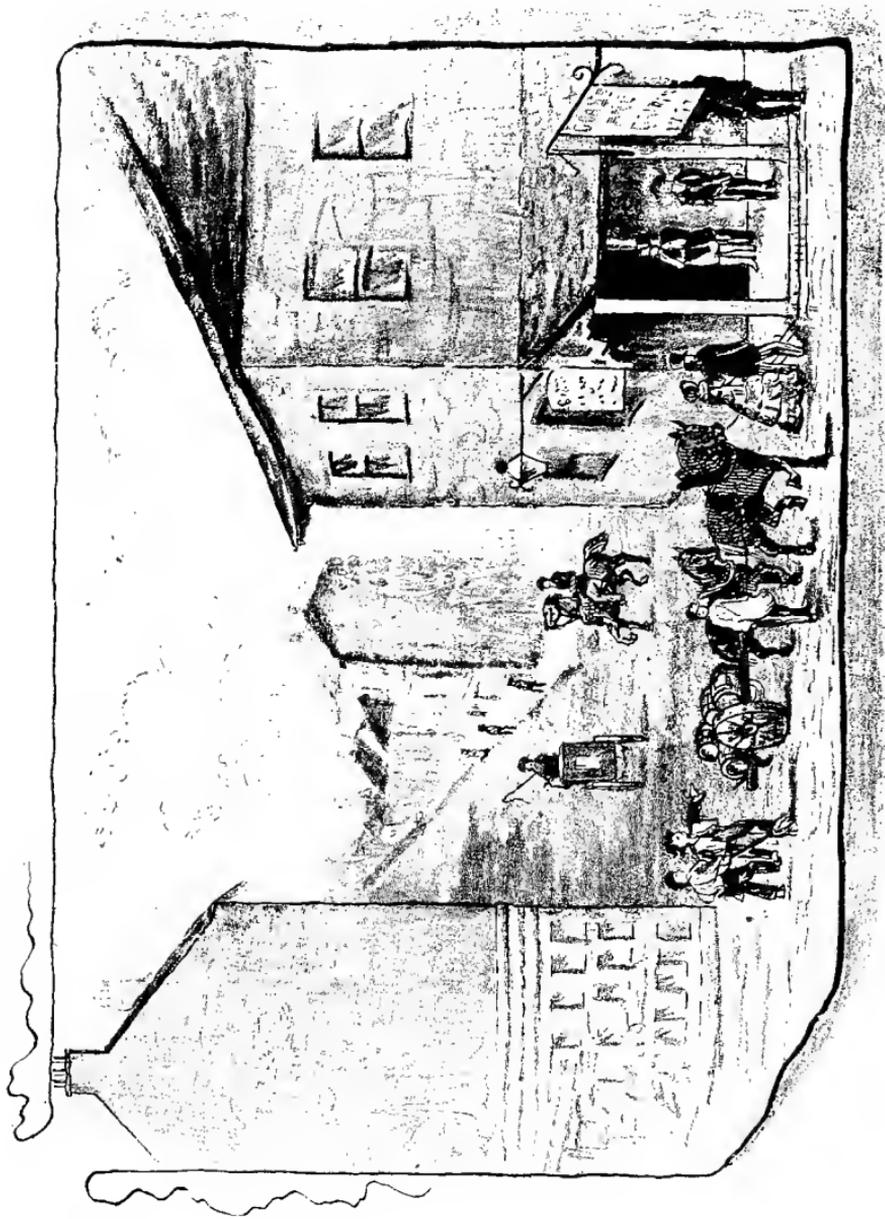
The R. W. Bro., Isaac Collins, M. of 169, as Grand Secretary.

Present, Brothers

Cunningham, M.	of No. 169.	Cock,	M.	of No. 212.
Warden,	S. W.	"	Courtney,	S. W.
Lounds,	J. W.	"	Harrison,	J. W.
Barclay,	P. M.	"	Hodson,	P. M.
McEwen,	P. M.	"	Crowell,	P. M.
Collins,	M.	of No. 210.	Drew,	M.
Watson,	S. W.	"	Fife,	S. W.
Gregg,	J. W.	"	Geddes,	J. W.
			Stokes,	P. M.

Installed according to Ancient Usage,  
Maximilian De Strait, Master.





THE ANCIENT BUILDING IN WHICH THE FIRST LODGE IN LONDON MET.





The Rev. Bro., John Philip Erb, S. W., vice David Schoeph, absent.

George Dorg, J. W., vice Ferdinand Forster, dead.

All matters relative to this Constitution being completed, the Grand Officers aforesaid, in the name of the Most Noble Prince, John, Duke of Athol, G. M., proclaimed the New Lodge duly constituted, No. 215, registered in Grand Lodge Book, Volume 8, Letter H, to be held in the Second Regiment of Anspach Berauth.

Closed before 7 o'clock; adjourned to the Grand Lodge in London.

N. B. The Rev. William Walter was empowered to act as Deputy Grand Master (for three hours only), by an authority from Wm. Dickey, Esq., D. G. M."

In explanation of the above, it may be said that the Grand Lodge, at London, desired to have constituted an Army Lodge, which was authorized to be established October 10, 1781, as No. 215. The regiment was located at the time in New York City, and was known as the Brandenburg Anspach. That, in order to do so, it authorized the opening of the Grand Lodge, for three hours only, in New York City, when it "adjourned to the Grand Lodge in London." (See p. 424, Vol. I., of this history.)

The Provincial Grand Lodge had been authorized by Warrant No. 219, dated September 5, 1781, naming Rev. William Walter, Brother John Stedholme Browning, and Rev. John Beardsley as the first three officers thereof; but it had not organized, and possibly No. 215 was expected to assist. The spelling of several names will be found incorrect, but this is immaterial. It is singular, however, that No. 215 should be warranted after No. 219.

The names Atholl, Browning, McCuen, De Strait, Huston, Beardsley, and Schoeph are sometimes differently spelled in the records.

The *Atholl*, or original Warrant of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons for the Province of New York, authorizing the "Masons of New York in North America to congregate,

form and hold a Provincial Grand Lodge in the City of New York, independent of any former Dispensation, Warrant or Constitution, ordered, given, or granted by us, or any of our Predecessors, Grand Masters of England, to any Mason or Masons residing within the Masonical Jurisdiction aforesaid," will be found in full on pp. 140-2 of Vol. I. This valued Warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, numbered 219, was received by Brother Lewis, of Lodge No. 210, and carefully preserved until his arrival in New York City, when he delivered it with the by-laws, letters, etc., to the Grand Master; in return for which the Grand Lodge, April 2, 1783, expressed its warmest thanks, and directed the Grand Secretary to signify the same by letter.

At the assembly held at Roubalet's, there were present the first three Grand Officers mentioned in the Warrant, together with Past Master Ellerington, Senior Warden Jennings, and Junior Warden Scott, as representatives of Lodge No. 52, held in His Majesty's 37th Regiment of Foot.

The Worshipful Master Harvey, Past Master Grant, Provincial Senior Warden Douglass, and Provincial Junior Warden Hanault, of Moriah Lodge, No. 132, held in His Majesty's 22d Regiment of Foot.

The Master Cunningham, Past Master McCuen, Senior Warden Campbell, and Junior Warden Kerr, representing No. 169, Ancient York Masons, afterward named St. Andrew's Lodge.

The Master pro tem. John Leverel Hudson, Past Master Lynch, Senior Warden Courtney, Junior Warden Harrison, of Solomon's Lodge, No. 212.

The Master Joshua Watson, Past Master Isaac Collins, Senior Warden Richard Jenkins, Junior Warden Gregg, of No. 210, afterward Temple Lodge.

The Master Fife, Past Master Stoakes, and Senior Warden Crawford, of Lodge No. 213, held in His Majesty's 4th Battalion of the Royal Artillery.

The Master M. De Strait, and Senior Warden David Schoeph, of Lodge No. 215, Ancient York Masons, held in the 2d Regiment of Brandenburgh Anspach.

The Master Fowler, Past Master Nicholson, Past Master Woollet, Senior Warden Campbell, Junior Warden Gibson, of Lodge No. 441, under the registry of Ireland, held in His Majesty's 38th Regiment.

The Master Hugh Gillespie, Senior Warden James Huston, and Junior Warden William Ault, of Sion's Lodge, held under dispensation, in His Majesty's 57th Regiment.

The Rev. William Walter, Grand Master, was a member of Lodge No. 169; John Stedholme Browning, Senior Grand Warden, was a member of Lodge No. 441, and the Rev. John Beardsley, Junior Grand Warden, was a member of Lodge No. 210.

Lodge No. 169 was pre-eminent in the establishment and organization of the Inchoate, as well as of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of New York; it was in their Lodge-room that the first assembly was held of representatives of five Lodges and of one Lodge under dispensation, for organization, and one of its members was selected for Grand Master on December 5, 1782, at Roubalet's Assembly Hall. It was Brother Clarke, Secretary of No. 169, who read the Grand Warrant and letter from Charles Bearblock, Grand Secretary, and immediately thereafter proclaimed, with all formality, the Grand Officers appointed in the Warrant.

The records of the Grand Lodge state that the R. W. Grand Master, after delivering a suitable and affectionate address from the Chair, observed that it was a right inherent in him to appoint a Provincial Deputy Grand Master, and that, after mature consideration, he had resolved upon calling from among his fellows, Brother James McCuen, Past Master of Lodge No. 169, to fill that necessary and important office, which meeting with the approbation of all the Lodges present, Brother McCuen was invested with the proper jewel and duly proclaimed.

The Grand Master then recommended the election of such officers as were necessary for completing Grand Lodge formation, and rendering permanent and effectual their future proceedings, when the following brethren were unanimously selected to the offices respectively :

“William Cock, Master of Lodge No. 212, Grand Secretary.  
James Clarke, Secretary of Lodge No. 169, Deputy Grand  
Secretary.

Joshua Watson, Master of Lodge No. 210, Grand Treasurer.

Bro. John L. Chevalier Roome, No. 169,	}	Grand Deacons.
“ George Clarke, No. 210,		
“ Collom Homfries, No. 212,		
“ Charles Morris, No. 213,		
Bro. Archibald McNeil, No. 169,	}	Grand Stewards.
“ Oliver Burdet, No. 210,		
“ Huggeford, No. 212,		
“ Alexander Melvil, No. 213,		

The several Lodges present, paid their homage to the Right Worshipful, the Grand Officers, and surrendered their Warrants to the Grand Master, in token of their submission to the Grand Lodge, who returned them stating his fullest confidence, that the Lodges would act under them with that zeal, honor and propriety which become the Ancient Craft.”

It was unanimously determined to meet at six o'clock in the evening of the first Wednesday of each month, at the Assembly Hall at Roubalet's.

The essential books for Grand Lodge use and a seal were duly authorized. It was determined that the Lodges should go in procession, on St. John's Day, to Divine service at Trinity Church, and a request was made of the Rev. Dr. Seabury to preach the sermon. It was also not forgotten to appoint a committee to provide for the dinner at Roubalet's to be given after Church service. Routine business and matters of detail were evidently considered, as the records state, among other subjects, that there was received a petition from the officers of Lodge No. 213, held in His Majesty's 4th Battalion of Royal Artillery, quartered in New York City, representing that the Grand Lodge of England had permitted their Mother Lodge, No. 86, held at Woolwich, in the said Regiment, the privilege of wearing their hangings trimmed with gold, in conformity to the uniform of the said Regiment,

and praying that the same indulgence may be extended to them. This was granted. Afterward it was resolved, that Grand Officers only, shall wear gold jewels and hangings, and that officers of subordinate Lodges shall wear silver jewels, with such silk hangings as they may think proper, excepting Lodge No. 213.

Several members of Lodge No. 169, who were officers in the 3d Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers, were the first to seek a Warrant to form and hold a Lodge under the Provincial Grand Lodge. (See Vol. I., p. 265.)

#### THE FIRST WARRANT AUTHORIZED.

“As the petition was recommended by the Master and Wardens of Lodge No. 169, in obedience to a vote of that Lodge, the same was unanimously granted” to Brothers Samuel Ryerse, Abraham Buskirk, Edward Earl, John Buskirk, Richard Cooper, Justus Earl, John Van Norden, William Sorrell and John Hammel. On the following fifth day of February, 1783, this Lodge, then known as No. 2, was, on request, granted the name, St. George.

#### ST. JOHN'S DAY—THE FIRST OBSERVANCE.

The Second Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held on St. John the Evangelist's Day, December 27, 1782, the Grand Master, William Walter, presiding.

Present, representatives from Lodges Nos. 52, 169, 210, 212, 213 and 441. All the Officers and Brethren repaired in procession to St. Paul's Chapel, where a sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Seabury, one of the Brotherhood, to whom due thanks were given. The Brethren dined as provided at Roubalet's. A committee was requested to solicit a copy of the sermon, that the same might be printed, and furthermore, to return thanks to Dr. Inglis for accommodating the Brethren with the use of the chapel.

This concluded the Masonic business of the Grand Lodge for the year 1782.

1783.

## THE GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

As the year 1783 gave acknowledged independence to a national government, and to the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York as well, and as many Lodges and prominent Brethren were deeply interested in the political movements of governments, in their relationships to the United States, it is deemed essential to note current events at this time.

It must not be forgotten that the American War, then impending, had its baleful influence on the progress of Masonry, as well as on that of all other charitable institutions. The Declaration of the Colonies as Independent States in 1776, was not recognized by Great Britain until 1783. Florida, which had been ceded to Great Britain in 1763, was taken by Spain in 1781, and was ceded to it in 1783. The war between England and France, which had broken out in 1778, was an evident outgrowth of the American Revolution, and through the temporary preponderance of French vessels of war in American waters, it had a decided effect upon the outcome of that struggle. France had eighty ships-of-the-line in good condition, and sixty-seven thousand seamen; and Spain, when she came to the aid of France in the second year, had sixty line-of-battle ships; while England possessed one hundred and fifty vessels of war. The political trouble of the Americans was whether the French and Spanish governments desired to see American independence, until after they had turned the embarrassment of England to their own advantage. In the spring of 1781, however, the Count de Grasse, a member of the Fraternity, in command of the French, appeared in the West Indies with twenty-five ships-of-the-line; but, fortunately or unfortunately for him, was too late to meet the English. The engagement in March of eight vessels on each side, off the Capes of the Chesapeake, resulted in a slight disadvantage to the English, who had the heavier armament; nevertheless they carried out the purpose

of their expedition, which was to save Benedict Arnold from capture in Virginia. Arnold was a member of the Fraternity, but subsequently was expelled. Finally De Grasse repulsed the attack of Admiral Graves, who had nineteen line-of-battle ships. The return of Graves to New York put an end to General Cornwallis's hope of succor, and compelled the surrender of seven thousand British troops at Yorktown. The battle of the Saints followed, between Rodney and De Grasse, April 12, 1782, in which the Count de Grasse lost five ships, including his own. It is asserted that Rodney failed to follow up his advantage with sufficient vigor, hence he was held primarily responsible for the surrender of Cornwallis, because he sent only fourteen ships to re-enforce Graves at New York. Rodney asserts the disaster was due to the evacuation of Rhode Island, and the excessive extension of the lines of the English through the invasion of the Carolinas. The surrender of Cornwallis assured the independence of the States.

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The Grand Lodge made its formal bow of existence, in its independence, in the same year (1783) that the Colonies became an acknowledged nation of independent States.

The city of New York at this time was quite meagre in its proportions; its eastern boundary was Pearl Street, and it did not reach Chatham Square; the Chatham or Bowerie road was a defile through hills and meadows. On the north was a hill, commencing at or near the Fields, now the City Hall Park, and its highest point was at what is now Duane Street; from there it sloped toward the Collect. On the hill was a school-house, and about, were scattered a few rude country dwellings, whose gardens stretched up the hillside toward Rose Street. A brick-front suburban house, a little more pretentious than the others, stood near the corner of what are now Duane and Chatham streets.

#### BATTLE OF GOLDEN HILL.

An old house in New York stands at No. 122 William Street. It was built in 1692, during which year the Corpora-

tion opened up the streets between Wall and Fair streets. Fair Street is now called Fulton Street. Lots were sold by the city, and one of the terms of purchase required the buyers to erect buildings thereon of brick or stone not less than two stories high. This house was built of narrow Dutch bricks, brought over from Holland as ballast, and laid in an imperishable cement, which is as hard to-day as the noted bricks.

On the grounds immediately back of the house, was shed the first blood for liberty of the Colonists, prior to the Revolution. This was at the battle of Golden Hill, fought some time before the Boston massacre. About eighty members of the Sixteenth Regiment of Foot (British) had taken up their position on the highest point of the Golden Hill, which was situated on the block now bounded by William, John, Fulton and Gold streets. The Sons of Liberty hastily collected some muskets and pistols, and marched to the hill, determined to disperse the soldiers and make them prisoners. Blood was shed on both sides. One old man was shot through the head, three citizens and five soldiers were wounded. The house was used at various periods before and during the Revolution as a tavern. Among its patrons were the prominent Masonic Brethren, George Washington, Baron Steuben, Generals Putnam and Lafayette.

#### FRAUNCES' TAVERN.

Fraunces' Tavern was situated at the corner of Broad and Pearl streets, and was made Brother Washington's Headquarters, on the evacuation of the city, by the British troops, November 25, 1783. This old mansion, around which some of the most interesting reminiscences of our Revolutionary history are connected, was standing in 1890, although somewhat altered from its original appearance. It was erected about 150 years ago, by the Delancey family, then one of the most distinguished and opulent in New York, and was considered equal in size and architectural display to any at that period in the city.

As a tavern, it was the most noted in New York, and was the resort of the "bloods" of that day, who formed themselves into social clubs, among whom were some of the most active and distinguished men of the Revolution. Samuel Fraunces, or, as he was familiarly called, Black Sam (in consequence of his swarthy complexion), was of French extraction, and appears to have been a prince of a publican. He purchased the house in 1762 from Oliver Delancey, for £2,000, provincial currency, but did not open it as a public house until some time afterward.

The "Masons' Arms" was very popular, under the management of Sam, as a mead and tea garden, a place much frequented by both sexes, on pleasant afternoons. On purchasing the Broad Street house, Sam sold out this, and it is thus announced in the same paper: "May 13, 1762, John Jones—Begs leave to acquaint the publick, That he has removed to the house formerly kept by Samuel Francis, at the sign of the Masons' Arms, next to Mr. Degrusia, in the Fields, where he intends to give the same entertainment as formerly given by Mr. Francis, and that in the best manner."

During the troubles which preceded the Revolution, Fraunces' Tavern seems to have been the resort of both Whig and Loyalist, political affairs not having sufficient power to sever the social ties of those whose custom it was to assemble there and discuss his madeira, a wine for the excellent quality of which Sam's cellar stood proverbial. His sympathies were with the Whigs, and he became one of Washington's most faithful friends and followers. It was through the instrumentality of his daughter, that the attempt to poison Washington was frustrated, she being at that time housekeeper at Richmond Hill, his quarters. This house was one of those which suffered some injury from the broadside of the *Asia*, when she fired upon the city in 1775.

The following is a list of some of the members of the Social Club, which passed Saturday evenings at Sam Fraunces', corner of Broad and Dock streets, in winter, and in summer at Kip's Bay, where they built a neat, large room

for the club-house. The British landed at this spot the day they took the city, September 15, 1776.

Members of this club, dispersed in December, 1775, and never afterward assembled :

“ John Jay (disaffected).—Became Member of Congress, a Resident Minister to Spain, Commissioner to make peace, Chief Justice, Minister to England, and on his return, Governor of New York.

Gouverneur Morris (disaffected).—Member of Congress, Minister to France, etc.

Robert R. Livingston (disaffected).—Minister to France, Chancellor of New York, etc.

Egbert Benson (disaffected).—District Judge, New York, and member of the Legislature.

Morgan Lewis (disaffected).—Governor of New York, and a General in the war of 1812.

Gulian Verplanck (disaffected).—But in Europe till 1783. President of New York Bank.

John Livingston and his brother Henry (disaffected).—But of no political importance.

James Seagrove (disaffected).—Went to the southward as a merchant.

Francis Lewis (disaffected).—But of no political importance.

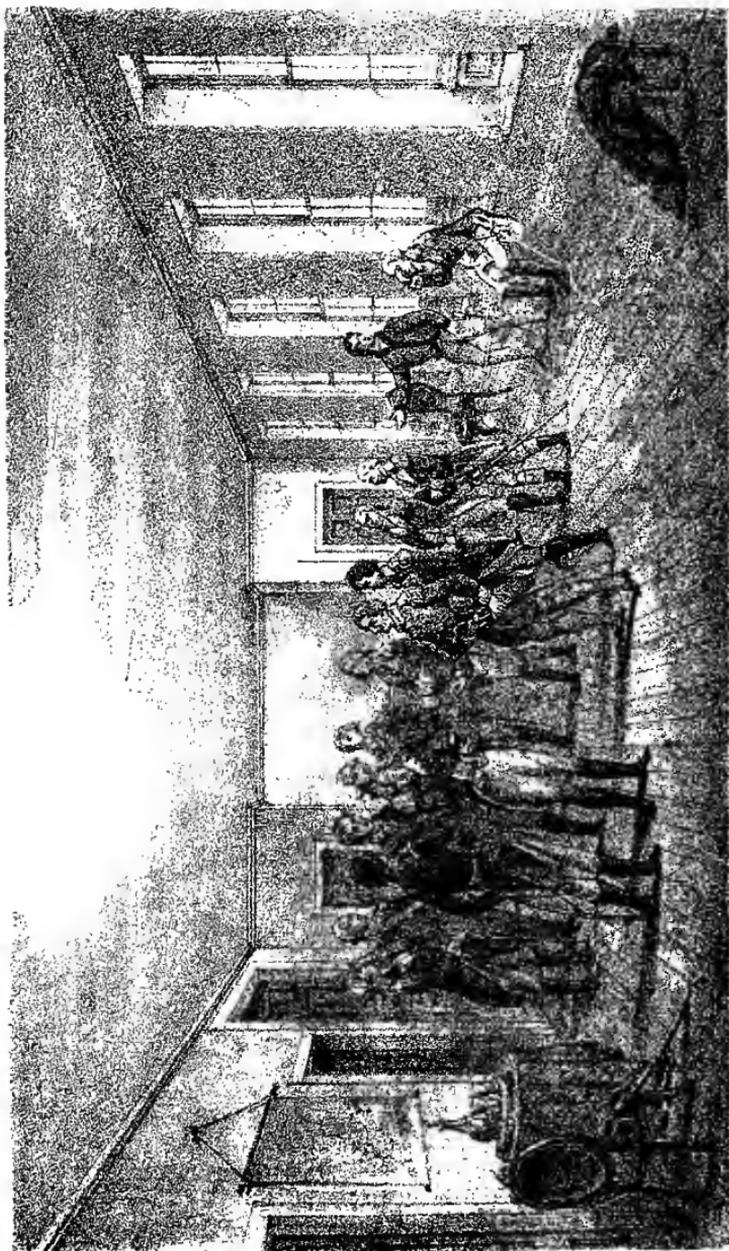
John Watts (doubtful).—During the war, Recorder of New York.

Leonard Lispenard and his brother Anthony (doubtful).—But remained quiet at New York.’

The Declaration of National Independence was read to the Troops by order of General Washington, and in his presence, on July 9, 1776, in the City Hall Park, front of the present City Hall.

The 25th day of November, 1783, being the time fixed upon for the exodus of the British troops, arrangements were made for the triumphal entry of Washington and the American army, to take possession of the city. On the morning of that day—a cold, frosty, but clear and brilliant morning—the troops, under General Knox, encamped at Harlem, marched to the Bowery lane, and halted at the present junction of Third Avenue and the Bowery. There they remained until about one o’clock in the afternoon, when the British left their posts in that vicinity and marched to Whitehall. The American troops followed, and before three o’clock, General Knox took formal possession of Fort George,





DINING-ROOM, FRAUNCE'S TAVERN,  
COR. OF PEARL AND BROAD STS.

"REPRESENTING THE SCENE OF GEN. WASHINGTON TAKING LEAVE OF HIS OFFICERS."





amid the acclamations of thousands of emancipated freemen, and the roar of artillery upon the Battery. Washington repaired to his quarters at Fraunces' Tavern, and there, during the afternoon, Governor Clinton gave a public dinner to the officers of the army, and in the evening the town was brilliantly illuminated. But the most remarkable event connected with the history of Fraunces' Tavern, and which has rendered it the greatest monument to perpetuate the virtues and patriotism of Washington, is the fact that in it he virtually resigned the charge which he had assumed on taking command of the army. In the room on the second story occurred the scene of his taking leave of his officers.

On Thursday, December 4, 1783, the principal officers of the army assembled at Fraunces' to take a final leave of their beloved chief. The scene is described as one of great tenderness. Washington entered the room where they were all waiting, and taking a glass of wine in his hand, said: "With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable." Having drunk, he continued: "I cannot come to each of you to take my leave, but shall be obliged to you if each will come and take me by the hand." Knox, who at first was overcome and shed tears, embraced Washington, who kissed him and the other officers, in succession. Washington then repaired to Whitehall, and took boat for a point up the Hudson.

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The year 1783 opened January 2d with a *monthly session* of the Grand Lodge, and with five numbered Lodges and Zion's Lodge in attendance. The Masters of the Lodges were instructed to devise a plan for raising a fund, which should support the dignity and reputation of the Grand Lodge, and enable it the more effectually to extend the beneficent purposes of the Institution.

A Warrant was ordered to take the place of the Dispensation held by brethren in His Majesty's 57th Regiment,

known as Sion's Lodge, and of which James Huston was Master. Then arose the question so oft discussed, and which for over thirty years had been the bane of Masonry in England and the Colonies, the estrangement and non-intercourse between

#### THE MODERNS AND THE ANCIENTS,

and the open schism and formation of a "Grand Lodge of England, according to Old Institutions." (See Vol. I., pp. 36 to 43.) The New York Atholl Warrant came from the *Ancients*, and after mature deliberation it was voted and resolved, January 2, 1783, "that a modern Master Mason, known to be such, may be healed and admitted into the mysteries of the Ancient Craft, in the manner determined upon this evening, and that the same be recommended to the several Lodges under this jurisdiction, of which the several Masters and Wardens present, are desired perfectly to understand, and communicate the same to their respective Lodges."

In pursuance of this action, St. John's Lodge, No. 4, petitioned at the February Communication to become *Ancient* Masons, which was granted, and the Master, Charles Horton, Senior Warden McQuhae, and Junior Warden John Stickland, were admitted and initiated into the mysteries of the Ancient Craft, agreeably to the form determined upon. These officers then repaired to their Lodge, and having caused the members to comply with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, the latter Body, at an Emergent Communication, February 13th, ordered a Warrant for them, and awarded them a Book of Constitution and By-Laws for their guidance.

#### THE LOTTERY.

At the session of February 5, there was received and read a letter from John Moore, Esq., of New York City, expressive of his affectionate regard and kind wishes for the prosperity of this Grand Lodge, and offering two State lottery tickets at the London price, free from any advance; upon

which it was *Resolved*, unanimously, That the Grand Secretary return the thanks of this Grand Lodge to Mr. Moore for his kind attention toward them, and assure him they will ever bear in remembrance a proper sense of his generous offer; and it was

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be given to Bro. Joshua Watson, Grand Treasurer, for his liberal donation of a State lottery ticket, and that the Grand Secretary transmit the same, in terms of suitable respect and affection, for so particular an instance of benevolence.

#### NAMES AND NUMBERS OF LODGES.

It was further *Resolved*, That six guineas be fixed as the price for a Warrant, and one guinea for a book of By-Laws. Also, that all Lodges may be designated by a name, as well as a number.

#### LODGES NOS. 5 AND 6.

On March 6th, sundry officers of the Auxiliary Troops, and members of Lodge No. 213, held in His Majesty's Fourth Battalion of Royal Artillery, petitioned for a Warrant to form and hold a Lodge in the Regiment de Knyphausen, which petition was received and granted, whereupon Lodge No. 213 made a generous donation to the Grand Lodge of a set of marble columns and a Box for the Jewels, which the Grand Lodge accepted. An Emergent Grand Lodge was held four days thereafter, to constitute a Lodge in the Regiment de Knyphausen, when the following brethren were presented to the Deputy Grand Master, as the officers elected by the petitioners to fill the chairs of said Lodge: William Drake, Master, Henry Lorey, Senior Warden, and Joseph Horn, Junior Warden, and, being approved by the brethren, they were installed and invested with the proper jewels, as officers of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, and authorized to meet on the first Saturday of every calendar month.

At the same Communication a petition was received from John J. Lotheissen and other brethren, praying for a War-

rant, which was also granted. Thereupon, a Special Grand Lodge was opened in ample form on March 13th, for the purpose of constituting Concordia Lodge, No. 6. The petitioners for that Lodge presented John Jacob Lotheissen for their Master, Frederick Spangenberg for their Senior Warden, and Frederick Wacks for their Junior Warden, who, being severally approved of, were installed and invested with the proper jewels of their office, after which they received their Warrant, Book of By-Laws and Constitutions, with instructions to meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each calendar month.

#### A BLANK WARRANT.

A singular action was taken by the Grand Lodge on April 2, wherein it passed the following :

“ *Resolved*, That a blank Warrant, free of all expense, be presented to our Wor. Brother James McCuen, Esq., Deputy Grand Master, with liberty to fill the blanks with such names as he may think proper ; and that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be returned for the many essential services he hath rendered in its institution and progression.”

#### DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

Brother James McCuen vacated his office by resignation, and on May 7, in open Lodge, William Walter, Grand Master, called Archibald Cunningham, of No. 169, to succeed to the office of Deputy Grand Master, who was duly invested and assumed charge of his duties.

The Grand Treasurer, Joshua Watson, having departed for Halifax, Junior Warden Kerr, of No. 169, was elected and invested with the jewel.

#### LODGE NO. 7.

At this meeting a petition from sundry Ancient brethren was received, praying for a Warrant for forming and holding a Lodge in His Majesty's Loyal American Regiment ;

which was granted under the recommendation of No. 210. Whereupon the Grand Lodge held a Special Session on June 12, for the purpose of constituting Lodge No. 7, to be held in His Majesty's Loyal American Regiment or elsewhere. The petitioners for that Lodge presented Brother William Fowler to be Master, Brother Anthony Allaire to be Senior Warden, Brother Caleb Fowler to be Junior Warden; who, meeting with the approbation of the brethren, were installed and invested with their proper jewels, after which the Grand Master delivered to them their Warrant, By-Laws, and Book of Constitution, with instructions to meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each calendar month.

#### THE JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.

Another change took place in the personnel of the officers of the Grand Lodge on June 5, when the Rev. John Beardsley resigned, as he intended leaving the city, and William Cock, Master of Lodge No. 210, then Grand Secretary, was elected Junior Grand Warden to fill the vacancy. The Deputy Grand Secretary, James Clarke, was thereupon elected Grand Secretary to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of William Cock. The dissensions that broke out in Lodge No. 210, and which came before the Grand Lodge, June 19, will be found on p. 399, Vol. I.

The several new officers were installed on the following

#### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S DAY,

June 24, it having been determined to commemorate that day, under the resolution adopted June 5, when a Committee of three, Brothers Cunningham, Clarke and Fife, were "vested with full powers to regulate the Solemnities of the Festival."

In due order the Grand Lodge attended by the brethren of Lodges 169, 210, 213, 52, 478 and St. John's, No. 4, went in procession from Roubalet's Tavern to St. Paul's Chapel, where an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Inglis, Rector of New York. After Divine service, the

Grand and other Lodges returned to Roubalet's, and taking into their serious consideration the repeated instances of civility they had received from Dr. Inglis, particularly for the sermon he was pleased to preach before them on that day, it was unanimously resolved, that the Grand Secretary take the earliest opportunity to transmit to him their thanks, and to assure him they would ever retain a grateful sense of his attention and benevolence, not only on the present, but on former occasions. And also to acquaint him, they would consider it as an additional favor if he would be pleased to give them a copy of his sermon for the press.

LODGE NO. 90 PAYS HOMAGE.

On August 5, 1783, Lodge No. 90, held in His Majesty's 33d Regiment, presented their Warrant, granted August 19, 1761, by the Grand Lodge of London, under the auspices of Earl Kelly, Grand Master, and acknowledged the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York, whereupon they were admitted to take their seats.

The Grand Lodge at this date accepted the offer of Brother Campbell, the Master of Lodge No. 169, to meet in their Lodge-room.

This meeting was made memorable by the instituting and establishing a

COMMITTEE OF CHARITY,

to whom all petitions of indigent brethren were to be referred, and vesting them with power to grant relief, such as the circumstances may appear to require, and the funds of the Grand Lodge would permit. This first Committee consisted of the Grand Secretary, James Clarke, Grand Treasurer Kerr and Worshipful Brother Fife, to whom the charities of the Grand Lodge were committed. This was the commencement of the

GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.

And it was specially "*Resolved*, That the Grand Deacons, or Grand Stewards, if they neglect to attend to their duty

on the stated Lodge nights, unless prevented by sickness or unavoidable business, shall be suspended and others appointed in their places."

The first three instances of charity reported by the Committee of Charity, and the sums allowed, were, to Matthew Arnold, of Lodge No. 293, £4; to Peter Vincent, £9, 6. 8.; to James Spencer, of Lodge No. 15, Kingston, Jamaica, £26, 2. 8.

#### THE GRAND WARRANT.

At a meeting of a Grand Lodge of Emergency, opened September 19, 1783, at which representatives of six Lodges were present, a warm discussion arose as to the propriety of *leaving the Grand Warrant in New York City*, considering the momentous political changes which were transpiring, more especially in the city. In consideration of the Grand Lodge having been established in the Province, it was resolved that the same should be left, and remain in the care of such brethren as may hereafter be appointed to succeed the present Grand officers, the most of whom were under the necessity of leaving New York upon the removal of His Majesty's troops.

#### GRAND MASTER WALTER RESIGNS.

The Grand Master, William Walter, signified to the Grand Lodge his intention of leaving the city with his family, in a few days, and that it was necessary the Grand Lodge should think of some brother to succeed him; he then begged leave to resign his office, which he accordingly did, after taking an affectionate leave of the several Lodges, in terms of the highest respect and gratitude. As an evidence of esteem a valuable jewel, duly inscribed, was shortly thereafter presented by the Grand Lodge to Rev. William Walter.

#### WILLIAM COCK, GRAND MASTER.

The Junior Grand Warden, William Cock, having been nominated by the Grand Master as his successor, was

unanimously elected, proclaimed, installed and inducted in the Chair, after which he received the salutation of the several Lodges present, with the ceremonies usual on such occasions. William Cock was Deputy Register in the Court of Chancery, and had his office as a lawyer, as well as his residence, at No. 66 Wall Street.

This action left the Junior Grand Warden's chair vacant; thereupon Patrick McDavitt, of Lodge No. 169, a merchant of the city, was nominated and unanimously elected to fill that office.

#### CHANGES IN THE GRAND OFFICES.

On October 1, five Lodges being represented, the following proceedings were had:

*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge is impressed with the liveliest sense of gratitude to the Right Worshipful the Rev. William Walter, their late Grand Master, for the attention, candor and abilities he displayed in the various important duties of his office. And, as a testimony of their affection and regard, they beg he will accept their sincerest thanks, accompanied with the most ardent wishes for his prosperity and happiness in every situation where God in His Providence may order his lot.

Brother John S. Browning, Senior Grand Warden, acquainted the Grand Lodge that as he should leave this city, probably before their next meeting, he begged leave to resign his office, which he accordingly did in terms of great respect and affection for the different Lodges in this jurisdiction.

The Senior Grand Warden's chair being now vacant, Brother Patrick McDavitt was unanimously elected Senior Grand Warden, after which he was installed and vested with the jewel of his office.

The Junior Grand Warden's chair being vacant by the promotion of Brother McDavitt, Brother James Saidler, member of Lodge No. 169, was unanimously elected Junior Grand Warden, after which he was installed. Brother Said-

ler was a merchant, having his residence and place of business at 34 Queen, now Pearl, Street.

Brother Archibald Cunningham, Deputy Grand Master, having since the last meeting of the Grand Lodge embarked for Nova Scotia, the Grand Master called upon Brother Browning to fill the Chair during his residence in the city, which he accepted.

It was then

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be given to the R. W. Brother Browning, late Senior Grand Warden, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, not only by a regular attendance in the Grand Lodge, but in supporting the reputation and dignity of the Ancient Craft on every occasion.

In addition to the above, it appears the Grand Pursivant, Woollett, resigned, and the two Grand Deacons, Clarke and Roome, having announced their intention of leaving the city, their positions were filled by Brothers Miller and Templeton, of Lodge No. 169. Brothers Burdett and Hickford, the Grand Stewards, also having left the city, Brothers Wilson and Seaman, of Lodge No. 169, were elected to fill their places.

Thus every permanent Grand Officer, excepting the Grand Master, William Cock, of Lodge No. 212, was a member of Lodge No. 169.

On November 29, 1783, the Grand Lodge formed and granted a Warrant to Union Lodge, No. 8, and James Saidler was installed Master; Oliver Templeton, Senior Warden, and John Miller, Junior Warden.

Preparations were instituted early in December for the due celebration of St. John's Day.

At the Assembly on December 3, the time of meeting was changed to the first Wednesday in *every second month*, commencing in February.

A number of petitions praying for relief having been presented to Grand Lodge, the same were referred to a Committee, and it appearing that two of the Committee on

Charity had departed for Nova Scotia, the Committee was newly constituted by the appointment of Brothers Horton and Saidler in conjunction with Brother Kerr. It was also deemed judicious "that the several Grand Officers, together with the respective Masters in the Chair of the Lodges within this jurisdiction, be a committee to open a *correspondence with the different Grand Lodges of America.*"

1784.

On February 4, 1784, Brother Samuel Kerr, a retired merchant, Master of Lodge No. 169, was duly elected Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year. He was a member of St. Andrew's Society of the State of New York.

#### A GRAND LODGE FOR CONNECTICUT.

A letter from Brother Samuel H. Parsons, of New Haven, Conn., was received in November, stating the situation of the Lodges of that State and of their having no responsible head; a Committee was accordingly appointed to confer with the bearer of the communication, "and to enter fully and amply into the constitution of every proposal he may lay before them, and finally to determine thereon."

The Committee so appointed reported on December 3, which report was read and approved. The subject was taken up for action, on the succeeding February 4, when it was unanimously voted, that the officers of the Grand Lodge should be "a Committee to determine the most eligible mode, for the Grand Officers-elect of the State of Connecticut obtaining a Grand Warrant from the Grand Lodge of England."

The meetings of the Grand Lodge were again ordered to be changed; that hereafter the meetings would be held *quarterly* on the first Wednesday in March, June, September, and December.

Upon the petition of Brothers James Gardiner, John L.

Hudson, and Joseph Corwin, a Warrant was granted to form the *first lodge on Long Island*.

#### CHARITY.

The duties and responsibilities of the Committee on Charity now began to broaden; the Committee constituted in August, began to realize the importance of their cares and the importunities of the numerous applicants. The Grand Lodge, out of regard for the claims continually being made, "voted, unanimously, that the three oldest Masters of the different Lodges, meet as often as possible, the Secretary and books always present, to grant relief to the petitioners of this Grand Lodge or Stewards' Lodge for Charity."

The effect of this action, in conjunction with the fact that the Grand Lodge determined to meet quarterly, was to deposit with the Grand Stewards' Lodge much of the duties of the Grand Lodge, pending the Quarterly Sessions. It now becomes essential, to consider the movements and actions of the Grand Stewards' Lodge in continuity with the Sessions of the Grand Lodge.

#### FIRST MEETING—GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.

The first regular meeting of the Grand Stewards' Lodge was held February 18, 1784, at the Lodge-room of No. 169, and being opened in ample form, the Deputy Grand Master, Samuel Kerr, opened proceedings by offering two resolutions which were unanimously adopted, first, that the prayers of Brother John Wood's petition be granted, and that the sum of ten dollars be given to him; second, that Brothers Morris, Joy and Horton wait on Brother Jeremiah Wright and inquire into his circumstances, and, if found necessary, afford him relief. The Grand Tyler was donated ten dollars and his fees ordered paid.

#### HON. ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON, GRAND MASTER.

At the meeting of Grand Lodge held February 4, Grand Master William Cock resigned his official duties, and nomi-

nated to fill the vacancy, the Hon. Robert R. Livingston, who was unanimously elected Grand Master, and accordingly was proclaimed and installed by proxy. The last recorded Masonic act of William Cock was the installation of the Grand Officers, June 25, 1792.

The Grand Stewards' Lodge, on February 18, resolved that the next meeting of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of installing the Grand Master, be at Brother Cape's tavern, and that Brothers Kerr and Saidler wait on the Grand Master, to know his pleasure whether the installation shall be public or not.

Brother Livingston having signified his pleasure, the Grand Lodge was opened on March 3 by Grand Master William Cock, when the Hon. Robert R. Livingston attended, was installed and inducted in the chair and proclaimed Grand Master, after which he received the salutations of the several Lodges present, with the ceremonies usual on such occasions.

#### SKETCH OF GRAND MASTER LIVINGSTON.

Among the Free Masons who have exercised the highest judicial functions in the United States, ranking with Chief Justice William Allen, the earliest Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and also the earliest in America, Chief Justices J. Bannister Gibson and John M. Reed, subsequent Grand Masters of Pennsylvania, and Chief Justice John Marshall, Grand Master of Virginia, was Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master of New York, who merits distinguished mention. He was no less active and prominent as a Free Mason, than he was as a citizen, a patriot, a jurist, and a statesman.

On April 18, 1771, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, of Poughkeepsie was constituted. Brother Robert R. Livingston, then Master of Union Lodge of the city of New York, acting as Grand Master by authority of Prov. Grand Master, Brother George Harrison, constituted the Lodge and installed its officers.

The Master of the new Lodge, Brother Col. James Livingston, was a kinsman of Chancellor Livingston, a trustee of

King's College, New York, and a member of the State Assembly.

In 1789, Grand Master Robert R. Livingston, and other officers and members of Grand Lodge, observed St. John's Day, June 24, by attending at St. Paul's Chapel and listening to a sermon delivered by Brother Beach. Among the brethren attending with them was Brother, the Hon. James Jackson, member of Congress and Grand Master of Masons of Georgia.

In 1798 Brother John Jacob Astor was elected Grand Treasurer, serving under Brother Livingston as Grand Master. No other Grand Master served as long in the supreme station as he did, and certainly none was more eminent for ability, or held an office exceeding in dignity that of Chancellor of the Court of Equity of a great commonwealth.

Brother Robert R. Livingston, LL.D., of New York, came of illustrious ancestry. He was a lineal descendant of the fifth Lord Livingston, who was intrusted with the guardianship of Mary, Queen of Scots. His father, who bore the same name, was in succession a judge of the Court of Admiralty and a justice of the Supreme Court of New York, and was of Scotch descent. Robert Livingston emigrated to America, arriving in New York in 1676, where he was warmly welcomed, and soon after was employed in the colonial government at Albany. In 1686 he became the grantee of the famous territorial "manor of Livingston" on the Hudson, which was only less valuable than the manor of Van Rensselaer. The Livingston Manor House stood forty miles south of Albany, and there, for several generations, the Livingstons dispensed a princely hospitality. Every foreigner of distinction received a courteous welcome within its portals. There was a second Livingston Manor, of Clermont, on the lower Hudson. This consisted of thirteen thousand acres, and devolved by descent upon Chancellor Livingston, and it was here that the latter died. It was Robert Livingston, the grandfather of Robert R., who introduced the then famous (afterward infamous) Captain Kidd to Lord Bellomont, recommending him as a fit person to command the expedition

against the pirates. Kidd sailed in 1696, and it is familiar history that he turned pirate himself, was apprehended, sent to England for trial, found guilty, and executed in 1701.

At seventeen years of age, the future Chancellor and Grand Master of New York was graduated at King's (now Columbia) College, New York City—John Jay and Gouverneur Morris being in the same class. He immediately commenced the study of the law with William Smith, the eminent justice and historian, was admitted to the bar in 1773, and shortly afterward was appointed Recorder of the city of New York. His office was No. 3 Broadway. In the Revolutionary War, which soon followed, he and his father, both of whom held public office under the Crown, promptly resigned, and cast their fortunes with the patriots in the cause of independence.

He at once took a foremost place in the councils of the State and nation. In 1775, Brother Livingston was a member of the Provincial Convention, and a member of the committee appointed to prepare a plan of confederation for the colonies. In 1775-7, he was a member of the Continental Congress, and, with Jefferson, Franklin, Adams, and Sherman, was on the committee appointed to draft the Declaration of Independence; but in consequence of his absence on public business in New York he lost the opportunity of being a signer to the Declaration—which has been truly styled “more than a Battle Abbey roll.” He was a member of the Council of Safety, and of the committee which prepared the first Constitution of New York. Under this Constitution, he was appointed the first Chancellor of the State, in 1777, and served in that high office for twenty-four years, until he resigned in 1801, to become Minister to France. During this period, he also performed temporarily various important functions, being in 1781-3 Secretary of Foreign Affairs, in 1784 a delegate to Congress at Philadelphia, and in 1788 chairman of the convention of New York that adopted the Constitution of the United States. In 1789, while Chancellor, he administered the oath of office as President to Brother Gen. George Washington in New York City. On

the Fourth of July, 1787, he delivered an exceedingly able and eloquent oration before the Society of the Cincinnati, in New York. In 1796, he declined the position of Minister to France tendered him by President Washington.

A praiseworthy episode in the distinguished career of Livingston was his active and enthusiastic co-operation with Brother Robert Fulton, in promoting steam navigation, lending the latter both his influence and his means. In 1798, he drew an act and had it presented to the Legislature of New York, providing that Fulton should have the exclusive privilege to navigate the waters of the State of New York for twenty years. The act, when introduced, was received with derision "as an idle, whimsical project." It has been seriously questioned that Brother Robert Fulton was the inventor or first successful experimenter with the steamboat, since it is believed that Brother John Fitch is entitled to this honor, and that Philadelphia first witnessed the triumph of steam navigation. For evidence of this fact we need only refer to the issues of the Philadelphia *Federal Gazette* of June, July, August, and September, 1790, when "*The Steamboat*" was stately *advertised* as a regular packet boat running between "Arch Street Ferry" and Burlington, Bordentown, and Trenton on the upper Delaware River, with occasional trips to Chester and Wilmington down the river. The failure of the company running the boat, unfortunately, ended for a time the continuance of steam navigation in the vicinity of Philadelphia, thus successfully introduced. When Livingston was Minister to France, he aided Fulton in that country in his experiments on the Seine, and on his return in 1805 he aided him again on the Hudson. In return for the co-operation of his patron, Fulton named his first steamboat "*The Clermont*," after Livingston's manor of that name. On August 7, 1807, the steamboat left New York on a trial trip to Albany, and was successful, and ever afterward steam navigation has been continuously prosecuted.

As Minister to France, Chancellor Livingston bore himself with distinction, ability, and success. Randall, in his "Life of Jefferson," says,—without coming under Sir Henry Woot-

ton's punning definition of an ambassador, "an honest gentleman, sent to lie abroad for his country,"—Livingston was a man of the world, possessed of social tact and business experience, remarkably well informed and distinguished for broad and liberal views. He became a favorite with Bonaparte, being permitted to communicate with him directly, without the intervention of a minister. To him, in connection with Presidents Jefferson and Monroe, we owe the important acquisition of the territory of Louisiana, by purchase from France, for twelve millions of dollars. When Livingston resigned his mission to France, in 1805, he received from Napoleon the parting gift of a gold snuff-box, ornamented with a portrait of the First Consul. Upon his return from the French mission to the United States, Livingston at once became active again as a citizen. He was an ardent lover of the Fine Arts, and President of the New York Academy. He was Vice-President of St. Andrew's Society of the State of New York. He was also President of the Society for the Promotion of the Useful Arts, and of the Agricultural Society, and the first to introduce into New York the use of gypsum and the breed of merino sheep. A number of his addresses and essays were published, with formal treatises on agriculture and sheep. His mental activity continued until his death, only a few days before which, he completed a paper on agriculture for the American edition of "Brewster's Encyclopædia." Past Grand Master Livingston died at his favorite home, Clermont on the Hudson, February 26, 1813, at the age of sixty-three years. In person our distinguished brother was of a commanding presence, and eminently courteous in his bearing. His abilities as a lawyer and judge were remarkable, and as a public speaker he was persuasive, eloquent, and powerful. Both the American people and the Masonic Craft have every reason to be proud of his eminent career of usefulness.

As an evidence of the loyalty and true Masonic affection entertained by the Lodges for their newly elected Grand Master, the following letters of congratulation from Nos. 169 and 210 are herein inserted :

*“To the Right Worshipful and Honorable Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master of Ancient Masons in the State of New York and Chancellor of the same, &c., &c., &c.*

We, the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Lodge No. 169, highly pleased with your appointment as Grand Master of Ancient Masons in this State, beg leave to Congratulate you & the Craft in general on that happy Event, and to assure you of our Concurrence and Support in whatever may tend to the good of that Ancient & Honorable Society.

Universal Benevolence, Charity & Urbanity being the grand Characteristics of Masonry, under the protection and patronage of a Gentleman so distinguished for those Virtues, and the high Station in which your Country has so deservedly placed you, with inexpressible pleasure we look forward with firmest hope that Unanimity, Concord and Harmony will universally prevail amongst the Royal Craft in this State.

And may its benign influence soon extend thro' the whole continent, a blessing to themselves and mankind in general, to the latest posterity.

That you may long live to see the universal Influence of Masonry and the prosperity of this Country, and enjoy every other happiness, is the ardent wish of Lodge No. 169.

SAMUEL KERR, Master.

THO<sup>s</sup>. TUCKER, Sen<sup>r</sup> Warden.

PETER McDUGALL, Jun-Warden.

NEW YORK, March 8, 1784.”

“TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE HONORABLE ROB. R. LIVINGSTON, ESQ<sup>R</sup>, GRAND MASTER OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

*The humble address of the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Lodge No. 210, Ancient York Masons.*

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER :

Permit us, the Master, Wardens, and Brethren of Lodge No. 210, A. Y. M., to testify in the most unfeigned manner

our happiness in having a Gentleman of your exalted character and ability placed in the Chief Chair of Masonry in this State, and to exult in the idea of the Craft's thus receiving so great an additional ornament.

We return you our warmest acknowledgments for your expressions of regard for Masonry in general, but more particularly for the excellent instructions which we received on your taking the Chair. Your good example cannot but have an extensive influence over the conduct of every individual, making Harmony, Friendship, and Brotherly Love the rule by which they square their actions, and the good of the community the *centre* to which they all tend, and we have every thing to hope and expect from your precepts.

We, for our own parts, promise you all due obedience, and every assistance in supporting the Honor of the Craft and the dignity of your station, and can with justice assert it is our inclination as well as duty so to do.

May the Great Architect of the Universe take you, our worthy Brother, into His Holy Protection and keeping, is and shall be the sincere prayer of, Right Worshipful Sir,

Your Affectionate Brother,

AND<sup>w</sup> MORRIS, Master.

NEW YORK, March 9, 5784."

GRAND TREASURER. GRAND SECRETARIES.

In consequence of the promotion of Brother Samuel Kerr to the position of Deputy Grand Master, the office of Grand Treasurer had been left vacant; thereupon Daniel McCormick, Master of Union Lodge, was appointed Grand Treasurer.

The Warrant of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, having been surrendered to the Grand Lodge and accepted, and the Lodge conforming to the Regulations, John Lawrence, the Master, and James Giles, the Junior Warden, were jointly appointed Grand Secretaries until St. John's Day. Brother James Giles was a lawyer, with office and residence at 65 Maiden Lane.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, NO. 2. ROYAL ARCH LODGE, NO. 8.

A Grand Stewards' Lodge of Emergency was held March 27, when it was

“*Resolved*, 1st. That St. John's Lodge, No. 2, having surrendered their Warrant to the Grand Lodge March 3, inst., and agreed to conform to its Regulations, be entitled to all the rights and privileges of members of said Grand Lodge, and take rank of all Lodges that may be constituted by the Grand Lodge after said surrender.

2d. That all other Lodges in this State who were in the same situation as St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and who are willing to conform to the Regulations of this Grand Lodge, be received in like manner as St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and be entitled to all the rights and privileges of the other Lodges now in this city.”

St. John the Baptist's Day was duly observed by a procession and the attendance at Church for a sermon.

Royal Arch Lodge, No. 8, having surrendered its Warrant on June 2, another was granted gratis, when the Lodge appears under the name Independent Royal Arch, No. 8.

When the Grand Lodge of Emergency was opened on June 23, 1784, there were present representatives from Lodges 169, 210, 212, 4, Hiram No. 5, Union No. 8, Lodge No. 2, Royal Arch No. 8, Masters' No. 2, Solomon's Lodge of Poughkeepsie, and Lodge No. 1 of Clarke's Town.

The representatives of Solomon's Lodge, Union Lodge, Masters' Lodge, and St. John's Lodge, No. 1, in behalf of their respective Lodges, acknowledged the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and were awarded seats accordingly.

#### ELECTION OF SEVERAL GRAND OFFICERS.

Hon. Peter W. Yates, one of the four members representing the State of New York in Congress, which met in Federal Hall, Wall Street, Master of Union Lodge of Albany,

was elected to the office of Senior Grand Warden ; James Saidler to the office of Junior Grand Warden ; Daniel McCormick was re-elected Grand Treasurer ; John Lawrence and James Giles were re-elected Joint Grand Secretaries.

The Warrant of St. Patrick's Lodge, in Tryon County, having been taken surreptitiously to Canada, or destroyed, on motion of Brother Peter W. Yates, a new one was authorized, free of expense.

An engraved plate for Grand Lodge Certificates was ordered.

The Grand Lodge opened with the usual solemnities on September 1, 1784. The following were the officers of the Grand Lodge at that time :

Robert R. Livingston, M. W. Grand Master ;  
 Samuel Kerr, R. W. Deputy Grand Master ;  
 Peter W. Yates (installed Nov. 22), R. W. Sen. G. Warden ;  
 James Saidler, R. W. Junior Grand Warden ;  
 Daniel McCormick, Grand Treasurer ;  
 John Lawrence, } Grand Secretaries.  
 James Giles, }

All were present, except the Grand Master and the Senior Grand Warden. There were also present representatives of eight Lodges.

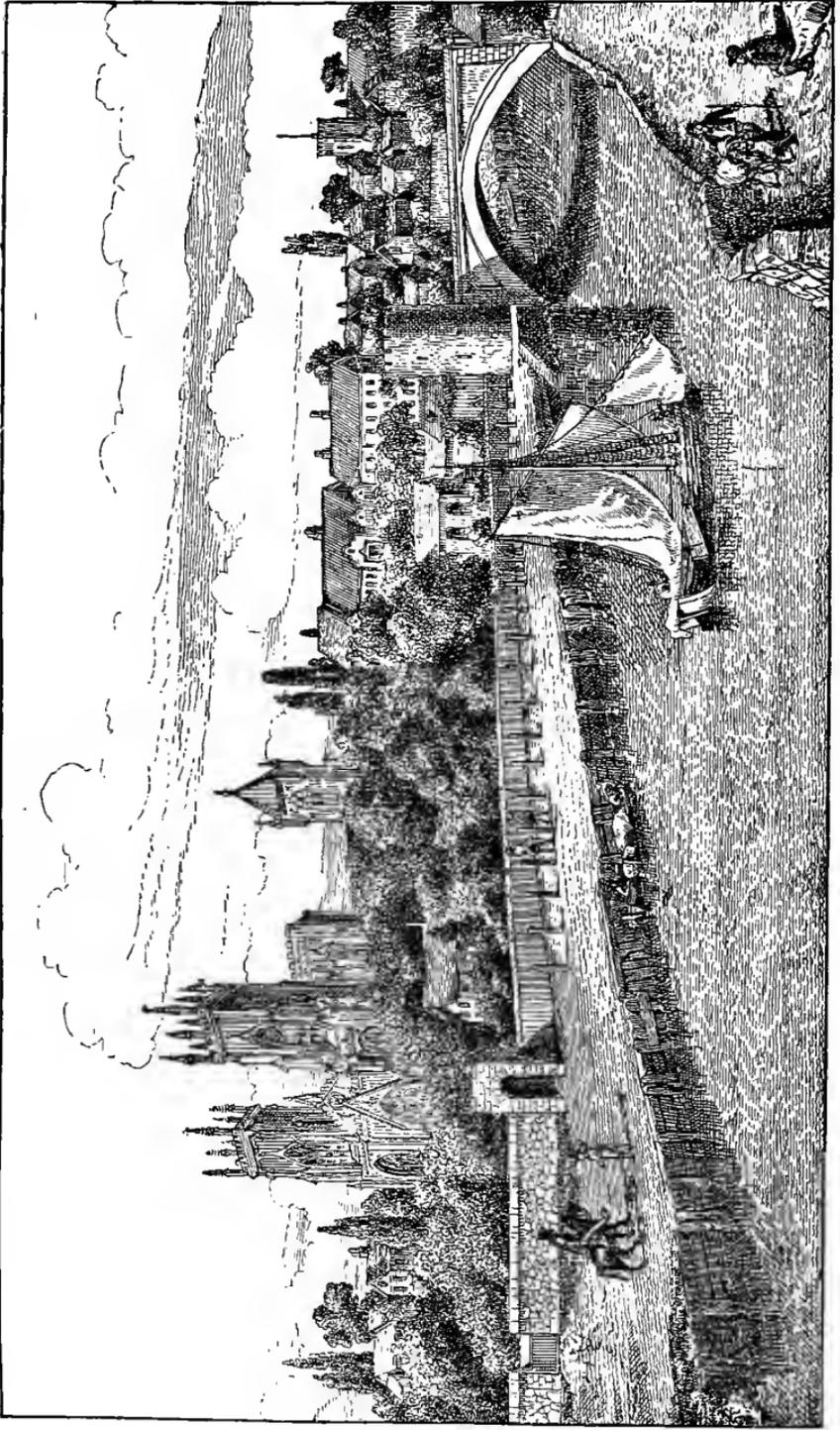
Regularity in the keeping of a detailed Register of all members and in the issuance of Grand Lodge Certificates, became subjects of discussion, and were favorably acted upon. The price of the certificate was fixed at ten shillings.

It was also *Resolved*, in Grand Stewards' Lodge held September 15, that every regular Mason shall pay to the Grand Body, eight shillings per annum.

1785.

A Committee appointed in February, to prepare Rules and Regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge, reported





YORK, ENGLAND, A.D. 926.





complete on March 2; they were agreed to and ordered published. These

RULES AND REGULATIONS

were dedicated :

“ To His Excellency, George Washington, Esq.

In Testimony, as well of his exalted Services to his Country, as of his distinguished Character as a Mason, the following Book of Constitutions of the most ancient and honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, by order and in behalf of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, is dedicated,

By his most Humble Servant,

JAMES GILES, G. Secretary.

A. L. 5785.”

YORK CONSTITUTIONS. YORK LEGEND. YORK RITE.

The popular form of the “ York Legend ” places the date at A. D. 926, and is given by Dr. Anderson in these words : “ Prince Edwin summon'd all the Free and Accepted Masons in the Realm, to meet him in the Congregation at York, who came and form'd the Grand Lodge, under him as their Grand Master, A. D. 926.”

Preston uses the following language: “ Edward died in 924, and was succeeded by Athelstane, his son, who appointed his brother Edwin patron of the Masons. This prince procured a Charter from Athelstane, empowering them to meet annually in Communication at York. In this city the First Grand Lodge of England was formed in 926, at which Edwin presided as Grand Master. Here many old writings were produced in Greek, Latin and other languages, from which it is said the Constitutions of the English Lodge have been extracted.”

As all Masonic writers agree in the main features of the York Legend, it is universally accepted, that an Assembly was held at York in A. D. 926, and that “ a Code of Laws was adopted, which became the basis on which all subsequent Masonic Constitutions were framed.”

Old York manuscripts are still preserved and carefully guarded, such as those of date, 1600, 1670, 1680, 1693, 1704.

It is evidently a misnomer to speak of the "York Rite" as of the present day; Brother William J. Hughan remarks, "There is no such Rite, and what it *was* no one *now* knows." Dr. Albert G. Mackey says, "The Rite in its purity does not now exist anywhere. The nearest approach to it is the St. John's Masonry of Scotland." (See Vol. I., p. 35.)

Inasmuch as at this period (1785) in the history of the Grand Lodge but few rules had been adopted in addition to the Old Regulations, Constitutions, etc. (see Vol. I., pp. 17-29), and which have herein been quoted, the Warrant numbers not determined, nor the rank of Lodges assigned; and inasmuch as many changes were made within the succeeding fifteen years, the number of Lodges increased and more definitive regulations made, it is deemed advisable that these first Rules and Regulations embracing the old Constitutions and Charges be not repeated herein until the year of their fuller publication in 1801, *which will be found post*. It is also well to notice that the Copy of these Laws, as used by the Grand Lodge and its Subordinates, differed materially in language from the original Constitutions and Charges of 1722, '23, '26, and '30, and were those as known to the *Ancients*. They are published in this history in the diction in which they were used by the Grand Lodge of New York.

The Grand Lodge held a Communication June 1, 1785. Robert R. Livingston was re-elected Grand Master; Samuel Kerr, Deputy Grand Master; Peter W. Yates, Senior Grand Warden; James Saidler, Junior Grand Warden; Daniel McCormick, Grand Treasurer, and James Giles continued as Grand Secretary.

Warrants for Dutchess County Lodge and Fort Edward Lodge were granted July 12 on petitions duly presented.

A letter received September 7, from the Grand Master of Massachusetts, Paschal N. Smith, conveying the proceedings of a Convention at Boston, was read, together with the

proceedings, and referred to the Grand Stewards' Lodge for reply.

The observance of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist became a subject of more than usual consideration in December, 1785; resolutions and orders were adopted announcing a procession, the march to commence from Cape's Tavern, at eleven o'clock, accompanied by a band of music. The Rev. Mr. Beach was requested to officiate on the occasion, and allow the sermon to be printed. That due ceremony should mark the event, the following was adopted :

“ *Resolved*, That the order for procession on St. John's Day next be as follows :

The Lodges shall walk according to the time they respectively were adopted by the Grand Lodge.

Two Tylers with drawn swords.

Music.

Knights Templars with swords, etc.

Two Stewards with Rods.

Brethren out of office, two and two.

Treasurer and Secretary.

Senior and Junior Wardens.

Junior Deacon, Present and Past Masters.

GRAND.

One Deacon	{ Grand Pursuivant, with Bible, Square, and Compasses on a Velvet Cushion.	One Deacon
or		or
Steward.		Steward.

Clergymen.

Brethren invited by the Grand Lodge.

Grand Treasurer and Secretary.

Senior and Junior Grand Wardens.

Past Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master.

{	Right Worshipful Grand Mas-	}
	ter, supported by two G. Dea-	
	cons and two Grand Stewards.	

Knights Templars, properly clothed, *drawn swords, etc.*”

The event proved uneventful, except in the matter of enjoyment and the gratification of the brethren in having listened to an unusually excellent sermon. It will be observed that the escort consisted of Knights Templars.

The Committee to whom had been referred a Memorial from Brothers Charles Bingham, Samuel Webb, and Charles Thompson of Perth Amboy, N. J., praying for the benefits of Masonry, reported unfavorably on December 21, and the subject seems to have been dropped for all future time. Shortly thereafter it was determined that Marshals should be appointed for the Grand Body, but no immediate appointments seem to have been made.

1786.

Hon. Robert R. Livingston, on June 7, 1786, was re-elected Grand Master ; Peter W. Yates, Senior Grand Warden ; and Peter McDougall, Junior Grand Warden.

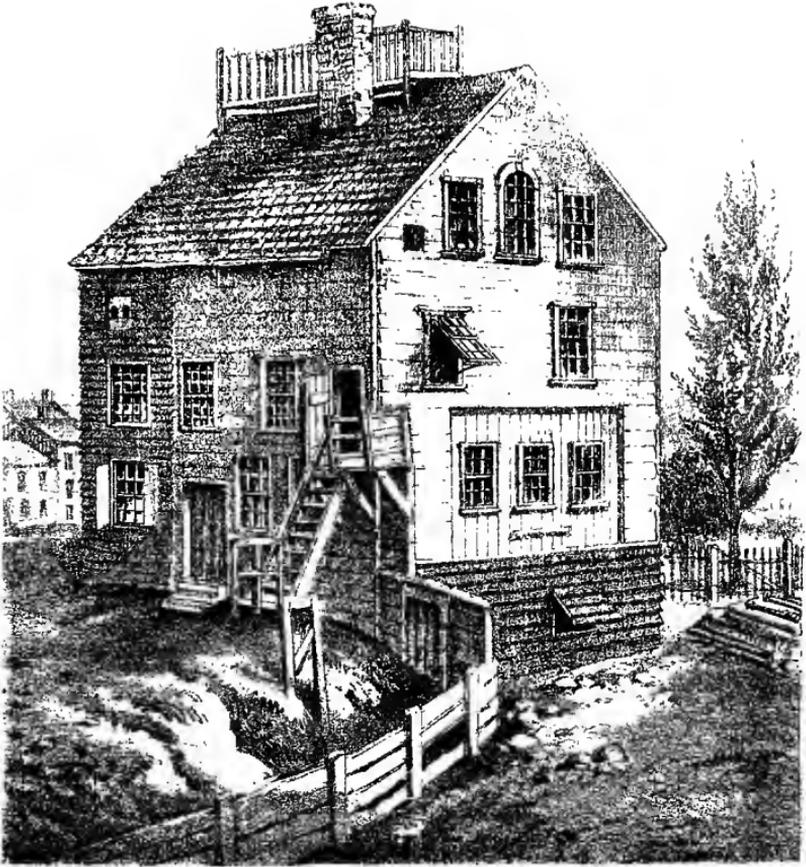
A Warrant was authorized to be issued for the establishment of a Lodge at Fishkill, to be known as St. Simon and St. Jude.

The Grand Lodge determined on the celebration of St. John's Day by a departure from the usual custom of a sermon and procession, and recommended the brethren to assemble at five o'clock in the afternoon at the White Conduit House on west side of Broadway, between Anthony and Leonard streets, on the Kalekhod Hill, overlooking the country, afterward known as Mt. Vernon Garden, kept by Mons. Corri, a Frenchman ; and that they assist at the installation of the Grand Officers, and furthermore, that a band of music be procured for the occasion at the cost of four and a half guineas. In the meantime a letter was received by the Grand Stewards' Lodge from the Grand Master elect, expressing his regrets that he could not attend on the day appointed for the installation ceremony.

At the same assemblage, it was announced by Brother







WHITE CONDUIT HOUSE,  
IN LEONARD ST., BETWEEN BROADWAY AND CHURCH ST., N. Y., 1816.  
Drawn by J. Evers.



Samuel Kerr, that Lodge No. 169 requested to be known by the name, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 169, which was unanimously agreed to.

MASONIC CLOTHING AT THE THEATER PROHIBITED.

An incident and decision of note is here worthy of mention.

Right Worshipful Brother Kerr informed the Grand Lodge that Brother Morris, a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, had made application for the Fraternity to attend his benefit play in their Masonic clothing.

Brother Marshall requested the Grand Lodge to countenance Brother Morris as an old and worthy member of his Lodge.

On which it was agreed that this Lodge cannot consent to the Brotherhood's attending the theater in their Masonic clothing, or as a Society, but will in their private capacity give him their countenance and support.

It appears from the proceedings had, July 27, at a Grand Lodge of Emergency, that Samuel Kerr had resigned as Deputy Grand Master, and that the Grand Master had appointed W. Brother R. Harrison, of Union Lodge, No. 3, to fill the vacancy. Further, that James Giles had resigned as Grand Secretary, and that Brother James Scott, of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 169, had been appointed in his place.

The newly appointed officers were duly installed, and a jewel with a "motto emblematica" was tendered, with the thanks of the Grand Lodge, to R. W. Samuel Kerr for his many eminent services.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK HAS SOLE JURISDICTION.

A question arose on November 29, in the Grand Stewards' Lodge, which was quickly determined by the Grand Body on December 6. John Harrison, the Master of Lodge No. 210, had stated that his Lodge declined to pay further dues to the Grand Lodge of the State, in consequence of the receipt of letters from the Grand Lodge of England, requesting them

to pay dues to that Grand Body. The decision was made in these words: "No Lodge can exist in this State but under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge."

The above, and the action in relation to the St. John's celebration to be held December 27, brought out two prominent matters for consideration and determination by the Grand Lodge:

1st. The decision as to *precedency of Lodges*, which finally resulted in giving names and dates to Lodges.

2d. The determination of the question of the *Grand Charter*.

The following had been adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Brethren assemble at the Coffee house, at Eleven O'clock, and march thence in Procession to Saint George's Chapel.

That Bros. McDougall, McDavitt and Adams be a Committee to wait on the Rev. Brother Beach, to request that he prepare and deliver a Sermon on the occasion.

*Resolved*, That Bros. Mallenbrey, Welsh and Martin be a Committee to provide music for St. John's Day.

*Resolved*, That the different Lodges go in Procession as one Lodge.

*Resolved*, That the Procession be conducted along Queen Street to the Chapel; thence thro' William and Smith Streets, and along Wall Street to Coffee house; after, the Brethren to dine in separate Lodges, or as they please."

#### PRECEDENCY OF RANK.

The result was, that at a Grand Lodge of Emergency held on December 23, resolutions from St. John's Lodge, No. 2, were presented and read, stating that they could not join in the procession without surrendering their right of precedence. This led to a motion "That it was not the intention of this Grand Lodge, by the late order of Procession, to infringe on the rights of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, or any other Lodge.

*Resolved*, That next Grand Lodge be appointed for all the Lodges in the State to give in their respective Warrants or Constitutions, or copies of them properly authenticated, that the Rank and Precedency of the whole, may be then determined. And that the Grand Secretary give Notice Accordingly.

*Resolved*, That copy of the Proceedings of this evening, respecting St. John's Lodge, No. 2, be delivered by the Grand Secretary to the Worshipful Bro. Malcom, to lay before his Lodge."

Another resolution of St. John's Lodge pertaining to the validity of the Grand Warrant, and the exercise of authorities outside of its explicit letter, was referred to the next session.

1787.

THE GRAND WARRANT.

The Session of March 7, 1787, was important; the following transpired:

On motion of Worshipful Brother Malcom, it was agreed to postpone the arranging of precedency of the different Lodges of this State until next Quarterly Communication.

The resolution of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, relating to the Grand Warrant, was read, and debate arising, it was *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider the propriety of holding the Grand Lodge under the present Warrant, and the proper measures to effect a change if it should be thought constitutional and expedient, and report their opinion, with the reasons on which it is founded, to the Grand Lodge at their next Quarterly Communication.

*Resolved*, That the Committee consist of the following nine: Right Worshipful Brothers Cock, Kerr, and McDougall, the Worshipful Brothers Malcom, Robert Cocks, Farrell, McCormick, Giles, and Matlack. And that the Masters and Past Masters of the several Lodges within the State may, if

they think proper, meet from time to time with the Committee to confer with them on that subject.

Before the subject was further considered, the Grand Lodge granted Warrants to form new Lodges.

Warrants were granted for a Lodge at the City of Hudson, also one for Lansingburgh, and one for Jamaica, Long Island.

An application for a Lodge to be established in the city of New York, under the name of Holland Lodge, was presented June 6, considered, and the subject postponed. At the subsequent meeting of Grand Lodge, the application was granted provided the records were kept in English.

The election held June 6 resulted as follows: Robert R. Livingston, Chancellor of the State, was re-elected Grand Master; Peter W. Yates was duly elected Senior Grand Warden; Peter McDougall, Junior Grand Warden; William Maxwell, Grand Treasurer; James Scott, Grand Secretary.

It was *Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to ascertain the precedency of Lodges in the State, confine their investigation to those of the city, and determine according to seniority of Warrants, as the Constitutions point out.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the propriety of holding the Grand Lodge under the present Warrant, then made a report which was read, accepted, and confirmed, to wit:

“Your Committee appointed at the last Quarterly Communication, in consequence of certain resolutions of St. John’s Lodge respecting the Warrant under which the Grand Lodge is established, report their opinion as follows, viz.:

That the Grand Lodge of this State is established, according to the antient and universal usages of Masonry, upon a Constitution formed by the representatives of the regular Lodges, convened under a legal warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, dated the fifth day of September, in the year of Masonry five thousand seven hundred and eighty-

one, the Most Noble Prince John the Third, Duke of Atholl, being the then Grand Master. And your Committee further beg leave to report that, in their opinion, nothing is necessary or essential in the future proceeding of the Grand Lodge upon the subject matter referred to them, but that a Committee be appointed to prepare a draft of the style of Warrant to be hereafter granted by the Grand Lodge, conformable to the said Constitution. All of which is, nevertheless, most respectfully submitted to the wisdom of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Witness our hands, this sixth day of June, 5787.

(Signed) W. COCK,  
 SAMUEL KERR,  
 PETER McDougall,  
 WHITE MATLACK,  
 ROBERT COCKS."

FORM OF LODGE WARRANT. DUES.

At this session it was

"*Resolved*, That the Committee of Nine, appointed at last Grand Lodge Communication draw up a form of Warrant, to be granted to brethren making application therefor, and report."

On September 5, Brother Samuel Kerr informed the Grand Lodge that the Committee appointed to draw up and have printed Warrants, had done as directed, and that the forms therefor were ready for inspection.

The two following recommendations from the Grand Stewards' Lodge were read and confirmed, Brothers O'Connor, of Lodge No. 210, and Clark, of Lodge No. 8, voting in the negative :

"That all Lodges in this city give in their account of dues to the Grand Secretary within thirty days, under the penalty of having their names struck off the list and their seats declared vacant." Also, "That as soon as the Committee appointed to establish the precedency of Rank of the

Lodges of this city do report, that then all the Lodges in the State be required to take out new Warrants and deliver up the old ones, the dues to the Grand Lodge being previously paid."

1788.

On March 5, 1788, a Warrant was ordered, in response to a petition, to form a Lodge in the County of Columbia.

The Grand Secretary, James Scott, announced that inasmuch as he was about to leave the State permanently, and for other reasons, it became incumbent upon him to resign the duties of his office. Subsequently, on June 4, with the thanks for services rendered to the Grand Lodge, Brother Scott was directed to be presented with a ring, or other Masonic token. It was then announced that Brother Jacob Morton had been appointed Domestic Grand Secretary, and Brother John Myer, Past Master of Holland Lodge, had been appointed Foreign Grand Secretary.

The officers of 1787 were re-elected, and George Hopkins was appointed Grand Pursivant, and Duncan McDougall, Grand Tyler.

The subject of the appointment of Grand Deacons and Grand Stewards having been referred to the Grand Stewards' Lodge, the following were appointed: Brothers Henry Remson, Jr., and Peter Collin, both of Holland Lodge, as Grand Stewards, and Brothers Gilbert Morewood, of No. 169, and Charles F. Weissenfels, of Hiram Lodge, No. 5, as Grand Deacons.

A Warrant was ordered to be issued for the establishment of Steuben's Lodge at Newburgh.

The Worshipful Master, Brother Rutledge, of Solomon's Lodge No. 212, surrendered the Warrant of the Lodge; whereupon Brothers James Carter, James Saidler, and — Frost petitioned for the renewal of the same under the name of St. Patrick's Lodge, No. 212, which was referred for future consideration.

## THE GRAND SEAL ALTERED.

The Grand Secretary having mentioned that the word "*Provincial*," now on the Grand Seal, was inappropriate, it was

"*Ordered*, therefore, That the Grand Secretary cause the same to be altered, and that the words '*Grand Lodge of the State of New York*,' be sunk on the seal in place of the present inscription."

The appointments of Deacons, Stewards, and the alterations on the seal as made by the Grand Stewards' Lodge were approved by the Grand Lodge September 3. At this meeting the petition of Brothers Carter, Saidler, and Frost for the Warrant of Lodge No. 212, under the name St. Patrick's Lodge, was granted. It was further determined that the different Lodges in the country should make payment of their dues, and a Committee to obtain that result was appointed, consisting of Brothers Cock, Vandebroeck, and the Domestic Grand Secretary. This last-named officer handed in an estimate of the expense that would attend the printing of a new edition of the Book of Constitutions, which had been recommended by the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and the work was ordered to be executed.

The important announcement was made at this Session that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania had become an Independent Grand Lodge.

It had been evident for years, that the celebration of St. John the Evangelist's Day was greatly more favored than that of St. John the Baptist, and so, in 1788, although the usual procession was postponed, the dining of the several Lodges on December 27 at such places as they might select, was recommended, and that there be an interchange of compliments and fraternal attention.

A minor subject which had occupied the attention of the Grand Lodge from June 4, 1788, to March 4, succeeding, was based on the announcement of the Master of Lodge No. 212, Brother Rutledge, that the late Treasurer, Brother Rose-

man, had defaulted to the Lodge, hence his expulsion, which it was sought to have confirmed. After sundry courses of action, it was claimed in defense, that the Treasurer had a demand claim against the Lodge, and that he had retained moneys of the Lodge to cover what was due to him. This led to much debate in the Grand Stewards' Lodge, which passed a resolution, that was confirmed by the Grand Lodge. The resolution provided, that Brother Roseman before the next meeting, should pay into the hands of the Grand Treasurer, the moneys of the Lodge held by him, and then, that a Committee should examine and allow, if just, the claim of Brother Roseman against Lodge No. 212. That should this be done, all censure should be removed from Brother Roseman. The results, however, turned out unsatisfactorily, whereupon it was unanimously resolved that the expulsion of Brother Roseman be confirmed.

The act of expulsion occurred on June 3.

The Rev. John Wesley was initiated in this year, 1788, October 30, in Lodge No. 367, at Downpatrick, Ireland.

1789.

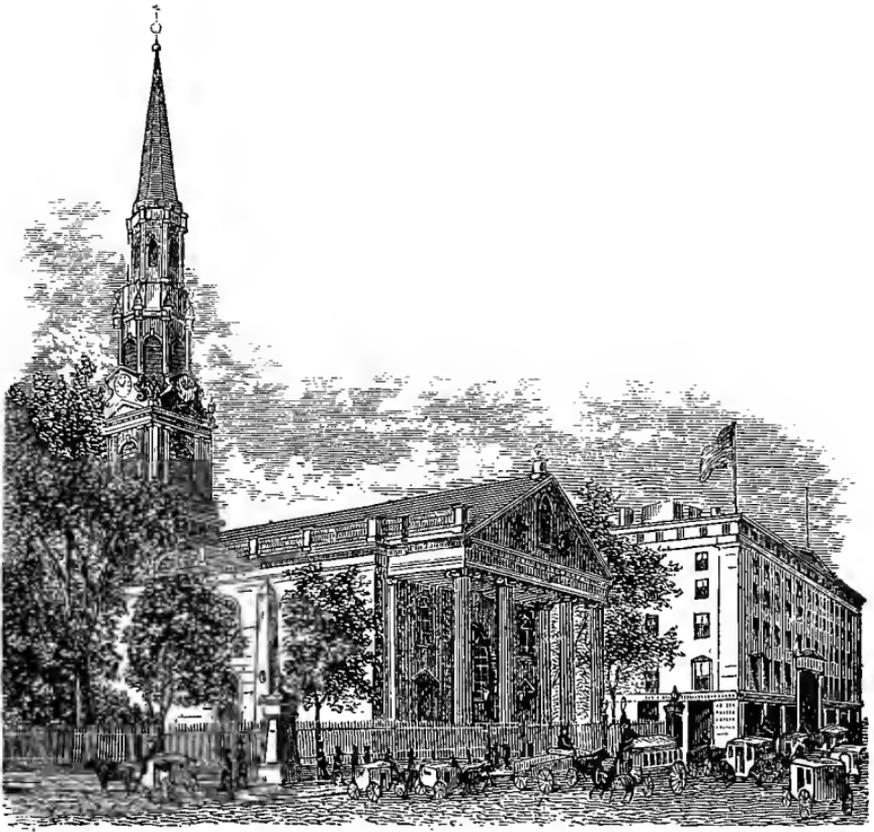
GEORGE WASHINGTON,

THE MASONIC BROTHER.

*Inaugurated President of the United States.*

On the first Wednesday in January, 1789, the election of the first President of the United States was announced, and George Washington was unanimously elected President, and John Adams, Vice-President. The inauguration was to have taken place on March 4, but it was not until April 30th that the event transpired. Then, upon the balcony of the Old City Hall, in Wall Street, at the head of Broad, New York City, Washington took the oath of office, on the celebrated Bible of St. John's Lodge, which had been procured under an emergency for this special purpose.





ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BROADWAY.





The Oath of Inauguration was administered by the Grand Chancellor of the State, Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York. Washington then proceeded to the Senate Chamber, and delivered his first address as Chief Magistrate of the Federal Union.

As soon as these ceremonies and duties were performed, President Washington and both houses of Congress proceeded to St. Paul's Church, where Divine services were held. St. Paul's Church is situated on Broadway between Fulton and Vesey streets. Its erection commenced in 1763, and its dedication occurred October 30, 1766. Around it are the graves of the dead of several generations. Under its great Broadway window is a mural monument, erected to the memory of the General, Brother Montgomery, who fell at the Siege of Quebec, in 1775. A brief description of the City Hall, called Federal Hall in 1789, in Wall Street, opposite Broad Street, will show the political business home of many of the prominent Grand Officers of Masonry in New York City.

On the north-east corner of Wall and Nassau streets, in the year 1700, was erected the "New City Hall," which in 1789 was called "Federal Hall." In front of this building in 1709 were a cage, whipping-post, pillory, and stocks for the punishment of criminals. Within its doors were held the sessions of the Common Council, Provincial Assembly, Supreme Court, and the Mayor's and Admiralty courts. It also was the place for elections, and, for a time, was used as the City Prison. One of its chambers contained the Public Library, which the English destroyed during the Revolution. The first Congress under the Constitution met within its walls, and from its balcony, which overlooked the street, Washington was inaugurated first President of the United States, April 30, 1789.

"This auspicious ceremony took place under the portico of Federal Hall, upon the balcony, in the immediate presence of both houses of Congress, and in full view of the crowds that thronged the adjacent streets. The oath was administered by Chancellor Livingston, and when the illus-

trious chief had kissed the book, the Chancellor, with a loud voice, proclaimed, ' Long live George Washington, President of the United States.' Never shall I forget the thrilling effect of the thundering cheers which broke forth, as from one voice, peal after peal, from the assembled multitude."—*Dr. Duer's Oration.*

After the National Government was removed to Philadelphia, the courts and State Legislature were held here until the State Capitol was established in Albany, in 1797.

#### BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. MIDDLE DUTCH CHURCH.

Not a thousand feet from the New City Hall stood the Middle Dutch Church, on the east side of Nassau Street, between Cedar and Liberty streets. From the belfry of this church Brother Franklin flew his silken kite, in 1752, and taught the lightning, he was its master. During the Revolution, this church was used by the British as a prison and riding-school. From 1845 to 1875 it was used as the general post-office.

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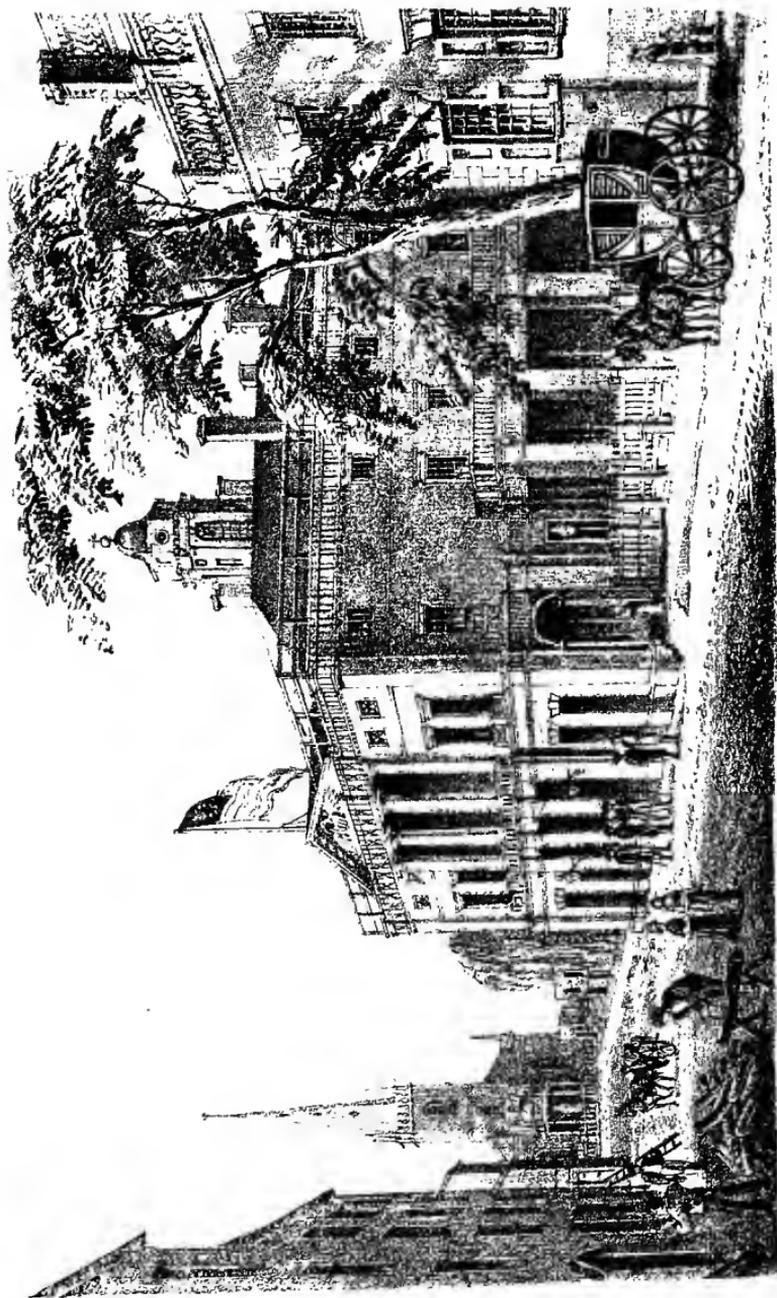
Brother James Grummal having died, a Grand Lodge of Emergency was convened February 25, 1789, under petition that the deceased might be buried with Masonic honors. Objections were made in consequence of the severity of the weather, and the Grand Lodge declined to have the body interred under Masonic Form.

On the succeeding 4th of March a petition from Mrs. Grummal, widow of Brother James Grummal, deceased, setting forth that she was aged, infirm, and in necessitous situation, and praying the Grand Lodge to grant her a sum of money to enable her to discharge the funeral expenses of her late husband, was read, when it was

*Resolved,* That the Grand Treasurer be directed to pay to Mrs. Grummal the sum of eight pounds, four shillings, and three pence, being the amount of the funeral expenses, as exhibited by her to the Lodge, this evening.







FEDERAL HALL AND THE VERPLANCK MANSION,

WALL STREET, 1789.

Drawn by David Grim.



Worshipful Brother Scott stated to the Grand Lodge, that it was the opinion of many of the members at the last Grand Lodge Session, that there should be a procession on St. John's Day; the Grand Secretary was directed to give notice to the respective Lodges in the State of the observance of the day, and also cause the same to be published in the public newspapers.

PRECEDENCE OF LODGES.

Worshipful Brother Vandebroek observed, in Grand Lodge, that as a procession had been agreed upon for the next St. John's Day, it appeared to him highly necessary that the rank of the several Lodges should be settled previous to that day. Accordingly it was

*Resolved*, That a Committee consisting of one member from each of the Lodges in this city meet in Holland Lodge Room, on the first Saturday in April next, at six o'clock in the evening, for the purpose of settling the rank of the respective Lodges in this city, and that they make report of their proceedings to the next Grand Lodge."

The Committee on this important subject was appointed, and of it, R. J. Vandebroek was made Chairman, and Jacob Morton, Grand Secretary, verified the report of June 3, 1789. The report was to ascertain and determine the rank of the several Lodges, and was in the following language:

"The Committee for ascertaining the rank of the several Lodges in New York City, consisting of one member from each Lodge appointed in pursuance of a resolve of the Grand Lodge, met at Holland Lodge Room, on Saturday evening, April 4, 1789.

Worshipful Bro. Vandebroek presiding.

Present:

Right Worshipful Bro. Cock, from No. 212.

Worshipful Bro. Malcom, from St. John's No. 2.

" Bro. Scott, from St. Andrew's No. 169.



<i>Affirmative.</i>			<i>Negative.</i>	
No. 169	No. 210	No. 4	No. 212	No. 5
2	8			
Holland Lodge.				

Worshipful Bro. Welsh then moved that No. 8 be considered the second in rank, which being seconded by Bro. Malcom was carried in the affirmative, as follows :

<i>Affirmative.</i>			<i>Negative.</i>	
No. 169	No. 210	No. 4	No. 212	No. 5
2	8			
Holland Lodge.				

Worshipful Bro. Scott then moved that St. Andrew's Lodge No. 169 be considered as the third in rank, which was seconded by Bro. Welsh. Right Worshipful Bro. Cock moved as an amendment that No. 169 be considered as the first in rank. Bro. Malcom objected to the amendment as being out of order, and moved that the sense of the Committee be taken whether the amendment of Bro. Cock be in order. On the question being put it was carried in the negative as follows :

<i>Negative.</i>				<i>Affirmative.</i>		
No. 2	No. 8	No. 4	No. 210	No. 212	No. 5	No. 169

Bro. Scott's motion was then put and carried in the affirmative, as follows :

<i>Affirmative.</i>					<i>Negative.</i>	
No. 169	No. 2	No. 210	No. 4	No. 8	No. 5	No. 212
Holland Lodge.						

Worshipful Bro. Harrison moved that No. 210 be considered as the fourth in rank. Seconded by Bro. Malcom, and carried in the affirmative, as follows :

<i>Affirmative.</i>					<i>Negative.</i>
No. 2	No. 169	No. 8	No. 4	No. 210	No. 212
Holland Lodge.					

Worshipful Bro. Cannon then moved that No. 212 be considered as the fifth in rank, which being seconded, was carried in the affirmative, as follows :

<i>Affirmative.</i>						<i>Negative.</i>
No. 169	No. 2	No. 210	No. 4	No. 5	No. 8	No. 212
Holland Lodge.						

Worshipful Bro. Cannon then moved that St. John's Lodge No. 4 be considered as the sixth in rank, which being put was carried in the affirmative as before. Bro. Malcom, seconded by Bro. Harrison, moved that No. 5 be considered as the seventh, and carried in the affirmative, as follows :

<i>Affirmative.</i>					<i>Negative.</i>	
No. 2	No. 8	No. 168	No. 4	No. 210	No. 212	No. 5
Holland Lodge.						

Bro. Malcom then moved that Holland Lodge be considered as the eighth in rank, which being seconded, was carried in the affirmative, as before.

The foregoing minutes being read and confirmed, it was resolved unanimously that a copy thereof should be transmitted to every Lodge, signed by the Chairman ; and also a copy signed by the Chairman and Grand Secretary to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge."

The report having been read, Worshipful Brother Malcom moved that the Grand Lodge approve of said report, and that the same stand confirmed. The question being taken, it was carried in the affirmative, Worshipful Brother Adams, Past Master of No. 5, being the only dissentient.

#### THE OLD WARRANTS TO BE SURRENDERED.

It was then ordered, that the several Lodges surrender their old Warrants agreeably to a former resolution of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary issue new Warrants under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

At the request of Worshipful Brother Thomas, of Lodge

No. 210, the new Warrant to be granted to that Lodge was to state that the Lodge shall be styled "Temple Lodge," in addition to the number which by rank it was entitled to.

In due order the Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, as prescribed by the Constitution, with the following result :

The Honorable Robert R. Livingston was unanimously re-elected Grand Master.

Peter McDougall was elected Senior Grand Warden.

John Myer, Junior Grand Warden.

White Matlack, Grand Treasurer.

George Hopkins, Grand Pursuivant.

Duncan McDougall, Grand Tyler.

It was

*Resolved*, That the Grand Stewards' Lodge appoint the Stewards and Deacons for the Grand Lodge.

The Right Worshipful Brother McDougall having, by request of the Grand Lodge, withdrawn from the Hall, it was unanimously resolved, that the thanks of this Lodge be presented to said brother, for the fidelity and unremitting attention with which he discharged the duties of his office as Junior Grand Warden ; and resolved, further, that the Grand Secretary be directed to present the thanks of this Lodge in writing to said brother.

#### FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

On the following June 18, the Grand Lodge opened in Extra Session for the purpose of installing the officers elect, five Lodges being represented.

Right Worshipful Brother Malcom produced a letter from the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, appointing him Deputy Grand Master, which was read, and was as follows :

"NEW YORK, June 8, 1789.

BROTHER,—Our worthy Bro. Richard Harrison, Esquire, having resigned the place of Deputy Grand Master of

Masons for this State, I have turned my eyes to you as most capable of supplying his loss, and by your zeal, knowledge, and diligence of continuing to the Lodges under my care, the advantages they derived from his attention; I must, therefore, pray you to take upon you the office of Deputy Grand Master; to consider this as your Warrant for so doing, and to cause it to be entered, accordingly, on the records of the Grand Lodge.

I am, Brother, with the sincerest wishes for your happiness and prosperity,

Your affectionate Brother,

R. R. LIVINGSTON.

To Right Worshipful William Malcom, Esquire.”

It appearing from this letter that the said brother was duly appointed Deputy Grand Master of this State, the Right Worshipful Brother McDougall proceeded in due form, and with the accustomed ceremonies, to install him into that important office. The Right Worshipful, the Deputy Grand Master, then took the chair, and in like form installed the Right Worshipful Brother McDougall to the office of Senior Grand Warden, Brother Myer to that of Junior Grand Warden, Brother White Matlack to that of Grand Treasurer, Right Worshipful Brother Jacob Morton signifying his continuance in the office of Grand Secretary.

The officers then received from the brethren present the accustomed Masonic honors and congratulations.

It was decided by the Grand Lodge that a sermon should be preached on the ensuing festival of St. John the Baptist, and further resolved, that a Committee wait upon the Rev. Dr. Beach, and request that he preach a sermon for them on the 24th June, in St. Paul's Chapel.

Arrangements for the procession were left to the Grand Stewards' Lodge.

Permission was granted to Steuben Lodge to celebrate the festival at Newburgh, in consequence of the inconvenience of attending at New York.

The Grand Stewards' Lodge on June 10, decided that the

Grand Lodge on St. John's Day, would assemble at the Coffee House at eleven in the morning, the Lodges at contiguous convenient places, that all should move in line through Queen and Beekman streets to St. Paul's Chapel, and after service, return through Broadway and Wall Street to the Grand Lodge Room in the Coffee House.

That the collection at the church be given to the Society instituted for the relief of distressed debtors confined in prison, to be applied by it to the benevolent purposes of the Institution.

And furthermore, that it be recommended that the different Lodges dine together.

On St. John's Day, June 24, 1789, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form by Grand Master Robert R. Livingston; William Malcom, Deputy Grand Master; Peter McDougall, Senior Grand Warden; John Myer, Junior Grand Warden; White Matlack, Grand Treasurer; Jacob Morton, Grand Secretary.

There were also present the Rev. Brother Beach and a number of brethren of distinction. The Right Wor., the Hon. Brother James Jackson, Representative in Congress of the United States from the State of Georgia, and Grand Master of Masons in said State, was introduced by the Grand Secretary and received with Masonic honors. At twelve o'clock the Grand Lodge, attended by the other Lodges, went in procession to St. Paul's Chapel, in the order hereinafter mentioned, where an excellent sermon was delivered by Bro. Beach, and a handsome collection made, which was applied, by the direction of the Grand Lodge, to the Humane Society of New York City, instituted for the relief of distressed debtors. After Divine services, the brethren returned in like order to the Coffee House, and were dismissed.

#### ORDER OF PROCESSION.

Knights Templars.

Holland Lodge, in the following order :

Tyler.

Steward.	Steward.	
Members, two and two.		
Treasurer.	Secretary.	
Junior Warden.	Senior Warden.	
Past Masters.		
A Master Mason bearing the Warrant of the Lodge, supported by two Brethren.		
Deacon.	Master.	Deacon.
Jamaica Lodge.		
Hiram No. 5.		
St. John's No. 4.		
Band of Music.		
St. Patrick's No. 212.		
Lodge No. 210.		
St. Andrew's No. 169.		
Independent Royal Arch No. 8.		
St. John's No. 2.		
Band of Music.		
Grand Lodge.		
Grand Tyler.		
Visiting Brethren of Distinction.		
Past Grand Officers, two and two.		
Grand Treasurer.		Grand Secretary.
Junior Grand Warden.		Senior Grand Warden.
Chaplain.		
Grand Deacons.	{ Grand Pursuivant bearing the Bible. }	Grand Deacons.
Knights Templars.	{ Deputy Grand Master. Grand Master. Grand Master of Georgia. Grand Deacon. Grand Deacon. Knights Templars. }	Knights Templars.

The officers of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master of Georgia, and many brethren of distinction, together with the officers and brethren of Lodges Nos. 2, 169, 210, and Holland Lodge, dined at the City Tavern. The day was spent with festivity and harmony. The several Lodges

dined separately from the Grand Lodge, and congratulations were offered by the Grand Lodge to them.

The collections at the Church amounted to fifty pounds, "exclusive of coppers," and were so reported in August. Forty pounds were directed to be forwarded to the Society for the Relief of Distressed Debtors, the balance to pay the expenses of the festival, and if insufficient, the funds of the Grand Lodge were to be drawn upon. Furthermore, six pounds were voted for charity, and in the succeeding month a larger sum.

The services of Rev. Brother Beach had been called upon on several occasions, and it therefore behooved Grand Lodge, not only to acknowledge the same with thanks, but the reverend brother was appointed the Grand Lodge Chaplain.

#### THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

Brother R. J. Vandebroek, Chairman of the Committee on Accounts, reported in December, that there was due the Grand Secretary two shillings and six pence, which when paid would leave a balance of twenty-eight pounds, sixteen shillings and six pence. Further, that the city Lodges owed the Grand Body about fifty pounds, which was exclusive of amounts due from country Lodges.

It was during this period that the difficulties of Lodge No. 210 exacted so much of the time of the Grand Lodge, and finally resulted in dissolving the Lodge, from which a new Warrant and a new Lodge evolved.

#### EFFICIENCY OF A MASTER.

Brother Vandebroek urged the passage of a resolution of efficiency, on the part of "every Master Mason being or having been a Master, Past Master, or Warden, elected or re-elected to preside in any Lodge, requiring that he shall hereafter, previous to his installation into office, be examined by the Grand officers, or by some skillful person or persons appointed by them, as to his being sufficiently acquainted

with Masonry, and if he is possessed of the required abilities to fill the chair, and that on his producing a certificate of his having passed a regular and strict examination, and found to be qualified, he then shall be installed into his office, and not before." The resolution was defeated, but nevertheless Bro. Vandenbroeck insisted on its being placed in full upon the record.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was held December 23. R. W. Brother William Malcom, Deputy Grand Master, in the Chair, and representatives of seven Lodges present. The Deputy Grand Master moved the following Regulation, which was established :

"That at all future meetings of the Grand Lodge, previous to the opening, none but the members of the Grand Lodge shall be admitted, but that the Tyler may report the names of such as shall come as visitors, after the Grand Lodge is opened, that the Grand Lodge may have an opportunity of knowing, either by examination or by the vouchers of Brethren, who are proper Brethren to be admitted as visitors."

#### THE FIRST PRESIDENTIAL MANSION,

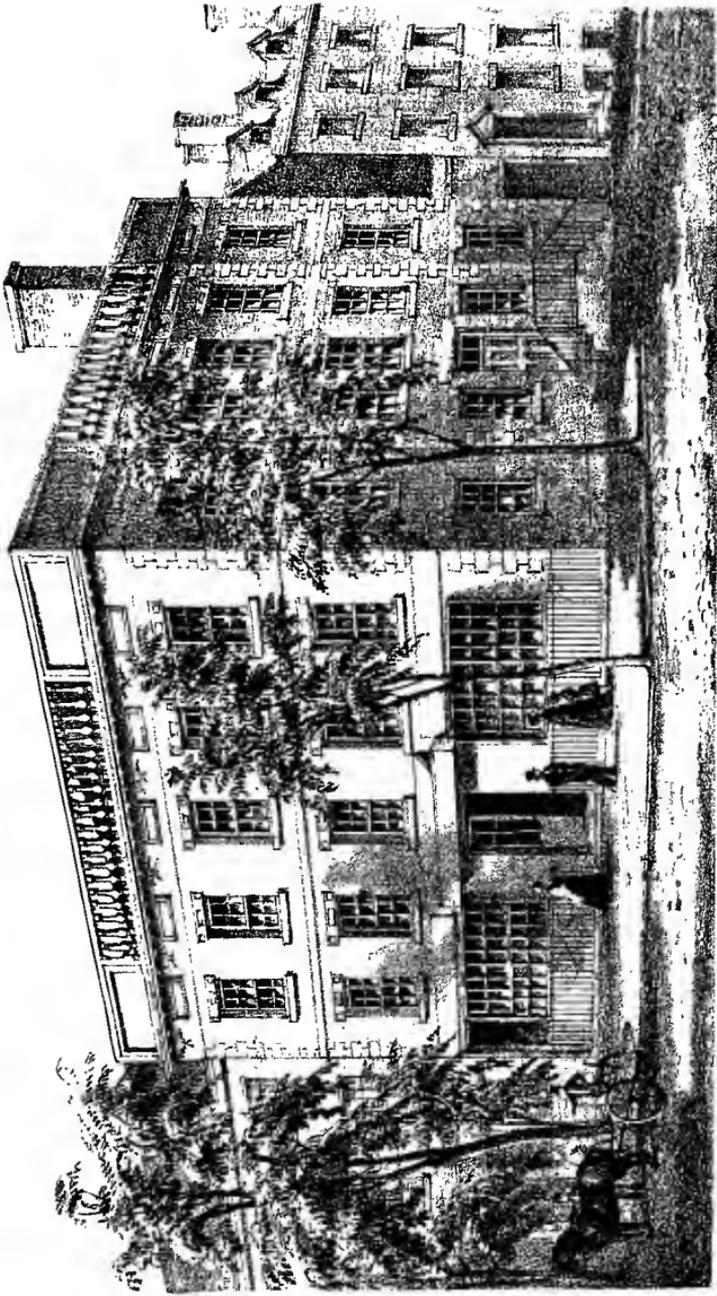
which was occupied by Brother Washington during the first session of the first Congress, 1789, was located at No. 1 Cherry Street, in the city of New York, and became an object of veneration.

1790.

In 1790, June 2, the Grand Lodge held its annual election, with the following result: The Hon. Robert R. Livingston was unanimously re-elected Grand Master; Peter McDougall was re-elected Senior Grand Warden; John Myer was re-elected Junior Grand Warden. White Matlack declined re-election as Grand Treasurer, and John Pintard, of Holland Lodge, was elected to that office; Rev. Dr. Abraham Beach was re-elected Grand Chaplain; George Hopkins was re-elected Grand Pursuivant, and Duncan McDougall was re-elected Grand Tyler.







THE FIRST PRESIDENTIAL MANSION.



SUPREME GRAND LODGE. GEORGIA.

The following official Communication and resolutions were received from James Jackson, Past Grand Master of Masons of the State of Georgia, and read :

“NEW YORK, May 1, A. L. 1790.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BROTHER :

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit you copies of two resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Georgia. It is needless for me to point out the propriety of the step on which they are founded. Our being members of the same political community, and the benefits which would result to our Society from a general controlling power, will, of themselves, evince its necessity. I cannot, however, forbear mentioning that the frequent innovation in the mode of work, and the authorities set up in some States under Warrants from other States, demand the serious attention of the Brotherhood.

I authorized Bros. Stevens and Lloyd to communicate with the Grand Lodges of the more northern States, and to assent to a convention at such time and place as may be generally convenient.

Requesting that I may be favored with an answer, as early as the opinion of your Grand Lodge can be obtained,

I am, Right Worshipful,

Your very obed't servant and brother,

JAS. JACKSON, Past G. Master, State of Georgia.

Right Worshipful Grand Master, New York.”

“GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA, }  
December 28, 1789. }

PRESENT.

The Right Worshipful James Jackson, G. M.

*Resolved,* As the sense of this Grand Lodge, that there ought to be a Federal or Supreme Grand Lodge constituted, to have jurisdiction over the respective Grand and other Lodges throughout the continent, and that . . . . .

have authority to communicate with the Grand Lodges to the northward, to pledge the faith of this Grand Lodge in support of such an undertaking, and to assent to a Masonic Convention for that purpose.

Extract from the minutes.

U. TOBLER, Gr. Sec'y."

"GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA, }  
March 5, 5790. }

PRESENT.

The Right Worshipful Sir George Houston, Bart., G. M.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That Right Worshipful Bros. Jackson and Stevens, and Worshipful Bro. Edward Lloyd, be a committee to carry into effect the resolution entered into at last meeting, for the purpose of establishing a Federal Grand Lodge in America.

Extract from the minutes.

U. TOBLER, Gr. Sec'y."

Whereupon, it was *Resolved*, That the said resolutions be referred to a committee, consisting of the officers of the Grand Lodge, and that they be requested to report, as early as possible, their ideas of the proposed measures, as also of the mode in which they should be carried into effect, if approved.

On June 22 a Warrant was authorized to be issued to Isaac T. Tallman as Master, William Terry as Senior Warden, and Oliver Kellogg as Junior Warden, of a Lodge to be known as Lafayette, in the vicinity of Dover, Dutchess County.

August 13.—A Grand Lodge of Emergency was specially summoned for the purpose of taking into consideration the resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, in the matter of a

#### SUPREME FEDERAL GRAND LODGE.

Debate having been had thereon, the following was

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge do concur with the Grand Lodge of Georgia, in the proposed measure of calling

a convention, for the purpose of establishing a Supreme Federal Grand Lodge, to have jurisdiction over the respective Grand Lodges of the United States, and the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master of this State, is hereby requested to assure the Grand Lodge of Georgia, that this Grand Lodge will meet by its delegates the other Grand Lodges by their delegates, for the purpose above mentioned, at such time and place as shall be agreed on."

On September 20, a Warrant was authorized for Washington Lodge at Clermont, Columbia County, of which Philip Hoffman was to be Master, William Wheeler, Senior Warden, and John A. Fonda, Junior Warden.

On December 1, authority was given to establish a Lodge in Kingston, Ulster County, by the name of Livingston Lodge.

At this meeting Brother John Myer resigned as Junior Grand Warden.

March 2, the Grand Lodge accepted the offer of Wor. Brother Pintard, of Holland Lodge, to hold the Grand Communications at Holland Lodge Room.

It was in this year, 1790, that war broke out with the Miami Indians in the Northwest Territory, and troops were sent out from Fort Washington (now Cincinnati), the capital of the Territory. These were defeated and compelled to return to the Fort. The Indians, however, were conquered in 1793 by the forces under the General, Brother Anthony Wayne.

## CHAPTER II.

1791-1800.

1791.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS. NEW YORK LODGE. AMERICAN UNION LODGE.

JUNE 8, 1791, the officers of the Grand Body were re-elected, except that John Pintard, the Grand Treasurer, was elected Junior Grand Warden, and Frederick Childs, who had been acting Junior Grand Warden, was elected Grand Treasurer.

The melancholy occasion of the death of the Deputy Grand Master, William Malcom, caused the Grand Lodge to be convened on September 1, when it was "*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge and the different Lodges in the City of New York, attend the funeral on September 2, in Masonic form; and as a testimony of the respectful affection which the Grand Lodge bears to the memory of the deceased brother, it was further unanimously resolved, that the R. W. Brother Cock be requested to pronounce a funeral eulogium at the grave of the deceased brother."

## NEW YORK LODGE IN CURAÇOA.

A Traveling Warrant was authorized on October 22, to be issued to Anthony Rutgers as Master, Samuel Merry, late of Holland Lodge, as Senior Warden, Jacob Kermes, as Junior Warden, and other petitioners in the island of Curaçoa, the same to be designated New York Lodge.

A Warrant was also granted for Montgomery Lodge, at Stillwater, John Vernon being the first Master, Cornelius

Vanderbergh the Senior Warden, and Abraham Livingston the Junior Warden.

On this date, the petition of American Union Lodge No. 1 (embracing brethren of the Ancient Craft northwest of the River Ohio, submitting a copy of the Warrant by them held, authorizing them to assemble and work, as successors of Joel Clarke and others, to whom the original Warrant was granted) asking Masonic intercourse and good fellowship, was read; which was directed to be entered in full upon the Minutes, and the Grand Secretary ordered to draft an answer and report the same. For full text of this unique petition, see pp. 393-5 of Vol. I. General Rufus Putnam was made a Mason in American Union Lodge, near West Point, and was the first Grand Master of Ohio.

#### PROXIES OF COUNTRY LODGES.

It was resolved, that the Grand Secretary write to the Lodges in the country, requesting them to avail themselves of a right, given them by the Constitution, of nominating a proxy to represent them in the Grand Lodge. This action was the result of an intimation from the Grand Secretary, that it had lately been found extremely difficult to convene the number prescribed by the Constitution for forming a Grand Lodge, owing to the number of Lodges in this city having diminished. Notices of these proxies will be given herein, until the year 1800.

1792.

On March 7, the application of Timothy Hosmer and eight others, praying for a Warrant to erect a Lodge in Canandaigua, Ontario County, was read and the request granted.

And furthermore, a resolution was adopted that no Lodge which had not complied with the resolution of June, 1789, requesting all the Lodges to surrender their old Warrants and take out new ones, shall hereafter be entitled to a vote

in this Grand Lodge, until they shall have taken out a new Warrant under the Grand Lodge of this State.

Most Worshipful Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master, on April 6, 1792, was present and took the Chair, at a Grand Lodge of Emergency. This was the fifth time this Grand Master presided since his original election, February 4, 1784, or during a period of eight years.

Brother Jacob Morton, Grand Secretary, announced that he had been appointed proxy under the Constitution, by St. George's Lodge of Schenectady; the certificate was ordered filed.

Amicable Lodge was established in Herkimer County, with John I. Morgan for Master, John Post for Senior Warden, and Michael Myers for Junior Warden.

#### PORTUGUESE REFUGEES.

Brother Abrams announced at the meeting of Grand Stewards' Lodge in May, that a number of Portuguese brethren had arrived in New York City, who had been obliged to quit the island of Madeira on account of some measures, taken by the government against them, incident to their being Masons.

A committee was thereupon appointed to wait upon the Deputy Grand Master, and request a meeting of Grand Lodge, to pay some mark of attention to these persecuted brethren.

The Grand Lodge having been convened, June 2, a committee was appointed to wait upon the said brethren, request their attendance, and provide refreshments. On June 6, the exiled brethren from the island of Madeira were received, Brother Morton making the welcoming and sympathetic address, and a copy thereof was subsequently furnished at the solicitation of the guests. At a later date they were invited to dine with the Grand Lodge, and the several Lodges of the city and country.

The Grand Secretary announced his appointment as proxy, by Washington Lodge of Clermont, in the county of Columbia. On June 6, the annual election resulted as follows:

Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master.  
 Jacob Morton, Senior Grand Warden.  
 James Scott, Junior Grand Warden.  
 ——— Wright, Grand Treasurer.  
 Abraham Beach, Grand Chaplain.  
 George Hopkins, Grand Pursuivant.  
 Duncan McDougall, Grand Tyler.

Brother Abrams was requested to discharge the duties of Grand Secretary until the Grand Master should express his intentions in that regard.

#### SEQUENCE OF PRESIDING OFFICERS.

September 5.—A decision was made, that in case of the absence of any of the Grand presiding officers, the vacancy shall be filled by the Master of the Senior Lodge present.

#### GRAND LODGE FEES.

“*Resolved*, That for every apprentice or fellow craft, who joins a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, such Lodge shall pay to this Grand Lodge ten shillings, and for every Master Mason eight shillings.”

It was further

“*Resolved*, That no Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Lodge shall receive, for conferring the second degree of Masonry, a less sum than one guinea, and that the said sum of one guinea, at least, be received by every Lodge under this jurisdiction for conferring the third degree of Masonry, and that the Grand Secretary furnish all the Lodges with a copy of this resolve.”

At the request of Brother Wright, he was relieved from serving on the Committee on Charity, and Brother Otterson, of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, was appointed in his stead.

In November, Brother Harrison of New York City, was appointed proxy for Jerusalem Lodge, and shortly thereafter

Brother John Abrams was appointed to fill the office of Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC WARRANT IN NEW YORK.

A subject of irritation in the Grand Lodge was apparent, in December, upon the announcement that a number of clandestine Masons were occasionally assembling and working under a traveling Warrant of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, which caused the appointment of a committee of three, of which Brother Cock was chairman, to examine and report, and, if possible, to obtain possession of the Warrant and deliver it to the Grand Lodge of New York.

Brother Cock, from the Committee on the conduct of members of a Traveling Quebec Lodge, delivered a list of a number of Masons who occasionally assembled in this city, and who did not acknowledge the authority of this Grand Lodge, but were working under the said traveling Warrant of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. On motion, it was

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary send a copy of the said list to each of the Lodges in this city, and that the Masters be warned not to suffer any of the brethren, whose names are thereon, to visit their respective Lodges.”

A petition of Edward O'Connor, Holmes, Burhams, and others for the establishment of a Lodge at the town of Half Moon, Saratoga County, had been presented to the Grand Lodge in April, 1792; but it appeared in the course of some eight months, that Union, Montgomery, and St. George's Lodges questioned the characters of Edward O'Connor and the others, and the result was the retention by the Grand Lodge of the authorized Warrant, and the installation of the officers by Brother Peter W. Yates, previously ordered, was deferred. An unfavorable report caused the Warrant to be recalled in December, and the country Lodges were recommended not to admit any of the above-mentioned brethren.

In March, a Warrant was authorized for the erection of a Lodge in the town of Catskill, county of Albany. It was in

this year, 1792, that Kentucky was admitted into the Union; and the Presidential election took place, resulting in the re-election of both Washington and Adams to the head of the government.

NEW YORK LODGE AT OURAÇOA.

Communications from New York Lodge, at Curaçoa, were delivered by the Worshipful Master Rutgers to the Grand Secretary, and read by order of the Grand Lodge. By them, it appeared that the conduct of Brothers Cruger and Ringling had given so much disgust to the other members of the Lodge, that the Lodge had come to a resolve, to suspend them for twelve calendar months, and to report them to this Grand Lodge.

Whereupon it was *Resolved*, That the said communication be referred to a committee, consisting of Brothers Morton, Vandebroeck, and Clinton, to examine the facts and report to this Grand Lodge.

Wor. Brother Vandebroeck read a resolve of Holland Lodge, begging this Grand Lodge to come to some resolution regarding "Modern" Masons, and say whether they may or may not be admitted into the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, after being hailed, and if they may be admitted, to determine the manner in which hailing is to be conducted. The Grand Lodge then passed the following resolution :

"That the above be referred to a committee consisting of the officers of the Grand Lodge and the Masters of the Lodges in this city, who are authorized to bring any skillful brethren with them."

The ensuing festival and walking in procession on St. John's Day, June 24, 1792, were duly observed.

1793.

## MASTER'S LODGE. PROXIES.

Master's Lodge, of the city of Albany, proving intractable to the government of the Grand Lodge, was, on September 5, 1792, specially invited to join the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Secretary was directed to communicate such invitation to Master's Lodge. No word having been returned, in the succeeding March, a committee was appointed to represent the matter, and try and convince Master's Lodge of the propriety and general benefit that Masonry would probably receive in the State, by its coming under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. This committee reported verbally in June, 1793, that the most eligible plan the Grand Lodge could adopt, would be to appoint a committee to confer personally with Master's Lodge during the session of the Legislature. This course was approved, but the committee was not appointed until a subsequent meeting, which reported June 4, 1794, setting forth certain terms of settlement of the difficulty, which were approved by the Grand Body.

Brother John J. Morgan presented his power as proxy of Amicable Lodge, which was filed.

It was then "*Resolved*, That each proxy be entitled to three votes in the Grand Lodge, in behalf of the Lodge he represents, but that no brother be admitted as proxy for more than one Lodge."

At this meeting of June 4, all the Grand Officers were re-elected.

Freehold Lodge, in a town of that name, county of Albany, was warranted on the recommendation of R. W. Brother Peter W. Yates.

It was further determined that the Festival of St. John the Baptist should be observed; "that the Grand Lodge walk by Lodges." That a church and music be procured; the Grand Chaplain preach the sermon; Brother Low compose an anthem for the occasion; that the collection of the

day be given to the charity school of the church; and that the Lodges dine separately, or with each other, as they should determine.

Accordingly on June 24, at eleven in the morning, the Grand Lodge, attended by the several Lodges in the city, under its jurisdiction, went in procession from the Old Coffee House to Trinity Church, where a sermon, adapted to the occasion, was delivered by the Rev. Brother Beach; an anthem was sung by the children of the Episcopal Charity School; two odes recited from Handel's Messiah, by Mrs. Pownall; and a collection made for the benefit of the Charity School of Trinity Church which amounted to £77, odd shillings.

Union Lodge, No. 30, was chartered on June 28, 1793, based upon an application from Amos Park, James Cameron, and others, to establish a Lodge in Newtown, now Elmira, Tioga County, which had been presented on the twenty-fourth of the month.

Brother W. Tapp produced and had filed his proxy of Unity Lodge, No. 17.

The Grand Lodge favored a Warrant being granted for the town of Cortlandt, Westchester County.

#### A DISPENSATION FOR SAN DOMINGO.

A number of brethren, who had been driven from the island of San Domingo by the political and rebellious troubles which existed there, petitioned for a Dispensation to work under certain vouchers which they produced of their legal establishment in that island. The Grand Lodge appointed a committee consisting of Brothers Morton, Vandenbroeck, and Abrams, to examine into their situation, and if they were found worthy, that a Dispensation for six months issue conformably to their request. This was granted, the Lodge to be designated La Tendre Amitié Franco-Américaine. The Dispensation was surrendered on June 4, 1794, and on petition of Brother A. Maydiou a new Dispensation was granted to a given number of the brethren.

A Warrant for the establishment of Rural Lodge was granted, to be held in the town of Cambridge.

#### AN INDIGENT PRISONER.

As an incident it may be mentioned, that a prisoner in the jail of New York City, Brother Benjamin Seaman, communicated with the Grand Lodge in writing, stating his necessitous circumstances. The subject was examined by a committee, who reported that the cause of the incarceration appeared to be of a family nature, into which it was not their province to inquire, "as it would lead to an indelicate and impertinent inquiry," but deemed the condition of the prisoner worthy of notice. The Grand Lodge authorized an expenditure of £10.

#### FORMS OF RETURNS.

Forms of returns now began to attract the attention of the Grand Lodge, in consequence of complaints of Lafayette Lodge, that the country Lodges very generally neglected to pay their dues to the Grand Lodge, and who prayed that effectual measures be adopted to compel attention to that duty. At the instigation of Brother Morton the following resolution was accordingly adopted :

*"Resolved,* That a form of returns be made out by the Grand Secretary, and by him be forwarded to the different Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, pointing out to them at the same time how very necessary it is for them to be regular in forwarding their returns, and punctual in paying their dues agreeably to the Constitutions."

On the petition of Brother T. Arburgh and others, a Warrant was authorized to erect and hold a Lodge in the town of Beekman, Dutchess County; and another from Brother C. Seldon and others, to erect and hold a Lodge in the city of Lansingburgh, Rensselaer County.

Brothers Buxton, Waterbury, Marvin, and Richardson were appointed Deacons of the Grand Lodge, and the following general resolutions adopted :

## LODGE RECOMMENDATION.

“*Resolved*, That all petitions for Warrants shall, in future, come recommended by the officers of the Lodge nearest to the place where the new one is proposed to be erected.”

## REGISTER OF MEMBERS.

“*Resolved*, That that part of the Constitution, which orders the registering the members of all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be complied with by the Grand Secretary, and that he procure a proper book for the purpose.”

1794.

The Meeting of March 4, 1794, was marked by the number of applications for the erection of new Lodges; one for Columbus Lodge at Fredericktown, Dutchess County; another for Franklin Lodge at Ballston, Saratoga County; another for Amicable Lodge at Herkimer, Herkimer County; another for Howard Lodge, by a number of brethren of Holland Lodge, in the city of New York.

These were followed on June 4, by an application for Yates' Lodge at Coxsackie, Greene County.

Patriot Lodge was authorized and established at Pittstown in the county of Rensselaer.

Brother Abrams was accepted as proxy for Livingston Lodge, No. 28, held at Kingsbury, Washington County.

The Grand Officers for 1794 proved to be a re-election of those of 1792 and 1793.

The Grand Stewards' Lodge, on August 27, appointed Brothers Ely, Speyer, Babcock, and Wells, Stewards of the Grand Lodge; and Brothers Coffin, Walton, Ryckman, and Adams, Deacons of the Grand Lodge.

## THE THREE DEGREES IN FRENCH, WORKED IN GRAND LODGE.

Brother R. J. Vandebroek on September 3, in pursuance of a resolution, adopted July 16, conferred the three degrees

of Masonry on Mr. John Baptist Couret in open Grand Lodge. The same being administered in the French language.

RITUALISTIC DIFFERENCES.

Brother Kerr communicated to the Grand Lodge, that he had visited several country Lodges during the summer ; that he found them working very differently ; and that he conceived a number of irregular and improper practices had crept into many of them. He therefore made the following proposition :

*Whereas*, it is a matter of high importance, that a good understanding and friendly intercourse should be preserved between the Grand and the individual Lodges under this jurisdiction ; that any little deviation from ancient landmarks should be duly rectified ; that a uniform mode of working should take place throughout the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and that the unity of the Fraternity should be maintained inviolate ;

Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge will, once in every year, send one or more of their own members, or some other person or persons commissioned under the seal of the Grand Lodge, to every individual Lodge under their jurisdiction, in order to a more complete attainment of the above-mentioned purposes.

The proposition was referred.

CHEQUE WORD.

Mention was made that the Grand Cheque Word had continued in use for a longer time than was at first intended. It was resolved, in consequence, to change it. The Deputy Grand Master was requested to fix on a new one, deliver it to the Secretary, and the Secretary was desired to deliver it to the Masters of the Lodges in the city. Brother Clinton was desired to deliver it to the country Lodges, so far as may be practicable, during the next session of the Legislature at Poughkeepsie.

1795.

On May 19, 1795, a Dispensation was issued to Brother A. Maydiou and others, to form a Lodge in the city of New York by the name L'Unité Américaine, the same to be of effect for six months.

A letter of resignation of the office of Deputy Grand Master was received from R. W. Brother Peter McDougall. Acknowledgments were made in return and thanks for services to the Grand Lodge were accompanied by a Deputy Grand Master's jewel, as a testimonial. In conjunction with this subject a commission from the Grand Master was read, by which it was announced he had appointed Brother Jacob Morton to fill the vacancy, which appointment was confirmed.

Brother Scott announced, on June 3, that he had been appointed proxy for Hudson Lodge, which was approved and the certificate ordered filed.

## ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The annual election of officers resulted as follows :

Most Worshipful Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master.

Right Worshipful James Scott, Senior Grand Warden.

Right Worshipful De Witt Clinton, Junior Grand Warden.

Right Worshipful Martin Hoffman, Grand Treasurer.

Right Worshipful Dr. Abraham Beach, Grand Chaplain.

Right Worshipful the Rev. John Bissel, Assistant Grand Chaplain.

Right Worshipful the Rev. Samuel Miller, Assistant Grand Chaplain.

Brother George Hopkins, Grand Pursuivant.

Brother Duncan McDougall, Grand Tyler.

It was then

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to appoint the requisite Adjutant, to keep the line of procession, etc., in order, on St. John's Day next.”

It was ordered that the money and papers belonging to

the late Lodge La Tendre Amitié Franco-Américaine, be delivered to the Lodge L'Unité Américaine.

Two Lodges were then warranted, one for Cooperstown and another for Schoharie. Also a Dispensation to Brother Edward Lee and others, to hold a Lodge in the city of New York for six months.

It was

“*Resolved*, That one brother be nominated by each of the Masters of Lodges present, in order that four Stewards and four Deacons may be appointed from among them to serve this Grand Lodge for the ensuing year.”

The selection of Stewards for the ensuing year resulted as follows :

Brother Ely, of Independent Royal Arch Lodge.

Brother Weeks, of Hiram Lodge.

Brother Delamater, of Trinity Lodge.

Brother Hughes, of Phenix Lodge.

The Deacons of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year were :

Brother Clapp, of St. John's Lodge No. 1.

Brother Cuyler, of St. Andrew's Lodge.

Brother Hoope, of Holland Lodge.

Brother Adams, of Howard Lodge.

A committee, consisting of Brothers Clinton, Bruce, and Cock, was appointed to assist the Grand Secretary in the arrangements of the procession of St. John's Day.

On the celebration of the Festival of St. John the Baptist, June 24, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the City Hall, where they joined the other Lodges held in the city, and whence the whole moved in grand procession, at half-past ten o'clock, down Broad Street, through Beaver Street and Broadway to the new Presbyterian Church in Beekman Street, where a sermon was delivered by the Rev. Brother Miller, and some sacred music was performed by Mr. and Mrs. Hodgkinson, Mrs. Pownall, and others, and a handsome collection was made for the benefit of the charity school of the said church,

amounting to £110 ; this was paid by the Grand Secretary to Mr. Daniel Phenix, agreeably to a resolve of the Grand Lodge. After Divine service, the Lodges returned in the like order, down Beekman Street, and through Pearl and Wall streets to the City Hall, where they dispersed.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

Band of Music.

Knights Templars.

St. Patrick's Lodge in the following order :

Tyler.

Steward. Steward.

Members two and two.

Treasurer. Secretary.

Junior Warden. Senior Warden.

Past Masters two and two.

Master Mason bearing the Warrant, supported by two brethren.

Deacon. Master. Deacon.

L'Unité Américaine.

Phenix.

Trinity.

Howard.

Holland.

Hiram.

St. John's, No. 6.

St. Andrew's.

Independent Royal Arch.

St. John's, No. 1.

Band of Music.

In the same order as St. Patrick's Lodge.

GRAND LODGE, thus :

Tyler.

Past Grand Officers, two and two.

Grand Treasurer. Grand Secretary.

Junior Grand Warden. Senior Grand Warden.

Chaplains.

Deacon. Grand Pursuivant, bearing the Bible. Deacon.

Deacon. Grand Master. Deacon.

## MAKING MASONS AT SIGHT.

The making of Masons at sight in private Lodges under the auspices of the officers of this Grand Lodge, was a matter of serious moment, and became the subject of consideration and investigation at several sessions of the Grand Lodge.

The information finally came from Brother R. J. Vandebroeck in open session, on December 2, 1795, when he offered the following preamble and resolution :

“ *Whereas*, The Constitution points out that it is the prerogative of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Master has full power and authority, when the Grand Lodge is duly assembled, to cause to be made in his presence Free and Accepted Masons at sight, but that it cannot be done out of his presence without his written Dispensation ; and whereas on several occasions the Grand Lodge was not assembled for that purpose, neither was the Grand Master present, nor was a Dispensation produced ; therefore be it submitted to the consideration of the Grand Lodge as to the propriety of these proceedings.”

Many of the Grand officers being absent, it was referred to the next session. On which occasion the subject was considered, and after reading the charges therein contained against some of the presiding officers of this Grand Lodge, it was, on motion,

“ *Resolved*, unanimously, As the sense of this Grand Lodge, that there appears nothing, after an inquiry into the charges brought by Brother Vandebroeck, against the Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, and Grand Secretary, by his proposition to criminate the said officers, but that they acted in conformity to the duties of their offices and the Constitution of the Fraternity.”

1796.

Brother Wright presented his proxy as representative of Huntingdon Lodge, No. 26, and Brother Joseph Mallenbrey

presented his from the Lodge of St. John and St. Jude; both of which were approved and ordered filed.

Petitions were received for Lodges to be warranted in the towns of Westchester, Goshen, Canaan, Stamford, Coxsackie, and the village of Troy, which were referred to the presiding officers.

The officers re-elected were the same as in the preceding year, excepting that Brother Adamson became the Grand Pursuivant, Brother Benjamin Jones, Grand Tyler, and the Grand Deacons and Stewards as follows :

Bro. Clapp of St. John's Lodge, No. 1	} Grand Deacons.
“ Cuyler “ St. Andrew's “ “ 3	
“ Hoope “ Holland “ “ 8	
“ Adams “ Howard “ “ 9	
Bro. Barclay of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 3	} Grand Stewards.
“ Graham “ Hiram “ “ 7	
“ Bache “ Howard “ “ 9	
“ Horton “ Trinity “ “ 10	

Warrants for Lodges in the towns of Salem and Fairfield were granted on September 7; also one for Temple Lodge in the city of Albany; and also a Dispensation for twelve calendar months, for a Lodge in New York City by the name of Temple Lodge.

The proxy of Hiram Lodge, No. 35, to Brother John Wells was presented, approved, and filed.

GRAND LODGE JURISDICTION.

A Communication having been received from the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts, in relation to warranting Lodges outside the geographical limits of the State, and the subject having been referred to a Committee, examined and reported upon, the following preamble and resolution were adopted :

“ *Whereas*, The Grand Lodge of the State of Massachusetts have, by a Communication dated January 4, 1796, suggested to this Grand Lodge, the adopting a regulation

declaring that no charter or dispensation for holding a Lodge be issued by any Grand Lodge to any number of Masons residing out of the State wherein the Grand Lodge is established ;

Be it therefore,

*Resolved* and declared by this Grand Lodge, That no Charter or Dispensation for holding a Lodge of Masons be ever granted to any person or persons, whomsoever, residing out of this State and within the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge."

Brother Samuel Jones, Jr., for Committee, announced the old Certificate Plate irreparable, and that an artist was preparing a new plate, for which he must draw on the Treasurer.

Warrants were granted for a Lodge in the town of Granville, Washington County, by the name of Liberty ; for a Lodge in Suffolk County, Long Island, to be known as Suffolk Lodge ; for a Lodge in Steuben, Herkimer County, to be known as Steuben Lodge ; and for a Lodge in the town of Montgomery, Ulster County.

#### GRAND LODGES OF NOVA SCOTIA AND MARYLAND.

Communications were received from the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and Maryland, seeking for friendly Masonic intercourse ; and the Grand Secretary was directed to make suitable fraternal reply.

A new star was added to the Union of States by the admission of Tennessee.

1797.

Warrants were authorized on January 18, 1797, for L'Unité Américaine Lodge ; for Moriah Lodge in Marbletown, Ulster County ; for a Lodge in the town of Bath, Steuben County ; for a Lodge in the town of Sangerfield, Herkimer County, to be known as Western Star Lodge ; and for a Lodge in the county of Onondaga, to be called Scipio Lodge.

Brother Cadwallader D. Colden filed his power of proxy from Solomon's Lodge, held in the town of Poughkeepsie.

The Lodges in Poughkeepsie and Albany being delinquents, and the Deputy Grand Master being about to visit those cities, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That he be requested to take charge of the delinquent Lodges in Poughkeepsie and Albany, who have not surrendered their original Warrants; that he be authorized to receive and cancel the same, and to furnish new ones under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; and also to commute with the said Lodges for their respective dues."

Two petitions were received on March 1 :

From Isaac Delamater and others, for a Warrant to hold a Lodge in the city of New York, by the name of Temple Lodge, which was granted.

And one from Tice Ripson and others, to erect and hold a Lodge in the town of Canajoharie, county of Montgomery, by the name of St. Paul's Lodge, which was referred to the presiding Grand officers, with power.

Brother Jacob Morton received a power from Livingstone Lodge, No. 23, appointing him proxy, which was approved and filed.

#### THE SUBJECT OF A REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

now began to engage the attention of the Grand Lodge, and was brought forward by Brother Ludlow offering the following, which was adopted :

*Whereas*, There are various clauses in the Constitutions of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, collected and digested by order of the Grand Lodge of the said State, which are either contradictory or obscure, and several additions are necessary to correct the same;

Therefore,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to revise the same, and to report as soon as convenient what additions, explanations, expunctions, and amendments are necessary to render them more perfect, provided they do not transgress the ancient landmarks, nor in any degree violate the true genius and spirit of Masonry."

The Committee appointed consisted of Brothers Jacob Morton, Scott, Clinton, Abrams, Bisset, Skinner, Vandembroeck, Cock, and Otterson. At the following extra session, held on March 13:

On motion of Brother Clinton,

"*Resolved*, That those of the Grand officers who are not already on the Committee appointed to revise the Constitutions be added thereto, and likewise all the Masters of Lodges within the State, and that five of the members duly assembled shall be a sufficient number to proceed to business."

On motion of Brother Colden,

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary give notice of the above transactions to the several members of the Committee; and that, as the members who reside in the country may not find it convenient to attend the meetings of the Committee, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to inform the country Lodges of the time when the report of the Committee is to be laid before the Grand Lodge, that they may have an opportunity of expressing their sentiments on this important subject by regularly appointed proxies."

There were nine Lodges and three proxies present at this Communication, when Bro. James Scott, Acting Grand Master, installed the officers of Cortlandt Lodge, No. 34, to be held at the town of Cortlandt, Westchester County.

#### THE CLANDESTINE, EDWARD LEE.

The attention of the Grand Lodge had been called, on several occasions, to the report that Edward Lee was working clandestinely in New York City. In June, 1795, a Dis-

pensation had been granted to Edward Lee to operate for six months. On March 1, a Committee had been appointed to investigate the rumor, and on June 7, the Committee, through their chairman, Brother De Witt Clinton,

“ *Reported*, That it appears that one Edward Lee has been the principal cause of holding clandestine meetings of Masons, and conferring degrees without any regular authority, and that the Committee have not yet obtained full information respecting the other offenders ;

Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Edward Lee be excluded from all Masonic communication, and that the said exclusion be communicated to all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge by the Grand Secretary.”

Powers for proxies were presented from three Lodges, as follows :

From Cortlandt Lodge, No. 34, to Bro. De Witt Clinton.

“ Orange Lodge, No. 43, to Bro. William Rollinson.

“ Suffolk Lodge, No. 60, to Bro. John Pray.

All of which were approved and ordered on file.

Warrants were ordered to issue for the formation of two Lodges, one in the town of Hempstead, Queen’s County, and one in the town of Brooklyn, King’s County, both on Long Island.

The election being held for officers for the ensuing year, all the Grand officers for 1796 were re-elected to serve in 1797.

#### SOLOMON’S, UNION, TEMPLE, AND MASTER’S LODGES.

Much difficulty had been experienced in obtaining the surrender of the old Warrants of the Lodges located in Poughkeepsie and Albany, and in having them take new ones from the Grand Lodge of the State. The Deputy Grand Master, who had been requested on January 18 to meet the brethren of those Lodges, reported September 6 that he had met the brethren of Solomon’s Lodge, held at Poughkeepsie ; that

he had, agreeably to the directions of the Grand Lodge, required from the said brethren a surrender of their old Warrant, which had been complied with, and that a new Warrant, recognizing the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, was accordingly delivered to them; that finding the funds of the said Lodge to be but trifling, and understanding that the brethren of that Lodge were making preparations for their accommodations in a new and elegant Lodge room, which, in addition to their funds, would require large advances from the individual members, he thought it expedient to remit to them the dues owing by them to the Grand Lodge, the brethren promising punctual payment of those which should hereafter arise; that from the information he was able to collect, he believed the Lodge to be in a respectable and otherwise flourishing situation.

That he had also met the brethren of Master's, of Union, and of Temple Lodges in Albany; that he made known to the brethren of Master's and Union Lodges the request of the Grand Lodge with respect to the surrender of their old Warrants.

That the former appointed a Committee, with whom the Deputy Grand Master had a conference, and they drew up a report, which was shown to the Deputy Grand Master by the Chairman, in which they recommend to their Lodge a compliance with the request of the Grand Lodge; but the Lodge not having been able to effect a meeting previous to the departure of the Deputy Grand Master, nothing further was done.

That the brethren of Union Lodge, whom the Deputy Grand Master met in their Lodge room, appeared to be willing to accede to the request of the Grand Lodge, and the only obstacle to its being completed, was a question which arose as to the rank they were to hold, as they were possessed of two provincial Warrants; this the Deputy Grand Master did not think it was proper for him alone to decide.

The Deputy Grand Master has brought with him a copy of the said Warrants, and should recommend its being re-

ferred to a Committee to report upon at the next Grand Lodge.

With respect to the Lodge which has lately been established in Albany, the Deputy Grand Master observed that he was persuaded the trust had been committed into the hands of brethren who would do honor to the Fraternity, for that the Master and officers of the Lodge appeared to be persons well instructed in the mysteries of the Fraternity, and zealous to advance its honor and its interests.

In consideration of the above report, the Grand Lodge adopted several resolutions; in the first, approving of the course taken by the Deputy Grand Master, and further, that in compliance with his recommendation, a committee be appointed to examine the Warrants of Union Lodge, held at Albany, and to report the rank it ought to have under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, at the next regular meeting.

The Committee consisted of Brothers Ludlow, Bisset, and Abrams, who reported December 6, that the date should be February 26, 1765.

A petition of Adam I. Doll and others to hold a Lodge in the town of Middletown, Ulster County, by the name of James' Lodge, was referred to the Grand officers.

Three other petitions were laid over for further action, in consequence of the Lodges recommending them not having paid their dues to Grand Lodge. The three applications were :

From Zenas Pynneo and others, for a Lodge in the town of (Dorlagh, now) Sharon, Schoharie County, to be called Sharon Felicity Lodge.

From St. George Talbud Perry and others, for a Lodge in the town of Unadilla, Otsego County, or in the town of Franklin, Delaware County, to be called St. George's Lodge.

From A. Houghtaling and others, for a Lodge in the town of Coeymans, Albany County, to be called Hiram Lodge.

Subsequent to the above, on January 5, 1797, the petition following was presented to the Grand Lodge by Brothers Bidet Renmoulleau and others :

LOGGES L'UNITÉ AMÉRICAINNE AND L'UNION FRANÇAISE.

*“ To the Right Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of New York :*

The petition of the Lodge L'Unité Américaine

Respectfully sheweth, That on application made by several brethren appertaining to the Craft, a Dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge, to hold a Lodge under the name and title of L'Unité Américaine for the term of six months.

That at the expiration thereof, on the application for an authority as usually is granted to all regular Masons, the said Dispensation was continued for the further term of twelve months, with the addition of such privileges as are belonging to warranted Lodges, which term is now expired.

Your petitioners, admiring the prudence of the Grand Lodge in not granting immediately to strangers, although not novices in the Royal Art, the full extent of Rights, endeavored to prove, by a strict adherence to the principles of the order, that Masons—how distinct their climate or language may be—acting as such, have a claim to those benefits that are common to all and can be denied to none. Impressed with such sentiments and confident that this Grand Lodge will deem them worthy of being placed among the number of Lodges under its jurisdiction, they pray a Warrant, in the usual form granted by this Grand Lodge, be granted to them under the distinctive name and title of L'Unité Américaine, and that Bro. Peter Daniel Bidet Renmoulleau may be named Master, Bro. Anthony Stafford, Senior Warden, and Bro. John Gabriel Tardy, Junior Warden, and your petitioners as true and faithful Masons will ever pray.

PETER DANIEL BIDET RENMOULLEAU  
and twenty-five others.”

The above was referred and the following report subsequently made :

The Committee to whom was referred the above petition, have endeavored to avail themselves of all the information

in their power respecting it, and are unanimously of opinion that no reason of sufficient force exists to preclude the prayer of the petitioners ; but, on the contrary, from the number and merits of the applicants, their zeal for Masonry, and the progressive prosperity of the Institution, the Committee are of opinion that a Warrant in the usual form ought forthwith to be issued. New York, Jan'y 5, 1797. In behalf of the Committee.

DE WITT CLINTON, Chairman.	} Committee.
M. HOFFMAN,	
HENDERSON,	
COCKS,	
WELLS,	

The difficulties which appear to have attended the Lodge L'Unité Américaine, No. 13, from the date of its inception, seem to have taken up much of the time and earnest consideration of the Grand Lodge. One of these sources of disturbance of harmony, was the action of the Lodge in expelling the Master, Wor. Brother Bidet Renmoulléau. The report of the expulsion to the Grand Body, on June 7, had caused the Grand Tyler to deny him admission when he presented himself at the door of the Grand Lodge on that occasion, and this caused the appointment of a committee of five, consisting of R. W. De Witt Clinton and Wor. Brothers William Wright, Robert Cock, Abraham Skinner, and Cadwallader D. Colden.

The lengthy report, which becomes more properly a part of the history of the Lodge, and which will be found in its proper place, was presented by Brother C. D. Colden in behalf of the Committee, and concluded as follows :

“Your Committee further report, that when the resolve which has expelled Brother Bidet Renmoulléau, and which has been submitted to you, was passed, not more than one-sixth of the members of the Lodge were present.

Finally your Committee report, that on whichever side of the dispute, between the Brother Verger and the Wor.

Brother Bidet Renmoulleau, justice may be, it does not appear to them an affair proper to the investigation of a Lodge, being a mere mercantile difference, which a court of justice is only competent to decide, and, therefore, they consider the Wor. Brother improperly expelled, and are of opinion that he ought to be restored to all his Masonic rights."

This led to very considerable debate by R. J. Vandembroeck, Anthony Stafford, and John G. Tardy, of L'Unité Américaine Lodge, against the adoption of the report, and by James Scott, Abraham Skinner, and C. D. Colden in favor of its adoption. The consideration resulted in the approval of the report of the Committee, and the unanimous adoption of the resolution, "That Bro. Bidet Renmoulleau be reinstated in the chair of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, from which he has been unjustly expelled, and to all his rights and privileges as Master of the said Lodge."

This seems to have irritated the members of the Lodge, and was followed by the call of an Extra Grand Lodge, on November 22, 1797, when the minutes record :

"The Right Worshipful, the Deputy Grand Master, informed the Grand Lodge that this extra meeting was called in consequence of a paper, together with the Warrant of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, being handed to the Grand Secretary, by persons calling themselves a committee from the said Lodge L'Unité Américaine.

The said paper being in the French language, was translated by the Right Worshipful, the Deputy Grand Master, and by him read to the Grand Lodge, and is in the following words, to wit :

*"Extract from the Minutes of the Golden Book of the Resp. Lodge L'Unité Américaine, at their sitting of the 11th of November, in the year of the L., 5797.*

The Worshipful Master announced, that the object of this extra meeting, was to hear the report of the Committee appointed to attend the sittings of the Grand Lodge, where the judgment given by this Resp. Lodge on Pierre Daniel Bidet Renmoulleau would be brought in question.

This report being made, and the discussion closed, resolved, according to the opinion of each individual member, 'the Resp. Lodge, considering that every particular Lodge has an exclusive right to choose the members composing it, that the free will manifested by a majority of a Lodge, is the sole rule in Masonry by which is determined the expulsion of a member, and that every decision of a Grand Lodge, contrary to this principle, is only an abuse of authority; considering that by a decree of the sixth day of the fourth month, the Resp. Lodge has ordered the erasure of P. D. Bidet Renmoulleau from the list of its members, unless he would submit to certain conditions mentioned in the said decree, and that P. D. Bidet Renmoulleau has not complied with any of those conditions; considering that the Grand Lodge of New York could not invalidate the judgment of the Resp. Lodge which pronounces the exclusion of one of its members without making an attempt on the right of election inherent to each Lodge; considering, finally, that the dignity of the Resp. Lodge requires it to maintain the liberty of its deliberations, and that it cannot enjoy that liberty any longer under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York :

*Resolved*, unanimously (with the exception of Bro. Vandebroek, who desired his refusal to be minuted, and which was granted),

*First*, That they persist in their resolve of the sixth day of the fourth month, 5797, and declare to maintain it in all its contents.

*Second*, That from this moment they cease to exist under the authority of the Grand Lodge of New York, and return immediately under the authority of their natural Grand Lodge of France; and that in consequence, five commissioners shall be charged to wait upon the Grand Secretary, in order to return to him the Warrant, and also a copy of the present resolve (so far as it concerns him), which shall be attested by the Secretary.

By order of the Resp. Lodge,

(Signed) JOSEPH GILBERT, *Secretary.*"

Whereupon, on motion, in Grand Lodge,

“*Resolved*, That the Warrant be restored to Brother Bidet Renmoulleau, as Master of Lodge L’Unité Américaine, and that discretionary powers be granted to him to assemble his Lodge in any convenient place.

*Resolved*, That the said paper is anti-Masonic, an insult to the dignity and authority of this Grand Lodge, and contains such sentiments as will tend to subvert the Masonic government and destroy the harmony of the society.

*Resolved*, That there be a Committee to obtain the best information in their power as to who were the persons that advised or agreed to the said proceedings, and make report to the next Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That the Committee consist of three, and

*Resolved*, That Brothers Otterson, Onderdonk, and J. C. Ludlow be the said Committee.”

The Masters of the Lodges in the city were requested to attend the next meeting of the Lodge L’Unité Américaine, and report their proceedings to the next Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary was directed to indorse the Warrant of that Lodge with these words: “In Grand Lodge, November 22, 5797. *Ordered*, That this Warrant be continued in full force, the surrender within mentioned to the contrary notwithstanding. I. A. G. L.”

All the papers in the case were deposited with the Grand Secretary.

On December 6, Brother J. C. Ludlow, in behalf of Committee appointed to inquire who were the persons aiding, assisting, or agreeing to certain proceedings of the above Lodge, as communicated on November 22, reported the names of

Reinier J. Vandenbroeck, Chairman,	
Anthony Stafford,	J. L. Baillargeaux,
J. G. Tardy,	A. T. Renault,
Joseph Gilbert,	H. T. Mugnie,
Cyp. Courbe,	P. C. Verger,
——— Lefevre,	——— Liancourt.

Whereupon an extra Grand Lodge was ordered for December 12, and the Grand Secretary directed to summon the above-named brethren to attend and answer certain charges which will then be exhibited to them.

In the meantime, on December 6, 1797, in Grand Lodge, the Deputy Grand Master, Jacob Morton, read a letter from Huet Lachelle, styling himself a Deputy Grand Master under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of France, and requesting permission to visit this Grand Lodge, in that, or in his own private character as a Master Mason. Previous to any order being taken on the request, the Deputy Grand Master informed the Grand Lodge that he had been told, from good authority, that the said Brother Huet Lachelle had granted a Warrant for the establishment of a Lodge in this city by the name of L'Union Française, and which information he had, on inquiry, found to be true.

Accordingly, a Committee, consisting of Brothers C. D. Colden, Onderdonk, and Mercadier, were appointed to wait on Huet Lachelle, and inform him that his conduct, in granting a Warrant for a Lodge, was contrary to the rules established by this Grand Lodge, and an infringement of their rights, and that he could not be admitted into this Grand Lodge unless he pledged himself, in writing, to revoke the powers granted by him in the said Warrant.

Subsequently, the Committee reported that the said Huet Lachelle acknowledged he had granted a Warrant to hold the Lodge L'Union Française in New York City; that he persisted he had a right to grant Warrants when and where he pleased; further, that he would not exhibit his authority empowering him so to do; and that he would not revoke nor annul the one granted. The subject then for the time dropped, Mr. Huet Lachelle handing the Committee a copy of a letter written to the Grand Master.

Finally summonses for an investigation ensued. At the Extra Grand Lodge, held December 12, Jacob Morton, Deputy Grand Master, presiding; James Scott, De Witt Clinton, John Abrams, Martin Hoffman, and John Bisset, Grand officers, were present, together with the represen-

tatives of eight Lodges, and eight proxies. The Tyler informed the Grand Lodge that he had served the summonses; Brother J. C. Ludlow stated he was in receipt of a letter from Brother R. J. Vandebroeck, one of those summoned, setting forth that he was so indisposed as to render it imprudent for him personally to attend. His personal attendance was excused.

The Grand Secretary read a reply received by him from Joseph Gilbert, Secretary of the Lodge L'Unité Américaine, and the Deputy Grand Master, a paper signed "Henry Pecard," Secretary p. t., for and in behalf of the brethren composing the above-mentioned Lodge.

This led to a discussion and the adoption of a resolution that a committee, consisting of the Deputy Grand Master, the Junior Grand Warden, De Witt Clinton, and Cadwallader D. Colden, draw proper resolutions concerning the conduct of the persons above mentioned as summoned, and transmit the same in reply, accompanied by a suitable letter. And further, that an Extra Grand Lodge be held on the coming Saturday night.

Brother Pray then produced a lengthy letter, written to Independent Royal Arch Lodge, No. 2, in behalf of a number of persons claiming to belong to a Lodge named L'Union Française, who were working under the Warrant given by Huet Lachelle. Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That Huet Lachelle, his associates—all persons working under a Warrant granted by him for the purpose of forming a Lodge in this city, by the name of L'Union Française—and the following persons: R. J. Vandebroeck, Anthony Stafford, J. G. Tardy, Joseph Gilbert, — Lefevre, Cyp. Courbe, J. L. Baillargeaux, A. T. Renault, Jeune Verdier, P. C. Verger, H. T. Mugnie, and — Liancourt, formerly members of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, be, and they hereby are, inhibited from visiting or otherwise associating with any of the Lodges in this city, until further orders are forwarded to the said Lodges, by this Grand Lodge, on the subject."

In the meantime the following letter had been received from Brother R. John Vandebroek :

*“Under the auspices of the Great Architect of the Universe, the tenth day of the tenth month of the year of Masonry 5797, Brother Reinier John Vandebroek, Master in all the Masonic Degrees, to the Right Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. S. S. S.”*

BELOVED BRETHREN :

I have obtained information from undoubted authority that my name has been placed among a number of brethren, formerly members of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, and who now have formed themselves under the Jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Lodge of France, under the title of L'Union Française, and which brethren are supposed as deserving the highest censure. I shall not enter to discuss the origin, nature, and merits of this case, being foreign to my present view. I am only, by duty owing to myself, called upon to acquaint the Grand Lodge, that whoever has furnished this list has committed an error. 1st. The Proceedings of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, No. —, at its dissolution, and of which an authenticated copy has been transmitted, will show my conduct. 2d. I do declare that I never signed, either solely or with any other person or persons, any application to the Provincial Grand Lodge of France, neither did I concur in the installation of Lodge L'Union Française, but was invited and have been present with several brethren of different Lodges in this city, at an entertainment given by the brethren of Lodge L'Union Française, on which occasion the Grand Lodge of the State of New York was remembered by them with fraternal affection. I do conceive for these reasons that my name has been erroneously mentioned. But I lament that my zeal for the Craft, of which on all occasions I gave unequivocal proofs in my advancing life and my declining state of health, is rewarded with a desire of persecution; however, I firmly rely that justice and equity will ultimately prevail in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Having withdrawn from Lodge L'Unité Américaine at its

dissolution, and having declared not to be a member of the Lodge under the same title, of which Bidet Renmoulleau is Master, for reasons too numerous to mention, and too convincing to be enervated, I can henceforth not claim, as a Past Master, a seat and vote in the Grand Lodge, being no longer a member of a Lodge under its Jurisdiction. I therefore embrace this opportunity to offer my warmest thanks for the many proofs of friendship and Masonic confidence shown to me by a number of brethren,—to assure a sincere forgiveness to those few who found it the interest of ambition or private views to injure me, and to request of every real Mason the continuance of such a social intercourse, as is calculated mutually to promote satisfaction in life, comfort in death, and felicity hereafter.

I cannot conclude without assuring the Grand Lodge, that the brethren formerly of Lodge L'Union Américaine, are men of good report, peaceable citizens, obedient to the laws of the country where they dwell, good Masons, not in name, but from principle; that they were attached to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and still remain so; that what has been done by them, hastily done, and expressed in terms not well measured, gave a wrong impression of their feelings, of their abhorrence to vice, and a conviction that Bidet Renmoulleau is an unworthy Mason; that the fear of being compelled to associate with him has brought them to the steps they have taken. This is my private opinion, as it appears to me. Are there no means to reconcile them? They are good men and good Masons; have they erred? Their principles are sound, with a religious attachment to every virtue, and an abhorrence to every vice. For me, it only remains to assure the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, that although calumniated and persecuted, I shall still entertain attachment, and when I pray the Great Architect may bless you, and each of you, I am sincere.

I salute you with the Sacred Numbers known to Masons,  
and ami, Beloved Brethren, faithfully

Your Brother,

R. J. VANDENBROECK.

The Deputy Grand Master informed the Grand Lodge that he had postponed the meeting from Saturday last until this evening, in consequence of a petition he had received, signed by twenty-eight persons, formerly members of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, and in virtue of a promise made to him that such a petition would be presented, provided the postponement took place. He then read the petition, which was in the words following :

*To the Right Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.*

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BRETHREN :

It is ever the duty of an upright mind, when convinced of having been in error, candidly to acknowledge it. Much more, then, does it become us, who stand to you in the endearing light of brethren of the great Masonic family, and as children of your immediate household, to acknowledge to you the error into which we have been led in our conduct, as members of the late Lodge L'Unité Américaine.

Impressed in the most solemn manner with the extreme unworthiness of Bidet Renmoulleau as a man and as a Mason, of which we have the proof in our hands, we leave you to judge what were our feelings when we were informed that the Grand Lodge (deciding as we supposed on the merits of the question) had declared him innocent, and again placed him at our head.

Unacquainted with your language and with your rules of proceeding, we were mistaken as to the grounds of your decision, and were ignorant of our mode of redress.

We did not know, as we have since learned, that you had not decided upon the merits of Bidet Renmoulleau, but upon the irregularity of our proceedings ; nor did we know that we might have been redressed by regularly impeaching him before the Grand Lodge ; we supposed there was no alternative but to submit, and to accept Bidet Renmoulleau for our Master.

Thus circumstanced, we solemnly declare to you that,

between Bidet Renmoulleau as our Master and annihilation of a Lodge, there was no hesitation to prefer the latter.

With minds thus impressed, we were induced to take advantage of the opportunity offered to us by the arrival of the Most Worshipful Huet Lachelle, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of France, and several members thereof, by organizing ourselves as a Lodge under the jurisdiction of our native country. For so doing, we declare to you, we supposed we were acting agreeably to Masonic regulations, and had no intention of giving offense to your Right Worshipful Grand Lodge. Your kindness to us was imprinted in our hearts, and we were fondly anticipating an interchange of friendly communications with you. Nor will you, brethren, we trust, censure us too severely when you reflect that the rights and privileges of your Grand Lodge, and the extent of its jurisdiction, could not be well known to us, as we believe the questions had never before received your own decision, having probably never been raised.

We, however, upon reflection and investigation, suppose your construction of your powers and authority is right, as we are persuaded it is for the interest and honor of the Masonic institution that there should be in every distinct government a supreme Masonic authority, from which each individual Lodge should exclusively derive its authority, and to which it should be accountable. Your Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, having been duly organized, is that authority, and, believe us, we shall, while residents of this country, ever pay it due homage.

In addition to these acknowledgments, be assured it is with pain we reflect on the trouble this has given you; but we are confident it will not lessen us in your opinion, when you reflect that it has arisen from our abhorrence to fraud, though it should appear under the form of a brother, and from a wish (though improperly pursued) of preserving our Masonic institution pure and virtuous.

Persuaded, Right Worshipful brethren, of the liberality of your minds, confiding in your affections, and in our consciousness of rectitude, we venture to intimate to you that,

separated as we are, by the misfortunes of our native land, from those social endearments which form the highest bliss of human life, we have fondly looked, until our uneasiness in Lodge L'Unité Américaine, to Masonry, the only source which could compensate us for our social misfortunes.

We therefore solicit from our respected brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, permission to assemble ourselves together as a Lodge, under their jurisdiction, and under such officers as should be nominated by the Lodge, and presented to the officers of the Grand Lodge. We are sufficiently numerous, being twenty-eight in number present, and in return for your kindness we offer you hearts filled with affection, which we are anxious to prove by our conduct. The title of the Lodge will be also communicated.

With every sentiment of respect and attention we are,

Right Worshipful brethren,

Your faithful brethren.

Signed as under :

Parisox, Anthony Stafford, A. T. Renault, Jeune Verdier, Henry Pecard, Labouseaine, Tomois J. Lombrier, Falvande, John G. Tardy, Stephen Liancourt, H. T. Mugnie, Lefevre, Bignon, Dupoy, Varet, Caussy, Thugte, Foucier, J. L. Bailargeaux, M. T. Launier, Jacque Ostin, Francisquey, Rem. Lerbeuapin, Remon Palide, P. C. Verger, Courbe, Jos. Gilbert, Jon. Spinola.

The administrator and the officers of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Lodge of San Domingo, have seen with edification and the greatest pleasure the steps taken by the worthy brethren above signed.

Signed. CHALON DAYRAL,  
DE OLIOR,  
VERDIER,  
COURBE,  
HUET LACHELLE.

These Communications led to the presentation and adoption of the following :

“ *Whereas*, The said petition admits that the above persons have hitherto acted improperly, and also admits the exclusive jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge ;

*Resolved*, That they be re-admitted to Masonic communication, upon their delivering up to a Committee of this Grand Lodge the pretended Warrant of Huet Lachelle, under which they have recently convened ; and also upon their complying with such disposition of the property of the Lodge L'Unité Américaine, as the said Committee may direct ; and that the said Committee be authorized and directed to endeavor to heal the differences subsisting among the members of the said Lodge L'Unité Américaine, to unite them again together, and to restore their former harmony. The Committee are desired to inform Mr. Huet Lachelle that the apology made by him to this Grand Lodge is not satisfactory, and to demand from him such apology as they may deem satisfactory. The Committee for the above purposes consists of the Right Worshipful Brother Jacob Morton, the Right Worshipful Brother James Scott, and Worshipful Brother Abraham Skinner.”

The Right Worshipful, the Deputy Grand Master, then read the following letter from Brother R. J. Vandebroek :

*Under the auspices of the Great Architect of the Universe,  
Brother Reinier John Vandebroek, Master in all Ma-  
sonic Degrees, to the Right Worshipful, the Grand Lodge  
of the State of New York.*

BELOVED BRETHREN :

Having for a number of years supported the character of a Mason, I am zealous to maintain it ; to obtain this aim, I addressed the Grand Lodge at the last meeting, being indisposed, and exposed convincing proofs of my behavior. Brother Ludlow informs me, that notwithstanding this, the Grand Lodge were impressed with the idea of me, as being the influential person in the steps taken by the brethren of the late Lodge, L'Unité Américaine. Although a conscience that knows no guilt can be assured that his innocence will

ultimately appear, yet, as by order of the Grand Lodge, my name has appeared at the head of a list signed by the Grand Secretary, it becomes my duty to myself further to explain : 1st. I did not agree to the mode of returning the Warrant. 2d. I never concurred, signed, or have seen any application for a foreign Warrant. 3d. I never was known to letters written either to the Grand Lodge or to an individual Lodge—the first letter I have seen was the one presented at my house in the presence of Brethren Morton, Abrams, Colden, and Ludlow ; the second, I knew nothing of. 4th. I am not a member of Lodge L'Union Française ; have not met with them. These declarations I make in the most solemn manner ; if they have any weight to do away prejudices and groundless impressions, I trust that the Grand Lodge (having, by sending my name to the different Lodges, under the form of a criminal, injured my reputation as a man and as a Mason) will do me the justice I am entitled to. If this shall not be the case, I shall wait with patience until cooler deliberations have moderated the passions. I am convinced that stronger proofs will appear, although now injured and exposed, when indisposed and confined, for in the past I have maintained the reputation and authority of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, which viewed me once a useful member, but whose late decrees have exposed to injury the character of a faithful brother.

I am with sentiments of attachment, beloved brethren,

Your brother,

(Signed) R. J. VANDENBROECK.

NEW YORK, December 18, 1797.

Whereupon, on motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the suspension of Reinier John Vandebroeck be taken off, and that the same be communicated to the different Lodges in the city by the Grand Secretary.

An Extra Grand Lodge Communication was held December 25, 1797, Right Worshipful Jacob Morton, Deputy Grand Master, presiding.

The Right Worshipful, the Deputy Grand Master, on behalf of the Committee appointed at the last meeting to confer with and endeavor to settle the differences subsisting among the members of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, reported as follows :

LETTER BY THE COMMITTEE.

“NEW YORK, December 20, 1797.

BRETHREN :

The Grand Lodge of this State, at their meeting on the 18th instant, took into consideration the memorial which you had addressed to them respecting your late proceedings which had incurred their censure, and they resolved that you should be again received into their bosom, as brethren of our Fraternity, upon your first surrendering to their Committee, for that purpose appointed, the Warrant which you have received for instituting a Lodge entitled L'Union Française ; and, second, upon surrendering to the said Committee the property of Lodge L'Unité Américaine in your possession, to be disposed of by the said Committee as they should deem just and equitable.

The Committee appointed for this purpose was Right Worshipful Bro. Scott, Worshipful Bro. Skinner, and myself. The Committee have it further in direction, upon the above-mentioned requisites being complied with, to endeavor to heal the differences now subsisting between you and the other members of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, and, if possible, to unite you together and restore your former harmony.

I have been directed by the other brethren of the Committee to make known to you these resolves of the Grand Lodge, and to request your answer to their requisitions. To these requests, I feel no doubt but that your answer will be such, as will allow us the pleasure of extending to you the fraternal hand of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

For having (as you have done in your memorial to the Grand Lodge) acknowledged, in the most unequivocal manner, the supremacy in Masonic authority, you yourselves must

be conscious of the impropriety of retaining in your hands a Warrant from a foreign jurisdiction. Nor will you, my brethren, we are persuaded, for a moment suffer the charge to remain against you, that you are exclusively holding property in which others claim a share.

May we not also hope, that in the benevolent spirit of our institution, which breathes peace and good-will to all mankind, you will close with the proposition of endeavoring to heal your differences, and, by assurance of your readiness to join in that measure, enable us to summon you together for that purpose?

We expect your answer, and are, with affection,

Your brethren,

(Signed) JACOB MORTON, D. G. M. and Chairman.

To	BROTHER TARDY,	} Committee."
	" STAFFORD,	
	" SALIER, and others,	

REPLY TO THE FOREGOING.

"RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BROTHER :

We have received your letter communicating the resolve of the Grand Lodge of the 19th instant, and in our reply we have the satisfaction to inform you that, in conformity to our sentiments expressed in our letter to the Grand Lodge, we have returned the Warrant to the hands of the Provincial Grand Master of San Domingo who gave it. With respect to the property of Lodge L'Unité in our hands, we have too much sentiment of equity and honor to retain anything on which others may suppose they have a claim. We pledge ourselves to lay before you a faithful statement thereof, and we will cheerfully abide by that equitable decision, which we are confident the Committee of the Grand Lodge will pronounce.

Relative to an accommodation, we say safely, that none of the members which compose Lodge L'Unité Américaine are obnoxious to us, except the Master, Bidet Renmoulleau, whose conduct does not agree with the sentiments of honor and

probity which we profess ; but, if your Committee can produce in him a change, so that he does what an honest man and a good Mason ought to do, much of the dislike to his person, and the utter impossibility of associating with him as a Mason, will be removed. We farther assure you, Worshipful brother, that, placing unlimited confidence in your integrity and good-will, we are ready to comply with whatever may be required of us, persuaded that you, brother, will not demand of us anything but what is Masonic and adequate to promote the dignity of the order, to fix our harmony on a permanent foundation, and to keep the institution as well as the Lodge pure and virtuous, this being the summit of our desire. We shall always be found willing to answer your directions, which we are convinced are for the best, with that sincerity which becomes Masons and virtuous men.

We are, with sentiments of attachment, Right Worshipful brother, your affectionate brethren, for and in behalf of the brethren, signers of the Memorial of the 18th instant.

(Signed)

ANTH. STAFFORD,  
 JOS. GILBERT,  
 J. L. BAILLARGEAUX,  
 HUGO SALIER,  
 A. T. RENAULT,  
 STEPH. LIANCOURT,  
 HY. TH. MUGNIE,  
 REMON PALIDE,

JOHN G. TARDY,  
 L. I. RENAULT,  
 BIGNON,  
 M. T. LAUNIER,  
 JACQUE OSTIN,  
 LAMBRIERE,  
 ANDREANSSY,  
 HENRY PECARD,

PARISOX.

December 22, A. L. 5797.”

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE GRAND LODGE.

“That, in pursuance of the direction of the Grand Lodge, they communicated to these brethren the resolves of the Grand Lodge, and expressed an expectation of their ready compliance with them ; and further intimated to them that, upon complying therewith, the Committee hoped that the brethren would, in compliance with the resolve of the Grand

Lodge, enable them to summon them together for the purpose of restoring the harmony which had formerly subsisted among them. To this communication the Committee received an answer, which is herewith presented to the Grand Lodge. The Committee, being satisfied with the answer of the brethren, proceeded, in pursuance of the direction of the Grand Lodge, to summon them together. The Master, Worshipful Bro. Bidet Renmoulleau, was accordingly applied to, and directed to summon all the brethren to meet in their former Lodge room on Saturday evening last. He accordingly furnished a copy of the summons, and the brethren were summoned.

The Deputy Grand Master and Bro. Skinner, on their way to the Lodge room on Saturday evening, called on Bro. Bidet Renmoulleau, to take him with them. They there found assembled the brethren who have been associated with Bro. Bidet Renmoulleau. Supposing this a proper opportunity to learn the sentiments of these brethren respecting the proposed reunion, the brethren of the Committee entered into a very lengthy conversation, the result of which was to convince the Committee that the brethren attached to Bro. Bidet Renmoulleau, and those opposed to him, would never associate together in one Lodge with that harmony becoming brethren of our institution. They therefore informed the brethren that they supposed that their attendance at the Lodge would not be necessary, to which the brethren assented.

The Committee then proceeded to the Lodge room, where they found the brethren of the opposite party assembled, and from the unanimous sentiment which prevailed among them with regard to Bro. Bidet Renmoulleau, the Committee conceived that they could not, with the duty which they owed the institution, recommend to these brethren a reunion with the other brethren, convinced that it would be only the source of further feuds and animosities. As, therefore, these brethren had given the Committee entire satisfaction of their readiness to submit to the directions of the Grand Lodge, the Committee could not conceive it proper that so numerous a

body of brethren should be denied the privilege of associating together ; they, therefore, supposed it would be the most advisable method of terminating this unpleasant business, by giving to these brethren a separate Warrant, and permitting the other brethren to continue by themselves under the one which they now hold ; and they informed the brethren that this was their opinion, and they would recommend it to the Grand Lodge. The brethren, under this idea, then requested permission to proceed, in their presence, to nominate by ballot those persons whom they should wish (in case the Warrant was granted) to preside over them. The Committee having assented to the proposition, they proceeded, and unanimously nominated Bro. Stafford for Master, Bro. Tardy for Senior, and Bro. Renault for Junior, Wardens. This is the general outline of the proceedings of your Committee, and, upon the whole, they would observe, that they have observed in the said brethren, a most perfect willingness to comply with every request of the Grand Lodge ; and as they are by far the greater proportion of the original members of Lodge L'Unité Américaine (being nearly seven to one), it would be, in the opinion of your Committee, inequitable to bar them the privilege of associating together as Masons, because they have objections to a single individual, and those objections of a nature that, if well founded, ought to dictate to them the line of conduct they now pursue.

Your Committee, therefore, would seriously recommend to the Grand Lodge, to grant to said brethren a Warrant, as the best means of terminating the present uneasiness."

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Whereupon a motion was made and seconded, that a Warrant be granted, agreeably to the recommendation of the Committee. This motion was amended by one to grant a Dispensation for the space of six months, which passed in the affirmative.

It was explicitly ordered that the minutes of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, and those of the Lodge to be held

under Dispensation, should be kept in the English as well as in the French language.

On June 25, 1798, the Grand Secretary informed the Grand Lodge, that Brother P. D. Bidet Renmoulleau had frequently applied for the papers deposited by the Committee, appointed to settle the differences existing between him and some of the members of Lodge L'Unité Américaine. The Grand Secretary was instructed to retain the papers, and not to show them to either of the parties.

On the succeeding March 5, the Junior Grand Warden delivered to the Grand Lodge the Warrant of Lodge L'Unité Américaine, No. 12, which the Master had been ordered by the members of said Lodge to surrender to the Grand Lodge.

#### A LODGE COMMUNICATION IN JAIL.

A petition was presented to the Grand Lodge, emanating from a number of brethren confined in the jail of the city of New York for debt, begging permission to congregate on the ensuing Festival of St. John the Baptist, and to celebrate the day as a Lodge. A Dispensation was ordered to be issued for said purpose for that day only, and that the presiding officers be named by the Grand officers.

A Warrant to establish and hold Montgomery Lodge, was granted on November 22, 1797, for the town of Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, the application having been made by Brother Andrew Bartholomew and others.

#### THOMAS PAINE.

*The name of Paine Lodge changed to Hiram Lodge.*

On May 10, 1793, the Grand Lodge had issued a Warrant to a number of brethren in the town of Washington, Dutchess County, to erect and hold a Lodge by the name of "Paine," in remembrance of Thomas Paine, so famously connected with the American and French Revolutions, who

was born in 1737, in England, and came to America in 1774, and who in 1776 published the pamphlet "Common Sense," in which he maintained the cause of the Colonies against the mother country. This pamphlet had won for Paine the friendship of Washington, Franklin, and other distinguished leaders. In 1787, Paine visited France, and thence went to England, where, in 1791, he published the "Rights of Man." On the succeeding year, he was elected to the Deputyship of the National Convention in France, and at the trial of Louis XVI., he interposed, that the life of the king should be spared and that he be sent to America. In 1793, in consequence of Paine being a foreigner, Robespierre caused his ejection from the Convention and his being imprisoned. It was during his confinement that Thomas Paine wrote his renowned pamphlet, "The Age of Reason," against Atheism and against Christianity, but in favor of Deism. It was the issuing of this work that brought the anathemas of Christianity upon him, and caused him to be odious in the sight of the Church, and the consequent desire on the part of Paine Lodge to have its name changed to Hiram, No. 27. This was authorized by the Grand Lodge on December 6, 1797. Thomas Paine returned to the United States in 1802, and died seven years thereafter.

This author was so bold and incisive a writer, that everything that emanated from his pen was caught up with avidity; and a posthumous writing of his,

*"On the Origin of Freemasonry,"*

was filed in the District Court of the United States in 1810, by Margaret B. Bonneville, and is very rare, perhaps because of its non-importance. As it is unique, a few pages showing the trend of Paine's mind on the ORIGIN of the great Brotherhood are herein given. They run thus :

"It is always understood that Free-Masons have a secret which they carefully conceal; but from everything that can be collected from their own accounts of Masonry, their real

secret is no other than their origin, which but few of them understand ; and those who do, envelope it in mystery.

In 1730, Samuel Pritchard, member of a constituted lodge in England, published a treatise entitled 'Masonry Dissected ;' and made oath before the Lord Mayor of London that it was a true copy.

In his work he has given the catechism, or examination in question and answer, of the apprentice, the fellow-craft and the Master Mason. There was no difficulty in his doing this, as it is mere form.

In his introduction he says, 'The original institution of masonry consisted in the foundation of the liberal arts and sciences, but more especially of Geometry ; for at the building of the Tower of Babel the art and mystery of Masonry was first introduced, and from thence handed down by *Euclid*, a worthy and excellent Mathematician of the Egyptians ; and he communicated it to *Hiram*, the Master Mason concerned in building Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem.'

Beside the absurdity of deriving masonry from the building of Babel, where, according to the legend, the confusion of languages prevented builders understanding each other, and consequently of communicating any knowledge they had, there is a glaring contradiction in point of chronology in the account given.

Solomon's Temple was built and dedicated 1004 years before the christian era ; and *Euclid*, as may be seen in the tables of chronology, lived 277 years before the same era. It was therefore impossible that Euclid could communicate anything to Hiram, since Euclid did not live till 700 years after the time of Hiram.

In 1783 captain George Smith, inspector of the Royal Artillery Academy, at Woolwich, in England, and Provincial Grand Master of Masonry for the county of Kent, published a treatise entitled 'The Use and Abuse of Free-Masonry.'

In his chapter on the antiquity of masonry, he makes it to be coeval with creation, 'When,' says he, 'the sovereign architect raised on masonic principles, the beauteous globe, and commanded that master science, Geometry, to lay the plane-

tary world, and to regulate by its laws the whole stupendous system in just unerring proportion, rolling round the central sun.'

The learned but unfortunate Doctor Dodd, Grand Chaplain of Masonry, in his oration at the dedication of Free-Mason's Hall, London, traces Masonry through a variety of stages. Masons, says he, are well informed from their own private and interior records, that the building of Solomon's Temple is an important era, from whence they derive many mysteries of their art. 'Now,' says he, 'be it remembered that this great event took place above 1000 years before the christian era, and consequently more than a century before Homer, the first of the Grecian poets, wrote; and above five centuries before Pythagoras brought from the East, his sublime system of truly Masonic instruction to illuminate our western world.

But remote as this period is, we date not from thence the commencement of our art. For though it might owe to the wise and glorious King of Israel, some of its many mystic forms and hieroglyphic ceremonies, yet certainly the art itself is coeval with man, the great subject of it.

We trace,' continues he, 'its footsteps in the most distant, the most remote ages and nations of the world. We find it among the first and most celebrated civiliziers of the East. We deduce it regularly from the first astronomers on the plains of Chaldea, to the wise and mystic kings and priests of Egypt, the sages of Greece, and the philosophers of Rome.'

From these reports and declarations of Masons of the highest order in the institution, we see that Masonry, without publicly declaring so, lays claim to some divine communication from the creator in a manner different from, and unconnected with, the book which the christians call the Bible; and the natural result from this is, that Masonry is derived from some very ancient religion wholly independent of, and unconnected with that book.

To come then at once to the point, *Masonry* (as I shall shew from the customs, ceremonies, hieroglyphics and chronology of Masonry) is derived, and is the remains of, the

religion of the ancient Druids ; who like the magi of Persia and the priests of Heliopolis in Egypt, were Priests of the Sun. They paid worship to this great luminary, as the great visible agent of a great invisible first cause, whom they styled, time without limits.

In Masonry many of the ceremonies of the Druids are preserved in their original state, at least without any parody. With them the sun is still the sun ; and his image, in the form of the sun, is the great emblematical ornament of Masonic Lodges and Masonic dresses. It is the central figure on their aprons, and they wear it also pendent on the breast in their lodges and in their processions.

The worship of the sun as the great visible agent of a great invisible first cause, time without limits, spread itself over a considerable part of Asia and Africa, from thence to Greece and Rome, through all ancient Gaul and into Britain and Ireland.

Smith, in his chapter on the Antiquity of Masonry in Britain, says, that, 'Notwithstanding the obscurity which envelopes Masonic history in that country, various circumstances contribute to prove that Free-Masonry was introduced into Britain about 1030 years before Christ.'

It cannot be Masonry in its present state that Smith here alludes to. The Druids flourished in Britain at the period he speaks of, and it is from them that Masonry is descended. Smith has put the child in the place of the parent.

It sometimes happens as well in writing as in conversation, that a person lets slip an expression that serves to unravel what he intends to conceal, and this is the case with Smith, for in the same chapter he says, 'The Druids, when they committed anything to writing, used the Greek alphabet, and I am bold to assert that the most perfect remains of the Druids' rites and ceremonies that are to be found existing among mankind are preserved in the customs and ceremonies of the Masons. My brethren,' says he, 'may be able to trace them with greater exactness than I am at liberty to explain to the public.'

This is a confession from a Master Mason, without intend-

ing it to be so understood by the public, that Masonry is the remains of the religion of the Druids."

Thomas Paine volunteered as soon as the War for Independence began, and served as an aide-de-camp to General Greene until he laid down the sword for the pen. Ten years after Paine's death, on June 8, 1809, William Cobbett exhumed the bones and conveyed them to England. Paine's father was a Quaker, but, as the Friends would not permit the body to be buried in their cemetery, it was interred on his farm, which had been given to him by the State of New York, and embraced 277 acres, which was the confiscated estate of Frederick Devoe, a Tory. The present monument to Paine stands on the edge of the highway, about two miles west of New Rochelle; it is not upon the site of his grave, but a few paces to the northwest of it, in a corner of a private road. A hickory tree grows out of the centre of the original grave. The monument is in an enclosure twelve feet square, with four trees—a hickory, a maple, and two willows—each sentinelling a corner, while a low stone wall with an iron railing in front, surrounds the plot. Three sides of the monument, which is a solid marble shaft about ten feet high, surmounted with an Ionic cornice, are completely covered with extracts from "The Crisis," "Common Sense," and "The Age of Reason." The front of the monument has a medallion profile of Paine, with the following inscription:

"The world is my country, and to do good my religion."

THOMAS PAINE,

Author of

COMMON SENSE.

Born in England, Jan. 29, 1737.

Died in New York City, June 8, 1809.

The palaces of kings are built upon the ruins of the bowers of Paradise.

—*Common Sense.*

Erected by

Public Contribution

Nov. 12, 1839.

Repaired and Rededicated

May 30, 1881.

## THE POLITICAL DIFFICULTY WITH FRANCE IN 1797.

John Adams, the second President of the United States, had been a delegate from Massachusetts to the Colonial Congress, and one of the Committee to draw up the Declaration of Independence. He was the first Minister to Great Britain from the United States as an independent government. The French Revolution was in progress, and a large part of the Americans, urged on by the French Minister, were anxious that the Government should ally itself with the French Republic. The French Directory demanded an alliance, ordered its men-of-war to interfere with American commerce, and finally dismissed the American Minister from Paris. Gerry, Marshall, and Pinckney were sent to Paris to attempt a settlement; but the Directory refused to receive them, unless a quarter million of dollars were first paid as restitution for injuries which they pretended to have received by Jay's treaty with Great Britain. This the ambassadors refused, and they, too, were ordered to leave. And so, in 1798, preparations were made for war with France. The army was organized, and a navy fitted out for the protection of American commerce. The American, Admiral Truxton, attacked and took a French man-of-war with a force vastly superior to his own. Before the French Minister, Talleyrand, could receive an ambassador, whom he had solicited, to treat for peace, Bonaparte had overthrown the Directory and was master of France, and peace was declared and signed in September, 1800. This was at the close of President Adams's administration, and the time when the United States became possessed of the Louisiana Territory by the payment of a sum of about fourteen millions of dollars.

As a State, Louisiana was admitted in 1812.

The above incident shows the relative position held by the young Government with the older nations.

Thomas Jefferson, of Virginia, the well-known author of the Declaration of Independence, became the third President of the United States in 1801, and in the following year Ohio was admitted into the Union.

On November 27, 1797, there was presented a petition from Brother Andrew Bartholomew and others for a Warrant to erect and hold Montgomery Lodge, in the town of Rhinebeck, Dutchess County.

The proxy of Bath Lodge, No. 57, to Brother J. C. Ludlow was approved; also that of Hiram Lodge, No. 27, to Brother John F. Roorbach, was accepted and filed.

#### THE FREEMASON'S MONITOR,

compiled and arranged by Brother Thomas Smith Webb, was issued during the year 1797.

As this Monitor, for so many years, became the Mason's guide, and as its author became the father of AMERICAN MASONRY, it is almost essential that there should be presented at least a brief

#### SKETCH OF THOMAS SMITH WEBB,

who was born October 13, 1771, in Boston, Mass., of English parents who had lately arrived in that city. Brother Smith's education was obtained in the public schools. He made himself proficient in Latin and French. He was apprenticed to a printer, and after serving his time, he took up his residence in Keene, N. H. Here he married Miss Martha Hopkins. Shortly after Webb moved to Albany, N. Y., and opened a book store. In 1801, he moved to Providence, R. I., and engaged in the manufacture of wall-paper. In 1816, he visited the Western States, returned to Boston from Ohio in 1818, but again went West in 1819, and died July 6 of that year, suddenly, at Cleveland, O., presumably of apoplexy. The body was buried, on the following day, with Masonic honors, but was subsequently disinterred and conveyed to Providence, where it was committed to earth, on November 8, by the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island. A square brick tomb was erected over it.

Thomas Smith Webb was initiated in Rising Sun Lodge in Keene, N. H., about 1792. When living at Albany, he aided in the establishment of a Royal Arch Chapter and an

Encampment of Knights Templars. At this time, he commenced his renowned career as a Masonic teacher; but his teachings were those of action, not of profundity of science. His famous American System was arranged after a careful and thorough study of the older rituals and systems of Europe, more especially those of Dunckerley and Preston as to the first three degrees, and he states in the preface of his "Monitor, or Illustrations of Masonry," that he had differently arranged Preston's distributions of the Sections, because they were "not agreeable to the mode of working in America."

St. John's Lodge, of Providence, waited on him after he had moved to that city, and invited him "to become a member of the same," which he accepted, and in due time, 1813, he became Grand Master of Masons of Rhode Island. He was the first Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Webb was chairman of the convention, held October 24, 1797, that established a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the Northern States, organized in January, 1798; hence, the chief cause of separation of the Royal Arch from the first three degrees in America. In 1799, the Grand Chapter assumed the title, General Grand Chapter. In 1816, Webb was elected Deputy General Grand High Priest, which he held until his death. He also entered actively into the organization of Encampments. He established the Grand Chapters of Ohio and Kentucky.

The name of Webb will always shed a lustre on the roll of distinguished craftsmen, and his name and fame will redound to the honor and glory of our great Institution.

1798.

At the Grand Communication held March 7, 1798, authority for Warrants was issued as follows: To

Samuel A. Barker and others, to erect Adoniram Lodge, town of Franklin, Dutchess County.

James Bill and others, to erect Rensselaer Lodge at Rensselaerville, Albany County.

Zenas Pynneo and others, to erect Sharon Felicity Lodge, town of Sharon, Schoharie County.

The application of William Colbreath and others, to establish Roman Lodge, town of Rome, Oneida County, was referred to the Grand presiding officers.

JOHN JACOB ASTOR, GRAND TREASURER.

*Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of New York during 1798–1800, under Grand Master Robert R. Livingston.*

John Jacob Astor, an enterprising merchant, founder of the "American Fur Company," was born near Heidelberg, in Germany, 1763. After spending some years in London, he sailed to America in 1783, and soon invested his small capital in furs. By economy and industry he so increased his means, that after six years he had acquired a fortune of \$200,000. Although the increasing influence of the English fur companies in North America was unfavorable to his plans, he now ventured to fit out two expeditions to the Oregon Territory—one by land and one by sea—the purpose of which was to open up a regular commercial intercourse with the natives. After many mishaps, his object was achieved in 1811, and the fur-trading station of Astoria was established. From this period, notwithstanding the war of 1812 and other temporary obstacles, Astor's commercial connections extended over the entire globe, and his ships were found on every sea. He died in 1848, leaving property amounting to \$30,000,000.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS. MASTER'S, UNION, AND OTHER LODGES.

The election held June 6, 1798, for Grand officers resulted as follows :

Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master,  
De Witt Clinton, Senior Grand Warden,  
Martin Hoffman, Junior Grand Warden,  
John Jacob Astor, Grand Treasurer,

Rev. Doctor Beach, Grand Chaplain,  
Rev. John Bisset, Assistant Grand Chaplain,  
Brother Adamson, Grand Pursuivant,  
Brother Benjamin Jones, Grand Tyler.

At this time Brother Jacob Morton was Deputy Grand Master, and John Abrams, Grand Secretary.

Brother De Witt Clinton reported that he had installed the officers of Rensselaer Lodge, No. 68; that he had received the old Warrant of Master's Lodge at Albany and had given them the new one; but that he was unable to induce the members of Union Lodge to surrender their old Warrant, and recommended decisive measures.

Authority was granted to establish a Lodge in the town of Union, Tioga County; to Anthony Stafford and others, to hold a Lodge in the city of New York; to John Smith and others, to hold a Lodge in the town of Montgomery, Orange County. Other petitions for Lodges were received and referred or laid over.

At the election held for officers of American Union Lodge, No. 1, of Marietta, O., it was announced that Herman Blannerhassett, subsequently the victim of Aaron Burr, had been elected Secretary, and was in the discharge of his duties.

A resolution was passed on March 7, 1798, allowing, as a perquisite to the Grand Secretary, twenty shillings for each Grand Lodge certificate, and in addition, on June 6, a resolution was adopted authorizing a salary of two hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

St. John's Day Festival was duly observed on Monday, June 25, 1798.

In consequence of a fever epidemic prevailing in the city of New York, the Deputy Grand Master acquiesced in the request of twelve representatives of Lodges, presented by memorial, that the September session be not held.

Eight petitions for Warrants were considered on December 5. One, to hold a Lodge at Duanesburgh, Albany County; another, in the town of Cazenovia, Chenango County;

another, in the town of Charlestown, Montgomery County, were granted ; the others were referred to the Grand presiding officers.

1799.

A difficulty having occurred at the St. John's Day Festival, held by Independent Royal Arch Lodge, No. 2, whereat the Senior Grand Warden was excluded from attendance, the subject was considered by the Grand Lodge at Extra Communication on January 2, 1799, and it was declared that the Lodge had acted improperly in excluding the Senior Grand Warden.

The annual election was held June 5, and resulted in the re-election of all the Grand officers, except in the case of the Senior Grand Warden, to which Martin Hoffman was elected, and of the Junior Grand Warden, to which Abraham Skinner was elected.

On June 11, the petition of Nathan Whitney and others, for a Warrant to erect a Lodge in the town of Paris, Oneida County, was granted.

#### COMPANIONS OF EDWARD LEE AND THE "HIGHER DEGREES."

A brother by the name of Edward Lee having been disciplined by his Lodge, which was approved by the Grand Lodge, devoted some of his time and attention to what was then designated, the higher degrees of Masonry. On December 5, 1798, Hiram Lodge, No. 7, to which Edward Lee formerly belonged, complained of the conduct of James McKay, the Senior Warden, and other members, for associating with Lee in the higher degrees. This complaint was referred to a Committee by the Grand Lodge, consisting of Brothers Samuel Jones, Jr., John Wells, and William Irving, Jr. The Committee reported, June 11, 1799, making a statement of facts concerning the conduct of the said Senior Warden and other members of Hiram Lodge.

In consequence of such report, the following resolutions were adopted :

“*Resolved*, That James McKay, late Senior Warden of Hiram Lodge, No. 7, be excluded from all Masonic communication, and

*Resolved*, That John Douglas, Jr., Thomas Waring, John West, William Teryatt, Thomas McGery, Daniel William McCulloch, now, or late, members of Hiram Lodge, No. 7, be suspended from all Masonic communication until the next regular meeting of this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary communicate these two resolves to the different Lodges in the city of New York.”

The latter resolution was rescinded on December 4.

The Grand Lodge thus recognized the Masonic existence of organizations known as higher degrees of Masonry, and asserted its right to discipline its members for fraternizing with those who were without the pale of regularity in a symbolic Lodge, in their commingling with those who were inhibited as Master Masons.

St. John's Day was duly celebrated at the gardens of Brother De la Croix, on invitation.

The Grand Secretary, John Abrams, having died, the Deputy Grand Master appointed, *ad interim*, Brother Reinier John Vandebroek. This appointment was confirmed by the Grand Master.

#### GRAND LODGE OF UPPER CANADA.

A letter, soliciting fraternal intercourse, was received from the Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, dated Newark, July 6, 1799, and a favorable and courteous answer was directed to be returned by the Grand Secretary.

Lodges were authorized to be established as follows: Fortitude Lodge, in Brooklyn; Horizontal Lodge, in the town of Frederick, Dutchess County.

The Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York opened an extra Session, in due form, on December 23, 1799:

R. W. Jacob Morton, Deputy Grand Master.

“ Martin Hoffman, Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. Abraham Skinner, Junior Grand Warden.

“ R. J. Vandebroeck, Grand Secretary.

“ John Jacob Astor, Grand Treasurer.

City Lodges present :

St. John's Lodge,	No. 1.	Hiram Lodge,	No. 7.
Independent Royal Arch,	“ 2.	Holland,	“ 8.
St. Andrews,	“ 3.	Howard,	“ 9.
St. John's,	“ 6.	Phenix,	“ 11.

And the proxies of Lodges Nos. 10, 21, 26, 43, 56, and 57.  
The record of the Grand Lodge sets forth as follows :

#### THE DEATH OF BROTHER GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The Deputy Grand Master announced that the reason of convening this extra session of the Grand Lodge was, the mournful intelligence of the death of their illustrious and much-beloved brother, George Washington, late President of the United States, and Commander-in-Chief of its Army and Navy, and urged with energy and respectful expression, the duties which belong to every Mason on such a painful event, and the necessity of this Grand Lodge to take such steps as are proper and Masonic, to pay the tribute of respect due a brother who, being called to the celestial Lodge above, remains enshrined in the heart of the virtuous and wise. Whereupon, the following was decreed :

“ The Grand Lodge, with the deepest and sincerest sorrow, announces to the Lodges under its jurisdiction, the death of their illustrious and much-beloved brother, George Washington, late President of the United States, and Commander-in-Chief of its Army. He closed his useful and honorable life at Mount Vernon, on the night of the 14th instant, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. When, in the dispensations of Providence, the great and the good, when those whom we love and revere sink into the silent tomb, the afflicted heart seeks its solace in rendering to their memories every honorable tribute which affectionate gratitude can devise.

This is a feeling engrafted in our natures as an incentive to honorable ambition, and the expression of the feelings, is a duty which the customs of civil society have enjoined ; but in decreeing a tribute of respect to our deceased brother, on this occasion, there is naught we can devise which will fully evince our veneration for his virtues or our sorrow for his loss. To decree honor to that illustrious name, upon which glory hath already exhausted all her store, to render a tribute of affection to his memory, who lived in the hearts of a grateful people, are duties which we feel we can never satisfactorily perform. That humble tribute which we are unable to pay, we decree.

*Resolved*, Therefore, that all the Lodges under our jurisdiction be clothed in mourning for the space of six months, and that the brethren also wear mourning for the same period.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to erect, at the expense of this Grand Lodge, a monumental memorial to the virtues of our illustrious brother, to be placed in the room occupied by the Grand Lodge for its sittings ; and that the Right Worshipful Jacob Morton, Deputy Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Martin Hoffman, Senior Grand Warden, the Right Worshipful Reinier John Vandebroeck, Grand Secretary, and the Worshipful brethren, Cadwallader D. Colden and Peter Irving, be a Committee for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That the said Committee have authority to meet and concur with such other committees of our fellow-citizens as shall be appointed, to devise some public testimonials of respect and veneration to the memory of our departed brother.

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to forward immediately a copy of these resolutions to the several Lodges in this State."

The action taken by other Grand Lodges was in consonance with that of New York.

During this solemn period the following transpired at the home of our Government :

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

*“Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives.*

The letter herewith transmitted will inform you that it has pleased Divine Providence to remove from this life our excellent fellow-citizen, George Washington, by the purity of his character and a long series of services to his country, rendered illustrious through the world. It remains for an affectionate and grateful people, in whose hearts he can never die, to pay suitable honors to his memory.

JOHN ADAMS.

UNITED STATES, December 19, 1799.”

“MOUNT VERNON, December 15, 1799.

SIR: It is with inexpressible grief that I have to announce to you the death of the great and good George Washington. He died last evening between ten and eleven o'clock, after a short illness of about twenty-four hours. His disorder was an inflammatory sore throat, which proceeded from a cold, of which he made but little complaint on Friday. On Saturday morning, about three o'clock, he became ill. Doctor Craik attended him in the morning, and Doctor Dick, of Alexandria, and Doctor Brown, of Port Tobacco, were soon after called in. Every medical assistance was offered, but without the desired effect. His last scene corresponded with the whole tenor of his life, not a groan nor a complaint escaped him in extreme distress. With perfect resignation, and in full possession of his reason, he closed his well-spent life.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

TOBIAS LEAR.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.”

The following is the peroration of the eulogy pronounced by Major-General Lee, Member of the House for the State of Virginia, at the German Lutheran Church, Washington, D. C., December 26, 1799; and wherein he makes Brother Washington utter these farewell words to his countrymen:

“Cease, sons of America, lamenting our separation : go on, and confirm by your wisdom the fruits of our joint councils, joint efforts, and common dangers. Reverence religion ; diffuse knowledge throughout your land ; patronize the arts and sciences ; let liberty and order be inseparable companions ; control party spirit, the bane of free government ; observe good faith to, and cultivate peace with, all nations ; shut up every avenue to foreign influence ; contract rather than extend national connexion ; rely on yourselves only ; be Americans in thought and deed. Thus will you give immortality to that union, which was the constant object of my terrestrial labors. Thus will you preserve undisturbed to the latest posterity, the felicity of a people to me most dear ; and thus will you supply (if my happiness is now aught to you) the only vacancy in the round of pure bliss, high Heaven bestows.”

Mr. Marshall, from the joint committee appointed by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, to prepare and report measures in honor of the memory of General George Washington, made a report which was read and considered : Whereupon,

It was unanimously *resolved* that the House do agree to the following resolutions :

*Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

That it be recommended to the people of the United States, to assemble on the twenty-second day of February next, in such numbers and manner as may be convenient, publicly to testify their grief for the death of General George Washington, by suitable eulogies, orations, and discourses, or by public prayers.

*And it is further resolved,* That the President be requested to issue a proclamation, for the purpose of carrying the foregoing resolution into effect.

In compliance with the request of Congress, the President, John Adams, was desired to entreat Mrs. Washington

to permit the interment of the remains of General George Washington under a marble monument in the city of Washington; and that the monument be so designed as to commemorate the great events of his military and political life. Mrs. Martha Washington returned the following answer, which was communicated to the Senate and the House of Representatives on January 8, 1800 :

“ MOUNT VERNON, December 31, 1799.

SIR:—While I feel, with keenest anguish, the late dispensation of Divine Providence, I cannot be insensible to the mournful tributes of respect and veneration which are paid to the memory of my dear deceased husband; and, as his best services and most anxious wishes were always devoted to the welfare of his country, to know that they were truly appreciated and gratefully remembered affords no inconsiderable consolation.

Taught, by that example which I have so long had before me, never to oppose my private wishes to the public will, I must consent to the request made by Congress, which you have had the goodness to transmit to me; and, in doing this, I need not, I cannot, say what a sacrifice of individual feeling I make to a sense of public duty.

With grateful acknowledgments and unfeigned thanks for the personal respect and evidences of condolence expressed by Congress and yourself, I remain, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

MARTHA WASHINGTON.”

The Grand Lodge was again convened, December 30, when the Senior Grand Warden announced that the extra meeting of the Grand Lodge was held for the purpose of acquainting the officers of the respective Lodges, of the form to be observed in the solemn funeral procession to be held in commemoration of our illustrious brother, GEORGE WASHINGTON, in conformity with the resolve of this Grand Lodge adopted December 23.

ORDER OF MASONIC PROCESSION.

The Knights Templars, in the form as directed by their Presiding officer.

The Lodges, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge in this city.

Lodge L'Union Française, No. 17.

The Tyler with a drawn sword, the handle covered with black crape.

The members, two and two.

Secretary and Treasurer.

Past Masters.

Senior Warden and Junior Warden.

A Master Mason carrying the Warrant of the Lodge on a black cushion.

Deacon, Master, Deacon.

The other Lodges in the order above described will proceed, viz. :

2	Phenix,	Lodge No. 11
3	Trinity,	“ “ 10
4	Howard,	“ “ 9
5	Holland,	“ “ 8
6	Hiram,	“ “ 7
7	St. John's,	“ “ 6
8	St. Andrew's,	“ “ 3
9	Ind. R. Arch,	“ “ 2
10	St. John's,	“ “ 1

Three Master Masons walking in a triangle, each carrying a standard on which is a pendant of white, bordered with black, and written thereupon the Cardinal Virtues of Masonry,  
Faith, Charity, Hope.

The Reverend Chaplain of the Grand Lodge.

The Worshipful Brother, Cadwallader D. Colden, in mourning, holding in his hand a short standard with a white pendant trimmed with black,  
on which is written :

BROTHER WASHINGTON,  
*The Great, The Wise, The Virtuous,*  
 Expressing also the figure of an hour-glass run out,  
 and a sickle.

The Grand Tyler, in mourning, carrying a sword, the  
 handle covered with crape.

The Grand Secretary, in mourning, carrying in his hands an  
 urn. To walk under the Dome of a Temple, sup-  
 ported by five columns, on an equal  
 square. At the circle of  
 the Dome is  
 written

Temple of Virtue,            Seat of Masonry.

On the front of the square,

*“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.”*

On the one side,

*“They rest from their labours.”*

On the other side,

*“Their works follow them.”*

The dome to be carried by four Masons of superior degree.

The Grand Treasurer in mourning, holding in the one  
 hand Incense, in the other Flowers.

The Past Grand officers.

The Senior and Junior Wardens.

The Grand Pursuivant, carrying the Bible, Square  
 and Compasses, on a black cushion, sup-  
 ported by two Deacons.

The Grand Master, or his Deputy, supported by two  
 Deacons.

Of which said order of procession a copy was delivered  
 to the Master of every Lodge.

*“Resolved,* That the offer made by the Grand Secretary be  
 accepted, to assemble the Masonic Fraternity in the Reformed  
 Protestant French Church, in Pine Street, before 10 o'clock  
 to-morrow morning, to proceed from there, and to join the  
 general procession of the different societies and citizens in  
 that order as agreed upon by the Committee of Arrangement,

and that the Grand Secretary cause this resolve to be published in three public papers to-morrow morning.

*Resolved*, That the Past Secretary of Independent Royal Arch, No. 2, Brother Jonathan Fisk, be the Master of Ceremony, and is to arrange the procession of Masons under directions of the Grand Secretary."

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George Washington was born in Westmoreland County, Va., February 22, 1732, was the son of Augustine Washington and his second wife, Mary Ball; and was a descendant of John Washington, who emigrated to Virginia from England, about 1657. Augustine Washington died when his second son, George, was twelve years old, leaving a large property to his widow and five children. His education in local schools extended to reading, writing, arithmetic, bookkeeping, and land surveying. He was six feet two inches in height, athletic, and fond of a military life. He had brown hair, blue eyes, large head, and strong arms: a graceful rider. He was childless, but had adopted children. His elder brother, Lawrence, served under Admiral Vernon in the expedition against Carthagina, and named his residence on the Potomac Mount Vernon, in honor of his commander. Lawrence died and left George his estate at Mount Vernon. At the age of nineteen he volunteered in the seven years' war, at twenty-two he commanded a regiment against the French. He was the only aide who escaped the ambush of July 9, 1755, but had four bullets through his coat and two horses shot under him.

A Frenchman attempted to rob the tomb of Washington of his remains, to carry them to France. Immediately after this attempt, a Mason of Philadelphia obtained permission of the family of Washington to build a new tomb, which he constructed. Washington's remains were taken from the decayed coffin and deposited in a marble sarcophagus and were then placed in their new tomb. A piece of the old

coffin was presented to the Rev. Mr. Stewart, incorporated into a gavel, and presented to the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island.

As the heart-strings are touched by whatever calls forth our recollections of the revered Washington, we do not refrain from mentioning that four clippings of hair from his head are known to be in existence, three of which are in the possession of the Masonic Fraternity. One is preserved in a golden urn by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; another was presented to Lodge No. 4, of Richmond, Va.; a third is in the possession of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in the care of the Grand Secretary, E. M. L. Ehlers; while the fourth is at Washington's Headquarters, Newburgh on the Hudson. This last was the property of Judge Thompson, of the Supreme Court of the United States. His widow presented it to the Poughkeepsie Museum, from which it was purchased by Enoch Carter; it is now the property of the city of Newburgh. The clipping is in a gilt frame, and consists of about fifty iron-gray hairs.

#### VAGARIES OF HISTORY.

It is somewhat singular, that in the July number, 1834, of an English publication—that very excellent “Free Mason's Quarterly Review”—it should have been declared, that George Washington was initiated into Masonry in a Lodge in the 46th Regiment of the British Army, during the service of that regiment in America; and that the Bible on which his obligation was taken was the property of that Lodge, and then (1834) in the possession of a Captain Child, an officer of that regiment. The Review proceeds to state, that on March 16 of that year the Bible was brought, under a military escort, to the Lodge of Virtue, in the city of Manchester, England, as an object of very peculiar interest and veneration. That thrice the solemn procession of the brethren moved in solemn order round the Lodge, the Bible being carried by the oldest member of the Lodge.

This, certainly, was a token of true English feeling in

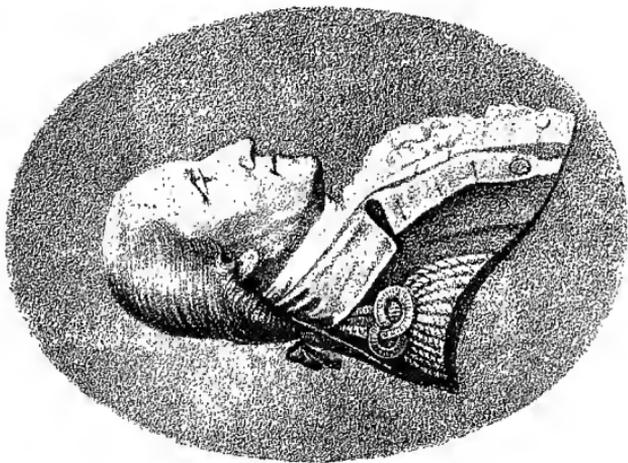


The GOD Like

WASHINGTON.

died. 14<sup>th</sup> Dec: 1799  
ALL AMERICA in tears

The within is the best Likeness  
I have seen. The hair is of his  
own head, This will increase its Value  
with time as its my earnest Request  
this may be preserved to succeed  
ing Generations The hair was  
presented to me by May & Billing  
Gen: Army, Certificate of  
this may certify that the  
within hair was enclosed by  
Gen: Washington in a letter to  
me dated Newburg June 83  
as his own hair Jan: 1810  
M<sup>c</sup>: Billing







State of New York  
Aug: 10<sup>th</sup> 1782

Gen<sup>l</sup>

The Masonick Ornam<sup>ts</sup>  
which accompanied your Bro:  
therly Address of the 23<sup>d</sup> of  
Jan<sup>y</sup> last, tho' elegant in  
themselves, were rendered  
more valuable by the flattering  
sentiments, and affectionate  
manner, in which they were  
presented. —

If my endeavours to  
avert the Evil, with which this  
Country was threatned by a  
deliberate plan of Tyranny,  
should be crowned with the suc  
cess that is wished — the praise  
is due to the Grand Architect  
of

A

of the Universe; who did not see  
fit to suffer his superstructures,  
and justice, to be subjected to the  
Ambition of the Princes of this  
World, or to the rod of oppression,  
in the hands of any power upon  
Earth. -

For your affectionate  
wishes, permit me to be grateful.  
-and offer mine for true Brethren  
in all parts of the World; and  
to assure you of the sincerity  
with which I am

Y<sup>rs</sup>  
G. Washington

Mess<sup>rs</sup>  
Watson & Copson  
East of Market

Masonry, and of which all Americans would naturally feel honored. But it is hardly necessary to re-state that Washington was entered as an apprentice November 4, 1752, a few months before he attained his majority of twenty-one years. On March 3, 1753, nine days after he was of age, he was passed as a Fellow Craft, and on the succeeding August 4 he was raised to the degree of a Master Mason. This was in Fredericksburg Lodge, Virginia.

General Braddock, under whom Washington was first connected with the British Army, did not arrive in Virginia until February 20, 1755, at which time he was two years old as a Mason; although it is quite probable that George Washington Masonically associated with the Military Lodge in the Army of General Braddock.

Washington's entrance into Masonry was as truly American as the whole residue of his noble career. No foreign soldiers taught him its sublime principles. They gave him, indeed, ample scope to exercise and display those principles, in the many provocations of that early campaign, and in the long and faithful probation of his character, which their bitter and varied hostilities brought out in the subsequent Revolutionary War. But he owed nothing directly to their teaching. Of that army under Braddock he says, in a letter to his mother, after their defeat: "The dastardly behavior of the regular troops (so-called) exposed all others who were inclined to do their duty to almost certain death, and, at last, in despite of all the efforts of the officers to the contrary, they ran as sheep pursued by dogs, and it was impossible to rally them." Of his own position in the unfortunate battle of that day, he says: "By the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation. I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet escaped unhurt, although death was levelling my companions on every side of me." Of him, then but twenty-three years old, the Rev. Samuel Davies, afterwards President of Princeton College, said, in a sermon delivered on August 17, 1755, but a month after the battle: "As a remarkable instance of patriotic spirit and military

ardor, I may point out to the public that heroic youth, Colonel Washington, whom I cannot but hope Providence has hitherto reserved in so signal a manner for some important service to his country." A prophecy so wonderfully realized, and not only to his country, but to the honor, dignity and happiness of the whole human race. His principles in life were evidenced after, as well as before, his death. His will records, "All my debts, of which there are but few, and none of magnitude, are to be punctually and speedily paid." "Upon the decease of my wife, it is my will and desire that all the slaves whom I hold in my own right shall receive their freedom."

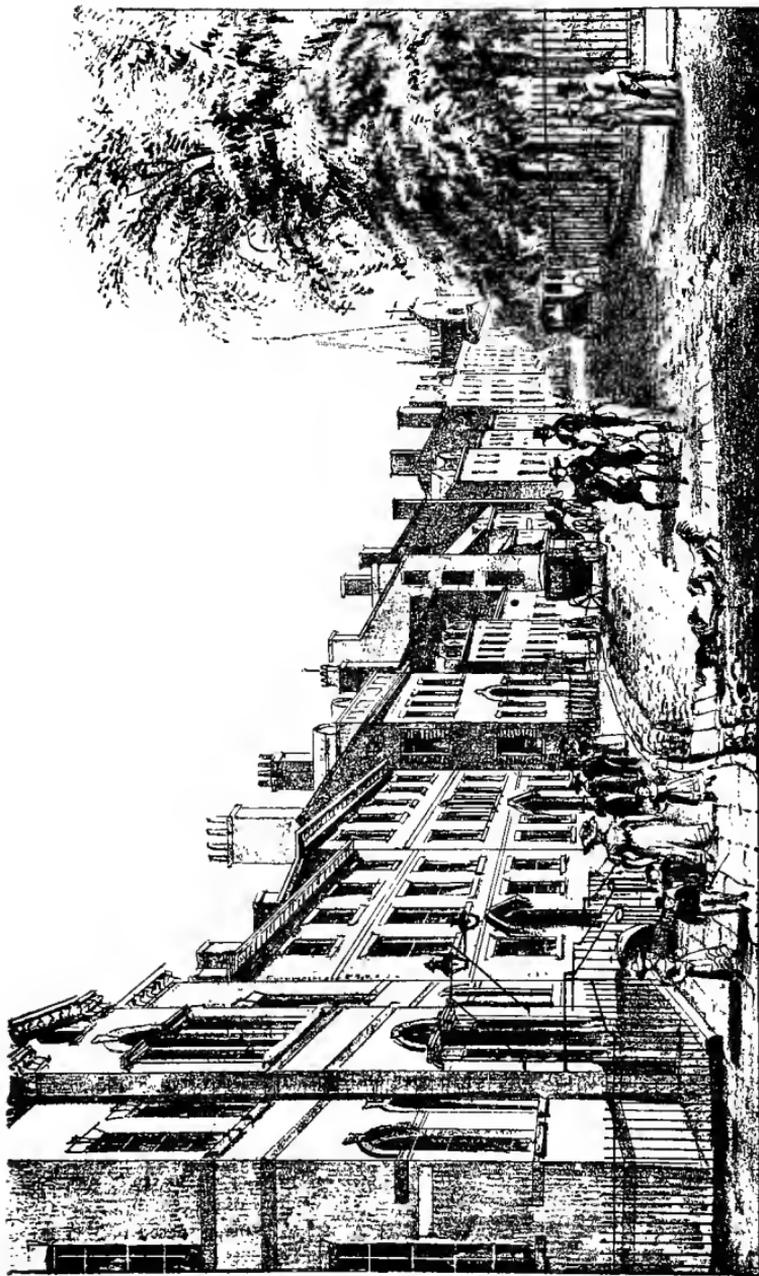
The evidence of Masonic thought could not have been more beautifully evinced than when leaving his home, to be absent with the armies of his country, he instructed his agent: "Let the hospitality of the house, with respect to the poor, be kept up. Let no one go hungry away. If any of this kind of people should be in want of corn, supply their necessities, provided it does not encourage them in idleness. I have no objection to your giving my money in charity to the amount of forty or fifty pounds a year, when you think it well bestowed. What I mean by having no objection is, that it is my desire that it should be done. You are to consider that neither myself nor wife is now in the way to do these good offices."

#### WASHINGTON HOUSE. BROADWAY.

We are told by Brother Sidney Hayden, the Masonic biographer and eulogist of Washington, that on the evening of the inauguration, a magnificent transparent painting, brilliantly illuminated, was suspended between the Fort and Bowling Green, in front of the Washington House, on the center of which was represented "Washington," as the emblem of *Fortitude*; on his right hand, the Supreme Judiciary, by the emblem of *Justice*; and on his left, the Supreme Legislature, by the emblem of *Wisdom*.

In 1656, when the streets of New Amsterdam were named, Broadway was called *De Heere-straat* (principal street), and in





BROADWAY FROM THE BOWLING GREEN, 1828.  
WASHINGTON HOUSE, NO. BROADWAY.





1677 it received its present title. In 1791, that portion north of Chambers Street was known as Great George Street, but in 1804 that name was dropped. In 1665, it boasted of twenty-one buildings, two years thereafter it had sixty-five. It was the first street of the city that was lighted at night, in conformity with an ordinance passed in 1697, which ordered that the inhabitants of "every seaventh house doe every night in the darke time of the moon, until the 25 March next, cause a lanthorn and a candle to be hung out on a pole every night. The charge to be defrayed in equal proportion by the Inhabitants."

No. 1 Broadway, built by Captain Kennedy in 1760, formerly known as the Kennedy, and afterwards as the Washington House, was occupied at different times during the Revolution by Lords Howe and Cornwallis, Sir Henry Clinton, and General Washington, and it was in one of its rooms that the ill-fated Major André received his last instructions. During Talleyrand's exile in this country, in 1793 and 1794, he resided here for a time. No. 3 was the residence of the traitor Benedict Arnold, after his desertion from the Continental army and his entrance into English service. No. 11, noted as having been the site of the famous tavern of Burgomaster Martin Kruger, and as the Kings' Arms in 1763, was the headquarters of General Gage when the Revolution broke out.

New York State was the eleventh in succession that accepted the New Articles of Constitution, sent to the several States in September, 1787.

In 1789, Congress selected Philadelphia as the seat of government for ten years, and moved there in 1790, hoping before the expiration of that time to be able to choose a permanent site for a Capital.

No special matter of Masonic interest is recorded as having occurred between President Washington and the Masons of New York while he resided in New York as President.

The places for holding Lodge Communications in the city of New York at this period were :

Nos. 66 Liberty, 90 William, 87 Nassau, 2 George, 3 South, 87 Fair, 31 Ann, corner Water and Oliver, and 51 Whitehall streets. Washington Chapter, R. A. M., Holland and Howard Lodges met at 66 Liberty Street.

1800.

Sundry Master Masons having made application for a Warrant for a Lodge to be established in New York City by the name of Abrams Lodge, on December 30, 1799, and the same having been referred to the Grand officers, a report was made March 5, 1800, and the Warrant granted.

A Warrant was also authorized to be granted to a number of members of Phenix Lodge to organize as Washington Lodge.

A number of brethren of Howard Lodge, No. 9, made application, on March 25, to be organized as a Lodge, under the title of Warren Lodge, inasmuch as their numbers had increased beyond the constitutional limits. This application was unanimously assented to.

Asylum Lodge was warranted to be held by sundry brethren of Coeymans, Albany County; also a Lodge, to be designated as Morton, to be located in the town of Schenectady, Albany County; and also a Lodge, to be known as Hiram, in the town of Aurelius, Cayuga County.

The election held June 4, 1800, resulted in the re-election of the Grand officers, except in the case of Grand Chaplain, Abraham Beach, who insisted on retiring, and in whose place Reverend John Ireland was unanimously elected.

It was at this Communication that Union Lodge, of Albany, was announced as having accepted a Warrant from the State Grand Lodge, and that it had promised to return the three Warrants held by it, relating to its own origin and continuance, to the archives.

Hiram Lodge, No. 72, held at Mount Pleasant, Westchester County, having appointed Brother Samuel Clark its proxy, the same was approved.

The subject of

## A REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION,

from the period of the adoption of the old Regulations and Constitutions in 1785, had been a matter of debate in the sessions of the Grand Lodge. The officers and representatives seem to have been divided as to the better course to pursue: to reprint the Old Charges and Constitutions of 1722 and 1723, etc., and be solely governed by them, with the supplement of a few resolutions; or to revise the Constitutions, and adapt them to more modern ideas.

For earliest references to "The Old Regulations and Constitutions," see Vol. I., pp. 17-31, also reference thereto in Vol. II., of year 1785.

On March 5, 1800, the Grand Secretary informed the Grand Lodge that he could not comply with the request to procure twenty-four copies of the Constitutions, although due inquiry had been thoroughly made. The Grand Lodge refused to order a reprint.

The work of the Committee on Revision of the Constitutions and Charges, etc., then proceeded to a conclusion.

CONSTITUTIONS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND LODGE  
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

The Deputy Grand Master, Jacob Morton, on June 16, 1800, opened the Grand Lodge in Extraordinary Assembly, in the presence of Martin Hoffman, Senior Grand Warden; Abraham Skinner, Junior Grand Warden; R. J. Vandebroek, Grand Secretary; John Jacob Astor, Grand Treasurer; eight Lodges by direct representation; six Lodges by proxies, and the Senior Warden of Master's Lodge at Albany.

The Deputy Grand Master announced that the purpose of the Special Assembly was to receive the report of the Committee appointed to revise the Constitution; and of which he was Chairman.

The report set forth that the "Code presented in every instance adhered to the ancient regulations by which this

Grand Lodge had been hitherto governed, excepting in cases where inconveniences have been experienced from these regulations; judging that, as this present Constitution was to be presented to the Lodges throughout the jurisdiction, it would be more likely to meet a ready acceptance when the ancient forms which had not been found inconvenient were adhered to, than if new systems were proposed concerning the propriety or utility of which experience could give no information."

The proposed form of Constitutions was carefully read, and the Grand Lodge, after considerable debate, adopted the following form of submitting the matter to the Lodges :

*"Resolved*, unanimously, That the said rules and regulations be recommended to the adoption of the several Lodges of this State, as the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of this State, and that the Grand Secretary be directed immediately to forward two printed copies of the same to each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and that they be requested to signify their assent to the same by a resolution of their Lodge, to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge, under the seal of the Lodge, signed by the Master and countersigned by the Secretary of the same; and, upon its being ratified by two-thirds of the several Lodges, that it be considered as the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and take effect immediately upon such ratification.

*Resolved*, further, That, upon the ratification as aforesaid, the Grand Secretary be directed to cause a sufficient number of copies to be printed for the use of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge."

On December 3, 1800, the time fixed for the several Lodges to make returns of their proceedings in relation to the proposed new Constitution submitted to their consideration, the Grand Lodge being convened, it was announced that seventeen Lodges favored the new Constitution, but that the same was rejected, in whole or in part, by twenty-five Lodges, and the rejection was accordingly announced.

It was then ordered, that a competent number of copies of the Old Book of Constitutions be printed and distributed among the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and that the Secretary communicate the same to the several Lodges.

It was further

“*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to superintend the printing and publishing as many copies as they may conceive necessary, and that the Committee have discretionary powers to select and publish, with the Book of Constitutions, such of the By-Laws, or Resolutions of the Grand Lodge having the operation of By-Laws, as they may judge proper.”

All this was intrusted to Peter Irving, of Howard Lodge; George Clinton, Jr., and John W. Mulligan.

The Report of this Committee was made on March 4, 1801, that they had nearly completed the object of their appointment, and that copies would be issued from Brother Longworth's.

## CHAPTER III.

1801-1810.

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 1801.

THE officers of the Grand Lodge at this time were :

The Hon. Robert R. Livingston, Chancellor of the State,  
Grand Master.

Jacob Morton, Esquire, Deputy Grand Master.

Martin Hoffman, Senior Grand Warden.

Abraham Skinner, Junior Grand Warden.

Reinier J. Vandenbroeck, Grand Secretary.

John Jacob Astor, Grand Treasurer.

Rev. John Ireland, Grand Chaplain.

Daniel D. Tompkins, Assistant Grand Secretary.

Samuel B. Malcolm,

Peter A. Jay,

Pierre C. Van Wyck,

Philip Church,

R. B. Forbes,

John F. Ellis,

John Rodman,

Nathaniel Paulding,

George Adamson, Grand Pursuivant.

Benjamin Jones, Grand Tyler.

} Grand Deacons.

} Grand Stewards.

LIST OF THE LODGES IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK, UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF SAID STATE, AS THEY WERE EXISTING THE DAY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, JUNE 24, A. L. 5800, SPECIFYING THE RANK AND TITLE, WHERE HELD, WHEN CONSTITUTED.

No.	Title.	Situated. City or Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.	Date of former War- rant surrendered by which the seniority is determined.	Name of proxies to rep- resent the Lodges in the country.
	St. John's.	New York.	New York.	.....	Dec. 7, 1757.	.....
	Indep. Royal Arch.	"	"	.....	Dec. 15, 1760.	.....
	Union.	"	"	.....	Feb. 21, 1765.	.....
	Master's.	Albany.	Albany.	.....	March 5, 1768.	.....
	Solomon's.	Poughkeepsie.	Dutchess.	March 2, 1797.	April 18, 1771.	Cadw. D. Colden.
	St. Andrew's.	New York.	New York.	.....	July 13, 1771.	.....
	St. George.	Schenectady.	Albany.	.....	March 17, 1775.	.....
	Hiram.	New York.	New York.	.....	Feb. 20, 1779.	.....
	St. John's.	"	"	.....	Feb. 5, 1783.	.....
	St. Patrick's.	Johnstown.	Montgomery.	.....	.....	.....
	Temple.	North East Precinct.	Dutchess.	Sept. 26, 1785.	.....	Martin Hoffman.
	Washington.	Fort Edward.	Washington.	Sept. 26, 1785.	.....	.....
	St. Simon and St. Jude.	Fishkill.	Dutchess.	June 20, 1786.	.....	Elisba Dubois.
	Hudson.	Hudson.	Columbia.	March 7, 1787.	.....	James Scott.
	Jamaica.	Jamaica.	Queens.	Aug. 13, 1787.	.....	.....
	Hiram.	Lansingburgh.	Reusselaer.	Aug. 16, 1787.	.....	John Wells.
	Holland.	New York.	New York.	Sept. 20, 1787.	.....	.....
	Unity.	Canaan.	Columbia.	Sept. 18, 1788.	.....	.....
	Steuben.	Newburgh.	Ulster.	Sept. 27, 1788.	.....	.....
	St. John's.	Warwick.	Orange.	March 26, 1790.	.....	Jacob Morton.
	La Fayette.	Armenia.	Dutchess.	July 23, 1790.	.....	"
	Washington.	Clermont.	Columbia.	Sept. 20, 1790.	.....	John Morton.
	Livingston.	Kingston.	Ulster.	Dec. 8, 1790.	.....	.....
	Montgomery.	Stillwater.	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Amicable.	Whitestown.	Herkimer.	April 7, 1792.	.....	I. I. Morgan.
	Ontario.	Canandaigua.	Ontario.	Oct. 12, 1792.	.....	.....
	Aurora.	Hampton.	Washington.	March 12, 1793.	.....	.....
	Huntington.	Huntington.	Suffolk.	March 22, 1793.	.....	Wm. Wright.

The Lodges are arranged according to their seniority ; their numbers should correspond with their stations on the above list.

No.	Title.	Situated City or Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.	Date of former War- rant surrendered by which the seniority is determined.	Name of proxies to rep- resent the Lodges in the country.
	Palme.	Armenia.	Dutchess.	May 10, 1793.	.....	.....
	Livingston.	Kingsbury.	Washington.	June 6, 1793.	.....	.....
	Freehold.	Freehold.	Albany.	June 6, 1793.	.....	.....
	Union.	Newton.	Tioga.	June 28, 1793.	.....	.....
	Harmony.	Catskill.	Albany.	Sept. 3, 1793.	.....	James Woods.
	Rural.	Cambridge.	Washington.	Oct. 14, 1793.	.....	.....
	Federal.	Hosick.	Rensselaer.	Nov. 15, 1793.	.....	.....
	Cortlandt.	Cortlandt.	Westchester.	Dec. 21, 1793.	.....	De Witt Clinton.
	Howard.	New York.	New York.	March 20, 1794.	.....	.....
	American.	Herkimer.	Herkimer.	April 6, 1794.	.....	.....
	Franklin.	Ballston.	Saratoga.	May 16, 1794.	.....	.....
	Columbus.	Frederickstown.	Dutchess.	Aug. 4, 1794.	.....	.....
	Trinity.	New York.	New York.	March 23, 1795.	.....	.....
	Phoenix.	" "	" "	March 30, 1795.	.....	.....
	Otego.	Cooperstown.	Otego.	Aug. 14, 1795.	.....	.....
	Schoharie Union.	Schoharie.	Albany.	Aug. 14, 1795.	.....	.....
	Montgomery.	Broadalbin.	Montgomery.	Nov. 24, 1795.	.....	.....
	Orange.	Waterford.	Saratoga.	Nov. 25, 1795.	.....	Wm. Rollinson.
	Patriot.	Pittstown.	Rensselaer.	Dec. 4, 1795.	.....	.....
	Canaan.	Canaan.	Columbia.	March 26, 1796.	.....	.....
	Orange.	Goshen.	Orange.	April 12, 1796.	.....	.....
	St. Andrew's.	Stanford.	Ulster.	April 12, 1796.	.....	.....
	Westchester.	Westchester.	Westchester.	May 7, 1796.	.....	.....
	Beekman.	Beekman.	Dutchess.	May 11, 1796.	.....	.....
	Apollo.	Troy.	Rensselaer.	June 19, 1796.	.....	.....
	Coxsackie.	Coxsackie.	Albany.	July 6, 1796.	.....	.....
	North Star.	Salem.	Washington.	Oct. 13, 1796.	.....	.....
	Aurora.	Fairfield.	Herkimer.	Nov. 4, 1796.	.....	.....
	Temple.	Albany.	Albany.	Nov. 11, 1796.	.....	Jacob Morton.
	Liberty.	Granville.	Washington.	Dec. 7, 1796.	.....	.....
	Steuben.	Steuben.	Herkimer.	Dec. 29, 1796.	.....	.....
	Western Star.	Unadilla.	" "	Jan. 18, 1797.	.....	.....
	Suffolk.	Smithtown.	Suffolk.	March 7, 1797.	.....	John Pray.

No.	Title.	Situated. City or Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.	Date of former War- rant surrendered by which the seniority is determined.	Name of proxies to rep- resent the Lodges in the country.
	Bath.	Bath.	Steuben.	March 22, 1797.	.....	I. C. Ludlow.
	Scipio.	Scipio or Aurora.	Onondaga.	March 22, 1797.	.....	.....
	Morton.	Hempstead.	Queens.	June 23, 1797.	.....	.....
	St. Paul.	Canajoharie.	Montgomery.	Jan. 5, 1798.	.....	.....
	Jame's.	Middletown.	Ulster.	Jan. 6, 1798.	.....	.....
	Moriah.	Marbletown.	"	Jan. 8, 1798.	.....	.....
	Montgomery.	Rhinebeck.	Dutchess.	Jan. 8, 1798.	.....	.....
	Rensselaer.	Rensselaerville.	Albany.	March 7, 1798.	.....	.....
	Adouiram.	Franklin.	Dutchess.	March 9, 1798.	.....	.....
	Sharon Felicity.	Sharon.	Schoharie.	March 13, 1798.	.....	.....
	Montgomery.	Montgomery.	Orange.	June 6, 1798.	.....	.....
	L'Union Française.	New York.	New York.	June 25, 1798.	.....	David Dunham.
	Hiram.	Mount Pleasant.	Westchester.	Aug. 7, 1798.	.....	.....
	Morton.	Bedford.	"	Dec. 7, 1798.	.....	.....
	Salem.	North Salem.	"	Dec. 10, 1798.	.....	Samuel Clark.
	Walton.	Duanesburgh.	Albany.	Jan. 2, 1799.	.....	James Woods.
	Homer.	Schaghticoke.	Rensselaer.	Jan. 3, 1799.	.....	Francis Lynch.
	Franklin.	Charlestown.	Montgomery.	Jan. 4, 1799.	.....	John Jacob Astor.
	United Brethren.	Cazenovia.	Chenango.	Jan. 5, 1799.	.....	.....
	Tioga.	Union.	Tioga.	Jan. 7, 1799.	.....	.....
	Village.	Marcellus.	Onondaga.	Jan. 8, 1799.	.....	.....
	Schodach.	Schodach.	Rensselaer.	Jan. 9, 1799.	.....	.....
	Roman.	Rome.	"	Feb. 13, 1799.	.....	.....
	Federal.	Paris.	Oneida.	Nov. 23, 1799.	.....	.....
	Fortitude.	Brooklyn.	Kings.	Dec. 4, 1799.	.....	.....
	Horizontal.	Frederick.	Dutchess.	Dec. 4, 1799.	.....	.....
	Abrams.	New York.	New York.	.....	.....	.....
	Washington.	"	"	.....	.....	.....
	Warren.	"	"	.....	.....	.....
	Morton.	Schenectady.	Albany.	March 5, 1800.	.....	.....
	Asylum.	Coeymans.	"	March 25, 1800.	.....	.....
	Hennu.	Aurelius.	Cayuga.	April 20, 1800.	.....	.....
				April 21, 1800.	.....	.....

## MASONIC CONSTITUTIONS, ETC.

## CHAPTER I.

*Of the TEMPER and QUALITIES requisite in those who would  
be FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.*

BEFORE we enter upon the duties of the *operative Mason*, in the various offices and stations to which he may be called in the LODGE, it is proper to give some account of the *temper* and *qualities*, which are absolutely requisite in all who aspire to partake of the sublime honors and advantages belonging to those who are duly initiated into the *mysteries*, and instructed in the *art* of ANCIENT MASONRY.

## SECTION I.

*Concerning GOD and RELIGION.*

WHOEVER, from love of knowledge, interest, or curiosity, desires to be a *Mason*, he is to know that, as his foundation and great corner-stone, he is to believe firmly in the eternal God, and to pay that worship which is due to him, as the great *Architect* and *Governor* of the universe. A *Mason* is also obliged, by his tenure, to observe the moral law, as a true *Noachida*\*; and if he rightly understands the royal art, he cannot tread in the irreligious paths of the unhappy *libertine*, the *deist*, or stupid *atheist*, nor, in any case, act against the great inward light of his own conscience.

HE will likewise shun the gross errors of bigotry and superstition; making a due use of his own reason, according to that liberty wherein a *Mason is made free*. For although, in ancient times, the *Christian Masons* were CHARGED to comply with the Christian usages of the countries where they sojourned or worked (being found in all nations, and of divers

\* Sons of Noah; the first name for Free Masons.







REDUCED FAC SIMILE ENGRAVING FROM GRAND MASTER  
GEORGE PAYNE'S CONSTITUTIONS OF 1723.  
(ALLEGORY.)



religions and persuasions) yet it is now thought most expedient that the brethren in general should only be *charged* to adhere to the *essentials* of religion in which all men agree ; leaving each brother to his own private judgment, as to particular modes and forms. Whence it follows, that all Masons are to be *good men and true*—men of honor and honesty, by whatever religious names or persuasions distinguished ; always following that golden precept of “ Doing unto all men as (upon a change of conditions) they would that all men should do unto them.”

THUS, since Masons, by their tenure, must agree in the three great articles of NOAH, Masonry becomes the centre of union among the brethren and the happy means of conciliating, and cementing into one body, those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance ; thereby strengthening and not weakening the divine obligations of *religion* and *love* !

## SECTION II.

### *Concerning Government and the Civil Magistrate.*

WHOEVER would be a true Mason, is further to know that, by the rules of his art, his obligations as a subject and citizen will not be relaxed but enforced. He is to be a lover of quiet, peaceable and obedient to the civil powers, which yield him protection, and are set over him where he resides or works ; so far as they infringe not the limited bounds of reason and religion. Nor can a real craftsman ever be concerned in plots against the state, or be disrespectful to the magistracy ; because the welfare of his country is his peculiar care.

BUT if any brother, by forgetting for a time the rules of his craft, and listening to evil counsels, should unhappily fall into a contrary conduct, he is not to be countenanced in his crimes or rebellion against the state ; but he forfeits all benefits of the Lodge, and his fellows would refuse to associate or converse with him in private, while he continues in his crimes ; that neither offence nor umbrage may be given to

lawful government. But such a person is still considered as a *Mason*, his character as such being indefeasible; and hopes are to be entertained, that the rules of the craft may again prevail, with him, over every evil council and device that may have led him astray.

FROM this quiet and meek temper of true Masons, and their constant desire to adorn the countries where they reside with all useful arts, crafts and improvements, they have been, from the earliest ages, encouraged and protected by the wisest rulers of states and commonwealths, who have likewise thought it an honor to have their names enrolled among the fraternity. And thus *Masonry* having always flourished most in the most flourishing and peaceable times of every country, and having often suffered in a particular manner through the calamitous effects of war, bloodshed and devastation, the craftsmen are therefore the more strongly engaged to act agreeable to the rules of their art, in following *peace* and *love*, as far as possible, with all men.

### SECTION III.

#### *Concerning private Qualities and Duties.*

IN regard to *himself*, whoever would be a Mason should know how to practise all the private virtues. He should avoid all manner of *intemperance* or excess, which might obstruct his performance of the laudable duties of his craft, or lead him into crimes which would reflect dishonor upon the ancient fraternity. He is to be industrious in his profession, and true to the Lord and Master he serves. He is to labor justly, and not to eat any man's bread for nought; but to pay truly for his meat and drink. What leisure his labor allows, he is to employ in studying the arts and sciences with a diligent mind, that he may the better perform all his duties, as aforesaid, to his Creator, his country, his neighbor and himself. For, in a few words,—“To walk humbly in the sight of God, to do justice, and to love mercy,” are the true indispensable characteristics of a real *free and accepted Mason*.

FOR the better attainment of these shining qualities, he is to seek and acquire as far as possible, the virtues of patience, meekness, self-denial, forbearance, and the like, which give him the command over himself, and enable him to govern his own family with affection, dignity and prudence; at the same time checking every disposition injurious to the world, and promoting that love and service, which brethren of the same *Lodge* or household owe to each other. Therefore, to afford succour to the distressed, to divide our bread with the industrious poor, and to put the misguided traveller into the way, are qualities inherent in the craft, and suitable to its dignity. But though a Mason is never to shut his ear unkindly to the complaints of any of the human species; yet when a brother is oppressed or suffers, he is in a more peculiar manner called to open his whole soul in love and compassion to him, and to relieve without prejudice, according to his capacity.

It is further necessary that all who would be true *Masons* should learn to abstain from all malice and slander, evil-speaking, backbiting, unmannerly, scornful, provoking, reproachful and ungodly language; and that he should know how to obey those who are set over him on account of their superior qualifications as *Masons*, however inferior they may be in worldly rank or station. For although *Masonry* divests no man of his temporal honors, or titles, but on the contrary highly respects them, yet, in the *Lodge*, pre-eminence of virtue and knowledge in the royal art, is considered as the true fountain of all nobility, rule and government.

THE last quality and virtue which we shall mention, as absolutely requisite in those who would be *Masons*, is that of *Secrecy*; which indeed from its importance, ought to have held the first place in this chapter, if it had not been intended to treat of it, more fully, as a conclusion of the whole.

So great stress is laid upon this particular quality of virtue, that it is enforced among Masons under the strongest penalties and obligations; nor, in their esteem, is any man to be counted *wise*, who is void of intellectual strength and ability sufficient to cover and conceal such *honest secrets* as

are committed to him, as well as his own more serious affairs. Both sacred and profane history teaches us that numerous virtuous attempts have failed of their intended scope and end, through defect of *secret concealment*.

THE ancient philosophers and wise men (the princes of whom were *Masons*) were so fully persuaded of the great virtue of *secrecy*, that it was the first lesson which they taught their pupils and followers. Thus, in the school of *Pythagoras*, we find it was a rule that every *noviciate* was to be silent for a time, and refrain from speaking, unless when a question was asked; to the end that the valuable secrets which he had to communicate might be the better preserved and valued. *Lycurgus* made a perpetual law, obliging every man to keep secret whatever was committed to him, unless it were to the injury of the state. And *Cato*, the Roman Censor, told his friends, that of *three* things (if ever he happened to be guilty) he always repented, viz.—1st. *If he divulged a secret*; 2d. If he went on water, when he might stay on dry land; and 3dly. If he suffered a day to pass without doing (or endeavoring to do) some *good*. We also read that the Persian law punished the betraying of a *secret* more grievously than any other crime.

NOR is the virtue of *secrecy* recommended only by the wisest *heathen* philosophers and law-givers; but likewise by the fathers of the Church, and by *inspired* writers and law-givers.

ST. AMBROSE places the *patient gift of silence* among the principal foundations of virtue; and the wise king *Solomon* deems the man unworthy to reign or have any rule over others, who cannot command himself, and keep his own secrets. A discoverer of *secrets* he deems infamous and a traitor; but him that conceals them he accounts a *faithful brother*. “A tale-bearer,” says he, “revealeth secrets; but he that is of a *faithful spirit* concealeth them. Discover not a *secret* to another, lest he that heareth it put thee to shame, and thine *infamy* turn not away—He that keepeth his tongue, keepeth his own soul.” To the same purpose, in the book of *Ecclesiasticus*, (chap. xxvii.) we meet with the follow-

ing beautiful passages, worthy to be forever recorded in the hearts of all Masons.—

“WHOSOEVER discovereth *secrets*, loseth his credit, and shall never find a friend to his mind. Love thy friend, and be faithful unto him; but if thou bewrayeth his secrets, follow no more after him: For as a man hath destroyed his enemy, so hast thou lost the love of thy neighbor: As one that letteth a bird go out of his hand, so hast thou let thy neighbor go, and shall not get him again. Follow after him no more, for he is too far off; he is as a roe escaped out of a snare. As for a wound, it may be bound up; and after reviling there may be reconciliation: *But he that bewrayeth secrets, is without hope.*”

THUS far hath been spoken of the *internal qualities* and *virtues* required in all who aspire to the sublime honor and advantage of becoming *free* and *accepted Masons*. We speak next of the *external qualities* and the steps to be pursued, in order to obtain *initiation* and *admission* into a duly warranted *Lodge of ancient York Masons*.

BE it known to you then, in the first place, That no person is capable of becoming a member of such a Lodge, unless (in addition to the qualities and virtues mentioned above, or at least a disposition and capacity to seek and acquire them) he is also “free born; of mature and discreet age; of good report; of sufficient natural endowments, and the senses of a *man*; with an estate, office, trade, occupation, or some visible way of acquiring an honest livelihood, and of working in his craft, as becomes the members of this ancient and most honorable fraternity, who ought not only to earn what is sufficient for themselves and families, but likewise something to spare for works of charity, and for supporting the ancient grandeur and dignity of the royal craft. Every person desiring admission must also be upright in body, not deformed or dismembered, at the time of making, but of hale and entire limbs, as a *MAN* ought to be.”

THUS, you see, a strict (although private and impartial) inquiry will be made into your character and ability, before you can be admitted into any Lodge; and by the rules of

Masonry, no friend, who may wish to propose you, can shew you any favor in this respect. But if you have a friend who is a Mason, and is every way satisfied in these various points and particulars, his duty is described as follows, viz.

#### SECTION IV.

##### *Concerning the proposing new Members in a Lodge.*

“EVERY person desirous of being made a *free Mason* in any Lodge shall be *proposed* by a member thereof, who shall give an account of the candidate’s name, age, quality, title, trade, place of residence, description of his person, and other necessary requisites, as mentioned in the foregoing sections. And it is generally required that such *proposal* be also *seconded* by some one or more members, who likewise know something of the candidate. Such proposal shall also be made in Lodge hours, at least one night before initiation ; in order that the brethren may have sufficient time and opportunity to make a strict inquiry into the morals, character and circumstances of the candidate ; for which purpose, a special committee is sometimes appointed.”

“THE brother who proposes a candidate shall, at the same time, deposit such a sum of money for him as the rules or bye-laws of the Lodge may require ; which is forfeited to the Lodge if the candidate should not attend according to his proposal ; but it is to be returned to him if he should not be approved or elected. In case he is elected, he is to pay (in addition to his deposit) such further sum as the laws of the Lodge may require, and clothe the Lodge or make some other present, if his circumstances will admit, and the brethren agree to accept the same for the benefit of the craft, and of distressed members.”

HAVING shewn that a strict inquiry will be made into your character, justice requires, that you should also be advised to be alike circumspect on your side, and to make inquiry into the character of the Lodge into which you desire admission ; for there is no *excellence* without its opposite, and no true coin without counterfeits.

IN the first place, then, you have a right, before admission, to desire your friend to shew you the *warrant* or *dispensation* by which the Lodge is held ; which, if genuine, you will find to be an instrument printed or written upon parchment, and signed by some noble *Grand Master*, his Deputy, and Grand Wardens, and Grand Secretary ; sealed with the Grand Lodge Seal : constituting particular persons (therein named) as *Masters and Wardens*, with full power to congregate and hold a Lodge at such a place, and therein “ make and admit Free-Masons, according to the most ancient and honorable custom of the royal craft, in all ages and nations, throughout the known world, with full power and authority to nominate and chuse their successors, &c.”

YOU may also request the perusal of the bye-laws, which, being short, you may read in the presence of your friend ; or he will read to you, and shew you also a list of the members of the Lodge ; by all which you will be the better able to judge, whether you would chuse to associate with them, and submit to be conformable to their rules. Being thus *free* to judge for yourself, you will not be liable to the dangers of deception, nor of having your pocket picked by imposters, and of being perhaps afterwards laughed at into the bargain ; but on the contrary, you will be admitted into a society, where you will converse with men of honor and honesty ; be exercised in all offices of brotherly love ; and be made acquainted with *mysteries* of which *it is not lawful to speak further*, or to reveal out of the Lodge.

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## CHAPTER. II.

### *Of the GENERAL REGULATIONS among ancient York Masons.*

HAVING in the foregoing chapter treated as briefly as possible “ of the temper and qualities required in those who wish to become FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,” next will follow those *general Regulations*, old as well as new, which more immediately concern *operative Masons* ; avoiding prolixity,

and the insertion of such *old* regulations as are explained or supplied by subsequent ones, universally received and now in force in all the Lodges.

#### SECTION I.

##### *Concerning a Lodge and its Government.*

1. A **LODGE** is a place in which **Masons** meet to work. The assembly, or organized body of **Masons**, is also called a **Lodge**; just as the word **CHURCH** is expressive both of the congregation of people, and of the place in which they meet to worship.

2. **THE** qualities requisite in those who are to be admitted as members of a *Lodge* have been fully mentioned in the foregoing chapter; and it is only necessary to repeat here in general that they are to be “men of good report, free born, of mature age, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered at the time of their making.”

3. A **LODGE** ought to assemble for work, at least once in each kalendar month; and must consist of *one* **MASTER**, *two* **WARDENS**, senior and junior, *one* **SECRETARY**, *one* **TREASURER**, and as many members as the **Master** and the majority of the **Lodge** shall from time to time think proper; although more than forty or fifty (when they can attend regularly, as the wholesome rules of the craft require) are generally found inconvenient for working to advantage, and therefore when a **Lodge** comes to be thus numerous, some of the ablest master-workmen, and others under their direction, will obtain leave to separate, and apply to the **Grand Lodge** for a *warrant* to work by themselves, in order to the further advancement of the craft, as the laws hereafter to be delivered will more particularly shew. But such warrant cannot be granted to any number of **Masons**, nor can a *new Lodge be formed*, unless there be among them **THREE Master Masons**, to be nominated and installed officers, for governing and instructing the brethren of such **Lodge**, and promoting them in due time, according to their merit.

4. **WHEN** men of eminent quality, learning, rank or wealth,

apply to be *made* and admitted into the Lodge, they are to be accepted with proper respect, after due examination: for among such are often found those who afterwards prove good lords, or founders of work; excellent officers and the ablest designers, to the great honor and strength of the Lodge. From among them also the fraternity can generally have some noble, honorable or learned *Grand Master*, and other *Grand Officers*. But still these brethren are equally subject to all the charges and regulations, except in what more immediately concerns operative Masons; and their preferment, as well as the preferment of all other Masons, must be governed by the *general rule*; that is to say, founded upon real worth and personal merit, and not upon mere seniority or any other particular rank or quality.

5. IN order that due decorum be observed, while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn, and for the preservation of secrecy and good harmony, a brother well skilled in the *Master's* part, shall be appointed and paid for *tyling* the Lodge door, during the time of communication.

6. EVERY Lodge shall keep a book containing their by-laws, the names of their members, with a list of all the Lodges under the same *Grand Lodge*, and united in *general communication*, with the usual times and places of meeting in such Lodges, and such other necessary parts of their transactions as are *proper to be written*.

7. No Lodge shall *make* more than FIVE *new* brethren at one time, unless by dispensation from the Grand Master, or Deputy in his absence; nor shall any person be *made* or admitted a member of a Lodge without being proposed *one Lodge night*, before, that due notice may be given to all the members to make the necessary inquiries into the candidate's character, and that there may be such *unanimity* in the election and admission of members as the laws require; nor can there be any *dispensation* in this case, because unanimity is essential to the *being* of every Lodge, and its own members are the best judges in this matter; for if it were allowed that any *foreign* or even *superior* jurisdiction might impose a fractious or disagreeable member upon them, it might

destroy their harmony, and would intrench upon their *liberty*, to the great injury, if not the total dissolution of such Lodge.

8. EVERY Lodge has the right to keep itself an *entire body*, and therefore no number of brethren can withdraw or separate themselves from the Lodge in which they were made, or were afterwards admitted *members*, unless such Lodge become too numerous for *working*; nor even then, unless they pay all dues to their Lodge, and give them notice that they intend to apply to the Grand Lodge for a *dispensation* to separate; in which case, if a dispensation is granted, they must either join themselves to such other Lodge as shall unanimously *consent* to receive them; or they must obtain a warrant from the Grand Lodge to form themselves into a *new* Lodge. And no set of *Masons*, without such *warrant*, shall ever take upon themselves to *work* together, or form any Lodge.

9. THE majority of every particular Lodge, when duly congregated, have the privilege of instructing their *Masters* and *Wardens* for their conduct in the *Grand Lodge*, and quarterly *communications*; and all particular Lodges, in the same general communication, shall as much as possible, observe the same rules and usages, and appoint some of their members to *visit* each other in the different Lodges as often as it may be convenient.

10. THE Precedency of Lodges is grounded on the *Seniority* of their constitution.

11. IF any Lodge shall cease to meet regularly, for *twelve months* successively, its constitution shall be forfeited, and its name erased out of the *Grand Lodge Book*.

12. THAT no Lodge shall *make a Mason* (except one made for the purpose of being a *Tyler*) for a less sum than *Fourteen Dollars*.

13. THAT there shall be no funeral processions of *Masons*, in the city of New-York, without permission from the Grand Master or his Deputy, nor in any other part of the State, without such permission, or the permission of a regular *constituted Lodge*.

## SECTION II.

*The ancient Manner of constituting a Lodge.*

A NEW Lodge, for avoiding many irregularities, should be solemnly constituted by the *Grand Master*, with his Deputy and Wardens; or in the Grand Master's absence, the Deputy acts for his Worship, the senior Grand Warden as Deputy, the junior Grand Warden as the senior, and the present Master of a Lodge as the junior: Or if the Deputy is also absent, the Grand Master may depute either of his Grand Wardens, who can appoint others to act, as Grand Wardens, *pro tempore*.\*

THE Lodge being opened, and the candidates or new Master and Wardens being yet among their fellows, the Grand Master shall ask his Deputy if he has examined them, and whether he finds the Master well skilled in the noble science and the royal art, and duly instructed in our mysteries, &c. The Deputy, answering in the affirmative, shall (by the Grand Master's order) take the candidate from amongst his fellows, and present him to the Grand Master, saying,—“ Right Worshipful Grand Master, the brethren here desire to be formed into a regular Lodge; and I present my worthy brother A. B. to be (installed) their Master, whom I know to be of good morals and great skill, true and trusty, and a lover of the whole fraternity, wheresoever dispersed over the face of the earth.”

THEN the Grand Master, placing the candidate on his left hand, and having asked and obtained the unanimous consent

\* WHEN *Constitutions* are required, and where the distance is so great as to render it impossible for the Grand Officers to attend, the Grand Master, or his Deputy, issues a written instrument, under his hand and private seal, to some worthy brother (who has been properly installed Master of a Lodge) with full power to congregate, install, and *constitute* the petitioners.

IF the Grand Master, or Deputy, be absent, or (through sickness) rendered incapable of acting, the Grand Wardens, and Grand Secretary, jointly, may issue a like power under their hands and seal of the Grand Lodge; provided the Grand Master has first signed a warrant for holding such new Lodge: But the Grand Wardens must never issue any Masonic writings under their private seal or seals.

of the brethren, shall say (*after some other ceremonies and expressions*) "I constitute and form these good brethren into a new regular Lodge, and appoint you brother A. B. the MASTER of it, not doubting of your capacity and care to preserve the cement of the Lodge, &c."

UPON this the Deputy, or some other brother for him, shall rehearse the charge of a Master; and the Grand Master shall ask the candidate, saying, *Do you submit to these charges as Masters have done in all ages?* And the new Master signifying his cordial submission thereto, the Grand Master shall, by certain *significant ceremonies and ancient usages*, INSTALL him, and present him his warrant, the *Book of Constitutions*, the Lodge Book, and the instruments of his office, one after another; and after each of them the Grand Master, his Deputy, or some brother for him, shall rehearse the charge that is suitable to the thing present.

NEXT the members of this new Lodge, bowing all together to the Grand Master, shall return his Worship their thanks, *according to the custom of Masters*, and shall immediately do homage to their new Master, and, as faithful craftsmen, signify their promise of subjection and obedience to him, *by the usual congratulations*.

THE Deputy and Grand Wardens, and any other brethren who are not members of this new Lodge, shall next congratulate the new Master, and he shall return his becoming acknowledgments, *as Master Masons*, first to the Grand Master and Grand Officers, and to the rest in their order.

THEN the Grand Master orders the new Master to enter immediately upon the exercise of his office, and calling forth his senior Warden, a fellow craft\* (*Master Mason*) presents him to the Grand Master for his Worship's approbation, and to the new Lodge for their consent: upon which the senior or junior Grand Warden, or some brother for him, shall rehearse the charge of a Warden, &c. of a private Lodge, and he signifying his cordial submission thereto, the new Master shall present him singly with the several instruments of his office,

\* THEY were called fellow-crafts, because the Masons of old times never gave any man the title of Master Mason until he had first *passed the chair*.

and, *in ancient manner* and due form, install him \* in his proper place.

IN like manner, the new Master shall call forth his junior Warden, who shall be a Master Mason, and presented, as above, to the junior Grand Warden, or some other brother in his stead, and shall *in the above manner* be installed in his proper place; and the brethren of this *new Lodge* shall signify their obedience to these *new Wardens*, by the usual congratulations due to Wardens.

THE Grand Master then gives all the brethren joy of their Master and Wardens, &c. and recommends harmony, &c. hoping their only contention will be, a laudable emulation of cultivating the royal art, and the social virtues.

THEN the Grand Secretary, or some brother for him, by the Grand Master's order, in the name of the Grand Lodge, declares and proclaims this *new Lodge* duly constituted No. &c.

UPON which all the new Lodge together, *after the custom of Masters*, return their hearty and sincere thanks for the honor of this constitution.

THE Grand Master also orders the Grand Secretary to register this new Lodge in the Grand Lodge Book, and to notify the same to the other particular Lodges; and after some other *ancient customs and demonstrations of joy and satisfaction*, he orders the senior Grand Warden to close the Lodge.

### SECTION III.

*Concerning the BEHAVIOR of MASONS, as members of a Lodge.*

#### 1. *Of Attendance.*

EVERY brother ought to belong to some regular Lodge, and should always appear therein *properly cloathed*, and in clean and decent apparel truly subjecting himself to all its bye-laws and the *general regulations*. He must attend all meetings,

\* THE Grand Wardens generally *install* the Wardens at new institutions; as being best qualified for transacting such business.

whether *stated* or *emergent*, when duly summoned, unless he can offer to the Master and Wardens such plea of necessity for his absence as the said laws and regulations may admit.

By the ancient rules and usages of Masonry (which are generally adopted among the bye-laws of every *Lodge*) no plea was judged sufficient to excuse any absentee, unless he could satisfy the Lodge that he was sick, lame, in confinement, upwards of three miles from the place of meeting, or detained by some extraordinary and unforeseen necessity.

### 2. *Of Working.*

ALL Masons should work faithfully and honestly. All the working hours appointed by law, or confirmed by custom, are to be strictly observed under the penalties and fines hereafter to be laid down. The hours of working are—"from seven o'clock in the evening till ten, between the 25th of March and the 25th of September; and from six till nine between the 25th of September and the 25th of March."

THE Master and brethren shall faithfully finish their work, whether task or journey; nor shall they take the work at task which has been accustomed to journey.

NONE shall envy a brother's prosperity, nor supplant or put him out of his work, if capable of finishing it.

ALL Masons shall meekly receive their wages without murmuring, nor desert the Master till the work is finished. They must avoid all unbecoming modes of expression, and call each other brother. They shall instruct the younger brethren to become bright and expert workmen. But, as free and accepted Masons, they must not allow *Cowans* to work with them; nor even be themselves employed by *Cowans*, without an urgent necessity. And when such necessity happens, they shall have a separate communication, and not suffer *Cowans* to learn from them; nor any *laborer* to be employed in the proper work of *Free Masons*.

### 3. *Of Behavior in the Lodge while open.*

WHILE the Lodge is open for work, *Masons* must hold no private conversation or committees, without leave from the

Master; nor talk of any thing foreign or impertinent to the work in hand, nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any brother addressing himself to the Chair; nor act ludicrously while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; but every brother shall pay due reverence to the Master and Wardens, and all his fellows, and put them to worship.

EVERY brother found guilty of a fault shall stand to the award of the Lodge, unless he appeals to the Grand Lodge.

No *private piques*, or quarrels about *nations, families, religions* or *politics*, must be brought within the doors of the Lodge; as being *directly contrary* to the rules already laid down—Masons, as such, being there declared to be the oldest catholic and universally acknowledged religion, likewise of all nations; bound to live upon the square, level and plumb with each other; following the steps of their predecessors in cultivating the peace and harmony of the Lodge *without distinction of sect or political party*.

4. *Of Behavior after the Lodge is closed, and before the Brethren depart home.*

WHEN the Lodge is closed, and the labor finished, the brethren before they depart home to their rest, may enjoy themselves with innocent mirth, enlivened and exalted with their own peculiar *Songs* and sublime pieces of music; treating one another according to ability, but avoiding all excess and compulsion, both in eating and drinking; considering each other, in the hours both of *labor* and *festivity*, as always *free*. And therefore no brother is to be hindered from going home when he pleases; for although, after Lodge hours, Masons are as other men, yet if they should fall into excess, the blame, though unjustly, may be cast upon the fraternity, by the ignorant or the envious world.

## SECTION IV.

*Concerning the Behavior of Masons, in their private Character.*

1. *When a number of Brethren happen to meet, without any strangers among them, and not in a formed Lodge.*

IN such case you are to salute each other in a courteous manner, as you are, or may be instructed in the Lodge, calling each other brother; and freely communicating hints of knowledge, but without disclosing secrets, unless to those who have given long proof of their taciturnity and honor; and taking care in all your actions and conversation that you are neither overseen or overheard of strangers. In this friendly intercourse, no brother shall derogate from the respect due to another, were he not a Mason. For though all Masons as brothers, are upon the level, yet Masonry (as was said in a former section) divests no man of the honors due to him before, or that may become due after, he was made a Mason. On the contrary, it increases his respect, teaching us to add to all his other honors, those which as Masons we cheerfully pay to an eminent brother; distinguishing him above all his rank and station, and serving him readily according to our ability.

2. *When in the presence of Strangers who are not Masons.*

BEFORE those who are not Masons, you must be cautious in your words and carriage; so that the most penetrating stranger shall not be able to discover what is not proper to be intimated. The impertinent and ensnaring questions, or ignorant and idle discourse of those who seek to pry into the secrets and mysteries of the craft, must be prudently answered and managed, or the discourse wisely diverted to another subject, as your discretion and duty shall direct.

3. *When at home and in your Neighborhood.*

MASONS ought to be moral men, fully qualified as is required in the foregoing sections and charges. Consequently they should be good husbands, good parents, good sons and good neighbors; avoiding all excess injurious to themselves or families, and *wise* as to all affairs, both of their own household and of the Lodge, *for certain reasons known to themselves.*

4. *Of Behavior towards a Foreign Brother or Stranger.*

YOU are cautiously to examine a stranger or foreign brother as prudence and the rules of the craft direct, that you may not be imposed upon by a pretender; and if you discover any one to be such, you are to reject him with scorn, taking care to give him no hints. But such as are found to be true and faithful, you are to respect as brothers, according to what is directed above; relieving them, if in want, to your utmost power; or directing them how to find relief, and employing them if you can, or else recommending them to employment.

5. *Of Behavior behind a Brother's back as well as before his face.*

FREE and accepted Masons have ever been charged to avoid all manner of slandering, and back-biting of true and faithful brethren, with all malice and unjust resentment, or talking disrespectfully of a brother's person or performance. Nor must they suffer others to spread unjust reproaches or calumnies against a brother behind his back, nor to injure him in his fortune, occupation or character; but they shall defend such a brother, and give him notice of any danger or injury wherewith he may be threatened, to enable him to escape the same, *as far as is consistent with honor, prudence, and the safety of religion, morality, and the state,* BUT NO FURTHER.

6. *Concerning DIFFERENCES and LAW-SUITS, if any such should unhappily arise among Brethren.*

IF a brother do you injury, or if you have any difference with him about any worldly or temporal business or interest, apply first to your *own* or his *Lodge*, to have the matter in dispute adjusted by the brethren. And if either party be not satisfied with the determination of the Lodge, an appeal may be carried to the Grand Lodge; and you are never to enter into a *law-suit*, till the matter cannot be decided as above. And if it be a matter that wholly concerns *Masonry*, law-suits are to be entirely avoided, and the good advice of prudent brethren is to be followed, as they are the best referees of such differences.

BUT where references are either impractical or unsuccessful, and courts of law or equity must at last decide, you must still follow the general rules of Masonry already laid down, avoiding all wrath, malice, rancour, and personal ill-will, in carrying on the suit with a brother; neither saying or doing any thing to prevent the continuance or renewal of that *brotherly love* and friendship which are the glory and cement of this ancient fraternity.

THUS shall we shew to all the world the benign influences of *Masonry*, as wise, true and *faithful brethren*, before us, have done from the beginning of time; and as all who shall follow us, and would be thought worthy of that name, will do till architecture shall be dissolved with the great fabric of the world, in the last general conflagration!

THESE charges and such others as shall be given to you, *in a way that cannot be written*, you are strictly and conscientiously to observe; and *that they may be the better observed, they should be read or made known to NEW brethren at their MAKING*; and at other times as the *Master* shall direct.

AMEN! SO MOTE IT BE!

## SECTION V.

*Of the MASTER of a Lodge, his Election, Office, and Duty.*

No brother can be MASTER of a Lodge till he has first served the office of a *Warden* somewhere; unless in extraordinary cases, or when a *new Lodge* is to be formed, and no past or former *Warden* is to be found amongst the members. In such cases, three *Master Masons*, although they have served in no former offices (if they be well learned) may be constituted *Master* and *Wardens* of such *new Lodge* or of any *old Lodge* in the like emergency.

THE *Master* of every Lodge shall be annually chosen, by ballot on the stated Lodge night, next before the Festival of *Saint John the Evangelist*. Each free member hath one vote, and the *Master* two votes, where the number of votes happens to be equal; otherwise he has but one vote.

WHEN the ballot is closed, the former *Master* shall then carefully examine the ballots, and audibly declare him that hath the majority of votes duly elected.

THE *Master-elect* shall then nominate one for the senior *Warden's* chair, and the present *Master* and brethren shall nominate one in opposition; and in case of such nomination, both of them shall withdraw till the ballot is closed as aforesaid; after which they shall be called before the *Master*, and the ballots shall be examined and declared by him as above directed; and in like manner shall the Lodge proceed in the choice of all the inferior officers; great care being taken that none be put in nomination, for favor or affection, birth or fortune, exclusive of the consideration of real merit, and ability to fill his office, for the honor and advancement of *Masonry*. No *Mason* chosen into any office can refuse to serve, without incurring the penalties laid down in the chapter of fines, unless he has served in the same office before. The *Master* of every regular Lodge, thus duly elected and installed, has it in special *charge*, (as appurtenant to his office, duty and dignity) to see that all the *bye-laws* of his Lodge, as well as the *general regulations* from the Grand Lodge, be

duly observed; that his *Wardens* discharge their office faithfully, and be examples of diligence and sobriety to the craft; that true and exact minutes and entries of all proceedings be made and kept by the *Secretary*; that the Treasurer keep and render exact and just accounts of the stated times, according to the bye-laws and orders of the Lodge; and in general, that all the goods and monies belonging to the body be truly managed and dispensed, according to the vote and direction of the majority.

THE Master shall further take care that no apprentice or fellow craft be taken into his house or Lodge, unless he has sufficient employment for him, and finds him to be duly qualified, according to the rules before laid down, for learning and understanding *the sublime mysteries of the art*. Thus shall such *Apprentices*, when expert in the business of their apprenticeship, be admitted, upon further improvement, as *Fellow-crafts*; and, in due time, be raised to the *sublime* degree of *Master-Masons*; animated with the prospect of passing in future through all the higher honors of Masonry, viz. those of *Wardens* and *Masters* of their Lodges, and perhaps at length of GRAND WARDENS and GRAND MASTERS of all the Lodges, according to their merit.

THE Master of a particular Lodge has the right and authority of *calling his lodge*, or congregating the members into a chapter, at pleasure, upon the application of any of the brethren, and upon any emergency and occurrence which in his judgment may require their meeting; and he is to fill the Chair when present. It is likewise his duty, together with his Wardens, to attend the Grand Lodge, at the quarterly communications, and also the Steward's Lodge, and such occasional or special grand communications as the good of the craft may require, when duly summoned by the Grand Secretary, and within such reasonable distance of the place of holding the Grand Lodge, as the laws of the same may have ascertained on that head. When in the Grand or Steward's Lodge, and at general as well as special communications, the Master or Warden, or either of them, have full power and authority to represent their Lodge, and to trans-

act all matters relative thereto, as well and truly as if the whole body were there present.

THE Master has the right of appointing some brother, who is most commonly the Secretary of the Lodge, to keep the book of *bye-laws*, and other laws given to the Lodge, by the proper authority; and in this book shall also be kept the names of all the members of the Lodge, and a list of all the Lodges within the same grand communication, with the usual times and places of their meeting.

THAT no Lodge be removed without the Master's knowledge, nor any motion be made for that purpose in the Lodge when he is absent. But if the Master be present, and a motion be made for moving the Lodge to some other more convenient place (within the district assigned in the warrant of such Lodge) and if the said motion be *seconded*, the Master shall order summonses to the members of the Lodge, specifying the business, and appointing a day for hearing and determining the affair, at least ten days before, and the determination shall be made by the majority. But if the Master is not of the majority, the Lodge shall not be removed, unless, full two-thirds of the members present have voted for such removal.

BUT if the Master refuse to direct such summons to be issued, upon a motion duly made as aforesaid, then either of the Wardens may direct the same, and if the Master neglect to attend on the day fixed, the Warden may preside in determining the affair in the manner above prescribed. But the Lodge shall not, in the Master's absence, on such special call, enter upon any other cause or business, but what is particularly mentioned in the said summons.

IF the Lodge is thus regularly ordered to be removed, the Master or Warden shall send notice to the Grand Secretary, that such removal may be notified and duly entered in the Grand Lodge books at the next Grand Lodge.

*N. B.* IT is also a good method to have a certificate from the Grand Lodge, that such removal hath been allowed, confirmed, and duly registered in their books; which will be a business of course, unless an appeal be lodged against such

removal by the minority, and then a hearing will be given to both parties in the Grand Lodge, before such removal be confirmed or registered in their books.

#### SECTION VI.

##### *Of the WARDENS of a Lodge.*

1. NONE but Master-Masons can be *Wardens* of a Lodge. The manner of their election, and several of their duties, being connected with the election and duties of the Master, have been mentioned in the former section.

2. THE *Senior Warden* succeeds to all the duties of the Master, and fills the Chair when he is absent. Or if the Master goes abroad on business, resigns, demits, or is deposed, the Senior Warden shall forthwith fill his place till the next stated time of election. And although it was formerly held, that in such cases the Master's authority ought to revert to the last past Master who is present, yet it is now the settled rule that the authority devolves upon the Senior Warden, and in his absence, upon the Junior Warden, even although a former Master be present. But the Wardens will generally waive this privilege in honor of any past Master that may be present, and will call on him to take the Chair, upon the presumption of his experience and skill in conducting the business of the Lodge. Nevertheless such past Master still derives his authority under the Senior Warden, and cannot act until he congregates the Lodge. If none of the officers be present, nor any former Master to take the Chair, the members according to seniority and merit shall fill the places of the absent officers.

THE business of the Wardens in the Lodge is, generally, to assist the Master in conducting the business thereof, and managing the craft, in due order and form, when the Master is present; and in doing his duties, as above set forth, when he is necessarily absent, all which is to be learned from the foregoing section. Particular Lodges do likewise, by their *bye-laws*, assign particular duties to the Wardens for their

own better government ; which such Lodges have a right to do, provided they transgress not the *old land-marks*, nor in any degree violate the true *genius and spirit of Masonry*.

## SECTION VII.

*Of the SECRETARY of a Lodge.*

THE *Secretary* shall keep a regular register or record of all transactions and proceedings of the Lodge, *that are fit to be committed to writing* ; which shall be faithfully entered in the Lodge-books, from the minutes taken in open Lodge, after being duly read, amended, if necessary, and approved of, before the close of every meeting ; in order that the said transactions, or authentic copies thereof, may be laid before the Grand Lodge, once in every quarter, if required.

IN particular, the Secretary shall keep exact lists of all the members of the Lodge, with the times of admission of all new members ; and annually, on or before the first Wednesday in *June*, shall prepare, and send to the Secretary of the *Grand Lodge*, the list of members for the time being, which shall be signed not only by the new installed officers of each Lodge, but also by the last past officers ; to the intent that the Grand Secretary, and consequently the members of the Grand Lodge, may be at all times enabled to know the names and number of members in each Lodge under their jurisdiction, with the hand-writing of the different officers ; and to pay all due respect to the brethren recommended or certified by them from time to time.

## SECTION VIII.

*Of the TREASURER of a Lodge.*

THE *Treasurer* is to receive and keep exact accounts of all monies raised, or paid in according to rule, for the advancement of the Lodge and benefit of the brethren ; and to pay all orders duly drawn upon him by the authority of the Lodge. He is to keep regular entries both of his receipts

and disbursements; and to have his books and vouchers always ready for examination at such stated times as the bye-laws require, or when specially called upon by order of the Master and brethren.

THE Treasurer is likewise to have the charge and custody of the chest, jewels and furniture of the Lodge; unless when the Master and majority may judge it more convenient to appoint some other responsible brother for that particular duty; or when the officers of the Lodge may take the charge immediately upon themselves. The *warrant* in particular is in the charge and custody of the *Master*.

#### SECTION IX.

##### *Of the TYLER of a Lodge.*

THE *Tyler* shall be a *Master Mason*, of knowledge and experience; and generally a brother is to be preferred, to whom the fees of the office may be necessary and serviceable, on account of his particular circumstances.

HIS duty is fixed by custom and known to every brother; and his chief charge is, not to admit any person (not even a member, while the Lodge is sitting) without the knowledge and consent of the presiding officer; neither shall he admit any visitor, that is not a member of a warranted Lodge, a second time, sojourners producing certificates excepted.

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### CHAPTER III.

#### SECTION I.

##### *Of the GRAND LODGE in general.*

THE GRAND LODGE consists of, and is formed by, the Masters and Wardens of all the regular particular Lodges upon record, with the *Grand Master* at their head, the Deputy Grand Master on his left, and the Grand Wardens in their proper places; attended also by the Grand Sec-

retary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Tyler, Grand Pursuivant, and other necessary officers, as will be explained in the proper places. But though the Master and Wardens of all Lodges on record have seats and a voice in every *Grand Lodge-General*, yet *particular* Grand Lodges are composed properly of the officers of the different regular Lodges under the same distinct Grand Jurisdiction; and to form such *Grand Lodge*, there must be present, on due and legal notice, no less than the Masters and Wardens of *five* regular Lodges, together with *one* at least (and where possible or convenient, *all*) of the Grand officers at their head.

No new Lodge is owned, nor can their officers be admitted into the Grand Lodge, until such new Lodge is first regularly *constituted* by the authority of the Grand Lodge, and registered in the same.

ALL past Grand Masters, past Deputy Grand Masters, past Grand Wardens, and past Masters of warranted Lodges on record, whilst they continue members of any regular Lodge, are likewise, by courtesy, as well as by custom, considered as members of, and admitted to vote in all Grand Lodges. By courtesy also, past Grand Secretaries, and Grand Treasurers, have the same privilege of sitting in all Grand Lodges, and voting in such matters, as, by the rules of the Grand Lodge, they might or could have voted in, while in office.

No Master, Warden, or other member of the Grand Lodge shall ever attend the same, without the jewels which he ought to wear in his own particular Lodge, except for some good and sufficient reason to be allowed of in the Grand Lodge. And when the officer of any particular Lodge, from such urgent business or necessity as may regularly plead his excuse, cannot personally attend the Grand Lodge, he may nominate and send a brother of his Lodge, with his jewel and cloathing, to supply his room, and support the honor of his Lodge in the Grand Lodge, provided such brother hath heretofore been in the same office with the brother who deposes him, or in some higher office. And, that if a single brother is deputed to represent all the officers of any particular

Lodge, and consequently such Lodge itself, in the Grand Lodge, he ought not to be under the rank of a past Master, or one who hath otherwise duly passed the Chair in some regular Lodge.

A BROTHER of eminence, and of the rank of Master, having business, or whose attendance is necessary in any point of evidence or intelligence, may be admitted into the Grand Lodge upon motion, or leave asked and given; but such brother thus admitted shall have no vote, nor be allowed to speak to any question, without leave, or unless desired to give his opinion.

THE Grand Lodge must meet four times a year statedly, for quarterly communications, and shall also have occasional meetings, and adjournments monthly or otherwise, as business may require; and such meetings shall be held in the Grand Lodge room only, unless for some particular reason the Grand Master should think fit to appoint some other place of special meeting.

ALL matters in the Grand Lodge are determined by a majority of votes, each member having one vote, and the Grand Master two votes, unless the Grand Lodge leave any particular thing to the determination of the Grand Master, for the sake of expedition.

THE main *business* of the Grand Lodge, whether of quarterly communications or other meetings, is seriously to discourse of, and sedately to consider, transact and settle all matters that concern the prosperity of the craft and the fraternity in general, or private Lodges and single brethren in particular. Here, therefore, all differences that cannot be made up and accommodated privately, nor by a particular Lodge, are to be seriously considered and decided. And if any brother thinks himself aggrieved by such decision, he may, by lodging an appeal in writing with the Grand Secretary, have the matter re-heard, and finally determined upon at the next ensuing quarterly communication, provided it be not the *annual* Grand Lodge, or either of the Festivals of *St. John*; on which, by the *new* and wise regulations, it is agreed and ordered that no petitions or appeals shall be

heard, nor any business transacted, that tends to interrupt the harmony of the assembly, but all shall be referred to the next Grand Lodge, or Stewards' Lodge. And in general, whatever business cannot be transacted or finished at any one meeting of the Grand Lodge, may be either adjourned to the next meeting of the same, or, in the meanwhile, referred to a proper committee, to be by them maturely heard, considered and reported upon to the said next meeting.

It is the prerogative of the Grand Lodge, and the Right Worshipful Grand Master has full power and authority, (when the Grand Lodge is duly assembled) to make or cause to be made in his Worship's presence, free and accepted Masons *at sight*, and such making is good; but they cannot be made out of his Worship's presence, without his written dispensation for that purpose; nor is any warranted Lodge obliged to receive any of the persons so made as members, except by vote, and with the full consent of the body of such Lodge. But the Right Worshipful Grand Master, with the authority of the Grand Lodge, may grant them a warrant, and form them into a new Lodge.

THE officers of all private Lodges, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, shall at every quarterly communication, (except the country Lodges, which shall annually on or before the festival of *St. John the Baptist*) deliver an exact list of such members as have been made, or even admitted by them, since the last preceding communication; and books shall be kept in the Grand Lodge, by some able brother to be appointed *Grand Secretary*, in which the said lists and returns shall be duly recorded, together with all the Lodges in communication, the usual times and places of their forming, and the names of all their members. In the said books are also to be registered, all the proceedings and other affairs of the Grand Lodge, which are proper to be written.

THE Grand Lodge shall likewise consider of the most prudent and effectual means of collecting and managing what money may accrue to the general charity fund, agreeable to the rules hereinafter inserted for that purpose. And for the better conducting of this business, they must have a treasurer,

whose duty and privileges, as a member of the Grand Lodge, will be laid down under the head of Grand Treasurer.

## SECTION II.

### *Of the Election of the GRAND MASTER.*

THE Grand Lodge must meet in some convenient place, in order to elect new or re-appoint the old officers, and such election or re-appointment shall be held or made on the first Wednesday in June, in order that the Grand Lodge may be completely organized, and duly prepared for the celebration of the annual feast, and other important business of the season.

BUT although it is the inherent right of the Grand Lodge to chuse a *new* Grand Master, as well as his deputy and other Grand Officers yearly by ballot, if a majority of the Grand Lodge should so require, yet such has been the harmony of all Grand Lodges, as far back as can be remembered, a few instances only excepted, that the general usage for the re-appointment or new election of a Grand Master and other Grand Officers, is as follows, viz.

APPLICATION is to be made to the present Grand Master by his Deputy, or, if he neglects it, by some other brother appointed by the Grand Lodge, at least one month before Saint JOHN the Baptist's day, in order to know whether it will be convenient for his Worship to favor or honor the *fraternity* with his services and continuance in office for another year. If he consents to continue, then one of the Grand Lodge, deputed for that purpose, shall represent to the brethren his Worship's good government and other valuable qualities; and, in the name of the Grand Lodge, shall humbly request the favor or honor of his continuance in office another year. If he accepts of this nomination and re-appointment in such address to the Lodge as he may think suitable and proper, the *Grand Secretary* shall thrice proclaim him aloud—

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS.

ALL the members of the Grand Lodge shall then salute him in due form (if present) *according to the ancient and laudable custom of Masons.*

BUT if on such application (to be made as aforesaid, one month at least before *St. John the Baptist's* day) the present *Grand Master*, should declare it inconvenient for him to continue another year in office, his advice and recommendation are then to be requested concerning some able and fit brother as his successor, who on the day of election is to be proposed to the Grand Lodge, with any other brother or brethren who may be put in nomination by two or more members. And the election shall be made either by holding up of hands or by *ballot*, as may be agreed by the majority on motion made and seconded for that purpose; provided always, that the brother recommended by the Grand Master in office, as his successor, be the first voted for, either by holding up of hands or by ballot, and if he is not chosen, the other candidates in the order they were proposed, till one has the majority of voices or ballots. When the election is thus made, he is to be proclaimed installed and saluted as above set forth, if present; but if not present, a day is to be appointed for this ceremony, *which is a most noble and grand one, but not to be described in writing, nor ever to be known by any but true Master Masons.* The ceremony of installing the *new Grand Master* is to be conducted by the last Grand Master, but he may nevertheless order any brother well skilled in the ceremony to assist him, or to act as his Deputy on the occasion.

IF the present Grand Master should be at a distance from the Grand Lodge at the time proposed for requesting his continuance in office, or his recommendation of a successor; or if the successor he may recommend should be at a distance, the *Grand Secretary* shall in behalf of the Lodge, write to one or both of them as the case may require, in order to be informed of their intentions, should the choice or appointment of Grand Master fall upon them; and copies of such letters, as well as of the answers, shall be inserted in the Grand Lodge books.

IN case the new Grand Master, when nominated or chosen as above, cannot attend at the time appointed for his install-

ment, he may be installed by proxy, on signifying his acceptance of the office; but such proxy must be either the last or a former Grand Master, or else a very reputable past Master.

### SECTION III.

#### *Of the Election or Appointment of the DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.*

THE last Grand Master thus continued, or a new Grand Master thus appointed and installed, it hath always been considered as his inherent right to nominate and appoint the *Deputy Grand Master*, either the last or a new one; because, as the Grand Master is generally a brother of the first eminence, and cannot be supposed able to give his attendance on every emergency, it hath been always judged necessary not only to allow him a Deputy, but that such Deputy should be a person in whom he can perfectly confide, and with whom he can have full harmony; for which reason it is proper that the Grand Master should have the nomination of his Deputy; although, as aforesaid, cases may arise when the Grand Lodge may exercise the right of rejecting the Grand Master's nomination, and of choosing for themselves; of which cases (although they seldom happen) a majority of the Lodge can only be judges. The Deputy Grand Master being thus continued, or a new one appointed or chosen as above, he shall be proclaimed, saluted, and congratulated in due form on his first appearance in the Lodge; for neither the Deputy nor Grand Wardens can be allowed to appear by proxy, this being the sole prerogative of the Grand Master.

### SECTION IV.

#### *Of the Election of GRAND WARDENS.*

THE Grand Lodge has the right of electing the *Grand Wardens*, and any member has a right to propose one or both the Candidates, either the old Wardens, or new ones; and the two persons who have the majority of votes or ballots, still preserving due harmony, are declared duly elected.

## SECTION V.

*Of the Nomination, Appointment, and Office of the GRAND SECRETARY.*

THE office of *Grand Secretary* hath become of very great importance in the Grand Lodge, from the multiplicity of matters committed to his care, and from the abilities and learning requisite in the management of them. All the transactions of the Lodge are to be drawn into form and duly recorded by him. All petitions, applications and appeals are to pass through his hands. No warrant, certificate or instrument of writing from the Grand Lodge is authentic without his attestation and signature, and his affixing the Grand Seal as the laws require. The general correspondence with Lodges and brethren over the whole world, is to be managed by him agreeably to the voice of the Grand Lodge, and directions of the Grand Master or his Deputy; whom he must, therefore, be always ready to attend, with his Assistants or Clerks, and the books of the Lodge, in order to give all necessary information concerning the general state of matters, and what is proper to be done upon any emergency.

FOR these reasons, at every annual election or appointment of Grand Officers, the nomination or appointment of the Grand Secretary is considered as the inherent right of the Grand Master, being properly his Amanuensis, and an officer as necessary to him as his Deputy. It is therefore held, under the old regulations, which yet stand unrepealed, that if the Grand Lodge should disapprove either of the Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Secretary, they cannot disannul their appointment without choosing a new Grand Master, by which all his appointments will be rendered void. But this is a case which hath but very seldom happened, and which all true Masons hope there never will be any occasion to make a provision against.

THE Grand Secretary, by virtue of his office, is a member of the Grand Lodge, and hath the right of appointing his own Assistant or Clerk. But such Assistant or Clerk must

be a Master Mason, and shall not be a member of the Grand Lodge by virtue of his appointment, nor speak without being permitted, unless he hath otherwise a right, by having passed the Chair in the Grand or some regular private Lodge.

#### SECTION VI.

##### *Of the Election and Office of GRAND TREASURER.*

THE *Grand Treasurer* is elected by the body of the Grand Lodge, in the same manner as the Grand Wardens ; he being considered an officer peculiarly responsible to all the members in due form assembled, as having the charge of their common stock and property. For to him is committed the care of all money raised for the general charity and other uses of the Grand Lodge ; an account of which he is regularly to enter into a book, with the respective uses for which the several sums are intended. He is likewise to pay out, expend or disburse the same upon such orders, signed, as the rules of the Grand Lodge in this respect shall allow to be valid.

THE Grand Treasurer, by virtue of his office, is a member of the Grand Lodge. He hath a right to appoint an Assistant or Clerk, who must be a Master Mason, but shall have no vote, nor be a member of the Grand Lodge, nor speak without being permitted, unless otherwise entitled to a seat or vote.

THE Grand Treasurer, or his Assistant or Clerk, shall always be present in the Lodge, and ready to attend the Grand Master and other Grand Officers, with his books for inspection when required ; and likewise any Grand Committee that may be appointed for adjusting and examining his accounts.

#### SECTION VII.

##### *Of the GRAND TYLER and GRAND PURSUIVANT.*

THESE officers of the Grand Lodge must be Master Masons, but none of them are members of the Grand Lodge, nor

allowed to speak without orders. The Tyler's duty is to guard the door on the outwardside, to see that none but members enter, and to summon the members on special occasions and emergencies, by order of the Grand Master or his Deputy, signified to him under the hand of the Grand Secretary, or his Assistant or Clerk.

THE business of the Pursuivant is to stand at the inward-side of the door and to report the names and titles of all who want admittance, as reported to him by the Tyler. He is also to go upon messages, and perform sundry other services known only in the Lodge.

THE Grand Deacons, whose duty is well known in the Grand Lodge, as particular assistants to the Grand Master and Senior Warden in conducting the business of the Lodge, are always members of the same; and may be either nominated occasionally on every Lodge night, or appointed annually by the Grand Master or presiding officer.

THESE in general are the present duties of these officers; and when any thing further shall be made their duty in the Grand Lodge, it will be explained by a new regulation.

#### SECTION VIII.

##### *General Rules for conducting the business of the Grand Lodge, in case of the absence of any Grand Officers.*

IF the Grand Master is absent at any meeting of the Grand Lodge, stated or occasional, the Deputy is to supply his place.

IF the Deputy be likewise absent, the Senior Grand Warden takes the chair, and in his absence the Junior Grand Warden. All Grand Officers, present and past, take place of every Master of a Lodge, and the present Grand Officers take place of all past Grand Officers.—Nevertheless, any of them may waive their privilege, to do honor to any eminent brother and past Master, whom the Lodge may be willing to place in the Chair on any particular occasion.

IF neither of the present or past Grand Officers is present

at any Grand Lodge duly summoned, the Master of the Senior private Lodge who may be present is to take the Chair, although there may be Masters of Lodges present, who are older Masons.

BUT to prevent disputes, the Grand Master, when he finds he must be necessarily absent from any Grand Lodge, usually gives a special commission, under his hand and seal of office, countersigned by the Grand Secretary, to the senior Grand Warden, or in his absence to the junior, or in case of the absence of both, to any Grand Officer or particular Master of a Lodge, past or present, to supply his place, *pro hac vice*, if the Deputy Grand Master should not attend, or be necessarily absent.

BUT if there be no special commission appointing matters otherwise, the general rule of precedence is, that the Junior Grand Warden supplies the place of the Senior in his absence; and if both are absent the oldest former Grand Wardens take place immediately, and act as Grand Wardens, *pro tempore*, unless (as above said) they should waive their privilege.

WHEN neither the Grand Warden, of the present, nor of any former year, are in company, the Grand Master, or he that legally presides in his stead, calls forth whom he pleases to act as Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens *pro tempore*, although the preference is generally given to the Master or past Master of the oldest Lodge present. The presiding Grand Officer has the further privilege of appointing a Secretary or any other Grand Officer *pro tempore*, if neither the stated Officers, nor the Deputies of such of them as have a right to nominate a Deputy be present; for the business of the Lodge must never stand still for want of officers.

IN case of the death of a *Grand Master*, the same order of succession and precedency takes place, as is above set forth, till a new Grand Master is duly chosen and installed.

OLD Grand Officers may be again chosen officers of private Lodges, and this does not deprive them of any of the privileges to which, as old Grand Officers, they are entitled in the Grand Lodge; only an old Grand Officer, being the officer of a private Lodge, must depute a past officer of his particular

Lodge to act *pro tempore* for him in the Grand Lodge, when he ascends to his former rank in the same.

## SECTION IX.

*Of Grand Visitations, Communications, Annual Feasts, &c.*

THE Grand Master with his Deputy, the Grand Wardens and Grand Secretary, shall, during his Mastership, or if possible annually, go at least once round, and visit all the Lodges under his jurisdiction; or when this laudable duty becomes impracticable, from the extent of his jurisdiction and large number of Lodges, he shall as often as necessary, and if possible annually, appoint visitors, of different districts, composed of his Grand Officers and such other Assistants as he may think proper, who shall make faithful report of their proceedings to the Grand Lodge, according to the instructions given them.

WHEN both the Grand Masters are absent, the Senior or Junior Grand Warden may preside as Deputy in visiting Lodges, or in constituting any *new* Lodge; neither of which can be done without at least one of the present Grand Officers, except in places at too great a distance from the Grand Lodge. In such case, some faithful brother, who has passed the Chair, &c. shall have a proper deputation under the Grand Lodge seal, if the order is made in the absence of the Grand Master and his Deputy, or under their private seals, if they are present and sign the same. But it must also be countersigned and attested by the Grand Secretary, to have the full authority of the Grand Lodge. Under such authority, the brother so appointed shall act as Grand Master *pro tempore*, in visiting *old* Lodges or constituting *new* ones, in places far distant from the seat of the Grand Lodge, and in remote countries, or beyond seas, where the Grand Officers cannot possibly attend.

THE brethren of all the regular Lodges, in the same general jurisdiction and grand communication, if within any reasonable and practicable distance, shall meet in some convenient

place on ST. JOHN'S DAY, and when business is over, they may celebrate the festival either in their own or any other regular Lodge, as they shall think most convenient. And any brethren around the globe (who are found true and faithful members of the ancient craft) may be admitted as sojourners.

ONLY those who are members of the Grand Lodge must be within doors, during the election of Grand Officers.

#### SECTION X.

##### *Particular Rules in the Grand Lodge of New-York.*

EVERY Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make local ordinances and *new* regulations, as well as to amend and explain the *old* ones, for their own particular benefit and the good of Masonry in general; provided always, that the *ancient land marks* be carefully preserved, and that such regulations be first duly proposed in writing for the consideration of the members, and be at last duly enacted with the consent of the majority. This has never been disputed; for the members of every Grand Lodge are the true representatives of all the fraternity in communication, and are an absolute and independent body, with legislative authority, provided (as aforesaid) that the Grand Masonic Constitution be never violated, nor any of the *old land marks* removed. Upon these principles, the following particular rules have been made, or adopted, in the Grand Lodge of New-York, viz.

1. "THE Quarterly communication of all the Lodges under the Masonic Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be held in the Grand Lodge Room, at the city of New-York, on the four following days annually forever; that is to say, on the first Wednesdays in March, June, September, and December; and the different Lodges are to attend on these days, by their proper Officers or Deputies, with or without notice for that purpose."

2. "NONE but a Master Mason, who has passed the Chair

in some regular Lodge, and is a resident or honorary member of the Lodge he is chosen to represent, can be admitted as the proxy of such Lodge, or have a voice in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge. And his commission, as proxy, must be under the seal of the Lodge that appoints him, signed by the Master, and countersigned by the Secretary."

3. "EVERY member of this Grand Lodge shall pay quarterly into the Treasury of the same, *Fifty Cents*, and the same sum on default of attendance at any Quarterly Meeting; without such excuse as the bye-laws admit to be reasonable."

4. "EVERY member of a constituted Lodge, under this Grand Lodge, shall pay *Twelve and a half Cents* quarterly to the Charity fund of the same; except the members of the Lodges in the city of New-York, who shall pay quarterly *Twenty-five Cents*.

5. "EVERY person who obtains the benefit of Masonry in any regular Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall pay *One Dollar and Twenty-five Cents* to the Charity Fund of the same; except those who are initiated in any of the Lodges of the city of New-York, who shall pay *Two Dollars and Fifty Cents*; all which dues shall be made good by every particular Lodge to the Grand Lodge, at least once a year, at the Communication previous to St. John the Baptist's day: except in the city of New-York, in which such dues shall be paid quarterly.

6. "EVERY brother who shall be returned by his Lodge, and registered in the Grand Lodge-books, shall pay *Twelve and a Half Cents* to the Grand Secretary for the same.

7. "EVERY member of a Lodge, requiring a Grand Lodge Certificate, shall pay to the Grand Secretary *One Dollar and Fifty Cents*. Nor is any member entitled to such Grand Certificate without a previous Certificate from the Lodge of which he is a member, setting forth his regular behavior, and that he hath discharged all Lodge dues."

8. "ALL petitions for warrants, shall come recommended by the officers of the Lodge nearest to the place where the new one is to be erected." \*

\* Adopted 4th December, 5793.

9. "No Charter, or Dispensation for holding a Lodge of Masons, shall be granted to any person or persons whomsoever, residing out of this state, *if within* the jurisdiction of any *other* Grand Lodge." \*

## SECTION XI.

REGULATIONS *for the Government of the GRAND LODGE, during the time of public Business.*

1. No brethren shall be admitted into the Grand Lodge, but the members thereof, except by permission.

2. AT the third stroke of the Grand Master's gavel, there shall be a general silence; and he who breaks silence without leave from the Chair, shall be subject to a public reprimand.

3. UNDER the same penalty every brother shall keep his seat, and observe strict silence whenever the Grand Master or presiding officer shall think fit to rise from the Chair and call *to order*.

4. IN the Grand Lodge, every member shall keep in his seat (according to the number of his Lodge) and not move about from place to place during the Communication.

5. No brother is to speak more than once to the same affair, unless by permission.

6. EVERY one that speaks shall rise and keep standing, addressing himself in a proper manner to the Chair; nor shall any presume to interrupt him, under the aforesaid penalty; unless the Grand Master find him wandering from the point in hand, and shall think fit to reduce him to order; for then the said speaker shall sit down: But after he has been set right he may again proceed.

7. IF, in the Grand Lodge, any member is *twice* called to order at any one assembly for transgressing these rules, and is guilty of a third offence of the same nature, the Chair may peremptorily order him to quit the Lodge-room for that night.

\* Adopted 7th December, 5796.

8. WHOEVER shall be so rude as to ridicule any brother, or what another says or has said, he may be forthwith solemnly excluded the Communication, and declared incapable of ever being a member of any Grand Lodge for the future, till another time he publicly own his fault, and his grace be granted.

9. EVERY motion for a new regulation, or for the continuance or alteration of an old one, shall be first handed up in writing to the Chair; and after it has been perused by the Grand Master, may be moved publicly; it shall then be audibly read by the Secretary; and if seconded, must immediately be committed to the consideration of the whole assembly, that their sense may be fully heard; after which the question shall be put.

10. THE opinions or votes of the members are to be signified by holding up of hands; which uplifted hands the Grand Wardens are to count, unless the number be so unequal as to render the counting them unnecessary. Nor should any other kind of division ever be admitted among Free Masons.

IN order to preserve harmony, it is necessary to use counters and a balloting-box, when occasion requires.

“MY SON, FORGET NOT MY LAW, BUT LET THINE HEART KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS; AND REMOVE NOT THE ANCIENT LAND MARKS WHICH THY FATHERS HAVE SET.” *Solomon.*

## SECTION XII.

### *The Regulations of the COMMITTEE of CHARITY.*

1. THE Committee of Charity consists of all present and former Grand Officers, Secretary and Treasurer, with the Masters of all the regular Lodges: who are summoned and obliged to attend, to hear all petitions, &c. and to order such relief to distressed petitioners, as their cases may require, and prudence may direct.

2. ALL collections, contributions, and sums of money for charitable purposes, given or belonging to the Grand Lodge

Fund, are to be deposited in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, or such other person as the Grand Lodge may specially appoint; no part of which must be disbursed or expended on any account, without an order from the Committee of Charity, signed by the presiding officer, and countersigned by the Secretary, after being approved by the majority of the Committee, or Stewards, then present, and entered in their transaction-book, with the name or names of the person or persons to whom the same is given.

3. No anonymous letter, petition, or recommendation, by or from any person or persons, must be introduced or read in the Committee; and only registered Masons, who have themselves contributed twelve months to the Grand Lodge Charity Fund, and were members of a warranted Lodge during that time, are to be considered and relieved. Sojourners and travelling Masons, if duly certified and recommended, are to be relieved by private contributions made for them on the occasion, or out of the general fund, as the majority shall think proper.

4. ALL petitions or recommendations are to be signed by the Master and Wardens of the petitioner's Lodge; some of whom, if in town, must attend the Committee or Stewards' Lodge, to answer any necessary questions. The petitioner or petitioners, (if within any convenient distance, or unless detained by sickness, or other sufficient cause) must also attend, and prove to the satisfaction of the Committee or Stewards, that he or they have been formerly in reputable, or at least in tolerable circumstances. And although any brother may send in a petition or recommendation, yet none can be admitted to sit and hear the debates, except the Stewards, or members of the Committee, as above described.

5. It is the inherent right of the Committee, commonly called the STEWARDS' LODGE, to dispose of the Grand Charity Fund, under the restrictions aforesaid, to such as appear really necessitous and deserving, either by weekly support or otherwise, as to them shall seem meet; provided always, that no person made in a clandestine or unconstitutional manner, nor any brother who has ever assisted at any such

making, shall ever be entitled to receive any assistance out of the said fund.

6. THIS Committee has likewise power to hear and adjust all matters concerning Free Masons and Masonry, that may be laid before them, (except making *new* regulations, which power is vested only in the Grand Lodge;) and the determinations of the Committee are final, unless an appeal be made to the Quarterly Grand Lodge.

7. FOR the speedy relief of distressed petitioners, *three* of the Masters who are summoned, are a quorum to proceed to business, as prudence shall direct, with or without the Grand Officers; provided the Grand Secretary and the books are present. And all transactions of this Committee of Charity, or Stewards' Lodge, are to be read audibly, by the said Grand Secretary, before all the members of the Grand Lodge, upon the first Wednesdays in March, June, September, and December, yearly.

8. So far as this Committee shall exercise the power vested in them, to hear complaints and punish delinquents, according to the laws of the Craft, they are instructed to adhere most religiously to the following regulation, viz. "If a complaint be made against a brother, by another brother, and he be found guilty, he shall stand to the determination of this Committee, or the Grand Lodge. But if the accuser or complainant cannot support his charge, he shall incur such penalty as the said Committee shall deem just."

9. THE Stewards' Lodge shall meet quarterly, as follows, viz. On the last Wednesdays in February, May, August, and November, annually; at which times the dues of the Lodges in the City of New-York are to be paid, and in default thereof, each negligent Lodge shall be precluded from the benefits and privileges of the Grand Lodge, during such default or negligence.

"RESOLVED, It is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that a brotherly connection and correspondence with the Right Worshipful Grand Lodges in North-America, France, England, Scotland, Ireland, and the West-Indies, will be productive of honor and advantage to the craft."

“ORDERED, That the Grand Secretary shall transmit the names of the officers of this Grand Lodge to the Secretaries of the Grand Lodges aforesaid, yearly, or as often as any new choice is made; together with such information as may tend to the honor and interest of the ancient Craft: And that all such information, or correspondence shall be conveyed in the most respectful terms, such as may suit the honor and dignity of the Craft.”

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## CHAPTER IV.

### CHARGES, PRAYERS, &c.

#### *A short CHARGE to a new admitted MASON.*

BROTHER,

You are now admitted by the consent of this Lodge, a fellow of our most *ancient* and *honorable* Society—*ancient*, as having subsisted from time immemorial—and *honorable*, as tending in every particular to do honor to those who conform to its noble precepts. The greatest monarchs, and most exalted heroes and patriots, of all ages and countries throughout the known world, have been, encouragers of the Royal Art; and many of them have presided as GRAND MASTERS in their respective territories; not thinking it any lessening of their dignities to *level* themselves with their brethren in Masonry, and to act upon the same *square* as they did.

THE world's GREAT ARCHITECT is our *Supreme Master*; and the unerring rule he has given us, is that by which we work. Religious disputes are never suffered within the Lodge; for, as Masons, we only pursue the universal religion of nature. This is the centre which unites the most different principles in one sacred band, and brings together those who were the most distant from one another.

THERE are *three* general heads of duty which Masons ought always to inculcate, viz. to GOD, our NEIGHBOR and

OURSELVES,—to GOD, in never mentioning his name but with that reverential awe which a creature ought to bear to his Creator, and to look upon him always as the *summum bonum* which we came into the world to enjoy, and according to that view to regulate all our pursuits—to our *neighbor*, in acting upon the *square*, or doing as we would be done by—to *ourselves*, in avoiding all intemperance and excess, whereby we may be rendered incapable of following our work, or led into behavior unbecoming our laudable profession; and always keeping within due bounds, and free from all pollution.

IN THE STATE, a Mason is to behave as a peaceable and dutiful subject, conforming cheerfully to the government under which he lives.

HE is to pay a due deference to his superiors: and from his inferiors he is rather to receive honor with some reluctance, than to extort it. He is to be a man of benevolence and charity, not sitting down contented while his fellow creatures, but much more his brethren, are in want, when it is in his power, without prejudicing\* himself or his family, to relieve them.

IN THE LODGE, he is to behave with all due decorum, lest the beauty and harmony thereof should be disturbed or broken; he is to be obedient to the Master and presiding officers, and to apply himself closely to the business of Masonry, that he may the sooner become a proficient therein, both for his own credit, and for that of the Lodge.

HE is not to neglect his own necessary avocations for the sake of Masonry, nor to involve himself in quarrels with those who through ignorance may speak evil of or ridicule it.

HE is to be a lover of the arts and sciences, and is to take all opportunities to improve himself therein.

IF he recommends a friend to be made a Mason, he must vouch him to be such as he really believes will conform to the aforesaid duties, lest by his misconduct, at any time, the Lodge should pass under some evil imputation.

NOTHING can prove more shocking to all faithful Masons,

than to see any of their brethren profane or break through the sacred rules of their order; and such as can act thus they wish had never been admitted.

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*A PRAYER said at the opening of the Lodge, or making a new Brother, &c. used by Jewish Free Masons.*

O LORD, excellent art thou in thy truth, and there is nothing great in comparison to thee; for thine is the praise from all the works of thy hands, for evermore.

ENLIGHTEN US, we beseech thee, in the true knowledge of Masonry: By the sorrows of *Adam*, thy first made man: by the blood of *Abel*, the holy one; by the righteousness of *Seth*, in whom thou art well pleased; and by thy covenant with *Noah*, in whose architecture thou wast pleased to save the seed of thy beloved; number us not among those that know not thy statutes, nor the divine mysteries of thy secret Cabala.

BUT grant, we beseech thee, that the ruler of this Lodge may be endued with knowledge and wisdom, to instruct us and explain his secret mysteries, as our holy brother *Moses* \*

\* IN the preface to the Mishna, we find this tradition of the Jews explained as follows:

God not only delivered the law to Moses on Mount Sinai, but the explanation of it likewise: When Moses came down from the mount and entered into his tent, Aaron went to visit him, and Moses acquainted Aaron with the laws he had received from God, together with the explanation of them: After this, Aaron placed himself at the right hand of Moses, and Eleazar and Ithamar (the sons of Aaron) were admitted, to whom Moses repeated what he had just before told to Aaron: These being seated, the one on the right hand, the other on the left hand of Moses, the seventy elders of Israel, who compose the Sanhedrim, came in, and Moses again declared the same laws to them, with the interpretation of them, as he had done before to Aaron and his sons. Lastly, all who pleased of the common people were invited to enter, and Moses instructed them likewise in the same manner as the rest: So that Aaron heard four times what Moses had been taught by God upon Mount Sinai; Eleazar and Ithamar three times, the seventy elders twice, and the people once. Moses afterwards reduced the laws which he had received into writing, but not the explanations of them: these he thought it sufficient

did (in his Lodge) to *Aaron*, to *Eleazar* and *Ithamar*, (the sons of *Aaron*) and the several elders of *Israel*.

AND grant that we may understand, learn, and keep all the statutes and commands of the Lord, and this holy mystery, pure and undefiled unto our lives' end. Amen, Lord.

*A PRAYER used amongst the primitive Christian MASONS.*

THE might of the Father of Heaven, and the wisdom of his glorious Son, through the grace and goodness of the Holy Ghost, being three persons in one Godhead, be with us at our beginning, and give us grace so to govern us here in our living, that we may come to his bliss that never shall have end. Amen.

*Another PRAYER, and that which is most general at Making or Opening.*

MOST holy and glorious Lord God, thou great architect of heaven and earth, who art the giver of all good gifts and graces, and hath promised that when two or three are gathered together in thy name, thou wilt be in the midst of them: In thy name we assemble and meet together, most humbly beseeching thee to bless us in all our undertakings, that we may know and serve thee aright, that all our doings may tend to thy glory and the salvation of our souls.

AND we beseech thee, O Lord God, to bless this our present undertaking, and grant that this our new brother may dedicate his life to thy service, and be a true and faithful brother among us: Endue him with a competency of thy divine wisdom, that he may, with the secrets of Free Masonry, be able to unfold the mysteries of Godliness and Christianity. This we most humbly beg, in the name and for the sake of JESUS CHRIST, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

to trust to the memories of the above-mentioned persons, who, being perfectly instructed in them, delivered them to their children, and these again to theirs, from age to age.

## \* AHABATHOLAM.

*A PRAYER repeated in the Royal-Arch Lodge at Jerusalem.*

THOU hast loved us, O Lord our God, with eternal love; thou hast spared us with great and exceeding patience, our Father and our King, for thy Great NAME's sake, and for our fathers' sake, who trusted in thee, to whom thou didst teach the statutes of life, that they might do after the statutes of thy good pleasure with a perfect heart: So be thou merciful to us, O our Father! Merciful Father, that sheweth mercy, have mercy upon us, we beseech thee, and put understanding into our hearts, that we may understand, be wise, hear, learn, teach, keep, do, and perform all the words of the doctrine of thy law in love, and enlighten our eyes in thy commandments, and cause our hearts to cleave to thy law, and unite them in the love and fear of thy NAME; we will not be ashamed, nor confounded, nor stumble, for ever and ever.

BECAUSE we have trusted in thy HOLY, GREAT, MIGHTY, and TERRIBLE NAME, we will rejoice and be glad in thy salvation, and in thy mercies, O Lord our God; and the multitude of thy mercies shall not forsake us for ever: Selah. And now make haste and bring upon us a blessing, and peace from the four corners of the earth; for thou art a God that worketh salvation, and hast chosen us out of every people and language; and thou our King, hast caused us to cleave to thy GREAT NAME, in love to praise thee, and to be united to thee, and to love thy name: Blessed art thou, O Lord God, who hast chosen thy people Israel in love.

\* See Dr. Wooten on the Mishna.

## APPENDIX.

*Ceremony of Consecration.\**

ON the day and hour appointed, the Grand Master and his officers, or some respectable Past-Master and brethren properly authorized to represent them, having assembled at some convenient place, proceed in form to the Lodge-room.

SILENCE being proclaimed the Lodge is opened in the third degree by the Grand Master.

THE Grand Lodge form in order round the temple which is placed in the center, covered with white satin.

THE chaplain or orator rehearses a preparatory prayer.

SOLEMN music dignifies the ceremony while the preparations are made.

THE Temple is uncovered, and the first clause of the consecration prayer rehearsed. The response is made "Glory to God on high."

INCENSE is scattered over the temple, and the grand *honors are given*.

THE Grand invocation is then pronounced, with the honors: after which the consecration prayer is concluded, with the response and honors.

THE temple is covered; solemn music is resumed, and the blessing given, with the response and honors as before.

AN Anthem is then sung, toward the close of which the brethren of the Lodge, move in circular procession, do homage to the Grand Master, and the consecration ends.

*Manner of Constituting a Lodge.*

THE Grand Lodge, or their representatives, duly authorized for the occasion, having convened at some suitable apartment, walk in procession to the Lodge room. The Lodge is then opened in the third degree by the Grand Master, or his substitute, and an appropriate prayer repeated.

THE Dispensation, if the brethren have been acting under one, is read by the Grand Secretary, as is also the Warrant or Charter of constitution. The transactions of the New Lodge while under dispensation are then submitted, and, if approved, declared valid and constitutional.

AN oration or address on the nature and design of masonry is then delivered; at the conclusion of which, the Grand Master advances and constitutes the new Lodge in the following manner:

"IN this my exalted character, I invoke the name of the MOST HIGH, to whom be glory and honor, to be with you in all your labors; and by the divine aid I now constitute and form you, my worthy brethren, into a lodge of FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS. From henceforth I empower you to act as a regular LODGE, constituted in conformity to the rites of the order and charges of our ancient and honorable fraternity: and may God be with you."

\* *This ceremony is never to be used but when specially ordered.*

THE Grand honors are then given, and the ceremony of installation succeeds.

*Ceremony of Installation.\**

THE Grand Master asks his Deputy, "If he has examined the Master nominated in the warrant, and whether he finds him well skilled in the noble science and the Royal Art?" The Deputy answering in the affirmative, by the Grand Master's order he takes the candidate from among his fellows, and presents him in front of the chair, saying,

"Most worshipful Grand Master, I present my worthy brother A. B. to be installed Master of this new Lodge. I find him to be of good morals and sufficient skill; and I doubt not that he will discharge the duties of his station with fidelity and justice."

THE following charges are then read to the Master Elect.

"I. You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law.

"II. You agree to be a peaceable citizen, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which you reside.

"III. You promise not to be concerned in plots or conspiracies against government, but patiently to submit to the decisions of the constituted authorities.

"IV. You agree to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrate, to work diligently, live creditably, and act honorably by all men.

"V. You agree to hold in veneration the original rulers and patrons of the Order of Masonry, and their regular successors supreme and subordinate, according to their stations; and to submit to the awards and resolutions of your brethren in Grand Lodge convened, in every case consistent with the constitutions of the Order.

"VI. You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and to guard against intemperance and excess.

"VII. You agree to be cautious in your carriage and behavior, courteous to your brethren, and faithful to your Lodge.

"VIII. You promise to respect genuine brethren, and to discountenance all impostors, and deserters from the original plan of Masonry.

"IX. You agree to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to propagate the knowledge of true Masonry."

On the Master Elect signifying his assent to these Charges, the following regulations are read to him.

I. You promise to pay homage to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers, when duly installed; and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge, or General assembly of Masons, that is not subversive of the principles and groundwork of Masonry.

II. You admit that the power does not exist of making innovations in the body of Masonry, to the infringement of the ancient land-marks.

III. You promise a regular attendance on the committees and communi-

\* *The same ceremony and charges attend every succeeding installation: the present Master installing the Master Elect.*

cations of the Grand Lodge on receiving proper notice thereof, and to pay attention to all the duties of Masonry on convenient occasions.

IV. You admit that no new Lodge should be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge, and that no countenance ought to be given to such irregular Lodge, or to any person clandestinely initiated therein, being contrary to the ancient charges of the Order.

V. You admit that no person can be regularly made a Mason in, or admitted a member of, any Lodge, without previous notice and due inquiry into his character.

VI. You promise that no visitors shall be received into your Lodge without due examination, and producing the necessary vouchers.

THE Grand Master then addresses the Master Elect :

“Do you submit to these charges, and promise to support these regulations as Masters have done in all ages before you ?”

THE new Master having signified his cordial acquiescence, is bound to his trust by the obligation of the chair.

HE is then invested with the badge of his office, and regularly installed by the Grand Master who thus salutes him :

BROTHER A. B. in consequence of your cheerful conformity to the charges and regulations of the order, and in compliance with the wishes of your brethren, I install you Master of this Lodge, placing full confidence in your care and capacity.

THE Warrant is then delivered over to the new Master, and his station and duties explained; after which the holy writings, the square and compasses, the book of constitutions, the jewels and insignia of the different officers, are separately presented to him, and charges suitable to each delivered.

THE new Master is then conducted by the Deacons under a Grand salute to the left hand of the Grand Master, where he returns his becoming acknowledgments.

THIS ceremony being concluded, the Wardens and other officers being conducted in front of the chairs, are severally installed by the Grand Wardens\*, invested with the badges of their offices, and instructed in their respective duties. They take their station by the side of the Grand officers of similar rank.

The members of the new Lodge then sing the installation ode, during the close of which they move round in procession, saluting their new Master and officers in the three degrees, and conclude with the Grand honors.

THE ceremony of installation being concluded, the Grand Master gives the brethren joy of their officers in a short and suitable address.

THE Grand Secretary proclaims the new Lodge three times with the honors of Masonry.

THE Lodge being then called to refreshment, and a toast given by the Grand Master, and at his direction by the Grand Wardens, the chairs are resigned to the *New Officers*, the different Grand officers repairing to seats provided for them in the East.

\* *The new Master installs the Wardens and other officers at each subsequent installation.*

AFTER refreshing a reasonable time, the Lodge is called to labor, and the Grand Lodge takes leave, departing with the customary honors.

THIS is the usual ceremony observed at the constitution of a new Lodge, which the Grand officers may abridge or extend at pleasure, but the *material* points are on no account to be omitted.

## GRAND MASONIC PROCESSION.

### *Form of a Grand Masonic Procession.\**

KNIGHTS TEMPLARS

with martial music.

JUNIOR LODGE in following order:

TYLER

MASTERS OF CEREMONY

MEMBERS, two and two.

TREASURER and SECRETARY.

JUNIOR WARDEN. SENIOR WARDEN.

PAST MASTERS.

A MASTER MASON, bearing the WARRANT on a cushion,  
supported by *two Stewards*.

*Deacon*. MASTER. *Deacon*.

The different Lodges in the above order ;

the *Junior Lodges* preceding.

OFFICERS of the ROYAL ARCH,†

HIGHER ORDERS,

*according to their rank*.

BAND OF MUSIC.

GRAND LODGE.

*in the following order*.

GRAND TYLER.

VISITING MASTERS and PAST MASTERS.

who are neither present nor past Grand Officers.

GRAND TREASURER. GRAND SECRETARY.

PAST GRAND WARDENS.

JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.

CHAPLAINS.

*G. Deacon*. GRAND PURSUIVANT, bearing the BIBLE. *G. Deacon*.

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

GRAND DEACON. GRAND MASTER. GRAND DEACON.

Four GRAND STEWARDS abreast with DRAWN SWORDS.

\* A general Masonic procession is here given, agreeable to which others of different descriptions are to be regulated.

† Only the *Officers* of the Royal Arch walk in this station, when that body is numerous, the *members* being dispersed in their respective *Lodges*.

The procession having reached the church, the KNIGHTS TEMPLARS enter and halt. The *Tyler* of the *Junior* Lodge remains at the door: the whole line opens to the right and left. The GRAND LODGE proceeds through the avenue thus formed till it reaches the TEMPLARS, who being a *military* order, precede it as an advanced guard, and take their places in seats provided for them in the vicinity of the GRAND LODGE.

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A LODGE AT DEMERARA, W. I.

At the session of the Grand Lodge held on March 4, 1801, an application was made by Brother A. Cart and others, residents of the island of Demerara, in the West Indies, for the establishment of a Lodge in said island, and for the privilege of holding Masonic intercourse with other Lodges. They desired that their Warrant be issued under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and be titled "The Chosen Friends of Demerara." They named Brother A. Cart for Master, John Brookes for Senior Warden, and Henry Beekles Gall for Junior Warden, if their petition should be favorably considered. The Warrant was authorized.

A number of proxies were presented, read, and ordered to be recorded in favor of William M. Steward, for Morton Lodge, No. 63; of David Dunham, for Montgomery Lodge, No. 71; of Francis Lynch, for Salem Lodge, No. 74; and of Elisha Dubois, for St. Simon and St. Jude's, No. 12.

The charitable disposition of the moneys received from the St. John's Day celebration of 1799 was reported, and the action of the Committee therein approved.

THE ELECTION OF 1801, AND THE RETIREMENT OF GRAND MASTER LIVINGSTON.

The annual election of Grand Officers for 1801-2 transpired June 3; prior to which, however, the Grand Master,

Robert R. Livingston, was announced as having been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the French Republic, and was shortly to depart on his embassy; Colonel Jacob Morton was consequently elected Grand Master; Cadwallader D. Colden, Senior Grand Warden; Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Junior Grand Warden; Robert Cocks, Grand Treasurer; Daniel D. Tompkins, Grand Secretary; Reverend John Ireland, Grand Chaplain; George Adamson, Grand Pursuivant; and Benjamin Jones, Grand Tyler.

A Committee of three were appointed and instructed to wait on Grand Master Livingston with an address, expressing their grateful sense of the honor he had conferred on the Grand Lodge in filling the station of Grand Master so long and so faithfully; also to present the retiring Grand Master with the Past Grand Officer's Jewel, as a token of the respect and attachment of the Masonic Fraternity. (See report on December 2.)

On the evening of June 15, the presence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master was announced, who, having been received as became his station, delivered an affectionate address. Brother John Lawrence was deputed as proxy to install the newly elected Grand Master on June 25. This was done with much ceremony. The Grand Master elect and Brother John Lawrence were received at the entrance of the building by a body of Knights Templars, with full insignia. The entrance was in full form, with music and Grand Honors.

Right Worshipful Brother Lawrence having the Grand Master of Georgia on his right, and the Grand Master elect on his left, caused the Dispensation authorizing the installation to be read. This had been given under the hand and seal of the Honorable Robert R. Livingston, Chancellor of the State of New York, and Grand Master of Masons of said State.

The installation having proceeded, Brother Daniel D. Tompkins, the Grand Secretary, proclaimed thrice, that the Right Worshipful Jacob Morton had been duly elected and installed Grand Master of Masons of New York.

GRAND MASTER, JACOB MORTON.

The Grand Honors having been given, the Grand Master arose, and delivered this singularly beautiful address :

“ I have received, my brethren, with great sensibility, this proof of your affection and esteem. Known only but in the humble walks of private friendship, I feel that it is to those affections which friendship inspires, that I owe the distinction with which I am honored. Distinguished by no elevated station in society, my name could give no luster nor add any influence to your Institution. Mine alone on this occasion is the honor and mine the advantage. For this single proof of disinterested esteem, I have but to offer you the sincere acknowledgment of a grateful heart, and the assurance of a faithful and an affectionate discharge of the duties of my station. To you, respected brother, permit me to say, that it is with peculiar pleasure I have received the investment of this office from your hands. From your hand I first received that badge which distinguished me as a Mason, and from the same hand I receive the most honored badge the Fraternity can confer. A coincidence of favors, of itself highly interesting, but rendered much more so by the respect and esteem I have ever borne to the hand that has conferred them. Though your labors in the Masonic Fraternity have been lately intermitted, still you have been rendering services to the institution. The exercise of your talents in the paths of virtuous ambition and of public utility, while it crowned you with honors, at the same time reflected a luster upon the society of which you were a member. And when your country raised you to its most honored station, the Order participated with you in the dignity conferred. May, sir, no misfortune overshadow that life, whose morning hath been thus prosperous, but may the meridian and evening of your days continue to be adorned by the esteem of your fellow-citizens and the affection of your brethren.

As the representative of our much-respected Past Grand Master, permit me, sir, to assure you that I sensibly feel the

many favors he conferred upon me, and that I duly appreciate the kind and affectionate manner in which they were bestowed. His kind partiality raised me to the station I lately held, a station, though subordinate, was rendered so honorable by the worth and respectability of him who filled the chair, that no further ambition could be excited but that of meriting the distinction already conferred. But from his labors in the Fraternity, he hath been called by the voice of his country, a voice which can never be heard within these walls but with veneration and respect. To her call we yield him, and assure him, sir, that he carries with him our fondest, our sincerest wishes for his happiness and prosperity, that it is our earnest prayer, that an all-gracious Providence will make him its peculiar care, that it will bear him in safety over the waters of the mighty deep, that it will prosper his labors in the service of his country, and that it will return him crowned with honor, and with health and happiness to the bosom of his fellow-citizens, and to us, his affectionate brethren."

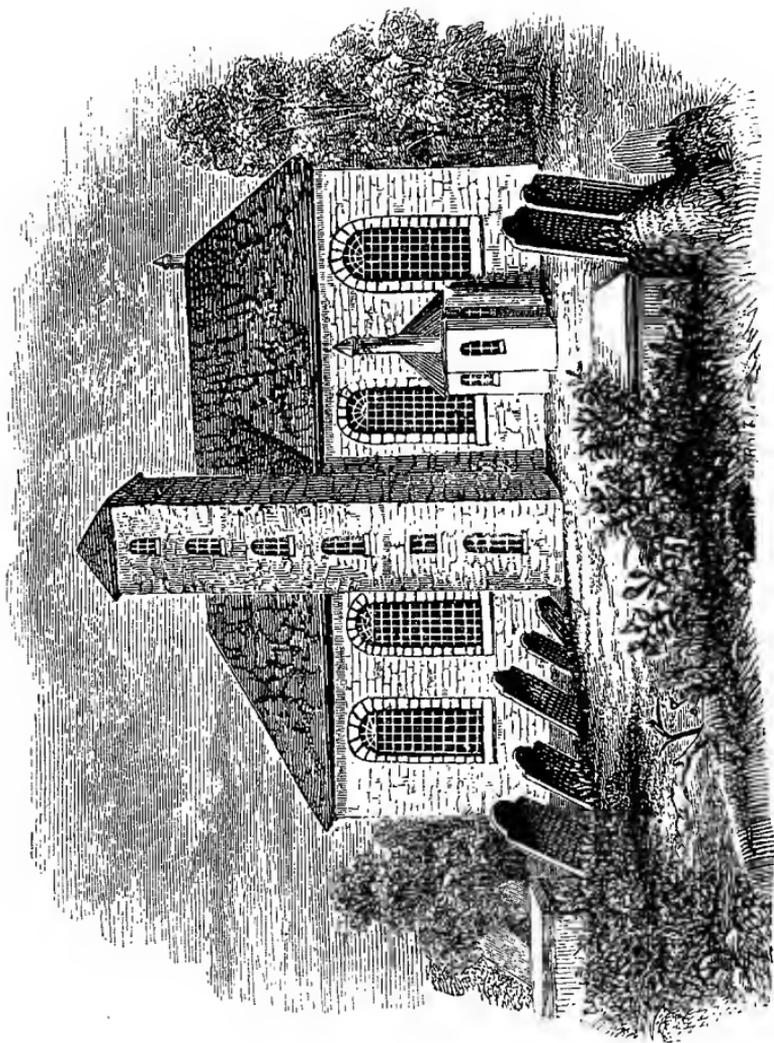
JACOB MORTON.

*Biographical Sketch.*

Brother Jacob Morton was one of the most popular and honored citizens of New York; of medium stature, pleasing aspect, gentlemanly carriage, and military bearing. Whatever he honored with his attention received his hearty and earnest endeavors for success. He was educated for the law and became a brilliant counselor. He was for years the Clerk of the Common Council of the city of New York, and at one time Inspector of the city's health. His inclinations led him toward a military life, and he rose in rank in the State Militia to be the Major General of the First Division, which position he held for thirty years, until his face became familiar to every citizen of New York.

It is narrated of his brother, Washington Morton, that, under a wager, he walked from New York City to Philadelphia, and, having bathed, spent the night in much jollity





FRENCH (HUGUENOT) CHURCH,  
PINE AND NASSAU STS., 1704.





with his *confrères*, who had accompanied him on horseback in the accomplishment of his task.

Major General Jacob Morton became Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge in 1788, and continued in that office until 1792, when he was elected Senior Grand Warden, and having served three successive terms, he was elected Deputy Grand Master; in which capacity he served for seven years, or until 1801, when he was exalted to the highest office, that of Grand Master, and thereto re-elected for five years.

In Chivalric Masonry he was quite enthusiastic, and Morton Encampment, No. 4, received its name in honor of him.

#### DEATH OF R. J. VANDENBROECK.

On Sunday, July 12, 1801, there were interred the mortal remains of one of the most noble exemplars of Masonry that the country had ever produced; earnest, ardent, sincere, the loved brother, Reinier Jan Vandebroeck, who held, however, but one office in the Grand Lodge, that of Secretary, to which he was elected in 1800. He was buried with Masonic honors in the burial ground of the French Church, the address being delivered by the Rev. Brother Ireland, Grand Chaplain.

Under a previously agreed stipulation, the salary of the Grand Secretary for one year, and now due, was directed to be paid to Jane Abrams, the widow of the former Grand Secretary.

The Grand Communication, held September 2, 1801, was sparsely attended.

New and suitable Masonic clothing for the officers of the Grand Lodge was ordered to be completed before the coming St. John's Festival.

#### GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY ORGANIZED.

A Communication from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, announcing the organization of that body in March, 1801,

was received, read, and ordered to be acknowledged by the Grand Secretary.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master Jacob Morton, announced, on December 2, that he had selected Brother Edward Livingston, Mayor of the city of New York, to fill the office of Deputy Grand Master, which was now vacant. Whereupon his installation was ordered for St. John's Day. Nevertheless the ceremony transpired on December 4.

The Committee appointed to address the Most Worshipful Robert R. Livingston, Past Grand Master, on behalf of the Grand Lodge, and to request his acceptance of a Past Grand Master's Jewel, reported that, an elegant and appropriate jewel having been prepared, they, on August 9 last, presented it in due form, accompanied with the following :

ADDRESS TO PAST GRAND MASTER LIVINGSTON.

“MOST WORSHIPFUL PAST GRAND MASTER :

Permit us, as a Committee of the Grand Lodge and on their behalf, to express their regret at being deprived of your superintending care, and their grateful sense of the respectability the Order has derived from your long and faithful services in the station of Grand Master, and while in their name we request your acceptance of an appropriate jewel as a mark of their respect and attachment, allow us to assure you of their warm wishes for your future prosperity.

Long in the habit of respecting your public character, and of regarding you with veneration and affection as the head of our Fraternity, we cannot but feel sincere regret in parting with one so long and deservedly valued. Our reluctance is only abated by the consideration that those talents which have reflected luster on the institution, will now be exerted to promote the welfare of your country on a more extensive scale ; yet be assured, however far your public duties may remove you from us, the grateful attachment of your Masonic brethren shall be your constant companion, and shall connect you to us by an indissoluble chain.

While you are journeying through distant regions or traversing the tumultuous billows of the deep, our fervent petition shall be to that Being who governs the various events of the world, that he may protect and guide you through all the dangerous passages of life, till in his own good time, He shall terminate your labors and conduct you laden with years and honors to that tranquil abode in which your fathers repose.

And when at His awful *fiat* the slumber of death shall be broken—when that eternal day shall dawn whose light will penetrate the dark recesses of the tomb to wake the spirits of departed worth—may you arise decorated with the jewels of every Masonic virtue, entitled to partake of the pure delights of the celestial Lodge, erected in the heavens for the reception of the just.”

To which the Most Worshipful, the Past Grand Master, delivered the following reply :

REPLY.

“ BRETHREN :

I receive with great sensibility this new mark of the attachment with which the Grand Lodge have, on so many occasions, honored me. I derive, however, no small consolation, when parting with them, from finding my place in the Lodge occupied by a brother who has, by a long series of services, been enabled at once to evince his attachment to the Fraternity and his ability to promote their interests.

I shall wear, brethren, with pride and pleasure the jewel with which the Fraternity have honored me, and consider it as a memorial of the pleasing connection that binds us to each other, when the duties I owe the public shall have separated me from them.

Receive my thanks, brethren, for your friendly and affectionate wishes, present to the Grand Lodge my ardent prayers for the present and future happiness of its members, and believe that I shall, in every situation of life, feel

myself deeply interested in their prosperity and that of the respectable and useful society over which they so worthily preside.

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

To MARTIN HOFFMAN,  
 ABRAHAM SKINNER, } Committee."  
 PETER IRVING.

The Festival of St. John was duly observed, the brethren marching from the Assembly room in the Tontine Hotel to the selected place of rendezvous.

1802.

On March 3, 1802, it was decreed that all Lodges were to be held responsible for the dues owing to the Grand Lodge by the members.

MASONIC HALL.

For an extended period, the Grand Lodge had been looking for a suitable Hall for its regular and special sessions. To this end a Committee had been appointed June 25, 1801, consisting of Brothers Cadwallader D. Colden, Daniel McCormick, and Robert Cocks. The Committee reported on December 2, its determination, but at the same time mentioned that certain propositions had been made by Brother Weeks on the subject, so recently, that the Committee had no time previous to this meeting to confer with each other on those propositions, and further time was accordingly granted. On May 14, 1802, the Committee "reported that, from estimates which have been presented and information obtained, they had formed an opinion, that lots might be purchased and a MASONIC HALL erected thereon, sufficiently large to accommodate the Grand Lodge and a number of private Lodges, for the sum of \$15,000; that the Committee have had doubts as to what would be the best means of raising the money required, and that there was some difference of opinion on this subject, whether it would be better to do it by creating a stock that may be productive to the proprietors, or to rely

upon the zeal of the Fraternity for the honor and prosperity of the Craft in presenting donations adequate to the purpose.

The Committee, therefore, determined to report to the Grand Lodge a scheme for raising the money.

*First*, That there be six hundred shares at twenty-five dollars each.

*Second*, That these shares be sold to Masons for notes payable to the Treasurer, or order, at six, nine, and twelve months, and that the sum of twenty shillings on each share be paid in advance, at the time of subscription.

*Third*, That each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be advised to appoint a Committee to sell the shares.

*Fourth*, That when a sufficient number of shares are sold, a site may be purchased and a contract be made for the building, the contractor to be bound to take the notes as pay.

*Fifth*, That the property be conveyed to trustees, who shall be bound to appropriate it to none other than Masonic uses, and who shall receive rent from the Grand Lodge, and such other private Lodges as may choose to be accommodated in it, which rent the trustees shall distribute as often as it shall be received, among the stockholders.

That it appeared to the Committee, that the brethren who may become owners of a stock of this sort, besides the satisfaction that must be derived from seeing the fathers of their institution accommodated with a place to assemble in, consistent with the respect that is due to them, find themselves possessed of a property, not less productive than any stock in the United States.

But if the Grand Lodge should be of the opinion that the money may be expected from donations, the Committee propose that subscriptions be opened in each Lodge. That each Lodge be advised to appoint a Committee to obtain subscriptions, and that notes as above mentioned be taken for the sums subscribed; provided the subscriptions exceed ten dollars."

Whereupon it was

“*Resolved*, That the first part of the report of said Committee be adopted, and that a Committee of seven be appointed to carry the object of the report into execution.”

The importance given the subject is evidenced by the rank of the Committee—the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Brother Colden, the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, the Worshipful Brothers Weeks, Irving, Dunham, and Torrence.

#### COUNTRY DISSATISFACTION WITH GRAND LODGE.

A circular letter from the Chairman of a *Joint Committee* of *Union, Master's, and Temple Lodges*, in the city of Albany, was communicated by Apollo Lodge, No. 49, and read in the words following :

“ALBANY, December 25, 1801.

BRETHREN :

Union, Master's, and Temple Lodges in this city, from a conviction that the holding of the Grand Lodge in the city of New York is inconvenient for Lodges here and in other remote parts of the State, have resolved that, in their opinion, it ought in the future to be held in the city of Albany, as a more central, convenient, and proper place, and they have, by concurrent resolutions, fixed on the fifteenth day of next February for the Lodges East and West and North, and so far South as it may be deemed expedient to meet by proxies or deputies in this city, to take the same into consideration, and determine on that important subject, or the establishment of a Grand Lodge in this place, in case such establishment should be deemed preferable and more expedient. By like concurrent resolutions of the Lodges here, we are appointed a Committee (composed of officers of those Lodges), to notify you of such intended meeting, and to request your Lodge, if you are disposed to co-operate in the business, to appoint one or more proxies with ample powers for the above purpose.

We presume it is unnecessary to detail the various reasons

which have induced the Lodges here to adopt this measure. Among many other reasons, which we presume will appear obvious to you, permit us to state the following :

1. That the present Grand Lodge may be composed of the Grand Master and Wardens of only five Lodges, of which three make a quorum or majority, which can make laws and regulations by which all the Lodges and brethren in the State are to be bound ; and,

2. That the privilege allowed to Lodges of appointing proxies is limited to a Master of a Lodge, or Past Master, residing in the city of New York. Brother Morton, as Secretary of the Grand Lodge, in his then circular letter says : 'The advantages which the absent Lodges will derive from their proxies must be very obvious, they will thereby be informed of every material proceeding, &c. If there is no particular person in this city whom you shall wish as your proxy, I shall have no objection for the present to serve your Lodge in that capacity.' In consequence of which, Brother Morton was appointed proxy to several Lodges ; but so far as it respects St. George's Lodge of Schenectady, and Union and Temple Lodges of Albany (of which he has been proxy), neither of them has experienced any advantage or information ; and,

3. Were the privilege of appointing proxies not limited, and confined to a Master or Past Master residing in New York, the attendance of proxies, although members of Lodges, at so remote a distance as New York, would be attended with great difficulty, delay, and expense.

4. The officers of the Lodge in New York, who generally compose the Grand Lodge, have steadily and uniformly engrossed all the offices of the Grand Lodge ; they all reside there, and totally deprive all the country Lodges of a participation in any part of their representation.

5. By the present Constitution of the Grand Lodge (Section 10, Rule 4), every Master of a country Lodge is to pay annually fifty cents to the Grand Lodge, and by the fifth rule, every candidate is to pay \$1.25 ; and for these dues the Lodges are made responsible, a thing unexampled in the

former Constitutions, by which the Lodges paid an annual sum to the Grand Lodge in lieu of all other dues and contributions.

6. It does not appear probable that the country Lodges are to expect a remedy so long as the Grand Lodge (which is generally composed of the brethren who reside in the city of New York) is held there, and while the liberty of the other Lodges having proxies is thus limited and confined; nor would the inconvenience, delay, and expense of attendance be removed, even were the country Lodges at liberty to appoint proxies, officers of their own Lodges.

7. That the city of Albany, being the present seat of Government and the most central and convenient place, the Grand Lodge ought to be held there.

If your Lodge shall be disposed to send a proxy or proxies for the contemplated purposes, you will be pleased to make out a proper deputation for the purpose, under the seal of your Lodge, signed by the Master and Secretary.

We would beg leave to recommend your calling a chapter or Extra Lodge, without delay, and permit us to recommend the following form for appointing a proxy :

At a meeting of.....Lodge, at....., on the.....day of January, 1802. *Resolved*, that Brothers .....be, and they are hereby appointed proxies, to represent this Lodge in a meeting of proxies from Union, Master's, and Temple Lodges in the city of Albany, and of such other Lodges as shall convene in said city, on the 15th day of February next, for the purpose of considering and determining on the holding of the Grand Lodge in future in said city, or the establishment of a Grand Lodge there; and further, to devise and adopt such measures as shall be deemed proper and expedient to advance and promote the honor and interest of the Craft.

And our said proxies are hereby fully empowered to do and act in our behalf in and concerning the premises as fully and effectually as if we ourselves were personally present.

In witness whereof, we have fixed the seal of our Lodge, and the Master and Secretary have subscribed their respective names to these presents.

We are, brethren,

With respect and esteem,

Your humble servants,

(Signed) P. W. YATES,

Chairman of the General Committee  
of Union, Master's, and Temple Lodges  
in the city of Albany.

To the Worshipful Master and Wardens, and Brethren of Apollo Lodge."

The Communication being read and taken under consideration, the Senior Warden (of Apollo Lodge) moved the following resolutions, which were duly seconded and unanimously passed, to wit :

"*Whereupon*, be it *Resolved*, as the sense of this Lodge, that inasmuch as the said Lodges in the city of Albany, as well as this and the other Lodges invited to join in such convention, have received their several charters under the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, or otherwise formally acknowledged its jurisdiction over them, the only legal and proper place in which the subject, above proposed, can be regularly called up or discussed by them, is in the body of the Grand Lodge, assembled in ample form, at a stated Grand Communication, wherein every Lodge under the same jurisdiction will, or ought to be, properly represented, and that any other convention of Lodges within such jurisdiction, or their representatives, not authorized by warrant or dispensation from the Grand Lodge for that purpose, who shall assume to themselves the right and power to discuss and determine the question where the Grand Lodge shall be holden, would be irregular and an infringement upon the rights, dignity, and privileges of the Grand Lodge, and a breach of excellent Constitutions and a violation of Masonic obligations. That the reasons assigned in the said

Communication for adopting the proposed measure appear to this Lodge to be dictated, in too great a degree, by partial and local considerations, and too strongly marked with want of candor and fraternal respect.

That this Lodge is not prepared to declare that five Lodges in the city of New York compose not so proper and respectable a quorum, for transacting the business of the Fraternity in the Grand Lodge, as would the like number of Lodges in the city of Albany and its vicinity; or, that the brethren in the city of New York would not experience as many and great inconveniences from the removal of the Grand Lodge to the city of Albany, as the brethren in the latter place now feel from its establishment in the city of New York; or that proxies more faithful to their charge might be found among the latter than are now found among the former; or that 'the officers of the Lodges in New York have steadily and uniformly engrossed all the offices and officers of the Grand Lodge,' since the long and honorable services of our late Most Worshipful Grand Master are not forgotten; or that 'they totally deprive all the country Lodges of a participation in any part of the representation,' since every country Lodge has a constitutional right to be represented in the Grand Lodge; and it has never been known to this Lodge that such right was ever disputed, or the representatives of any country Lodge denied a seat in that assembly.

That it does not sufficiently appear to this Lodge how the removal of the Grand Lodge to the city of Albany is to procure salutary alterations, in such constitutional regulations of the institution, as may, by some, have been considered inconvenient, impolite, or oppressive.

That, in the opinion of this Lodge, a strict adherence to the truth and candor in all mutual intercourse among Masons is an indispensable duty, and that every deviation therefrom ought to be marked with pointed disapprobation.

And be it further *Resolved*, That this Lodge does most heartily concur with the brethren of Union, Master's, and Temple Lodges, in the city of Albany, in a sincere and

ardent desire for a more frequent participation in the communication, privilege, and honors of the Grand Lodge, and will most cheerfully unite with them in any regular and constitutional measures which may be agreed upon to effect a removal of the Grand Lodge to the city of Albany, or for the establishment of a provincial Grand Lodge in that city, provided such a measure shall, after proper deliberation, be deemed expedient for the general good of the institution, and conducive to that harmony and good fellowship which ought always to subsist among Masons.

*Resolved*, further, That the Secretary forthwith transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Union, Master's, and Temple Lodges, and to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge.

By order of the Lodge,

JESSE BACON, Master,

NATH. ADAMS, Senior Warden,

MOSES DOTY, Junior Warden.

A true extract from the minutes.

JACOB HOUGHTON, Secretary.

The above Communication and resolution came before the Grand Lodge, under cover from Apollo Lodge, directed to the Grand Secretary, thus :

TROY, January 20, 1802.

*To the Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York:*

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BROTHER: I have the honor, through you, to transmit the enclosed resolutions of Apollo Lodge, No. 49, to the Grand Lodge.

And am, sir, respectfully,

Your most obedient servant and brother,

JACOB HOUGHTON,

Secretary Apollo Lodge, No. 49."

In Grand Lodge it was then moved, seconded, and un-animously

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary acknowledge the receipt of the said Communication, and inform the Master, Wardens, and brethren of Apollo Lodge, No. 49, that the Grand Lodge highly approve of the conduct of the said Lodge in relation to the said Communication (and of the proper sense the Grand Lodge entertain of their Masonic duty), and of the intelligent manner in which they represented to the Lodges in Albany the conduct which, as members of the Masonic Institution, it became them to pursue.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three members of this Grand Lodge, be appointed a Committee to draft and forward to the Lodges in the northern parts of the State, a circular address apprising them of the impropriety of the measures pursued by the Lodges at Albany, and requesting them not to accede thereto. And that they also inform Master's, Temple, and Union Lodges, in Albany, of the charges exhibited against them, and require them to appear before this Grand Lodge, at their next regular meeting, to answer concerning their said conduct.”

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Edward Livingston, the Right Worshipful Brother Hoffman, and Worshipful Brother Samuel Jones, Jr., were appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid.

In due course trouble was brewing in and among the Lodge members at Albany; they readily began to perceive that they were to cope with a power that would be strengthened by the good will and approval of almost all the State Lodges, and that their own adherents would be few. Dissension immediately appeared, and the brethren were arrayed on two sides of, to them, a momentous question—obedience and law, or severity of Grand Lodge in its judgment.

Union Lodge appeared to be the moving spirit, and, in view of the possible, it ordered the Secretary to enter its several Warrants *in extenso* on record in the minutes, only two days prior to the proposed convention of proxies, to wit, February 15, 1802. The destruction of portions of minute and record books is certainly strong circumstantial evi-

dence of the convention having been held. The December election quarrel showed two prominent divisions in the membership, the decided majority favoring the position of the Grand Lodge, and acknowledging their subordination to that authority; while the minority claimed they were still subject to the original Warrant, granted by the Provincial Grand Master, George Harrison, issued in 1765.

Thus two elections for officers were held, the one on December 20, and the other on the twenty-sixth of said month. The nature and results of this sectional quarrel will be found recited in Vol. I., pp. 164-174, recounting, also, the deeds of the two opponent Masters, Peter Fryer and Peter W. Yates.

On September 1, 1802, there was received by the Grand Lodge "a memorial of the Convention of sundry Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge held at Albany." Again, on December 1 succeeding, a Communication from sundry Masons assembled at Albany was read, and a Committee of five appointed to take the same into consideration, and to draft and report a suitable reply. This Committee consisted of the Grand Master and his Deputy, the Senior Grand Warden, and Brothers Martin Hoffman and Peter Irving. The report was presented at a Grand Lodge of Emergency, held on the fifteenth, and the resolution adopted:

"That the Grand Secretary transmit the sentiments and opinions of the Grand Lodge to the respective Lodges that formed the Convention, and that the Lodges in Albany be summoned to appear and answer to this Grand Lodge concerning their un-Masonic conduct in calling and holding the said convention without the knowledge or sanction of the Grand Lodge."

The Grand Lodge showed a brave front, but carried none of its insinuated threats into execution. There seemed to be an evident hope to override the difficulty without going to extreme measures. In 1804, Worshipful Peter Fryer was governing Union Lodge under the Warrant of the State

Grand Lodge, and memorialized the Grand Lodge in relation thereto; Worshipful Peter W. Yates at the same time was giving the impression to the members that the Lodge was subject to the Provincial Warrant. Little if any business or work was being done. In May, 1805, the Committee of Grand Lodge finally decided that the officers elected December 20 were duly and constitutionally elected. A compromise now, however, appeared to exhibit itself. The Grand Master had recommended harmony and submission to both parties; that, while old Union Lodge shall be recognized, an additional Warrant shall be issued for a new Lodge, under the care and direction of Worshipful Peter Fryer and his *confrères*. This being accepted, both factions laid down their disputes, reunited, and on June 13, 1805, an application was made by both parties for the destruction of all the papers specified in the agreement. Whereupon Grand Lodge

“*Ordered*, that the same be referred to the Grand Secretary, with power to destroy such of the papers as to him appeared proper.”

The other Lodges connected with or incident to the Convention of February 15, 1802, succumbed to the inevitable, upon witnessing the strife in Union Lodge. Master's Lodge, which had become No. 2, and was subsequently numbered 4 and then 5, utterly failed to stand out in contravention to the decrees and intimidation of the Grand Lodge, and Temple Lodge also readily surrendered.

The Festival of St. John the Evangelist was duly observed December 27, 1801.

The annual election occurred on June 2, 1802, and resulted in the re-election of all the Grand Officers.

It was deemed judicious to observe the Festival of St. John by a procession, a sermon, a collection, and a dinner, the moneys collected to be divided equally, between the Society for the Relief of Distressed Persons, and the Society for the Relief of Poor Widows with Small Children. Accordingly, on St.

John's Day, the Grand Officers and the brethren assembled at Adams' Hotel, in William Street, whence they proceeded through William, Wall, Broad, and Beaver streets to Trinity Church, where an eloquent sermon was delivered by Brother Washington Morton, of Howard Lodge, No. 9. The church services concluded, the Knights Templars, with drawn swords, escorted the Officers to Lovell's Hotel, where dinner was enjoyed: for two boxes of cigars furnished by Brother Little, twenty-eight dollars were paid.

Warrants were authorized, on September 1, for the establishment of the following Lodges:

Military Lodge, in the town of Manlius, Onondaga County.

Phcebus Lodge, in Norwich, Chenango County.

Friendship Lodge, in Stephentown, Rensselaer County.

Hiram Lodge, in town of Plattsburg, Clinton County.

Erin Lodge, to be held in the city of New York.

Adelphi Lodge, to be held in the city of New York.

#### MASONIC CERTIFICATE.

The Grand Lodge, at this Communication, approved of the form of a Masonic certificate presented by Brother M. B. Higgins, and recommended the same to the Lodges under its jurisdiction.

Farmers' Lodge, to be held at Easton, Washington County, and a Lodge to be held at Onondaga, in the county of that name, were warranted December 1.

1803.

#### A COMMUNICATION AS TO THE "HIGHER DEGREES."

On March 2, 1803, a Communication received from John Mitchell, of South Carolina, styling himself K. H., P. R. S., Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the thirty-third degree of Masonry, and Grand Commander in the United States of America, was presented and read, whereupon it was

“ *Resolved*, That the said Communication be referred to a Committee to examine the same, and to make such report thereon as they shall think proper, and that the said Committee consist of the Grand Officers.”

Neither the above Communication, *in extenso*, nor the report thereon, if any such was made, can be found in the minutes or among the files of records of the Grand Lodge.

On June 1, 1803, the election excited little interest, and all the officers of the Grand Lodge were re-elected.

Six Warrants for the establishment of Lodges were granted at this Communication, as follows :

Vernon Lodge, in Hillsdale, Columbia County.

Columbia Lodge, in Claverack, Columbia County.

Mount Moriah Lodge, in Palmyra and Phillips, Ontario County.

Revival Lodge, in Windham, Greene County.

Constellation Lodge, in Mayfield, Montgomery County.

Charity Lodge, in Worcester, Otsego County.

The petition for a Widow's Son's Lodge, in the city of New York, was denied.

#### DEDICATION OF ST. JOHN'S HALL.

A noted assemblage of all the Grand Officers was held on June 8, 1803, at St. John's Hall, for the purpose of consecrating the Lodge rooms. The Grand Lodge having been duly opened, the Grand Master, Jacob Morton, announced the object of the assembling, and having explained the nature of the ceremony, proceeded to consecrate the building according to the ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity. The Deputy Grand Master then delivered an address suited to the occasion, and the Grand Master closed the proceedings by congratulating the Lodges and brethren interested in completing the building.

St. John's Hall was erected in 1803 by Mr. Becannon, a member of Holland Lodge, No. 8. It stood in Frankfort Street, where French's Hotel was afterwards built, and at







ST. JOHN'S HALL,  
THE FIRST MASONIC HALL IN N. Y. CITY.



the rear of where now stands the *World* publication building. The hall was four stories in height. The ground-floor contained a reading-room, saloon, and living apartments; the second and third floors were arranged and fitted for Lodge purposes, but were plain and unfinished; the fourth floor contained the Chapter and Encampment rooms, which were highly ornate. Political meetings and festivals were likewise held on the second floor.

This was the first *building* in New York that was dedicated to Masonic purposes. It was placed in charge of Brother Henry Marsh.

1804.

MARTIN HOFFMAN, DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

Brother Edward Livingston having resigned the office of Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Master announced on January 26, 1804, his appointment of Brother Martin Hoffman to fill the vacancy. And a committee of five, consisting of Brothers Sanford, Dunham, Bleecker, Underdonk, and Daniel D. Tompkins, were appointed to prepare for the ceremonial of installation.

A Warrant was granted to a Lodge, to be held at Marlborough, Ulster County; and permission was granted to Horizontal Lodge, in Dutchess County, to remove from Frederick to the town of Carmel.

Warrants were also granted, March 7, to

Malta Lodge, in the town of Saratoga, Saratoga County.

Bethlehem Lodge, at Bethlehem, Albany County.

Albion Lodge, in the city of New York.

All the officers of the Grand Lodge were re-elected on June 6, 1804. And on the same date, a Warrant to establish a Lodge at Sag Harbor, in Suffolk County, was granted.

DISTRICT INSPECTORS. GRAND VISITORS.

On December 5, 1804, a resolution was presented to the Grand Lodge authorizing the Grand Master to appoint

Inspectors in the several districts of the State as he should think proper, whose duty it should be to visit the several Lodges in such respective districts, to promote uniformity in their mode of working, to collect their dues, etc. This was referred to a Special Committee consisting of the Grand Master and the Deputy, and the Worshipful Brothers George Clinton, Jr., James Woods, and John C. Ludlow, and they were directed to report on the subject at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Inasmuch as nothing had been done by December 4, 1805, a resolution was introduced discharging the above-mentioned Committee, and a new one was appointed consisting of the Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, and Grand Secretary, who were directed to report a law on the subject. This was complied with on the following February 19, read, amended, and passed, and ordered to be entered in a book to be provided for such purpose.

A Committee was further appointed to draft a circular address to the different Lodges, explaining and enforcing the principles and duties of Masonry, which should accompany the notification to them of the law, and the appointment of Grand Visitors under it. The Committee consisted of the Senior Grand Warden, Past Master Sanford, and the Grand Secretary.

A copy of the *Law* does not appear to be on file in the office of the Grand Secretary, but one of the chief objects sought to be obtained, was the more prompt payment of dues by the various Lodges.

On December 3, 1806, the Grand Lodge resolved that no Lodge in the city shall, after six months from this time, be entitled to vote in this Grand Lodge, in any case whatever, if such Lodge shall not, within six months immediately preceding, have paid its dues to the Grand Lodge; and that no Lodge out of said city, after eighteen months from this time, shall be entitled to vote in the Grand Lodge, in any case whatever, if such Lodge shall not, within eighteen months immediately preceding, have paid up its dues to the Grand Lodge.

Upon examining the records of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, August 31, 1808, it will be found that the Grand Visitor, Brother Edmonds, in the City District, stated that, after paying amounts expended, he had \$50.75, balance. The account was audited, and the balance directed to be paid to the Grand Treasurer. But the Grand Visitor Woods reported that he had collected no dues, and his expenses were \$63.68. His accounts were audited, and the Grand Treasurer directed to pay Brother Woods the amount of his expenses. By resolution, this coincidence was directed to be reported to the Grand Lodge. On September 7, the subject was reported upon to the Grand Lodge, which led to a detailed exhibit of the condition of seven Lodges. It was recommended that the dues of Hndson Lodge, No. 13, Friendship Lodge, No. 116, St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 92, and St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 48, be remitted, but authorized the Grand Visitor to compromise where the Lodges should offer to pay their dues in part. That the offer of compromise of Mark Lodge, No. 91, be accepted. That the Warrant of Washington Lodge, held in the town of Livingston, and that of Columbia Lodge, No. 101, should be surrendered, unless the dues were paid within six months.

Both of the Grand Visitors were voted by the Grand Lodge the thanks of that Body, for the great industry and ability with which they had discharged their respective duties.

The *Law* as to Grand Visitors became at times a subject of criticism, and on December 1, 1813, several Communications from different Lodges respecting the present plan of Grand Visitors, and recommending some alterations therein, were read and referred to the Grand Officers.

On the succeeding June 1, 1814, the Officers of the Grand Lodge, to whom had been referred several Communications respecting the present plan of Grand Visitors, and recommending some alterations thereon, reported

“That, from a variety of causes, the system of District Grand Visitors has not realized the expectations that had

been formed of it; that some of the Grand Visitors have declined acting, others have resigned, and few have attended to their duty.

That, in the opinion of the Grand Officers, the establishment of three Grand Visitations would conduce to greater uniformity of working, would facilitate the collection of dues, would promote a more intimate connection with the Lodges, and would essentially subserve the interests of Freemasonry.

That this plan would have been recommended at an earlier period, had they not been impressed with an opinion that its success must depend upon the selection of proper characters to superintend its execution. They, therefore, have been diligently employed in investigating the qualifications of suitable candidates, and now feel considerable confidence in recommending the following arrangement:

That the State be divided into three Grand Masonic districts for visitation.

1st. The first district to consist of the southern district of the State, except the city of New York and the counties of Putnam, Orange, Ulster, and Sullivan.

2d. The second district to consist of the residue of the middle and of the eastern district, except the counties of Clinton and Franklin.

3d. The third district to consist of the western district and the counties of Clinton and Franklin.

That the Worshipful Brother Thomas Lowndes, of the city of New York, be appointed Right Worshipful Grand Visitor of the first district; the Worshipful Brother Ebenezer Wadsworth, of Lebanon, in the county of Columbia, be appointed Right Worshipful Grand Visitor of the second district; and the Worshipful Brother Enos, of Eaton, in the county of Madison, be appointed Right Worshipful Grand Visitor of the third district.

That the rules heretofore adopted for Grand Visitors shall apply to the present arrangement, except that, in addition to their expenses, a suitable compensation shall be allowed to

the Grand Visitors, and that the Grand Officers be authorized to agree with the Grand Visitors upon the amount of their respective compensation.

(Signed) DE WITT CLINTON, Grand Master."

In behalf of himself and the other Grand Officers, the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary then offered the following resolutions, which were duly seconded and carried unanimously :

*Resolved*, That the foregoing report be accepted, and the plan therein recommended adopted ; and that the Warrants heretofore granted to Grand Visitors within this State be, and the same are, hereby revoked and declared to be of no further effect, and that the Grand Visitors heretofore appointed do severally surrender their Warrants to the Grand Visitor of the district within which they respectively reside, by whom the said Warrants shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

*Resolved*, Also, that the Grand Visitors appointed as aforesaid have, and they are hereby invested with, full power and authority to call upon the late Grand Visitors within their respective districts, and the representatives of such of them as may be deceased, for a settlement of the moneys received by them, and to come to such settlement with them, touching the same, as such Grand Visitors shall respectively think proper, and to receive whatever balance or balances may be due to the Grand Lodge, and proper receipts and acquittances therefor, to make and give.

*Resolved*, That the Grand Visitors appointed as aforesaid have, and they are hereby invested with, full power and authority to compound with the Lodges within their respective districts for all dues already due and payable to the Grand Lodge, or which shall become so on or before the festival of St. John the Baptist, next ensuing, provided satisfactory evidence shall be given to him that such Lodge or Lodges, with whom he is so authorized to compound, are unable to pay the whole amount of their dues, in which case

the Grand Visitors shall and may take such compromise and settlement as they in their discretion shall think fit.

*Resolved*, Further, that the said Grand Visitors be, and they are hereby expressly directed, to inform the Lodges under their respective visitations that this Grand Lodge does require an immediate settlement and payment of their dues to the festival aforesaid, and that they will vigorously enforce the punctual payment of their dues that shall accrue from and after that time.

*Resolved*, Further, that three hundred copies of the foregoing report and these resolutions, be printed and distributed by the Grand Secretary among the different Grand Visitors appointed as aforesaid, for the information of the Lodges under their respective visitations."

1805.

A petition, received March 6, 1805, from "Worshipful Brother General 'Rey' and others," praying for leave to form a new French Lodge by the name of Lodge La Sincérité, was presented by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and having been read, it was

"*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition be granted, and the several persons therein named be installed as the respective officers of that Lodge."

General "Rey" being in attendance, was introduced, and seated on the right of the Deputy Grand Master; subsequently he read a paper in the French language, which was referred for translation and reply. The reply was duly written and approved September 4.

Hiram Lodge, No. 27, was permitted to locate at the town of Washington, instead of the town of Armenia.

June 5, 1805, witnessed the re-election of the Grand Officers. Warrants were authorized to be issued to Benjamin Hasbrook and others, to establish a Lodge in Hopewell,

by that name, in the county of Dutchess; also to Samuel C. Kennedy and others, in the town of Adams, by the name of Rising Sun Lodge, in the county of Jefferson. A motion that the Grand Lodge walk in procession on next St. John's Day was made, but the debate was concluded and motion denied.

The subject of a place of meeting for the Grand Lodge, which had been referred to Brothers Fox, Fitzpatrick, and M. L. Davis on December 7, 1803, to inquire into the most eligible situation, was not reported upon within the year. On March 6, 1805, a committee for a similar purpose was appointed, which reported, June 5, that diligent search had been made for a room to accommodate the Grand Lodge, and they were of the opinion that it would be most advantageous to remain where they were.

Friendly Communications received from the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, New Jersey, Virginia, and Kentucky, were read before the Grand Lodge, June 13, and suitable answers were directed to be transmitted.

Tioga Lodge, No. 79, was authorized to hold its Communications at Binghamton, in lieu of Union, Chenango County.

#### NECESSARY GRAND LODGE PROPERTIES.

The Grand Treasurer was instructed to purchase a Bible, and also as many candlesticks and snuffers as he should think necessary for use of the Grand Lodge.

The Honorable Daniel D. Tompkins having resigned as Grand Secretary, the Grand Master was pleased to appoint Brother John Wells to that office. Fraternal Communications received from the Grand Lodges of England and Maryland, were attentively listened to by the Grand Lodge, September 4, and suitable replies ordered to be transmitted.

On the petition of Cyrus Strong and sundry other brethren, a Warrant was authorized to be issued to hold a Lodge at Jericho, Chenango County, by the name of Friendship Lodge.

1806.

## DISTRICT INSPECTORS.

The subject of the appointment, by the Grand Master, of Inspectors in districts of the State, to visit the several Lodges in such districts, to promote uniformity in their mode of working, to collect dues, etc., was before the Grand Lodge, December 5, 1804, and a Special Committee was appointed to consider and report upon the subject at the next session. Nothing, however, having been done in the matter, on December 4, 1805, the subject was placed in charge of a new committee, who reported, February 19, 1806, in favor of dividing the State into districts and the appointment of Inspectors therein. This action took further form in the appointment of a Committee to draft a circular address to the different Lodges, explaining and enforcing the principles and duties of Masonry, which should accompany the notification to them of the law and the appointment of Grand Visitors under it.

That the discipline of the Grand Lodge was to be maintained, and its transactions promptly attended to, is evidenced by the adoption of a motion that no person be admitted into the Grand Lodge after one hour from its opening.

Two friendly and courteous Communications were received, one on December 4, 1805, from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky; and the other, on February 19, 1806, from the Grand Lodge of England, dated June 5, 1805; they were duly received, and it was directed that they be suitably responded to by the Grand Secretary.

A Lodge, to be designated Hiram Lodge, was warranted, and located at Newburgh.

Warrants were authorized, March 5, 1806, for the establishment of the following Lodges:

“The Rising Sun Lodge,” at Springfield, Otsego County.

Mount Moriah Lodge, in the city of New York.

Coxsackie Lodge, in the town of Coxsackie, Greene

County, in place of another Warrant theretofore granted, returned.

Sherburne Lodge, at Sherburne, Chenango County.

Mount Vernon Lodge, to be the new name of Union Lodge, which had surrendered its Colonial Warrant.

The election, held June 4, 1806, resulted in a number of changes in the Grand Officer list, as will be seen by the following result:

The Honorable De Witt Clinton, Grand Master.

Brother James Woods, Senior Grand Warden.

“ Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Junior Grand Warden.

“ Robert Cocks, Grand Treasurer.

“ Rev. John Ireland, Grand Chaplain.

“ John R. Boos, Grand Pursuivant.

“ Joseph Jacobs, Grand Tyler.

A jewel, expressive of the high sense which the Grand Lodge entertained for the retiring Grand Master, Jacob Morton, was directed to be procured and presented.

#### SKETCH OF GRAND MASTER, DE WITT CLINTON.

De Witt Clinton, an American statesman of English origin, son of a major-general in the United States army, and descended on his mother's side from the Dutch family of De Witt, was born in 1769, at Little Britain, State of New York. Being educated at Columbia College in all the branches of the law, and having studied under Brother Judge Samuel Jones, he was admitted to the Bar, and became private secretary to his uncle, General George Clinton, till the end of his administration in 1785. In 1797 he was elected a member of the New York Legislature, in 1801, chosen a senator of the United States, and, beginning with the year 1803, he served several terms as mayor of New York City. He was Lieutenant-Governor of the State from 1811 to 1813; in 1816 Brother Clinton was Governor of the State, which office he held for some twelve years. His name will be forever identified with the Erie Canal, on which he was borne triumphantly from Buffalo to the city of Albany. Brother

Clinton was connected with most of the literary and scientific institutions of the United States and Great Britain, and from his pen we note several productions in the shape of speeches, governor's messages, addresses to the army, and communications regarding the Erie Canal.

Brother De Witt Clinton was a member of Holland Lodge, No. 8, and its Master in 1794; he was Junior Grand Warden in 1795,-96,-97, Senior Grand Warden in 1798, and his next official position in Grand Lodge was that of Grand Master, to which he was elected in 1806, and in which office he served for fourteen consecutive years, to and including 1819, when he was succeeded by Daniel D. Tompkins, Vice-President of the United States. There is no other man of New York State who has exerted so great an influence on her destiny, or whose name is more likely to be perpetuated in her history. He was the Pericles of his age, equal in intellect to the illustrious Athenian, but his superior in morals; and much more entitled to grateful remembrance, for his noble qualities were devoted more to the welfare of his country than to its adornment. Careless of personal wealth, he left little fortune but his fame, his entire estate being valued at \$5,000. Andrew Jackson, President of the United States, an eminent Mason, said of him at his death, that New York had lost one of her most useful sons and the nation one of its brightest ornaments.

The installation of the officers took place on June 19, with much ceremony. The Honorable De Witt Clinton was seated on the right of Brother Martin Hoffman, who had been delegated to perform the service by the retiring Grand Master. The Dispensation was read.

Right Worshipful Brother Hoffman then installed the Honorable De Witt Clinton, according to the ancient rites and ceremonies, which he concluded by a neat, perspicacious address to the Grand Master, explanatory of the Masonic duties imposed by the office.

By request, Brother Hoffman installed the remainder of the Grand Officers. The Grand Master announced his





*Radwallader Golden.*





appointment of Brother Martin Hoffman as the Deputy Grand Master, and Brother John Wells as the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master then arose and delivered an address to the Grand Lodge with acknowledged eloquence, replete with Masonic instruction.

The records of the Grand Lodge here seem to interject an apologetic explanation as to why Right Worshipful Brother Cadwallader D. Colden was not the officiating installing officer, inasmuch as he was the oldest officer of rank present when the Grand Lodge was first opened. The explanation by Deputy Grand Master Hoffman and the temporary presiding officer, Brother Glass, of Holland Lodge, No. 8, appears to have been "that it was owing altogether to a mistake that Brother Colden had not been called to the East, and that no disrespect was intended to Brother Colden by the omission." A resolution was also unanimously adopted, tendering the thanks of the Grand Lodge to Brother Cadwallader D. Colden for his services during five years as Senior Grand Warden, and for his uniform zeal and attention to the interests of the Fraternity.

Two Warrants were then granted, one to establish Trinity Lodge at Cherry Valley, Otsego County; and the other, Friendship Lodge, at Owego, Tioga County. The brethren confined within the city prison were granted a Dispensation to open and hold a Lodge within the said limits, for the celebration of the ensuing festival. A number of Lodges were warranted September 3; to wit:

Zion Lodge, No. 1, at Detroit, Mich., it having petitioned for a new Warrant, and having surrendered to this Grand Lodge the former Warrant held by it from the Grand Lodge of Quebec, the State boundary line having been changed.

Washington Lodge, at Stephentown, Westchester County.

Benevolent Lodge, in the city of New York.

Clinton Lodge, in the city of New York.

Granville Lodge, at the town of Granville, Washington County.

Aurora Lodge, at Sharon, Franklin County, State of Ohio.

Fraternal Communications were received from the Grand Lodges of North Carolina and Tennessee ; also one from the Grand Lodge of England, in relation to expulsions, which were ordered to be answered and filed.

Worshipful Brother John G. Tardy, proxy of Chosen Friends' Lodge, Demerara, paid fifty dollars on account of dues, but presented no returns.

Three Lodges were warranted December 3, 1806.

Northern Constellation Lodge, within the limits of the towns of Chateaugay, or Harrison, Clinton County, as the brethren may elect.

Orient Lodge, at Hamburg, Clinton County.

Clinton Lodge, at Plattsburg, Clinton County.

#### VOTES TO DEPEND UPON DUES PAID.

The Lodges being very lax in the payment of their dues, it was

“*Resolved*, That no Lodge in this city shall, after six months from this time, be entitled to vote in this Grand Lodge, in any case whatever, if such Lodge shall not, within six months immediately preceding, have paid its dues to this Grand Lodge ; and that no Lodge out of the said city, after eighteen months from this time, shall be entitled to vote in this Grand Lodge, in any case whatever, if such Lodge shall not, within eighteen months immediately preceding, have paid up its dues to this Grand Lodge.”

The observance of St. John's Day by a procession was discussed, and permission denied, on June 19, 1806.

1807.

#### PHYSICAL DEFICIENCY.

A Committee of seven prominent members of the Grand Lodge were appointed on March 4, 1807, to report whether it would be proper to make a Mason of a profane, who had

lost one eye. The report, on June 10 following, was "that the loss was such a defect as ought to preclude him from initiation into our mysteries;" and it was agreed to. Several petitions for Lodges were favorably acted upon; to wit:

Wood's Lodge, in the city of New York.

Harmony Lodge, in Champlain, Clinton County.

Warren Lodge, in Warren, Herkimer County.

Philanthropic Lodge, in Pompey, Onondaga County.

The election was duly held June 3, with the same result as in 1806, excepting Brother James Varian was elected Grand Tyler in place of Joseph Jacobs.

The following four brethren were appointed Grand Stewards:

Samuel L. Mitchell.

Gabriel Rey.

David Dunham.

John Caldwell.

The following four brethren were appointed Grand Deacons:

Adrian C. Van Slyck.

John Dishbrow.

James Friele.

John G. Tardy.

Subsequently, Warrants for numerous Lodges were authorized to be issued during 1807, among them:

Warren Lodge, for Pine Plains.

New Jerusalem Lodge, at Bloomingdale, in the Ninth Ward, city of New York.

St. Tammany Lodge, in the city of Hudson.

Farmers' Lodge, in Burlington, Otsego County.

On September 2, Lewis Kerr, of New Orleans, sought a Warrant for a Lodge, to be located at that city, by the name of Louisiana Lodge, and stated he had lost the petition with which he had been intrusted. The sought-for authority was granted, as was a Warrant to Northern Light Lodge, to be held at De Kalb, in St. Lawrence County; and also one to Jefferson Lodge, to be held at Martinsburgh, Lewis County.

#### THE OBSERVANCE OF ST. JOHN'S DAY DISAPPROVED.

An effort was made by sundry brethren, on June 10, to have an observance of the Festival of St. John, but the

Grand Lodge emphatically declined. This was the third successive time that permission to parade was denied by the Grand Lodge. It would appear that the observance of the festival had been abused by the brethren.

UNIFORMITY OF FEES. MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW YORK.

On September 2, a letter was received and read from Isaiah Thomas, Past Grand Master of Massachusetts, stating certain inconveniences which some of the Lodges under their jurisdiction experienced, from the initiation fee being less under the jurisdiction of New York, and praying the Grand Lodge to consider and adopt some measure to promote harmony and union as to this matter between the two Grand Lodges. The subject was placed under the charge of the Grand Officers.

What action or consideration was ever taken by them in relation to a conformity of initiation fee does not appear. A marked reticence as to communicating with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts seems to have pervaded the Grand Lodge of New York.

LE TEMPLE DE L'AMITIÉ LODGE.

Application for a Warrant to hold a Lodge in the city of New York, by the name of "Le Temple de l'Amitié," recommended by St. Andrew's Lodge, was made to the Grand Lodge by a number of brethren, on June 10, 1807, Grand Master De Witt Clinton in the chair, and upon being read, was rejected. On September 2, following, a petition from the same brethren was read, in which they renewed their application, and prayed for an opportunity of being heard before a Committee, to enable them to obviate such objections as had been or might be made to their application, and suggesting, moreover, that they had other matters to communicate of the greatest importance, which particularly interested the Grand Lodge, and which they wished, in the first instance, to lay before the same Committee.

The Grand Lodge

*Resolved*, That the said petition be referred to a Committee of seven, consisting of Brother Vanderbilt, Master of Trinity Lodge, No. 10; Past Master Glass, of Holland Lodge, No. 8; Past Master Mulligan, of Warren Lodge, No. 17; Past Master Myers, of Washington Lodge; Brother McNevin, Master of Erin Lodge; the Right Worshipful Robert Cocks, and Brother Rodman, Master, of Warren Lodge, No. 17, and that they report their opinion thereon to this Grand Lodge at their next regular meeting."

On the ensuing December 2, a Communication was made by the Worshipful Brother Vanderbilt, the Right Worshipful Brother Cocks, and the Worshipful Brother Myers, as to the application for a Warrant to hold a Lodge in the city of New York by the name of Le Temple de l'Amitié, and other matters submitted by the petitioners to the Committee, by which it appeared that the Committee would not be likely to agree upon a report.

Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the business referred to them, and that a new Committee be substituted in their stead, to consist of the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden (James Woods), the Worshipful Brothers Dunham, King, and Coffin; and that the said Committee have the like powers as the original Committee, with power, also, to call upon the Worshipful Brother Mulligan, and receive from him all books and papers in his possession relative to the matters which were under the consideration of the said Committee."

This Committee thus appointed, on March 3, 1808, made an adverse report, which was read and accepted; and thereupon, the Grand Lodge

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to furnish Brother Joseph Cerneau with a copy of their resolutions, which conclude the above report."

Subsequently, at this session, a Communication from the brethren who had applied for a Warrant for a Lodge to be called Le Temple de l'Amitié Lodge, was about to be read.

On motion duly made, it was

“*Resolved*, That the same should not be read, and that it should be returned to them by the Grand Secretary.”

The Committee then stated that they had been at an expense, at St. John's Hall, of £2 16s., which the Grand Treasurer was directed to pay.

Diligent search fails to reveal, so far as the archives of the Grand Lodge are concerned, why this subject was so summarily dealt with by the Grand Body ; but, from the names of the brethren interested in the establishment of Le Temple de l'Amitié Lodge, the difficulties evidently centered in the intention of those brethren to obtain consent to confer degrees that would be antagonistic to the exclusive powers of the Grand Lodge.

1808.

On the succeeding December 7, 1808, some of those interested in the desire to obtain a Warrant for Le Temple de l'Amitié Lodge communicated with the Grand Lodge ; but the records in this, as in so many other instances, are strangely missing. The written minutes of the Grand Lodge say :

COMMUNICATION AS TO THE “HIGHER DEGREES.”

“A Communication from an association styling itself a Sovereign Grand Council, in the sublime Masonic degree of P. R. S., announcing to this Grand Lodge, in very respectful terms, its establishment in this city on October 28 last, under patent regularly served from lawful authority, and disclaiming any power or authority inconsistent with the local supremacy of this Grand Lodge over Master Masons, was read and ordered to be filed.”

A Communication of a somewhat similar nature had been

presented to the Grand Lodge over five years prior thereto, emanating from Captain John Mitchell, of South Carolina, as to a previously existing organization, which had been referred to the Grand Officers for report, but as to which either no report had been made, or the papers are now missing. (See ante, p. 205.)

GENERAL GRAND LODGE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania addressed a Communication to the Grand Lodge of New York, which was received on December 2, 1807, Grand Master De Witt Clinton in the chair, relative to holding a convention for the purpose of organizing a Superintending Grand Lodge of the Union, in the city of Washington, D. C., and which was read and referred to the Brothers Senior Grand Warden and Grand Secretary, and Worshipful Brother Vanderbilt, of Trinity Lodge, No. 10. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania had favored action as early as January 13, 1780, for the formation of a General Grand Lodge for the United States, which, however, did not meet with favor from other Grand Lodges. That Provincial Body had now, however, become an independent Grand Lodge, September 25, 1786.

By reference to pp. 368-69, Vol. I., will be found a copy of a petition drawn up December 27, 1779, by American Union Lodge, at Morristown, addressed "To the Most Worshipful, the present Provincial Grand Masters in each of the respective United States of America," touching upon the same point,—the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. On the succeeding March 6, 1780, at Morristown, a committee reported to American Union Lodge that a large number of delegates, representing the Masons in the Military Line of many Lodges and States—Charles Graham, F. C., delegated to represent those of the State of New York—had assembled on February 7, 1780, elected a President and other officers, and prepared an address to the several Grand Masters of Grand Lodges, which will be found in full on pp. 372-74, Vol. I.

All the actions had tended to establish a Sovereign Grand Power in the United States, with the purpose of selecting General George Washington as the Grand Master General of Masons of America.

For further consideration of this subject in earlier years we refer to pages 374 to 385 of Vol. I.

The Officers of the Grand Lodge of New York in 1807-08, to whom the subject had been referred, appear not to have made a succinct report,\* and, in fact, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in 1790, had opposed the proposition of the Grand Lodge of Georgia to this general effect. It is scarcely necessary to repeat that the proposed convention to establish a Superintending Masonic Power did not meet in 1808, nor in 1811, to which it had been postponed; and that the efforts of 1812, 1822, 1845, 1847, and that of New York in 1848, and the convention to have been held in Boston, in 1850, when the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment were to have been convened, all amounted to formalities in preparing plans and General Grand Constitutions, which finally were shown to be anti-American, as well as anti-Masonic, in the opinion of the Brotherhood.

On March 2, 1808, a Warrant was authorized to be issued to Rising Sun Lodge, at Trenton, Oneida County, provided the Grand Officers assented. But, upon the application of a number of brethren to establish Harmony Lodge in New York, and of a number of other brethren to erect a Lodge by the name of Manhattan, it was

*“Ordered, That it is at present inexpedient for this Grand Lodge to grant any more Warrants for holding Lodges in the city of New York.”*

\* But the Committee, October 16, 1811, having the Communications from the Grand Lodges of North Carolina and Tennessee before them, reported that, inasmuch as the Grand Lodge in which the measure originated had not specified the advantage which it was calculated would result from the adoption of the plan, and none appearing to the Committee, they accordingly propose and recommend to decline appointing delegates to the said convention.

Warrants were granted on June 1, 1808, for  
Charity Lodge, at Spencertown, Columbia County.

Eagle Lodge, to meet alternately at Spencertown and the  
town of Ulysses.

Angelica Lodge, at Angelica, Allegany County.

Clinton Lodge, at Clinton, Dutchess County.

Warrants were also granted, September 7, 1808, for  
Zion Lodge, at Bloomfield, Ontario County.

Richfield Lodge, at Richfield, Otsego County.

Charity Lodge, at village of Cookhouse, Delaware County.

#### TAMMANY SOCIETY AND BRITISH PRISON-SHIPS.

The invitation that had been extended by the Tammany Society, requesting the Grand Lodge to join in the procession and ceremonials that were about to take place at the Wallabout Bay, Long Island, and which were incident to memorial services over those who had died on board of British prison-ships, was referred to a Committee consisting of Senior Grand Warden James Woods, Grand Treasurer Robert Cocks, and Worshipful Brothers Fox, Dunham, and King. But this Committee, on June 1, reported that inasmuch as, after diligent inquiry, they could find no evidence of any Masonic brethren having suffered and died on board of any of those vessels, they were of the opinion that it would be improper for the general society of Masons to "associate" upon the occasion referred to. This met the unanimous approval of the Grand Lodge.

On December 7, 1808, the Grand Treasurer reported his purchase of a set of Great Lights, as per instruction of Grand Lodge.

#### PERSONAL DISSENSIONS.

The records of the Grand Lodge show that in these early years, the time and patience of the Grand Body were frequently taxed to decide personal differences, and it was continually appealed to for settlement of disputes pertaining to immoral and financial matters.

Thus, a memorial from Brother James Mallory, of Hiram Lodge, No. 7, stating that certain differences had taken place between him and Brother Henry Waring, Past Master of the said Lodge, was presented to, and considered by, the Grand Lodge, the Committee making the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial and complaint of Brother James Mallory against Brother Henry Waring, made the following report :

That your Committee, having minutely investigated the controversy between Brother Mallory and Brother Waring—the charge was brought by Brother Mallory against Brother Waring, stating that Brother Waring had obtained of Brother Mallory the sum of fifty dollars or upwards in a fraudulent manner—your Committee are of the opinion, from all the testimony produced, that Brother Waring, as an honest man, but more particularly as a Mason, ought to refund the above sum to our Brother Mallory, as we are fully convinced that the sum was obtained for services never rendered ; we have sent two letters to Brother Waring during our sittings, hoping he would come to a sense of his duty without our troubling the Grand Lodge ; to the first we received no answer ; the second was answered December 5, 5808, saying he will not comply with our request. We, therefore, from his conduct, recommend to the Grand Lodge that he be suspended from the benefits of Masonry, until he makes full satisfaction to our injured Brother Mallory.

We are, with the utmost esteem,

Worshipful brethren, yours, etc.,

· ISRAEL NAVARRO, } Committee.  
ELAM WILLIAMS, }

The report being read, it was

“*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the report be postponed until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary give notice thereof to Brother Waring, to the end that he may then appear and answer to

the matters charged against him and reported upon as aforesaid."

Notwithstanding the Committee reported they were so fully convinced that "the sum of fifty dollars or upwards was obtained in a fraudulent manner," the subject remained in abeyance until one year thereafter, December 6, 1809, when, an addition having been made to the Committee of Brothers John G. Tardy, of L'Union Française Lodge, Gale, of St. Andrew's Lodge, and Myers, of Washington Lodge, they supplemented the former report as to a "state of facts, upon which they were of the opinion that Brother Henry Waring should refund to Brother Mallory the sum of twenty-five dollars, obtained from him under false pretenses, and that he be suspended from all Masonic Communication until the same be paid." This report was confirmed, and appears to have been the end of the difficulty.

An attempt was made to have ordered a Grand Masonic parade on St. John the Baptist's Day, in the coming June; but the Grand Lodge, on June 1, 1808, declined to recede from its established action of denying all permissions to parade.

#### SECRET WRITTEN RITUALS.

A Committee, consisting of the Grand Officers who had been appointed on March 3, 1808, to examine a certain memorandum in writing that had been made by Worshipful Brother Andariese, of Benevolent Lodge, for his own private use; to assist him in performing his Masonic duties, and which he considered wholly unintelligible by any one except himself, but for which he had, notwithstanding, been censured, reported through the Grand Treasurer, Robert Cocks, on December 7, that the book had been carefully examined; that, without an explanation from Brother Andariese as to its contents, it would have been utterly impossible for your Committee of their own knowledge to have ascertained the same, and that only by the key could the meaning of the writings in the book be understood; from all which it

appears, that these letters and abbreviations of sentences of a lecture upon the first degree of Masonry are perfectly innocent in themselves, intended only for the brother's private use, and, in the opinion of your Committee, consistent with the privileges and usages of the Order; they further recommend a return of the book to our Worshipful Brother.

Warrants were authorized to be issued to establish Temple Lodge, in the town of Guilderland, Albany County.

Sangor Lodge, in the town of Sangor, Oneida County.

#### THE SOUTH CAROLINA UNION.

A gratifying Communication was received from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, stating that the Grand Lodges of "*York Masons*" and of the "*Free and Accepted Masons*" had become united in one body, under the name and title of "The Grand Lodge of South Carolina."

#### SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN OF INDIGENT MASONS.

Worshipful Brother Vanderbilt, on December 7, 1808, presented a resolution to the following effect, which was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to devise and report to this Grand Lodge a plan for the education of children of poor Masons, and that such Committee consist of the Worshipful Brothers Vanderbilt, Mulligan, Dunham, Prince, Sketchley, and the Right Worshipful Brother Senior Grand Warden and Grand Treasurer."

1809.

The Committee reported as follows, on March 1, 1809 :

That they are of the opinion that a fund may be raised sufficient to defray the expense of an establishment for the education of fifty children. In order to ascertain the proba-

ble expense of tuition, including all articles necessary for that purpose, your Committee applied to the trustees of the free school, incorporated in the year 1805, who have agreed to educate in their seminary fifty children for three hundred dollars *per annum*, which is more than one-half less than would be required for their education in a separate school. The means for defraying this expense, and for providing a fund which shall eventually constitute a permanent provision for this object, may be raised by the following process :

*First.* An addition of one dollar to the present fees of initiation, to be collected in the Lodges in this city and paid with their other dues to the Grand Secretary.

*Second.* The addition of twenty-five cents to the quarterly dues of each member of the Lodge in this city, to be collected and paid in like manner.

*Third.* A subscription to be opened in each Lodge, and particularly recommended by the Chair to the brethren, for a gross or annual contribution, or both.

*Fourth.* A contribution on every festival of St. John the Baptist, to be collected after a sermon or oration, to be delivered on such anniversary.

From these sources and others, which the great importance and usefulness of the object and the benevolence of the Fraternity will not fail to open, funds will be derived which will enable the Grand Lodge to provide for the tuition and probably the clothing of the number above mentioned, and may enable them, in time, further to extend the benefits of the Institution.

Your Committee recommend that a committee be appointed to consist of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and — other members of the Grand Lodge, to frame particular regulations for the purpose of extending the benefits of education to the children of indigent Masons, with power to agree with the trustees of the above-mentioned free school for the tuition of such of the said children as may be selected.

JAMES WOODS,  
In behalf of the Committee.

The consideration of the subject was postponed until June 7, when it was referred to the Masters of the different Lodges in this city, with full powers to revise and alter the plan proposed, or offer any other in lieu thereof to this Grand Lodge, and that whenever they shall be ready to report, they inform the Grand Master thereof, that a special Grand Lodge may be called for the purpose of considering the said report, and determining thereon.

The several Lodges of the city were alive to so important a charitable subject, and the discussions in individual groups, Lodges, and assemblies were continuous and earnest.

On the following September 6, 1809, the Grand Lodge convened, Martin Hoffman, Deputy Grand Master, presiding; James Woods, Senior Grand Warden, Worshipful Brother Van Nostrand, Junior Grand Warden, p. t., Robert Cocks, Grand Treasurer, Elias Hicks, Assistant Secrètary, the representatives of twenty Lodges, and the proxies of eight Lodges.

The Committee composed of the Masters of the respective Lodges of the city of New York, to whom was referred the consideration of a plan for the education of children of poor Masons, reported :

That, having duly weighed the plan submitted to their consideration, they are unanimously of the opinion that, under existing circumstances, it is not practicable to carry it into effect. The reasons on which this opinion is founded they beg leave to state.

The *first* proposition was an addition of one dollar to initiation fee. Against this your Committee object, on the ground, first, that the initiation fee in most, if not all, the Lodges in the city of New York, is as high as it ought in justice to be, and higher than in any other benevolent institution. Second, because this fee is derived as frequently from sojourners as from inhabitants, and they hold it not to be acting on the square to make the former support an institution in the benefit of which they cannot participate.

The *second* proposition was "the addition of twenty-five

cents to the quarterly dues of each member." It is well ascertained, that, of the registered members of a Lodge, there is not on an average more than one-half who discharge their dues. By this failure, the Lodges are already embarrassed, and, but for the admission of new members, the Lodges would find a difficulty in defraying their natural and indispensable expenses. The individual Lodge is answerable for the amount of its return, and every year produces instances of quarterages to a considerable amount being paid to the Grand Lodge, which never were and never will be collected from the individual members. In this proposition, therefore, your Committee discern nothing but an increase of taxation, without any increase of fund; and, until a plan can be devised for compelling members to discharge their dues, the Lodges, they presume, will never consent to this positive multiplication of their disbursements.

The *third* proposition was "a subscription to be opened in each Lodge, and particularly recommended by the Chair." To this your Committee object, on the ground of its partial operation. Those members who are punctual in their attendance on the Lodge are most generally punctual in the discharge of their dues. It would be to these alone, then, that the recommendation would be addressed, and the burden of charity, instead of being borne by those who could best support it, or by the Fraternity at large, would rest on the shoulders of the partial few, who already fulfill this duty to the extent of their means.

On the last proposition, viz., "a public collection on the Festival of St. John the Baptist," your Committee will make but one remark. Public processions are always attended by weighty and extraordinary expense. This has long been urged by the Grand Lodge as an objection against gratifying the wishes of the Brotherhood to celebrate the day in a public manner. If the reasoning on this subject be just, your Committee do not see how its application to the present proposition is to be got rid of.

Having thus pointed out what appear to your Committee the objections to the plan submitted to them, they now pro-

ceed to consider what may be effected, provided the coercive measures they herein suggest shall be found worthy of adoption. In the first place, it is essential that measures be taken to compel a discharge of dues. To effect this your Committee propose the adoption of the following resolution :

“ All members of Lodges who are or shall be in arrears for one year’s dues, may be suspended by their respective Lodges from all Masonic communications, and upon report being duly made to this Grand Lodge, they shall be notified by the Grand Secretary, and enjoined to discharge or commute the same within twelve months from date of such notice, on pain of being excluded by a formal expulsion from all communications with or benefit from the Institution, which penalty, on failure and at the instance of the Lodge to which the delinquent belongs, shall be duly inflicted.”

From the adoption of this measure, or some other similar in its operation, your Committee anticipate the most beneficial results, and if their calculation be not extremely erroneous, the Lodges in the city of New York will speedily be placed in a situation to afford, without difficulty, the contributions in the plan which follows, viz. :

*Plan for the education of fifty poor children whose fathers are, or have been, members of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons.*

*First.* Each Lodge in the city of New York, of which there are at present twenty-two, to pay \$10 per annum, making \$220.

*Second.* The Grand Lodge to contribute, annually, \$80, making together \$300, the sum required.

The above sums to be paid regularly by the respective Lodges, in advance, on or before the quarterly communication next preceding the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. Each Lodge thus contributing to have the right of naming two children to receive the benefit of this charity, which privilege, if not exercised at or before the time prescribed for making the advance payment, to be considered as

relinquished and to rest in the Grand Lodge School Committee.

The Grand Lodge School Committee to fill the remaining six places, as also all vacancies that may occur from the individual Lodges declining or neglecting to recommend as aforesaid.

The general business to be conducted by a committee of three, to be chosen by or from the Grand Lodge, and to be denominated the Grand Lodge School Committee.

In this project, it will be observed, the Committee have confined themselves solely to the education of the children. To clothe them they consider at present impracticable; and as this, in the reference, was made a secondary consideration, they have preferred to lay it aside rather than risk the main object by its continuance. All which is respectfully submitted.

Done in Committee, August 30, 1809.

J. V. NOSTRAND, Chairman.

ELLAS HICKS, Secretary.

The report being read and discussed, it was, on motion,

*Resolved*, That the same be accepted; it was further

*Resolved*, That the appointment of the Grand Lodge School Committee, designated in the preceding plan, be vested in the presiding officers of the Grand Lodge; it was further

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary cause one hundred copies of the preceding report to be printed at the expense of the Grand Lodge, and that he furnish each Lodge in the city with four copies of the same.

The School Committee of the Grand Lodge made the following report on March 7, 1810:

The School Committee of the Grand Lodge, to whom were referred and assigned the particular duties designed in a resolution of the Grand Lodge, passed at their last meeting relative to the education of fifty poor and orphan children, beg leave to report:

That, agreeable to the appointment of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, they proceeded to the duties aforesaid, and that, on St. John's Day last (December 27), they delivered over to the Trustees of the New York Free School the said number of children.

That the individual Lodges have each furnished the number contemplated in the said resolution, except in one instance, which vacancy was particularly filled by your Committee, but for a short space of time only. Your Committee further report, that, from the declaration of the teacher of said school, from information obtained from the parents and guardians of the children, and from an actual knowledge by visiting the said school, they are confident that great justice is done them and that they are making rapid improvement. Your Committee beg leave, therefore, to recommend the sum of \$10 in clothing, to be furnished to each one of the said children who are under the particular care of the Grand Lodge; all of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN VANDERBILT, JR., }  
 MARTIN HOFFMAN, } School Committee.  
 DAVID DUNHAM, }

NEW YORK, March 7, A. L. 5810.

Which was read and approved.

The Grand Lodge School Committee reported progress, September 4, 1811, which was satisfactory to the Grand Lodge, and, on December 4 of same year, again communicated, informing the Grand Body that there were some vacancies, which they had given notice to the Lodges to fill, and that the children were making very satisfactory improvement in their learning.

On March 4, 1812, the School Committee made the following report, which was read and accepted, viz.:

The Free School Committee beg leave to report, that they have discharged the duties assigned to them in respect to the visitation and examination of the school, and with particular

pleasure announce to the Grand Lodge that the children are rapidly progressing in their education to the entire satisfaction of the Committee. They further beg leave to mention that much praise is due to Mr. Smith, the teacher, for the order, regularity, and system in conducting the school.

There are now forty-five scholars in school, and there are five vacancies from the following Lodges, to wit: Independent Royal Arch Lodge, two vacancies; Morton Lodge, one vacancy; Benevolent Lodge, one vacancy, and from the Grand Lodge, one vacancy.

All of which is submitted.

JOHN VANDERBILT, JR.,	} School Committee.
MARTIN HOFFMAN,	
DAVID DUNHAM,	

On the succeeding June 3, the Committee again drew the attention of the Grand Lodge to the fact that there were no scholars from several of the Lodges, and recommended to them to fill up their vacancies.

They further suggested to the consideration of the Grand Lodge the propriety of establishing a school on the Lancaster plan, to be under the entire management of this Grand Lodge; upon which it was

“*Resolved*, That it be referred to the same Committee to devise and report to this Grand Lodge, at their next regular meeting, a proper plan on this subject.”

At this time there were arrearages of dues to the Free School Fund, from the several Lodges of the city of New York, of \$380.

It having been determined in Grand Stewards' Lodge, on November 25, that the books of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary shall be examined quarterly, a Committee was appointed consisting of Brothers Elias Hicks, Andariese, and Witham, to adjust with the respective Lodges the Free School account, and demand a settlement of the arrearages due thereon. On the following May 24, 1813, Brother Hicks stated that considerable progress had been made in

adjusting the school account, so that in Grand Lodge, on March 3, the Committee reported that, of the sum of \$515.83 furnished them by the Grand Secretary as the amount of arrearages, they had collected \$435.83, and that \$20 additional should be credited Lodge No. 7.

On December 2, Brother Vanderbilt reported that the number of scholars of the different Lodges and of the Grand Lodge were entirely filled up, amounting, in the whole, to fifty, and recommending the different Lodges to provide the children they sent to the school with comfortable clothing.

It was then

“*Resolved*, That it be referred to the School Committee to take measures for raising money, by individual contribution, for the clothing of the Masonic charity scholars, and for that purpose, if they should think fit, to convene the different Lodges at the Free School on the ensuing anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, and that the Worshipful Brother Vanderbilt be and he is hereby desired, in that case, to deliver an oration on that occasion.”

A further report was made, June 1, 1814, which was read and filed, and was to the following purport :

“The Masonic Free School Committee, in conformity to the resolutions of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that the school now consists of forty-four scholars, and that there are six vacancies. The Committee flatter themselves that the school is in a state of prosperity, and worthy the most serious attention of the brethren in general. The exhibition on the second Monday in May, at the anniversary examination, would have done credit to any seminary. The correctness of the scholars in reading and in the lower branches of arithmetic, was observed with great satisfaction. Much praise is due to the teacher for his practical care and attention.

JNO. VANDERBILT, JR., }  
MARTIN HOFFMAN, } Committee.”

The next record appears in the minutes of proceedings of December 6, 1815, when

The School Committee made the following report, which was also accepted and ordered to be filed.

“In behalf of the School Committee the subscriber begs leave to report :

That the school consists of forty-six scholars ; of course, there are four vacancies. It is with pleasure the Committee can announce to the Grand Lodge that, although the number to fifty is not filled up, the trustees of the New York Free School have given liberal assurance, that if even the number of sixty could be applied for, they will receive them without any additional compensation. Your Committee further inform the Grand Lodge that the New York Free School is under a different organization now, for it has adopted Lancaster’s plan ; thus, by the aid of an assistant teacher, hired for the special purpose, from Europe, the plan improves much the progress of the education of the children. Your Committee would only suggest that, as the inclement season of the year is approaching, if every Lodge could spare the sum of \$16, for purchasing a pair of shoes, one pair of stockings, an overcoat, and hat for each scholar, it would not only add credit to the Fraternity, but give considerable relief to those distressed children.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. VANDERBILT, JR.,  
Secretary to the School Committee.

NEW YORK, December 6, A. L. 5815.”

The Worshipful Brother Vanderbilt then moved the following resolution, which was seconded and carried :

“*Resolved*, in conformity to the report of the School Committee, recommending that, if possible, each Lodge should raise the sum of \$16 for clothing two children, that the Secretary of the School Committee shall inform the Master of every Lodge of this recommendation, and if the amount can be raised, to be paid in the hands of the School Committee, and the sum appropriated by them as the children might stand in need of.”

March 6, 1816, gave the School Committee the opportunity of reporting that the number of Masonic scholars consisted of fifty-four; that nine Lodges had come in to the measure recommended of clothing their children, and that it was hoped that the other Lodges would follow their laudable example.

The School Charity continued until 1818, when, for the year ending May 27, the Grand Secretary reported receipts of arrears to the School Fund were \$356; that there had been paid to the Grand Treasurer, for subscription to the New York Free School, since abolished, for tuition of fifty children, \$300; that the total amount remaining due, June 4, 1819, was an arrearage of \$60.

Thus ended the educational effort of the Grand Lodge, which was accomplishing great good, but, finally, seems to have died of inanition.

#### FINANCES IN 1809.

The subject of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge had received attention from time to time, with evident desire to ascertain in what condition were the accounts; but the period that would elapse from the time of the appointment of the examiners to the period of examination, and from that again till report was made, caused the findings to be of little avail, as the receipts and expenditures in the interregnum would amount to considerable sums from dues and returns received, and grants for charity, loans, legitimate and essential expenses, and donations under conditional circumstances made by Grand Stewards' Lodge as well as by the Grand Body itself, all of which mystified the Grand Treasurer and complicated his accounts. Under the circumstances, committees would generally report that examination of the vouchers had proved the disbursements and receipts perfectly correct and satisfactory; and such was the report February 10, 1802, as to the accounts of the late Grand Treasurer, John Jacob Astor, who was succeeded, June 25, 1801, by Robert Cocks. And, again, the Committee ap-

pointed March 6, 1805, reported March 5, 1806, that such statement of the funds as they submitted "was imperfect on account of the absence of the Grand Master, General Jacob Morton, at Albany." The Committee were directed to perfect their report, and furthermore, in the mean time that they should "invest so much of the funds of the Grand Lodge as to them shall seem proper in such stock as they shall think will be most to the advantage of the Grand Lodge."

In the matter of Finances, great dependence was placed upon the quarterly reports of the Grand Secretary, whose statements covered the money transactions of the quarter.

We, however, begin to obtain an insight as to the Grand Lodge finances, Robert Cocks, Grand Treasurer, upon the report of a committee made March 1, 1809, and which was as follows :

The Committee appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and to whom was referred the settlement of the Right Worshipful, the Grand Treasurer's accounts, beg leave to report :

"Your Committee respectfully represent that they have carefully examined the books, vouchers, and disbursements of the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, from March 8, 1806, to February 20, 1809, during which period there has been received \$8,727.79, and has been for different purposes spent out \$8,330.40, leaving a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of \$397.39. That there is also due from the Jersey Bank three-quarter dividends amounting to \$210 ; these two sums together, \$607.39. Your Committee further beg leave to add, the present funds of the Grand Lodge consist of \$4,134.14, six per cent. deferred stock, nominally of forty full, and sixty half shares of the Jersey Bank stock, on which \$3,500 has been paid at par, and that the present stock is worth 110 to 112 per cent. On the sixty half shares there require \$1,500 more to be paid on May 1 next, for which, with due deference, your Committee has recom-

mended the appropriation of the present balance, together with whatever dividends may be due on May 1 next—the deficiency to be made good with the other collections.

Your Committee anticipate the days when, with a little economy, the interest from the stock of this Grand Lodge will be fully adequate for every proper and charitable purpose. They therefore look to the individual Lodges for a prompt and ready discharge of their several dues. Your Committee, without imputing the least charge of neglect or inattention to the present

#### COMMITTEE OF CHARITY,

or of those that have previously acted in that capacity, are fully persuaded that great impositions are daily practiced upon that mode of distributing the charitable fund. On looking over the books kept by the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, it will be found that there are several persons that have been for many years as regularly relieved as any of our Government pensioners, and look and ask for it as a matter of right, when, in truth, were their characters a little sifted, they would be found, in many instances, not entitled to our beneficence, and in several cases it will be found that certain individuals have received twenty, thirty, forty, and from that to fifty or one hundred dollars, in the space of a very short time.

Your Committee beg leave, therefore, to suggest for the consideration of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge the following plan: that the city should be divided into several districts, that suitable persons should be appointed in each, and that the acting Committee of Charity should not in any instance grant an order upon the Grand Treasurer, without first having a recommendation from two or more persons so appointed, and that the persons so appointed should be particularly requested not to recommend any applicant, without having first minutely inquired into the several circumstances. Your Committee, therefore, cannot close the present report, without urging particularly this or some other mode to be

adopted, that shall embrace the ideas here suggested. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN VANDERBILT, JR.,  
ROBERT FOX,  
DAVID DUNHAM, } Committee.

NEW YORK, February 21, A. L. 5809."

Whereupon, it was

*Resolved*, That the said report be accepted; and it was further

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five should be appointed to carry into effect that part of the foregoing report which recommended the dividing of the city into districts for the purpose therein mentioned, and that the said Committee have full power to divide the city into as many districts as they shall think fit, and to appoint suitable persons in each district to perform the duties in the said report prescribed; it was further

*Resolved*, That the said Committee consist of the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, James Woods, the Worshipful Brother, John Vanderbilt, Jr., the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, Robert Cocks, the Worshipful Brother Prince, and the Worshipful Brother, John O'Neil, and that said Committee make report of their proceedings in the premises to this Grand Lodge at next meeting.

On June 7, 1809, the Committee reported to divide the city, in accordance with the above resolution, into nine districts, corresponding with the different wards, except that the Seventh and Tenth wards should form one district. The Committee also nominated the district visitors. The subject was postponed until next session, and on September 6, following, was further "postponed *sine die*."

On December 5, 1810, the Committee to whom it was referred to adjust the difference between the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, and to invest in stock a portion of the surplus funds not exceeding \$1,000,

reported that the Grand Treasurer had, since their last report, credited the Grand Lodge with the sum debited to him by the Grand Secretary, and that the Grand Treasurer's account is now correct. They further reported, that they had purchased thirty-three shares in the Mechanics' Bank at twenty per cent. advance, which cost \$990; and that the same had been transferred on the books of the bank to the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

On June 5, 1811, the Committee of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, appointed to report to Grand Lodge a state of the funds, in conformity with the duty imposed by the sixth section of the act entitled "An act for the establishment of Grand Masonic Visitors, and for other purposes therein mentioned," stated the balance in Grand Treasurer's hands to be \$725.82; that the Grand Lodge holds forty shares of the late Jersey, now Union Bank, on sixty shares of which but one-half the original subscription had been paid; thirty-three shares in the Mechanics' Bank; and \$4,131.14 in six per cent. deferred debt of the United States.

A Committee was appointed with power to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of \$500, to fill up the sixty half shares held in the Union Bank, and to draw on the Treasurer afterwards, from time to time, to complete the filling up of the said shares, and to borrow money on account of the Grand Lodge for that purpose, if wanted.

The Committee appointed to take measures for filling up the number of shares held in the Union Bank, reported September 4, which report was adopted, and is as follows:

"That they have made such arrangements as seemed to them warrantable, under the existing state of the funds, and that in so doing they have negotiated a bill of the Grand Treasurer for \$1,000, which, when paid, will leave the Grand Lodge his debtor in the sum of \$360.71, as appears by his account to the 28th ultimo. The Committee have found themselves somewhat embarrassed in this business by not having an unrestrained control of the stock as well as of the funds; and being of the opinion that the interests of the

Grand Lodge generally, and the furthering of this object in particular, will be materially advanced by placing in the hands of a Committee a full and discretionary power over all its property, propose for the consideration of the Grand Lodge the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That Elias Hicks, David Dunham, and John Mulligan be a Committee for managing the fiscal concerns of this Grand Lodge ; that the persons in whose names the stock held by the Grand Lodge at present stands shall, on or before the sixteenth day of September, instant, transfer the same to the said Committee, and that the Grand Secretary be hereby directed henceforth and until otherwise directed, to pay all moneys that may be received by him, on account of this Grand Lodge, into the hands of the said Committee.

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be invested with discretionary and unlimited power over the said stock and funds, having first satisfied the Grand Treasurer for all moneys which he may have advanced on account of this Grand Lodge, and taking special care to keep him at all times supplied with so much money, as may be necessary to meet the drafts of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and its Committee of Charity.

E. HICKS.

Master of Holland Lodge.

JOHN VANDERBILT, JR.,

Past Master of Trinity Lodge, No. 10.

DAVID DUNHAM,

Past Master of Washington Lodge.

NEW YORK, September 3, A. L. 5811."

December 4, 1811, the Committee on Fiscal Concerns made a report, which was read and accepted, and is as follows :

"That, in obedience to a resolution of the Grand Lodge, your Committee proceeded to receive the books, vouchers, and other documents of the late Grand Treasurer, Worshipful Brother Cocks, and that, on examination of the said Grand Treasurer's accounts, the sum of \$8,285 appeared to his

debit, which was settled by receiving his due-bill at sixty days.

Your Committee also received from the late Grand Treasurer a transfer of forty whole and sixty half shares of the Union Bank of the city of New York, which half shares have been paid up, except \$692.65, in a note of hand of one of your Committee, at sixty days after date; they also received a transfer of thirty-three shares of Mechanics' Bank stock, and \$4,113.14 of the deferred six per cent. stock of the United States.

Your Committee beg leave further to report, that since the resignation of Right Worshipful Brother Cocks they have received \$547.81, and expended drafts drawn on them for charitable purposes, etc., \$417, leaving a balance due from your Committee of \$130.81.

Your Committee, before closing this report, beg leave to suggest to the consideration of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge, the propriety of appointing a committee to examine and report thereon the amount due from each individual Lodge, as far as can be ascertained, and the date of their last payment, etc.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your obedient servants.

JOHN W. MULLIGAN,	}	Committee.
ELIAS HICKS,		
DAVID DUNHAM,		

NEW YORK, December 4, A. L. 5811."

It was then

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Fiscal Concerns, appointed on September 4 last, transfer the bank stock and United States stock, standing in the names of the said Committee, as stated in their report on December 4 last, to the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, they providing, on the credit of this Grand Lodge, for the payment of a note given by the Committee for \$700, as is stated in their said report; and it was further

*Resolved*, That so much of the report of the Committee for filling up the shares of this Grand Lodge in the Union Bank, made to the Grand Lodge and accepted by them on the said December 4 last, which directs the Grand Treasurer, thenceforth, until otherwise directed, to pay all moneys that he may receive on account of the Grand Lodge to the said Committee of Fiscal Concerns, and which invests them with full power over the stock and funds of the Grand Lodge, be and the same is hereby rescinded; and the Grand Secretary is hereby directed to make payments to the Grand Treasurer, as heretofore, of all moneys received by him for the Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, further, That the said Committee of Fiscal Concerns be requested to pay over the balance in their hands to the Grand Treasurer, and that the said Committee be and are hereby dissolved.

On June 3, 1812, the Grand Stewards' Lodge reported as to the finances :

A balance in the hands of the Treasurer of....	\$175.60
Dues and arrearages.....	885.63
	Making \$1,061.23
That the debts and dues amounted to....	1,225.00

That the stock belonging to the Grand Lodge was

In 6 p. c. deferred debt of the United States .....	\$4,131.14
100 shares in the Union Bank.....	5,000.00
33 shares in the Mechanics' Bank .....	825.00
	Total \$9,956.14

The Committee on the State of the Funds made a report, which was read and accepted, and ordered to be filed, and by which it appeared that

From May 26, 1813, to May 25, 1814, there had been paid to the Grand Treasurer by the Grand Secretary, the sum of.....	\$2,804.79
Which, together with a balance remaining in his hands, as per report of last year .....	39.40
	Makes a total of \$2,844.19

That during the same period there had been expended

For charitable donations .....	\$2,141.50
For support of the Free School.....	300.00
One half year's salary to the Grand Secretary.....	125.00
Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler's fees.....	43.25
Interest on accommodation note.....	25.70
Postage, etc.....	3.15
	<u>\$2,638.60</u>
Leaving a balance in the Grand Treasurer's hands of..	<u>\$205.50</u>

The property of the Grand Lodge does not appear to have received any augmentation since the report of last year, but still consists of

Six per cent. deferred debt of the United States.....	\$4,131.14
One hundred shares Union Bank stock.....	5,000.00
Thirty-three shares Mechanics' Bank stock.....	825.00
	<u>Total \$9,956.14</u>
Deduct from this sum an accommodation note, given for the balance due the Union Bank shares of.....	400.00
And the actual amount is	<u>\$9,556.14</u>

And so the credit of the Grand Lodge stood at the close of the year, 1816.

#### THE GRAND TREASURER, ROBERT COCKS.

On October 16, 1811, the Grand Treasurer, Robert Cocks, from his seat, handed to the Chair a resignation of his office on account of his advanced age, which was accepted. The Committee appointed at the last meeting to manage the fiscal concerns of the Grand Lodge, was directed also to adjust the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and to perform the duties of that office until a successor should be appointed.

A resolution of thanks was given to Brother Cocks for the long and faithful services rendered by him in the capacity of Grand Treasurer, and it was ordered that an appropriate jewel, not to exceed \$100 in cost, be procured and presented to him in token of the approbation and esteem of the brethren of the Grand Lodge.

On December 4, Brother Sampson Simson, Past Master of Clinton Lodge, No. 143, was elected Grand Treasurer, and as such was installed.

The Deputy Grand Master, Martin Hoffman, on June 3, 1812, presented to Brother Robert Cocks, Past Grand Treasurer, the jewel which had been prepared in pursuance of a resolution, and "clothed him with the same in due Masonic form."

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was convened November 13, 1812, in order to communicate the intelligence of the death of Right Worshipful Robert Cocks, late Grand Treasurer, who had served in that capacity for eleven years, and to consult as to the measures proper to be adopted to testify the respect entertained for his long and faithful services; it was

*Resolved*, That the remains be interred at the expense of this Grand Lodge and with Masonic honors.

At the session, June 1, 1814, the names of Sampson Simson, who had been Grand Treasurer for three years, and John W. Mulligan were put in nomination for Grand Treasurer, and Brother Mulligan was elected. The succeeding year, on June 7, the same Brothers were put in nomination for the office, and Brother Sampson Simson was elected. Simson held the office until September 6 following, when he resigned, and, on the thirteenth of the same month, Brother Cornelius Bogert, of Lodge No. 3, was elected and installed, Brother Mulligan, of Lodge No. 17, being in nomination, as also Brother L. Seymour, of Lodge No. 1.

We now return to March 1, 1809, when the Grand Lodge convened, the Grand Master, De Witt Clinton, absent, Martin Hoffman, the Deputy, "in the chair;" James Woods, Senior Grand Warden; the Master of Lodge No. 2, Brother Roome, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.; John Wells, Grand Secretary, and Robert Cocks, Grand Treasurer, the officers of sixteen Lodges, and proxies of six Lodges being present.

Subsequent to the transaction of considerable important

business pertaining to the Finances and the School, a Committee was appointed to consider and report whether

A PAST MASTER OF A LODGE,

not under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, but who is a member of a Lodge under its jurisdiction, is entitled to a seat and vote in this Grand Lodge as a member thereof.

The Committee reported, on the following June 7, that, in their opinion, no Past Master is entitled to vote in this Grand Lodge, unless he has passed the chair of some Lodge under its jurisdiction; which was unanimously confirmed.

On March 1, it was resolved that a committee be appointed to arrange with the Grand Secretary the

NUMBERS OF THE DIFFERENT LODGES

under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary reported thereon June 4, 1819.

A petition for charitable relief was presented in behalf of Peter Adolph Losman, representing himself as a Mason and a member of

KING SOLOMON'S LODGE OF PERFECTION,

held at Holmes' Hole, Martha's Vineyard, in the State of Massachusetts; but, it not appearing to the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge that he was entitled to their bounty, his petition was rejected.

Petitions for Warrants for eight Lodges were presented, and seven were referred to the Grand Officers:

Western Star Lodge, village of New Amsterdam, Niagara County.

Hamilton Lodge, town of Madrid, St. Lawrence County.

Cassia Lodge, town of Delhi, Delaware County.

Freedom Lodge, town of Unadilla, Otsego County.

Rising Sun Lodge, town of Oxford, Chenango County.

Harmony Lodge, town of Potsdam, St. Lawrence County.

Olive Branch Lodge, town of Massena, St. Lawrence County.

Yates Lodge, town of Schodack, Rensselaer County.

This last-named application, recommended by Mount Vernon Lodge of Albany, was immediately granted.

The election of June 7, 1809, resulted as follows :

Hon. De Witt Clinton, Grand Master.

Martin Hoffman, Deputy Grand Master.

James Woods, Senior Grand Warden.

Hon. Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Junior Grand Warden.

Robert Cocks, Grand Treasurer.

John Wells, Grand Secretary.

Joseph Jacobs, Grand Pursuivant.

James Varian, Grand Tyler.

The election of a Grand Chaplain was dispensed with. The petition for the institution of Philanthropic Lodge, at Camden, Oneida County, was favorably referred to the Grand Officers.

#### THE ANCIENTS AND MODERNS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

An important Communication from the Corresponding Committee of St. John's Lodge, No. 31, Ancient York Masons, of Charleston, S. C., stating that the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons and the Grand Lodge of Modern Masons of that State had formed a union, under the name of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and protesting against the recognition of such union, was read, and referred to the Grand Treasurer and Worshipful Brothers O'Neil, Tardy, and Williams.

A Communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Georgia, on September 6, relative to the South Carolina union of the *Moderns* and *Ancients*, disapproving of the same, and approving of the course pursued by St. John's Lodge, No. 31, as above referred to. This document was referred to the Committee having the subject in charge.

Immediately following the above, was read a Communication from the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of South Carolina, stating the re-establishment of that Grand Lodge, by those Lodges of Ancient York Masons who had refused to join in the union with the Modern Masons.

This Communication was referred to the Committee here-inbefore mentioned, and it enjoyed a diplomatic sleep.

It was in this year, 1809, that James Madison became President of the United States.

On the same date a Communication was received from the

#### GRAND LODGE OF OHIO,

giving information as to its organization, on January 4, 1808, and praying recognition and interchange of correspondence. A favorable reply was ordered through the Grand Secretary.

A Warrant was granted on September 6, 1809, to institute a Lodge in Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence County, by the name of St. Lawrence.

A Warrant was also authorized for the establishment of Rising Sun Lodge, Northumberland, Saratoga County.

#### A LEGAL STATE LOTTERY.

The Grand Lodge of Maryland announced, by Communication, the passage of an act of the Legislature of that State, authorizing the raising of \$12,500, by a *lottery*, for the purpose of building a

#### MASONIC HALL IN BALTIMORE CITY,

and inviting the Fraternity of New York to further the object by adventuring therein.

The Grand Lodge of New York resolved a reference to the Grand Treasurer, authorizing him, if he deemed it expedient, to purchase not less than five nor more than twenty tickets in the said lottery, for and on account of the Grand Lodge.

## GRAND LODGE CHARITY.

The donations of the Grand Lodge in the line of charity were continual and liberal, as to which we may recite the case of Miss Jones, an orphan, recommended by brethren of Washington County, who came to the city of New York to have an operation performed upon her eyes, for she was totally blind, and the Grand Lodge authorized one hundred dollars, as a donation, on November 29, 1809.

At the session, December 6, Warrants were authorized for three Lodges to be instituted, as follows :

Ark Lodge, at Windsor, in Broome County.

Meridian Sun Lodge, at New Lisbon, in Otsego County.

Tioga Lodge, at town of Catharine, then in Tioga County.

1810.

On March 7, 1810, the following Warrants were authorized :

Painted Post Lodge, at Painted Post, Steuben County.

Vernon Lodge, at town of Snell, Ontario County.

Mexico Lodge, at town of Mexico, Oneida County.

Clinton Lodge, at town of Watervliet, Albany County.

Benevolent Lodge, at town of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence County.

Mount Hope Lodge, at town of Ticonderoga, Essex County.

The following regulation was made by resolution, affecting

## FUNERAL PROCESSIONS.

“That no Dispensation for a funeral procession shall be hereafter granted, unless upon the written application of the first three officers of the Lodge of which the deceased brother was a member, or a majority of them, and signed by them.” Favorable action was had on this subject March 5, 1817, *post*, which see.

The subject of

## WORK AND LECTURES

also became a matter of interest at this time, and a Committee of five was appointed to visit the different Lodges in the city, whose duty it shall be, "by their example and instruction, to produce a uniformity of work and lectures among the said Lodges, and for that purpose, some one of the Committee shall at every such visit take the Master's chair, and perform whatever work there is to be done."

This *first* Committee on Work consisted of Elias Hicks, the Master of Holland, No. 8; Past Master Lowndes, of Washington, No. 16; Past Master Vanderbilt, of Trinity, No. 10; Past Master Coffin, of Abram's, No. 15; and Past Master Prince, of Adelphi, No. 18. On December 8 following, the Committee asked to be discharged, as they evidently could not agree; which was granted. The whole subject was then referred to the Grand Officers, with power.

On June 7, 1810, the Grand Officers were re-elected, except in the case of the Senior Grand Warden, wherein Cadwallader D. Colden was elected in the place of James Woods.

Scipio Morning Star Lodge was warranted December 8, 1810.

## CHAPTER IV.

1811-1820.

1811.

THE Grand Officers were re-elected on June 5, 1811, and a Communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania requesting the company of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of New York, at the consecration of the

NEW HALL AT PHILADELPHIA,

on June 24.

The Grand Secretary was instructed to courteously acknowledge the invitation, and its acceptance by the Grand Officers.

## CERTIFICATES.

The Grand Secretary, on June 5, 1811, raised the question as to granting certificates to brethren who were made by Dispensations, as these brethren were not members of the Lodges in which they were made: he requested the consideration and instruction of the Grand Lodge thereon.

This matter was referred to Brothers Hicks, Navarro, and Miller.

While the subject was before the Committee, October 16, 1811, the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That every person, the Grand Officers and proxies excepted, claiming a seat in this Grand Lodge, shall, before he be allowed to take the same, produce to the Grand Secretary a certificate from the Lodge which he claims to represent, which certificate, sealed with the seal of such

Lodge, and signed by the Secretary thereof, shall be in the words following, to wit :

CERTIFICATE OF A MASTER OR WARDEN.

Be it known that our Brother ..... was, on the ..... day of ....., A. D. 181 , at a regular meeting of ..... Lodge, No. .., held at ..... Town, in the county of ....., and State of New York, duly elected ..... of said Lodge for the year ensuing .....

In testimony whereof, we, the members of said Lodge, have caused the seal thereof to be hereunto affixed, and our Secretary to sign the same.

CERTIFICATE OF A PAST MASTER.

Be it known that our worthy Brother ....., having, in the year 179 , been duly elected and filled the office of Master of ..... Lodge, No. .., held at ..... Town, in the county of ....., and State of New York, and being now a member of ..... Lodge, No. .., held at ..... Town, in the county of ....., and State aforesaid, is duly authorized to represent the said Lodge in the Grand Lodge in this State.

In testimony whereof, etc.

PHYSICAL DISQUALIFICATION.

Albion Lodge, No. 31, made a Communication to this Grand Lodge, that a candidate had been proposed in their Lodge for initiation, who had received a wound in his knee, which caused a stiffness in walking, and praying to be instructed whether he was duly qualified to be admitted a member of the Fraternity; whereupon the said Communication was referred to the Right Worshipful Brother Colden, Senior Grand Warden elect, the Worshipful Brothers Simson, Mulligan, Navarro, and Vanderbilt, to report to this Grand Lodge their opinion thereon, and also some general rule for deter-

mining the degree of blemish or defect which should be considered a disqualification for admission into our Brotherhood.

The above Communication of inquiry was presented June 7, 1810, but no report was made until October 16, 1811, and then to the following effect :

“That the defect referred to in this application was such as to disqualify the candidate for initiation.”

The report was rejected and the Committee discharged.

A resolution was then introduced, that the defect referred to by Albion Lodge was not such as to disqualify the candidate for initiation.

Olive Branch Lodge was warranted December 4, 1811, to be held at Litchfield, Herkimer County.

#### 1812.

The year 1812 was one in which the Sessions of the Grand Lodge were mainly devoted to much routine business pertaining to the prosperity of the Fraternity, and in adjusting many domestic matters.

A pleasant Communication, and further evidence of amity, was received from the Grand Lodge of England; copies of the Annual Reports of 1808-09-10-11 were received from the Grand Lodge of Vermont; and a Communication from the Grand Lodge of Ohio, accompanied by a Masonic oration, delivered at Zanesville on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, 1810, by the Most Worshipful Lewis Cass, Grand Master of Masons of that State, and a Communication from the Grand Lodge of Maryland. All of these were directed to be carefully preserved among similar publications.

Eastern Light Lodge was established at Greene, Chenango County; Rising Sun Lodge, at Trenton, Oneida County; Geneva Lodge, in Geneva, Cayuga County, on September 2, 1812. Gilboa Lodge was warranted December 2, and located at Blenheim, Schoharie County; Columbia Lodge, at New Paltz, Ulster County.

Many applications for Warrants, made by brethren in different localities of the State, were referred in usual form, to the Grand Officers for examination, to wit: Spring Lodge, for Herkimer County; Solomon's Lodge, for White Plains; Selected Friends' Lodge, for Camillus, Onondaga County; also for Lodges to be named Halcyon, Fidelity, Mount Moriah, Fredonia, Harmony, Clermont, and Western Star.

An Emergency Communication was held on November 13, 1812, in consequence of the

#### DEATH OF ROBERT COCKS, PAST GRAND TREASURER,

who had served for eleven years, from 1800 to 1811, and was known as "The Faithful Treasurer." By order of the Grand Lodge, the remains were interred at the expense of the Grand Lodge and with Masonic honors.

The political state of affairs throughout the entire country, at this period, caused great excitement, which, to a limited extent, distracted the attention of the people from all societies and fraternities. The culmination was

#### THE WAR WITH GREAT BRITAIN,

which opened in this year, 1812, and was a new trial of strength for army and navy. A few of the events should here pass in review. The first active operations were in the north-west, and brought into service the Indian allies of Great Britain. In August, a body of these allies fell upon Fort Dearborn, now Chicago, and forcing its surrender, killed or took prisoners most of its people. A successful attack was made in October from New York upon Queens-town, but the town was retaken by the British shortly after.

In the city of New York, not so far above its limits as can be found Marion, Lily, Gavel, and Harlem Lodges, is an historic spot made memorable in preceding years, especially on September 16, 1776, when Virginians, under Major Leitch, and Connecticut Rangers, under Colonel Knowlton—soldiers who had formed a body-guard for Washington—met and







WORKS AT MCGOWAN'S PASS, N. Y., 1812.



fought British infantry and Highlanders led by General Leslie. Along the hill-side and down the valley, from 110th to 125th street, and almost from river to river that form the bounds of the island, the ground has become memorable from this important struggle. Over the rising ground beyond what is now known as Morningside Park, came to the aid of the Colonists, Marylanders and New Englanders, encouraged by the presence of those prominent Masons, Generals Washington, Putnam, and Greene, who never exhibited their personal courage more brilliantly than in this battle. The grass on the hill-side was red that day, where so many brave men fell, among them Major Leitch and Colonel Knowlton. From behind the old Block House now in Central Park, the British retreated.

The ruder military works were improved in after years, and again became memorable in 1812; they were then known as McGowan's Pass. In the succeeding year, in the western part of the State, Fort Niagara was captured by the British and the city of Buffalo burned.

The battle of Niagara, in July, 1814, was a severe one in loss to both sides. The British General, Riall, and his staff were captured, and the British driven from the field with a loss of nine hundred men, the American army losing eight hundred. Active operations during the year extended over much of the territory of the northern part of the State of New York, which was defended by General Macomb and Commodore MacDonough, General Prevost being in command of the attacking party. In August, a fleet bearing four thousand soldiers entered Chesapeake Bay, against which the American fleet was too weak to contend. The troops landed, proceeded at once to Washington, defeated the militia, and burned the city. They then advanced upon Baltimore, but were met and checked by the militia, and they withdrew to their ships.

The final land contest was the battle fought below New Orleans, between General Andrew Jackson and Sir Edward Pakenham, the latter losing seven hundred men, and the former only eight killed and thirteen wounded.

A treaty of peace was ratified on February 18, 1815, and was known as that of Ghent, which had been arranged on the preceding December 24.

1813.

On March 3, the subjects of

DISPENSATIONS AND REJECTED MATERIAL

were reported and disposed of as herein appears :

The Committee to whom were referred the Communications from the Right Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of New Jersey and the Grand Secretary of Pennsylvania, relative to the initiation of Masons by virtue of dispensation, reported the following resolutions, viz. :

“*Resolved*, That no Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall initiate into the mysteries of the Craft, any person of this State or of the United States, or a foreigner, unless, before he be so initiated, he shall satisfy said Lodge by a test or otherwise, whether he hath at any time made application to a Lodge for admission and been rejected or otherwise refused admission into the same, and if it shall appear that the candidate has been rejected, then the candidate shall not be initiated, until the Lodge to which the candidate applies, is satisfactorily convinced that such rejection has not been on account of any circumstances that ought to preclude him from the benefits of Masonry.”

Which was adopted, and the Grand Secretary directed to communicate the same to the Grand Lodges in other States and the Lodges under this jurisdiction.

An effort was made, on March 5, 1817, to have the above resolution rescinded, but the same failed.

INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The subject of increasing or reducing the number of Grand Deacons or of Grand Stewards was introduced at the Ses-

sion of the Grand Lodge, March 3, 1813; also, as to the propriety of adding officers recognized by other Grand Lodges, and defining their duties, rank, and appointment. A reference was had to a Committee consisting of the Senior Grand Warden, the Assistant Grand Secretary, and Worshipful Brother Mulligan, of Lodge No. 17.

The Grand Stewards' Lodge, on May 26, received a report from the Committee on Charity, in which it is stated that of \$600 expended during the last six months, \$20 had been paid to three brethren who were seamen on board the

BRITISH BRIG PEACOCK,

brought to New York City among the prisoners of that vessel, under such needy circumstances, owing to the loss of their clothing and baggage, as to require relief.

A draft was ordered drawn on the Grand Treasurer for the balance of amount needed, \$48.

On September 1, 1813, a Lodge was warranted to be held at Pleasant Valley, town of Clinton, Dutchess County, to be called Valley Lodge.

On December 1, 1813, a Warrant was granted to hold a Lodge at Manheim, Montgomery County, to be called Washington Lodge. Also, one at Ward's Bridge, Orange County, to be called Lawrence Lodge.

MARQUIS DE MONTSERRAT.

On the same date a letter was received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, communicating a resolution of the Grand Lodge, as follows:

“*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to inform the Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, that there has lately appeared in this city a man, who professes to be a Mason of the highest degrees, whose immoral and dishonest practices render him unworthy of a seat in any Lodge. He calls himself Charles De Ceuta Maligne, Mar-

quis de Montserrat, is about fifty-four years of age, about six feet high, dresses in black, hair powdered and queued, of uncommon genteel appearance, and supports the air and manner of a well-bred, well-educated gentleman; in his speech, mild, soft, and persuasive, with the Spanish accent, he professes to have an acquaintance with many of the first characters in this country."

The Grand Secretary then informed this Grand Lodge that he had communicated the same to the Masters of Lodges in this city; which proceeding was approved, and the Grand Secretary directed to make a similar communication to the other Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The following authority was granted December 1, 1813:

The Warrant for a Lodge to be held in the town of Canisteo, Steuben County, to be known as Evening Star Lodge, was granted. Also, one to be held in the town of Monroe, Orange County, to be called Corner Stone Lodge.

Albion Lodge, No. 31, was authorized to change its name to Fraternal.

1814.

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND "HIGHER DEGREES."

A Communication, dated January 31, 1814, purporting to be made in the name and behalf of a body styling itself the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the 33d degree, holding its sitting in Charleston, S. C., and signed by E. De La Motta, John Mitchell, and Frederick Dalcho; and another Communication in reply thereto from a body styling itself the Most Potent Grand Consistory of the United States, etc., and holding its sittings in the city of New York, were respectively read in Grand Lodge on March 2, 1814, and on motion it was

"*Resolved*, That inasmuch as the said Communications relate to degrees of Masonry not known to, nor recognized by, this Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary be directed to

return the same to the bodies by whom they were respectively sent.”

The petition of the brethren, officers of the Second Division of the Northern Army, assembled at Plattsburg, dated December 23, 1813, praying for a *Marching Warrant*, to be called Northern Light Lodge, was read and referred to the Grand Officers.

The election of Grand Officers for 1814 took place on June 1, which resulted in the re-election of the Grand Officers, with the exception of the Grand Treasurer, to which office Brother John W. Mulligan was elected, Brother James Thorburn being elected Grand Tyler.

Brother John W. Mulligan was born in 1768; he became prominent by his activity in Masonry, and, finally, was looked upon as a venerable patriarch in the Fraternity. He was most energetic in committee work, and ever on the alert; he was elected Grand Treasurer in 1814 and served for one year, De Witt Clinton being the Grand Master; and again was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1820, and served in that capacity for one year under Grand Master Daniel D. Tompkins.

Brother Mulligan died on January 17, 1862, at the great age of ninety-four years. He appeared to retain his memory and faculties until his death, and took great interest and pleasure in relating his Masonic experiences and actions in older days.

#### IMPOSTORS IN OHIO.

A fraternal Communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Ohio, dated Chillicothe, January 28, 1814, stating that two persons, calling themselves Antoni Lognito and I. Knock, had solicited money on the false pretense of

#### RANSOMING EIGHT OF THEIR COUNTRYMEN

from Algerine captivity; that they were impostors, and a strict guard against them suggested.

## THE FRATERNITY AND THE FORTIFICATIONS.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, De Witt Clinton, on August 22, 1814, informed the officers and representatives duly convened in a Grand Lodge of Emergency, that they had been assembled for the purpose of giving the Fraternity an opportunity of evincing their patriotism in the present important crisis of public affairs.

Whereupon, on motion it was

*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge will perform one day's labor on the fortifications, at such time as shall be assigned by the Committee of Defense; that the respective Lodges in this city, and the Fraternity in general, be earnestly requested to co-operate in this laudable work, and that the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden, the Assistant Grand Secretary, the Grand Treasurer, Brothers Simson, Riker, and Nicholas Roome, be a committee to make the necessary arrangements for carrying the same into effect."

On the following 31st day of the month, a further resolution was adopted, with a preamble as follows:

*Whereas*, Sundry expenses have been and yet may be incurred by the Grand Lodge in carrying into effect the resolution passed at its last meeting, to contribute a day's labor at the fortifications at Brooklyn; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Assistant Grand Secretary be directed to audit the same and draw on the Grand Treasurer for the amount thereof."

## FORTIFICATIONS AT BROOKLYN.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was opened on September 1, 1814, by the Grand Master, De Witt Clinton, with the following officers and representatives present:

Martin Hoffman, Deputy Grand Master.

Cadwallader D. Colden, Senior Grand Warden.

S. L. Mitchell, Junior Grand Warden, pro tem.  
 Elias Hicks, Assistant Grand Secretary.  
 Sampson Simson, Grand Treasurer, pro tem.

And the following Lodges in full congregation, viz.:

St. John's Lodge, No. 1.  
 Independent Royal Arch, No. 2.  
 St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 3.  
 St. John's Lodge, No. 6.  
 Hiram Lodge, No. 7.  
 Holland Lodge, No. 8.  
 Trinity Lodge, No. 10.  
 Phenix Lodge, No. 11.  
 L'Union Française Lodge, No. 14.  
 Abram's Lodge, No. 15.  
 Washington Lodge, No. 16.  
 Adelphi Lodge, No. 18.  
 Erie Lodge, No. 19.  
 Fraternal Lodge, No. 31.  
 Morton Lodge, No. 50.  
 Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 132.  
 Benevolent Lodge, No. 142.

The Committee of Defense had assigned this first day of September for receiving the services of the Craft on the fortifications at Brooklyn, pursuant to a resolution passed on August 22. The Grand Lodge, having first opened its session in a room in the City Hall, proceeded thence with the brethren of the before-mentioned Lodges in grand procession to the fortifications, having been joined at Brooklyn by Fortitude Lodge, No. 84, and Newtown Union Lodge, No. 174, and having labored diligently through the day, returned in like order to the City Hall, when the Grand Lodge retired to a room in the building and duly closed its labors.

The following was the order and its fulfilment, and so recorded in the Order of Procession. Lodges Nos. 153, 143, and 17 are not noted in the minutes of Grand Lodge of September 1, 5814.

*“Ancient and Honorable Society, Free and Accepted Masons,  
Grand Lodge of the State of New York.”*

ORDER OF ARRANGEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 5814.

The several Lodges will assemble at sunrise on Thursday morning, September 1, at the Park, and form themselves according to the following arrangement, with the least possible delay. The first division, headed by Lodge No. 158, in front of the City Hall, with its right at the gate opposite Frankfort Street. The second division, headed by Lodge No. 15, on the west side of the Park, with its right at the Bridewell. The Grand Lodge will meet and form in the Hall, and take its place in the procession immediately upon the first division having passed it. Every brother will be clothed with an apron, and the officers with the jewels and emblems of their respective grades. All superfluous decorations, it is expected, will be dispensed with. When on board the steamboat, the brethren will preserve their places so as to prevent confusion on disembarking on the other side. On arriving at the ground, the body will unclthe and proceed to labor, the suspension from which will be ordered by a signal from the Grand Lodge. When the labor of the day is finished, the members will reclthe, form themselves in the like order, and, on returning to the city, proceed to the Park and be dismissed.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

New Jerusalem Lodge, No. 158.

Tyler.

Members four abreast.

Stewards.

Masters of Ceremonies.

Treasurer.

Secretary.

Junior Warden.

Senior Warden.

Past Masters.

Junior Deacon.

Master.

Senior Deacon.

Woods Lodge, No. 153.



offering to contribute another day's labor on the fortifications erected on Brooklyn Heights, and more especially as one of the forts had, in honor of the Craft, been called

FORT MASONIC,

towards the completion of which, it was understood, when the Grand Lodge was at labor on September 1, that they would contribute another day of work. Whereupon it was unanimously

“*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will perform another day's labor toward completing the fort called Fort Masonic, and on such other parts of the fortifications as may be assigned to them on such day as may be appointed by the Committee of Defense, and that the Lodges in this city and its vicinity, and the brethren generally, be particularly desired to unite their labors with this Grand Lodge, in the manner proposed.

*Resolved*, further, That a Committee, consisting of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden, the Grand Secretary, the Grand Treasurer, the Past Grand Treasurer, Simson, the Assistant Grand Secretary, and Worshipful Brothers Richard Riker and Nicholas Roome, be a Committee to tender the services of the Fraternity to the Committee of Defense, and to take such other measures as may be necessary to carry the same into effect, and to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for whatever expenses may be incurred in consequence thereof.”

Accordingly, a Grand Lodge of Emergency was convened, Grand Master De Witt Clinton and his officers present, on September 19, the day assigned by the Committee of Defense for the employment of the services of the Fraternity, and, as on September 1, the Grand Lodge was opened in the City Hall, and proceeded thence with the brethren of St. John's, No. 1; Independent Royal Arch, No. 2; St. Andrew's, No. 3; St. John's, No. 6; Hiram, No. 7; Trinity, No. 10; Phenix, No. 11; Morton, No. 50; Mount Moriah, No. 132; and

Benevolent, No. 142, in general procession to "Fort Masonic," at Brooklyn, and, having diligently labored on the fort through the day, returned in like procession to the City Hall, when the Grand Lodge retired to a room in the building, and duly closed.

The brethren returned to their homes in peace, and with great satisfaction.

The Grand Stewards' Lodge directed, on August 31, 1814, that a

NEW SET OF JEWELS, HANGINGS, AND APRONS,

suitable to the dignity of the Grand Lodge, be provided with all convenient dispatch, and the Assistant Grand Secretary was instructed to carry the resolve into execution.

A Warrant was authorized, on September 7, to be issued for Oriskany Lodge, town of Whitestown, Oneida County, if approved by the Grand Visitor Brother Enos.

At this session, the fees of the Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler were, respectively, increased to four dollars for each attendance on the Grand Lodge and the Grand Stewards' Lodge.

Morning Star Lodge was warranted at the Communication held December 14, 1814, and located in the city of Albany.

At the same Session, a Communication was received from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, containing information as to the union of

ANCIENT AND MODERN MASONS.

A reference was made of this document to the Grand Officers, to report thereon at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge; consequently, on March 1, 1815, the Grand Master, De Witt Clinton, reported, and likewise on the union of Ancient and Modern Free Masons in England, Ireland, and Scotland, by which events the Masonic Fraternity through-

out the world had been united into one happy family; stating that the Committee had carefully examined the matter, and that they found that the different sects of Freemasonry composed of Ancient and of Modern Free Masons, were united in Great Britain and also in South Carolina under the jurisdiction of one Grand Lodge in each of such countries.

“The terms of union appear to have been on the footing of perfect equality; but how the precise differences have been arranged and adjusted cannot be collected from printed communications.

In this State there is but one Grand Lodge; of course, no union is necessary. The only interest we can take in these events must refer to the benign influences which they have on the general prosperity of Freemasonry; but inasmuch as brethren, who have heretofore been considered Modern Masons, may visit our Lodges, it is proper that some general rule should be adopted in relation to them; therefore the following resolution is proposed:

*Resolved*, That all Free Masons who are acknowledged as such by any of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, Ireland, and South Carolina, shall be considered as legitimate Free Masons by the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.”

The report was received, the resolution adopted, and the Grand Secretary directed to communicate the fact to all Grand Lodges with whom this Grand Lodge is in correspondence.

1815.

The annual election, on June 7, resulted in the re-election of all the officers excepting Grand Treasurer John W. Mulligan, who was superseded by Sampson Simson. He resigned on September 7, and Cornelius Bogert was elected on September 13.

On September 6, 1815, Warrants were issued to establish

Jerusalem Temple Lodge, to be held at Cornwall, Orange County; and Morning Star Lodge, in the town of Bau, Albany County.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was convened on September 29, 1815, in consequence of the action had by Trinity Lodge, No. 10, in having published the expulsion of Brother John Wark.

EXPULSIONS MUST NOT BE PUBLISHED.

The Deputy Grand Master stated that this Grand Lodge had been convened on the application of five Masters of Lodges, for the purpose of hearing the complaint and remonstrance of Brother John Wark, against Trinity Lodge, No. 10, for publishing in a public newspaper his expulsion from that body; and, on the same being read, it was, on motion,

*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge highly disapproves of the conduct of Trinity Lodge, No. 10, in causing to be published, in one of the newspapers of this city, a notice of the expulsion from that body of John Wark.

*Resolved*, That no Lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, nor any member thereof, shall publish, or in any manner make public, except it be to the Fraternity or within the walls of a Lodge, the expulsion of any member.

*Resolved*, That the preceding resolution be communicated by the Grand Secretary to the several Lodges under this jurisdiction."

The petition for a Warrant in favor of establishing a Lodge in the town of Clinton, Dutchess County, was granted, December 6, 1815, providing the petitioners designate to the Grand Secretary the name to be given to the Lodge.

1816.

On March 6, 1816, Allusion Lodge was authorized to be established in the town of Ridgeway, Genesee County.

And, also, Mount Hope Lodge was authorized to work under a Warrant, in lieu of a Dispensation heretofore granted.

GRAND LODGE REPUDIATES FORFEITED BAIL.

Among the novelties of Masonic history will be found the application of Thomas Machin, of Charleston, county of Montgomery, stating that he had become bail for Brother Lemuel Clark, who had absconded, and praying the Grand Lodge to repay to him \$215, for loss by the forfeited bail.

Brother Machin was informed that it is not in the power of this Grand Lodge to afford relief in cases of such nature.

DISTILLED SPIRITS. DIVERSION OF CHARITY FUND. GRAND LODGE DUES. SURRENDER OF WARRANTS. LOAN OF MONEY.

At the same Session of the Grand Lodge, March 6, 1816, the following resolutions were moved and seconded, viz. :

1st. "*Resolved*, That the *use of distilled spirits in Lodge Rooms* at the meeting of Lodges, is of evil example, and may be productive of pernicious effects, and that the same ought, therefore, to be, and is hereby, expressly forbidden, under any pretense whatever.

2d. "*Resolved*, That the *contributions* which are due from the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to the *Charity Fund* thereof, ought not to be diverted from the benevolent purposes for which they are intended, and that no Lodge shall therefore be at liberty to divide its funds among its members, without first paying its dues to the Grand Lodge; nor to provide any banquet or other refreshments out of their funds, without first paying those dues which belong to, and ought to be appropriated to, the Charity Fund of this Grand Lodge.

3d. "*Resolved*, That it is the duty of the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to return annually to the Grand Lodge a true and correct list of all their members, together with their *Grand Lodge dues*, to the end that no regular Mason shall be exempt from contributing to

the Grand Charity Fund. That it shall also be their duty, whenever any member is suspended by them for the non-payment of his dues, forthwith to report the same to the Grand Visitor of their district and to the Grand Lodge; moreover, that it is highly improper for any Lodge, after the suspension of a brother, to permit him, until such suspension is regularly taken off, to meet with such Lodge, or otherwise exercise his Masonic privileges.

4th. *Resolved*, That all Lodges that have already forfeited, or shall hereafter forfeit, their *Warrants*, shall forthwith *surrender* the same to the Grand Visitor of the district within which such Lodges were respectively established, on his demand for that purpose duly made, together with all the books, furniture, jewels, ornaments, money, debts, demands, and other property, whether real or personal, belonging or due to any such Lodge, and shall cause proper deeds, or other instruments in writing, to be executed and delivered to the Grand Visitor, for the purpose of vesting the same in him for the use of the Grand Lodge; and it shall be the duty of the Grand Visitor of the district to report to the Grand Lodge any neglect or refusal to comply with the directions of this resolution, to the end that proper measures may be taken to enforce the same.

5th. *Resolved*, That the practice of *lending money by Lodges to individuals*, especially in small sums, and without any security other than the personal responsibility of the borrower, be, and the same is hereby, prohibited; inasmuch as it is calculated, from the want of punctuality in the borrower, and his frequent inability to repay the loan, to deprive a Lodge of the benefit of its funds for its own charitable purposes, and to incapacitate it from a full and regular discharge of its dues to the Grand Lodge."

The said resolutions having been read, it was

"*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be postponed until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary, in the meantime, send copies of the same to each of the Masters of Lodges in this city."

At the session of Grand Lodge held June 12, following, the first four resolutions were adopted, and the fifth rejected.

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION.

It was

“*Resolved*, That it be the duty of the different Lodges in this city, upon suspending any of their members for non-payment of their dues, or any other cause, and also upon suspension being removed, to give notice thereof to the other Lodges in this city.”

ORGANIZATION AND DIVISION OF GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.

The following resolutions were carried, viz.:

“*Resolved*, That the *Grand Stewards' Lodge* shall, from and after the first Wednesday in June next, be composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, and Grand Treasurer, *ex officio*, and of twelve Grand Stewards of Charity, to be elected from the Past Grand Officers, Past Masters, and Masters of the several Lodges in the city and county of New York, who at the time shall be members of this Grand Lodge. That the election of the said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity shall take place at the time of the annual election of the Grand Officers; and immediately thereafter, the presiding officers of the Grand Lodge shall arrange the said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity into four classes, three in each class, numbering them first, second, third, and fourth class. That the seats of the members of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year, the second class, the second year, and so continually, to the end that three Grand Stewards of Charity may be annually elected. That the said Grand Stewards' Lodge shall possess and exercise all the powers now vested in the present Grand Stewards' Lodge, and assemble at the times heretofore prescribed for its meeting, and whenever the Grand Master may specially convene them.

That the Grand Stewards' Lodge shall appoint, from the

said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity, a Committee consisting of three, to be called the Grand Stewards' Committee of Charity, who shall have and exercise the same powers that now belong to, and are exercised by, the Committee of Charity of the present Grand Stewards' Lodge, to be organized as aforesaid ; and the said Committee shall discharge the duties of their appointment until the next quarterly meeting, and so from time to time in such rotation, as nearly as may be, that the whole of the said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity shall discharge the said duties three months of every year. Provided, however, that, instead of appointing a Grand Stewards' Committee of Charity for the first three months, as before directed, the persons composing the first class of the said Grand Stewards of Charity shall be the first Grand Stewards' Committee of Charity.

That in case of the death, absence, sickness, resignation, or disqualification of any of the said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity, the said Grand Stewards' Lodge shall, at their next quarterly meeting, elect another member or members to fill the place or places so rendered vacant, and the Grand Master may, during the recess of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, fill such vacancy until such election shall take place.

That appeals may be made from the Grand Stewards' Committee of Charity to the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and from thence to the Grand Lodge."

An effort was made on March 5, 1817, to rescind the above resolution, but the same failed.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS. SALARY OF GRAND SECRETARY.

"*Resolved*, That hereafter the *Grand Master*, *Deputy Grand Master*, and *Grand Secretary* shall be annually elected at the same time, in the same manner, and for the same term as the Grand Wardens.

*Resolved*, That from and after the first Wednesday in June next, the *Grand Secretary* shall be allowed the annual salary of \$600, payable quarterly, in full for his services,

and that all moneys he may expend for books, stationery, or in any other manner in the discharge of his duties shall be allowed and paid by the Grand Lodge. That all the moneys he may receive, authorized by the present regulations, shall be accounted for and placed to the credit of the Grand Lodge.

THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS. REPRINT.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to report at our next Grand Lodge meeting, if any, and what amendments are necessary to the constitution of this Grand Lodge for the better government of the Fraternity generally, and that the Committee consist of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, the Worshipful Brothers Vanderbilt, Lewis, Seymour, and Telfair."

Action on the following resolution was postponed until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge :

"*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to superintend the printing and republishing as many copies of the Book of Constitution as they may conceive necessary, and that the said Committee have discretionary powers to select and publish together with the said Book of Constitution, such of the by-laws or regulations of the said Grand Lodge, from December 5, A. L. 5800, up to the date hereof, having the operation of by-laws, as they may judge proper."

The above resolution was considered and adopted at an Emergent Session, held March 12, 1817, there being added the words "together with a list of the Lodges under this jurisdiction." The Committee consisted of Cadwallader D. Colden, John Wells, John W. Mulligan, Elias Hicks, and John Leonard. The powers of the Committee were enlarged on June 4, 1817, and they were authorized "to form a new Constitution for the government of the Grand Lodge and the Lodges under its jurisdiction."

The annual June Session, held on June 5, 1816, resulted in the election of De Witt Clinton, Grand Master; Martin Hoff-

man, Deputy; Cadwallader D. Colden and Elisha Gilbert, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens; Cornelius Bogert, Grand Treasurer; John Wells, Grand Secretary; Joseph Jacobs, Grand Pursuivant, and James Thorburn, Grand Tyler.

At this Session, Martin Hoffman was in the chair; Elisha Gilbert, Jr., Senior Grand Warden, pro tem.; George D. Davenport, Junior Grand Warden, pro tem.; Cornelius Bogert, Grand Treasurer; John Wells, Grand Secretary; the Representatives of nineteen Lodges, and the Proxies of ten Lodges.

#### GRAND STEWARDS.

In pursuance of the resolutions adopted at the last Session of the Grand Lodge, an election was immediately had for twelve Grand Stewards of Charity, resulting in the election of the following Masters: George Carroll, of No. 1; George D. Davenport, of No. 2; Samuel Montgomery, of No. 7; John J. Boyd, of No. 18; Jonas Humber, Jr., of No. 31; Henry Marsh, of No. 142; William E. Dunscomb, of No. 143; and Past Masters, Thaddeus Seymour, of No. 1; John Leonard, of No. 3; James Lyon, of No. 6; William Carlisle, of No. 10; Barnard Sprong, of No. 132.

The presiding officer, Martin Hoffman, then classified the Grand Stewards, appointing three each in four classes. The record then states, that the reports which had been made by the Grand Visitors, Ebenezer Wadsworth, of the Second District, and Joseph Enos, of the Third District, "were respectively referred to the Grand Stewards of Charity to audit the account of expenses of the Grand Visitors, and to the Grand Officers, to settle with them the amount of their compensation, and also to give to them such directions or instructions in relation to any part of their reports as the said Grand Officers may think proper, and to report thereon to this Grand Lodge."

Philanthropic Lodge, No. 156, was granted a new charter in lieu of the one destroyed by fire, and Harmony Lodge,

No. 154, was authorized to move to its original home at Champlain. Also, at the same date, September 4, the Grand Pursuivant and the Grand Tyler were respectively allowed an annual salary of \$50, payable quarterly.

1817.

MASONIC FUNERAL DISPENSATIONS.

A resolution as to granting a funeral dispensation was adopted on March 5, 1817, as follows :

“ *Resolved*, That no Funeral Dispensation shall be issued, unless the Master and Wardens of the Lodge to which the deceased member shall have belonged shall certify, and the Secretary of said Lodge shall countersign the certificate, that he for whose interment the Dispensation is requested, has paid his Lodge dues until within *six* months before his decease.”

At this Session, also, an offer was made by

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE,

acting under a Warrant, issued during the Colonial period, by Sir John Johnson, and dated September 14, 1774, to come under the authority of the Grand Lodge, and stating that it wanted its rank accordingly.

The election of Grand Officers held June 4, 1817, resulted in re-electing the officers installed in 1816, with the exception that Elias Hicks was chosen Grand Secretary, in place of John Wells, declined, and the selection of Rev. James Milnor as Grand Chaplain, and Rev. Henry I. Feltus as an Assistant.

SKETCH OF DR. JAMES MILNOR, PAST GRAND MASTER OF  
PENNSYLVANIA.

*Chaplain Grand Lodge, State of New York, 1817.*

Dr. James Milnor was the son of William Milnor, of Philadelphia. He was born in that city on June 20, 1773, and

was by birthright a Quaker. His education was received at the public schools in Philadelphia and in the University of Pennsylvania. At the age of sixteen, he left the university and commenced the study of law, and before he was twenty-one years of age, was admitted to the bar. This was in 1794, and he settled in the practice of his profession in Norristown, now a part of Philadelphia. Norristown was then a small village, but ten years old. It was in a German district, and the inhabitants there, when James Milnor settled in it as a lawyer, mostly spoke the German language. He had acquired a knowledge of that dialect in the schools of his native city, and was thus enabled to accommodate himself to the wants of a community where the common business was transacted in German. He soon rose to distinction in his profession, and had the confidence of his fellow-citizens, as an able and honest lawyer. While thus engaged at Norristown, he was made a Mason in old Lodge No. 31, located there. His initiation took place in August, 1795. He was then twenty-two years of age. He was soon after elected Master of this Lodge ; but, on removing the following year, he became a member of Lodge No. 3, in Philadelphia. His affiliation with this Lodge was on September 6, 1796 ; and he was afterward its Treasurer.

In 1799, he married a lady who was by education an Episcopalian ; and, as the marriage ceremony was performed by a clergyman of that denomination, it gave offense to his Quaker brethren that he should be married by a " hireling priest," and this being contrary to their established " discipline," he was " disowned," and his membership with the Quakers ceased forever.

In 1805, Brother Milnor was chosen a member of the city council, and held the position from 1805 until 1809, during the latter year being its president. He was very popular, and in 1810, yielded to the earnest wishes of his political friends, and consented to become a candidate for Congress. He was elected, and was the only Federal candidate on the city ticket that succeeded. He remained in Congress until 1813, and was a steady opponent of the war and the belligerent

measures of the administration. Henry Clay was then Speaker of the House, and, taking great offense at some remark of Mr. Milnor, he challenged him to a duel. Mr. Milnor declined the proffered combat, for he would not consent that any one should presume to call him to account for words spoken in debate, and he also deemed dueling a cowardly practice. Mr. Clay did not press the matter further; and, in after years, they met on the most friendly terms.

On becoming Master of Lodge No. 31, Mr. Milnor became a member of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and, although he had at the time been a member of the Fraternity but about two years, he was put upon a committee to revise the "Rules and Regulations" of the Grand Lodge of that State. In 1798, he was elected Senior Grand Warden; in 1799 and 1800, he was re-elected to the same office; in 1801 and 1803, he was Deputy Grand Master; and, in 1805, he was elected Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and continued to hold that office by annual re-election, until the close of 1813. During his Grand Mastership, he was also, *ex officio*, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania.

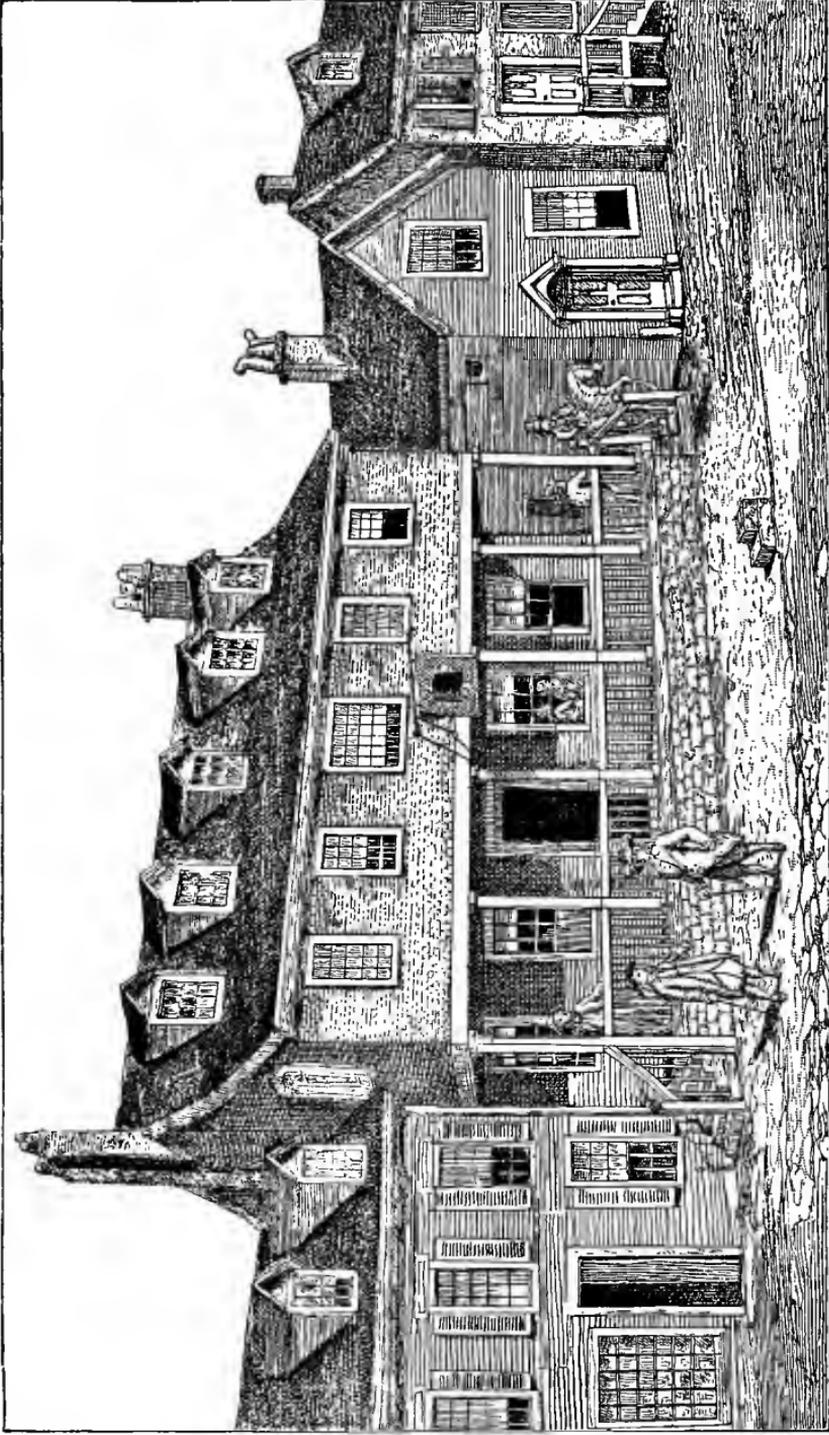
No Grand Master of Pennsylvania ever took a deeper interest in the welfare of the Grand Lodge and the good of Masonry than James Milnor. His charges and addresses were full of instruction, and his constant theme was the inculcation of charity and brotherly love. During his Grand Mastership, the old Masonic Hall in Chestnut Street was erected, and on its dedication, June 24, 1811, he delivered at St. John's Church, a public oration.

Turning his thoughts to religious subjects, he was ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Church in 1814; in 1815, he was ordained a presbyter. In 1816, he became rector of St. George's Church, in New York City. He was a promoter of the Bible Society, the American Tract Society, the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, the Orphan Asylum, and kindred associations.

He was Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and was honored by an appropriate jewel. When he







THE OLD TUN TAVERN, PHILADELPHIA,  
IN WHICH THE FIRST LODGE OF FREE MASONS WAS ORGANIZED IN NORTH AMERICA.



removed to New York, he became the Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of that State. He died April 8, 1845, in the seventy-third year of his age. He was the father of Dr. William H. Milnor, Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York in 1850.

The Masters of Lodges Nos. 2, 15, and 16, James Benschoten, Bush G. Brown, and Jonathan Carlton, were elected to fill the vacancies created by the expired term of Brothers Sprong, Leonard, and Montgomery as members of the Grand Stewards of Charity.

Jefferson Lodge, No. 164, at its own request, was located at Lowville village, in lieu of Martinsburg.

FINANCES.

The financial condition of the Grand Lodge, at this time, was as follows :

Receipts.....		\$5,980.62
Disbursements for charity.....	\$2,417.75	
Invested in stocks.....	2,438.98	
Contingencies paid.....	933.58	5,790.31
		<hr/>
Treasurer's balance.....		\$190.31
Value of Grand Lodge stocks.....		8,335.75
		<hr/>
Total fund.....		\$8,526.06

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was held June 18, 1817; the Grand Stewards of Charity reported, that the Grand Visitor of the Second District had visited 91 Lodges, and the Grand Visitor of the Third District had visited 61 Lodges, and that unitedly they had turned in \$3,474.56. The Second District had increased its receipts from previous years, inasmuch as on June 12, 1816, the counties of Ulster, Sullivan, Orange, Putnam, and Westchester had been taken from the First and added to the Second Masonic District.

At the Grand Lodge of Emergency the following resolutions were adopted :

## SALARY OF GRAND TREASURER.

*Resolved*, That the sum of one hundred dollars per annum, to be paid quarterly, and to commence on the first Wednesday in June, inst., be allowed to the Grand Treasurer as a compensation for the trouble attached to his office by the payment of the numerous orders for charity.

## DONATIONS.

*Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is, made the duty of the Masters of Lodges in the city of New York, to cause their Secretaries to report to the Grand Treasurer, immediately after each meeting of their respective Lodges, the amount of any charitable donations that may be made, the persons to whom made, and the merits, as ascertained by the said Lodges, of the respective applicants, together with any other information relating to such donations that may be deemed important. And that the Grand Treasurer file such reports for the inspection of any that may require it.

## OLD ALMSHOUSE.

*Resolved*, That an application be made, on behalf of this Grand Lodge, to the honorable the Corporation of the city of New York, for a grant of the use of such part of the building (late the almshouse) now devoted to liberal purposes, and not already appropriated, as, when fitted for the purpose, may make a suitable place for the meetings of this Grand Lodge, and the subordinate Lodges within the said city, and that the M. W. the Grand Master, the R. W. the Deputy Grand Master, the R. W. the Senior Grand Warden, the W. Bro. Bush, and the W. Bro. Tardy, be a committee for carrying the same into effect."

The number of Lodges that paid dues was 295.

The publication, annually, of an abstract of proceedings of the Grand Lodge became, at this date, a duty of the Grand Secretary. The numbering of the Lodges was re-adjusted,

and new Warrants were reported issued to the following Lodges on June 5:

Sprig Lodge, No. 279, at Norway, Herkimer County.

Northern Light Lodge, No. 280, at Wolcott, Cayuga County.

Lenox Lodge, No. 281, at Lenox, Madison County.

Wells Lodge, No. 282, at Rochester, Genesee County.

Humanity Lodge, No. 283, at Lyons, Ontario County.

Liberty Lodge, No. 284, at Mentz, Cayuga County.

Meridian Sun Lodge, No. 285, at Middlebury, Genesee County.

Orion Lodge, No. 286, at Ellisburg, Jefferson County.

Franklin Lodge, No. 287, at Fabius, Onondaga County.

Fellowship Lodge, No. 288, at Richland, Oneida County.

Watertown Lodge, No. 289, at Watertown, Jefferson County.

Morning Star Lodge, No. 290, at Marcellus, Onondaga County.

Junius Lodge, No. 291, at Junius, Seneca County.

Clinton Lodge, No. 292, at Schenectady, Schenectady County.

Harmony Lodge, No. 293, at Gorham, Ontario County.

Blazing Star Lodge, No. 294, at Willink, Niagara County.

Morning Star Lodge, No. 295, at Nunda, then in Allegany County.

The following additional new Warrants were reported issued on December 3, 1817:

Colden Lodge, No. 296, at Middletown, Delaware County.

Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 297, at Ellicot, Chautauqua County.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 298, at Scipio and Aurelius, Cayuga County.

Montgomery Lodge, No. 299, at Rhinebeck, Dutchess County.

Schodaack Lodge, No. 81, was authorized to change its name to Wadsworth and its place of meeting to Nassau.

1818.

On March 4, 1818, new Warrants were reported issued to Hoffman Lodge, No. 300, at Wallkill, Orange County, and to Rockland Lodge, No. 301, at Haverstraw, Rockland County.

At this date the Grand Secretary was ordered to

DESTROY ALL PAPERS NOW ON FILE OVER THREE YEARS OLD,

in his office, and that are of older date than three years preceding the date hereof, as from the unimportance of their character it may be deemed of no benefit to this Grand Lodge, or the Fraternity at large, longer to preserve.

DISPENSATIONS TO CONFER THREE DEGREES.

The Deputy Grand Master stated that, having received information from the Master of Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 132, that a Dispensation had been obtained by Morton Lodge, No. 50, for conferring three degrees, at one meeting, upon a person who then stood proposed on the books of No. 132, as a candidate for initiation, under the false pretense that he was about to leave this city, and that for such purpose a special meeting of said Lodge had been summoned for Sunday morning, the first of March, he had thought fit to interpose the authority with which he was vested, by interdicting the proceedings thereon, until such time as the truth of the allegations could be proven or refuted; and, after some pointed animadversions on the consequences of one Lodge thus interfering with another, on the abuse of the privilege of Dispensations, and on the violation of the Sabbath by Masonic meetings for the transaction of business not indispensable, the following preamble and resolution were proposed and adopted:

“*Whereas*, The granting of Dispensations to confer three degrees at one meeting, was intended for the convenience and benefit of the Lodges;

And *Whereas*, By the ease with which the same are obtained, those salutary regulations, framed for the purpose of preventing the introduction of improper and unworthy characters, are frequently eluded, the Craft brought into disgrace, and its harmony endangered ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the M. W. the Grand Master be earnestly solicited, before granting any Dispensation for that purpose, to cause strict inquiry to be made into the motives of such application, and to withhold compliance, unless the reasons assigned are strongly urgent and perfectly satisfactory.”

The Grand Officers were all re-elected on June 4, 1818. Four Grand Stewards and four Grand Deacons were appointed. Three Grand Stewards of Charity were elected to fill the vacancies in the second class, whose terms of service had expired.

Warrants were authorized to be issued to

Catskill Lodge, No. 302, at Catskill, Greene County.

Milnor Lodge, No. 303, at Victor, Ontario County.

Concord Lodge, No. 304, at New York City.

Tioga Lodge, No. 79, held at Binghamton, was authorized to change its name to Binghamton Lodge.

An acceptable Communication was received from the

GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

giving information of the re-union of Masons of that State, and the final and effectual settlement of all their differences, on December 27, 1817.

Announcement was made September 2, 1818, of Warrants having been issued to

Hicks Lodge, No. 305, at Schoharie, Schoharie County.

Dansville Lodge, No. 306, at Dansville, Steuben County.

Mexico Lodge, No. 307, at Mexico, Oswego County.

Atholl Lodge, No. 308, at Houndsfield, Jefferson County.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 309, at Ulysses, Tompkins County.

Bloomingsburg Lodge, No. 310, at Mamakating, Sullivan County.

## A LEGALIZED LOTTERY DESIRED BY GRAND LODGE.

On this latter date the following order was passed :

“ *Ordered*, That an application be made to the Legislature of this State, at its ensuing session, for permission to raise, under the authority of this Grand Lodge, by lottery, a sum sufficient for the erection of a Masonic Hall in the city of New York ; and that the R. W. the Senior Grand Warden, the R. W. the Grand Treasurer, the R. W. Brother Wadsworth, the W. Brother Riker, and the W. Brother Hatfield be a Committee to draft and present the petition.”

This Committee was discharged September 6, 1820.

Powers of proxy were received and filed from nine Lodges.

On October 7, 1818, a Grand Lodge of Emergency was convened. The Deputy Grand Master stated that he had caused a meeting of the Grand Lodge to be called, for the purpose of directing its attention to the origin and objects of the following advertisement, which appeared in several of the newspapers in this city :

## MASONIC NOTICE (Africans).

“  The members belonging to African Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons are requested to attend an extra meeting of said Lodge on the sixth inst., precisely at six o'clock, P.M., for the express purpose of receiving additional instructions in the sublime and exalted science and mysteries of Masonry, and at the same time a general lecture thereon, and an inquiry into the proficiency which each member of P. Lodge has made since favors have been conferred upon them ; as, also, an exhibition and full explanation of the working or operating tools of each speculative Mason, with the various badges emblematical of their respective orders, on the degrees which have been by merit conferred upon them ; after which a jubilee will be performed by the

members of said Lodge. Punctual attendance is solicited. Masonic brethren belonging to other Lodges are respectfully invited to attend, and will be most graciously received.

By order of .

SANDY LATTION, R. W. Master.

October 2.”

The same having been read, it was thereupon

“ *Ordered*, That the R. W. Bro. Coffin, the W. Bro. Hunter, the W. Bro. Boyd, the W. Bro. Marsh, and the W. Bro. Stephens be a Committee to inquire into the same, and to report to this Grand Lodge, as early as practicable, the result of their investigation.”

On March 3, 1819, the Committee reported as follows :

“The Committee to whom it was given in charge to investigate the object and origin of an advertisement published in several of the newspapers, and purporting to be a summons for a meeting of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the city of New York, styled African Lodge, unknown to, and hitherto unheard of, by this Grand Lodge, make the following report :

That two advertisements signed ‘Sandy Lattion,’ are acknowledged to have been inserted in one or more of the newspapers of this city, by the individual who has signed them. He has asserted to a deputation from this Committee, that the institution called together by those notices was actually organized, had assembled, and did still periodically meet. That proper authority had been furnished him from both the States of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts; that the authority from the latter State proceeds from an African Lodge now in operation there. He has at all times refused to exhibit the documentary evidences of such authority, or to inform the deputation of the time when, and to designate the houses where, the meetings were held.

The Committee have used all prudent diligence to obtain information from other sources respecting the alleged insti-

tution, or the designation of other of the members attached to it, but without success.”

Which report was accepted, and no further order taken on the subject.

On December 2, 1818, announcement was made of the issuing of Warrants as follows :

Newcomb Lodge, No. 311, at Caroline, Tioga County.

Summit Lodge, No. 312, at Mayville, Chautauqua County.

Union Lodge, No. 313, at Aurelius, Cayuga County.

Valley Lodge, No. 314, at Elizabeth, Essex County.

Whitesborough Lodge, No. 315, at Whitesborough, Oneida County.

Mount Morris Lodge, No. 316, at Mount Morris, Genesee County.

#### CHARITY FUND.

The following regulation pertaining to the Charity Fund was adopted at the December Session :

“ *Resolved*, That from and after the next Quarterly Communication, the following fees be paid toward the Charity Fund of this Grand Lodge, viz. :

For every Warrant to constitute a Lodge, seventy-five dollars.

For every Dispensation to constitute a Lodge (which sum to be deducted from the fees for a Warrant, provided such Warrant be applied for and granted within one year from the date of the Dispensation), twenty-five dollars.

For every Dispensation to confer three degrees at one meeting, ten dollars.

For other Dispensations, five dollars.”

1819.

#### HOLY SCRIPTURES FOR INDIA.

The Grand Master of Massachusetts having communicated the will of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of that

Commonwealth, soliciting the aid of the Masonic Fraternity within the jurisdiction of New York, in disseminating the Holy Scriptures in India, the subject was referred to the Grand Officers for an opinion.

No report was made until June 4, 1819.

The Deputy Grand Master presented the following report from the Right Worshipful Grand Officers :

“The Grand Officers, to whom was referred a proposal by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, to interest the Masonic Fraternity in this State in the distribution of the Bible among the heathen nations of the Eastern world, by an annual appropriation of a portion of their funds for that purpose, considering any diversion of the same from the constitutional object of the contribution, as dangerous in its consequences, by lessening the means of benevolence, and setting a precedent for innovation ; and considering, also, that the abundant aid furnished by society at large in the circulation of the Bible, does not render any support from this quarter peculiarly necessary, have felt it their duty, with a becoming respect for the motives and opinion of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge suggesting the same, to withhold their approbation of its adoption.”

#### THE UNION IN ENGLAND OF ANCIENT AND MODERN MASONS.

The Grand Lodge of England, for reasons unknown, had not communicated with the Grand Lodge of New York State, the interesting and important fact of the union of the Moderns and Ancients in Masonry in 1813. The Grand Secretary, Elias Hicks, seconded by Worshipful Brother Leonard, submitted to the Grand Lodge at the Session of March 3, 1819, the following preamble and resolution, which were unanimously adopted :

“*Whereas*, It is known that a union was formed on December 27, A. L. 5813, between the Ancient and Modern Masons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland ; but that, from the want of an oral Communication of

the terms and conditions, the form and manner, by which the individuals of either are admitted to a participation of the benefits of that union, this Grand Lodge has never possessed the means of giving to the Lodges within its jurisdiction the information and instruction necessary for their guidance in the admission of visitors and the relief of applicants ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the R. W. Grand Officers be requested forthwith to take such steps as may seem to them best adapted to the purpose for obtaining, either from the United Grand Lodge direct, or from some one of its Provincial Branches, such information on the subject aforesaid as may be important and necessary to be known and promulgated."

A new Warrant was issued to West Star Lodge, No. 205, as the original had been destroyed by fire. Also, a new Warrant to Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 225, in consequence of the original having been lost or stolen.

Warrants were authorized for the establishment of the following Lodges :

Rising Star Lodge, No. 317, at Attica, Genesee County.

Brownville Lodge, No. 318, at Brownville, Jefferson County.

Peru Lodge, No. 319, at Peru, Clinton County.

Constellation Lodge, No. 320, at Perry, Genesee County.

Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 321, at Ontario, Ontario County.

German Union Lodge, No. 322, at New York City.

Enos Lodge, No. 323, at Bath, Steuben County.

At the annual session held at the City Assembly Rooms, June 2, 1819, the officers of the Grand Lodge elected were :

Most Worshipful De Witt Clinton, LL.D. (Governor of the State of New York), Grand Master.

R. W. Martin Hoffman, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Cadwallader D. Colden (Mayor of the city of New York), Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. Elisha Gilbert, Jr., Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. Elias Hicks, Grand Secretary.

R. W. Cornelius Bogert, Grand Treasurer.

- R. W. Rev. James Milnor, D.D., Grand Chaplain.  
 W. Rev. Henry I. Feltus, Assistant Grand Chaplain.  
 R. W. Elias Hicks, Grand Visitor, First District.  
 R. W. Ebenezer Wadsworth, Grand Visitor, Second District.  
 R. W. Joseph Enos, Grand Visitor, Third District.  
 W. Alexander S. Glass, }  
 W. John G. Tardy, } Grand Stewards.  
 W. Lewis Seymour, }  
 W. Wm. T. Hunter, }  
 W. John I. Sickles, }  
 W. Thomas W. Garniss, } Grand Deacons.  
 W. James Lyons, Jr., }  
 W. Resolvert Stephens, }  
 Joseph Jacobs, Grand Pursuivant.  
 James Thorburn, Assistant Grand Pursuivant.  
 Hosea Dodge, Grand Tyler.

The Worshipful Oliver Rose submitted the following resolution :

“ *Resolved*, That the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be divided into

EIGHTEEN GRAND VISITING DISTRICTS,

as follows, namely :

First District, the city and county of New York, Long and Staten Islands.

Second District, the city and county of Albany and Schenectady.

Third District, the counties of Dutchess, Westchester, and Putnam.

Fourth District, the counties of Montgomery, Hamilton, and Herkimer.

Fifth District, the counties of Washington, Saratoga, and Warren.

Sixth District, the counties of Oneida, Onondaga, and Madison.

Seventh District, the counties of Ontario and Seneca.

Eighth District, the counties of Cayuga and Tompkins.

Ninth District, the counties of Genesee, Alleghany, and Steuben.

Tenth District, the counties of Chenango and Broome.

Eleventh District, the counties of Delaware, Schoharie, and Otsego.

Twelfth District, the counties of Orange and Rockland.

Thirteenth District, the counties of Columbia and Rensselaer.

Fourteenth District, the counties of Tioga and Cortlandt.

Fifteenth District, the counties of Ulster, Sullivan, and Greene.

Sixteenth District, the counties of Niagara, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua.

Seventeenth District, the counties of Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence.

Eighteenth District, the counties of Franklin, Clinton, and Essex.

That a Grand Visitor be appointed to each District (a resident therein), whose duty it shall be to visit each Lodge within his district at least once in each year ; at which visit he shall at all times notify the Master to convene his Lodge at one o'clock in the afternoon, and shall continue at labor eight hours, or until nine o'clock. It shall be his duty to collect all dues from the Lodges, and account with the Grand Lodge for the same, and at all times to attend the annual Communications of the Grand Lodge, and to be and report himself at the Grand Secretary's office, on Saturday, previous to its sittings, for the purpose of associating with the other Grand Visitors in Masonic labors, till the meeting of the Grand Lodge, at least eight hours each day, in order that a uniform work may prevail.

That it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to note the time of each Grand Visitor's arrival, and report the same to the Grand Lodge ; and if any one shall be found not to have arrived at nine o'clock on the Monday morning previous to its sittings, it shall be the duty of the Grand Master, in open Lodge, to interrogate him on the cause of such inat-

tention, and he shall then be disposed of as is proper at the voice of the Grand Lodge.

That the Grand Lodge shall appoint one of the most eminent and skillful of the Fraternity a Presiding Grand Visitor, whose duty it shall be to attend at the opening of the meeting of Grand Visitors, and preside therein, and whose prerogative it shall be to instruct in the manner of work, and see that each Grand Visitor faithfully attends to such instruction and observes order; and that he shall be respected accordingly, and paid for his services from the Grand Lodge funds.

That for the present season the Grand Visitors shall be appointed from the Masters or Wardens, now presiding in Lodges in their respective Districts, to be named by the present Grand Visitors, or others, in open Lodge, and the voice of the Grand Lodge. And that, after the present year, they shall be elected by the Lodges over which they are intended to preside, in the month of April, in the following manner, namely:

By written ballots, to be canvassed by the Master, Wardens, and Secretary, and an entry made in their Lodge minutes; and then a certificate, stating said votes, shall be made out and certified by the Secretary, and returned under seal, directed to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge, by the hands of the Grand Visitor; and that the Grand Secretary shall, in open Grand Lodge, with proper assistance, proceed to canvass the returns from the several Lodges composing any district, and if any one has more votes than all the others, he shall be declared to be elected; otherwise, the Grand Lodge shall proceed to elect from the three highest a Grand Visitor; and, in case of a vacancy between Grand Lodges, the Grand Officers may fill said vacancies, as before, and direct their Secretary to constitute him accordingly.

That the Grand Visitors so appointed, upon receiving information of their appointment from the Grand Secretary, shall acknowledge and accept said appointment on or before the first day of August; otherwise the place shall be considered vacant and a new appointment made as before; that in those

districts where the present Grand Visitors reside, they shall be as eligible to the office as if present presiding Masters.

That if any Grand Visitor, or any Lodge over which he presides, shall think an alteration ought to be made in any district, he shall give notice to all Lodges to be affected by such alteration, of the object in view, at least three months previous to its being acted upon in the Grand Lodge.

That, in addition to all contained in this resolution, it shall be the duty of the Grand Visitors to do all acts and things heretofore made the duty of Grand Visitors, and they shall be respected accordingly.

That the several Grand Visitors be, and they are hereby considered, the legal proxies of the several Lodges within their respective districts, and have the right of voting as such in the Grand Lodge, except when a Lodge appoints some other proxy, or expresses a sentiment direct by letter to the Grand Secretary, in either of which cases the Grand Visitor shall have no voice for such Lodge.

That the several Grand Visitors keep an exact account of all distances traveled to and from the Grand Lodge; that thirty miles be called a day's travel; that eight hours' labor with a Lodge and a visit be a day's labor; that eight hours of actual labor in lecturing, or other business to promote the good of the Craft, after arrival and report of themselves at the Grand Secretary's office, be called one day; that all necessary distance they travel while visiting their Lodges over ten miles to each Lodge, be called a day to each thirty miles; and that the said several Grand Visitors be allowed as a compensation for said services at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per day; and that, should it be deemed proper by the Grand Lodge at any time hereafter to increase or diminish the said rate of compensation, such alteration shall not take effect until one year after passing the same."

Whereupon, it was

"*Resolved*, That the R. W., J. W. Mulligan; P. G. T., the W., Matthew L. Davis, of No. 16; the W., John Leonard, of No. 3; the W., Henry Marsh, of No. 142; the W., Louis Sey-

mour, of No. 1, be a Committee to take the same, together with the present system of Grand Visitations, into consideration, and to report at the Quarterly Communication to be held in September next, whether any and what alterations should be made therein; and that the whole be printed, and transmitted to the several Lodges within this jurisdiction, and that they be requested to forward to the Grand Secretary with all possible dispatch (to be submitted to the Committee) their opinion thereon, and such alterations, additions, and amendments as they may judge that the interests of the Craft require to be made in the system of Grand Visitations."

The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer then offered the following proposition :

That the fifteenth additional particular rule, passed June 3, 5793, be amended by striking out the words, "but no brother shall be admitted as proxy for more than one Lodge."

Which proposition was, on motion, referred to the same Committee.

This subject, under a prepared circular by the Grand Secretary, dated January 3, 1820 (which in a somewhat similar form had been considered from 1804 to 1814), was directed to be printed and distributed to the several Lodges in the jurisdiction. On June 8, 1820, after consideration by Grand Lodge, it was

"*Resolved*, That it is at present inexpedient to make any alteration in the system of Grand Visitations, or to extend the powers hitherto allowed to proxies."

On June 21, 1820, it was

"*Resolved*, That the resolution of January 1, 1814, by which the State was divided into three Grand Masonic Districts for visitation, be repealed."

On September 12 following, the Grand Master stated that he had caused an Emergent meeting to be called for the pur-

pose of consulting with the Grand Lodge on the subject of Grand Visitations; after a full discussion of the same, and a variety of propositions being submitted, the following preamble and resolution were passed by a large majority :

“ *Whereas*, The Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, as well as the regulation adopted in 5806, and collated in 5819, provides for the system of Grand Visitations pursuant to which two different methods of carrying into effect those resolutions were adopted, both of which have been found inexpedient and have been abolished, the first in 5814, and the second in June, 5820; and,

*Whereas*, It appears, from the accounts exhibited by the Grand Visitors appointed by the resolutions of 5814, and audited, that the country Lodges have paid large sums in 5819 to the funds of this Grand Lodge, that is to say, in the Second District, \$1,842.87, and in the Third District, \$3,572.21, of which, upon the auditing of the accounts of the Grand Visitors of the Second and Third Districts, \$1,130 have been allowed to the Grand Visitor of the Second District, and \$1,300 to the Grand Visitor of the Third District, for their services and expenses, which appear to be unreasonable deductions from the dues of the Lodges within said Districts, without benefiting the funds of the Grand Lodge, or contributing to its ability by means thereof, to answer the charitable purposes of the Institution; and,

*Whereas*, It is the wish and intention of this Grand Lodge to continue the system of visitation by Grand Visitors under its jurisdiction, as essential to the preservation of that intimate connection and intercourse between the Grand Lodge and all the Lodges under its jurisdiction, on which the harmony, usefulness, and dignity of the Order in this State, and its character and station in the great Masonic family, must depend; therefore,

“ *Resolved*, That, at the Quarterly Communication in December next, the number of Grand Visitors, and the determination of their districts, duties, and compensations, be submitted to the Grand Lodge for their final disposition;

and that the Grand Secretary cause a copy of this resolution to be forthwith transmitted to all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.”

On June 4, 1819, the Grand Lodge took up the subject of

A NUMERICAL ARRANGEMENT OF THE LODGES,

corresponding with the dates of their respective Warrants, and on motion it was

“ *Ordered*, That the numerical arrangement, as submitted by the Grand Secretary at the last Quarterly Communication, be adopted.”

Furthermore, “ That no dormant or surrendered Warrant, the number of which may have been employed in the preceding arrangement, shall ever hereafter be revived ; and that the Grand Visitors cause the alteration to be made in the Warrants of all Lodges affected thereby, and situate within their respective Districts ; and the Grand Secretary, in all others not included in either of said Districts, and deriving their authority from this Grand Lodge.”

As this adjustment affected so very many of the older Lodges, changing so materially their status, an exact list is here presented :

LIST OF LODGES

WHOSE WARRANTS HAVE BECOME EXTINCT, AND, CONFORMABLY TO A RESOLUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE, OF JUNE 4, 1819, CANNOT BE REVIVED.

Name.	Town.	County.	Date.
Sion Lodge,	New York,	New York,	1773
St. John's Regimental,	Amer. (U. S.) Battal.	Trav. Warrant,	July 24, 1775
No. 210, Registry of England,	} New York,	} New York,	Feb. 20, 1779
Temple,			June 9, 1789
Jerusalem, No. 4,			Dec. 7, 1789
No. 212, Registry of England,	New York,	New York,	Nov. 1, 1780
Sion,	57th Regt. of Foot,	Trav. Warrant,	Jan. 2, 1783

Name.	Town.	County.	Date.
Hiram (No. 5),	Regt. de Knyphausen,	Trav. Warrant,	March 10, 1783
Concordia (No. 6),	New York,	New York,	March 13, 1783
Parr,	Shelburne,	Nova Scotia,	April 2, 1783
No. 7,	Loyal Amer. Regt.,	Trav. Warrant,	June 12, 1783
Union (No. 8),	New York,	New York,	Nov. 29, 1783
Jamaica,	Jamaica,	Queens,	Aug. 13, 1787
Hiram (No. 35),	Lansingburgh,	Rensselaer,	Aug. 16, 1787
Steuben,	Newburgh,	Ulster,	Sep. 27, 1788
Washington,	Clermont,	Columbia,	Sep. 20, 1790
New York,	Island of Curaçoa,	West Indies,	Oct. 22, 1791
La Tendre Amitié Franco Américaine,	} New York,	New York,	Dec. 12, 1793
L'Unité Américaine,			Feb. 17, 1797
Patriot,	Pittstown,	Rensselaer,	Dec. 4, 1794
St. Patrick's,	} New York,	New York,	June 2, 1795
Temple,			May 13, 1797
Schoharie Union,	Schoharie,	Albany,	Aug. 14, 1795
Orange,	Goshen,	Orange,	April 12, 1796
Steuben,	Steuben,	Herkimer,	Dec. 29, 1793
Montgomery,	Montgomery,	Orange,	June 6, 1798
Hiram,	Mount Pleasant,	Westchester,	Aug. 7, 1798
Morton,	Bedford,	Westchester,	Dec. 7, 1798
Village,	Marcellus,	Onondaga,	Jan. 8, 1799
Chosen Friends,	Island of Demerara,	West Indies,	Nov. 12, 1801
Morton,	Walton,	Delaware,	Feb. 12, 1802
Erin,	New York,	New York,	Nov. 1, 1802
United,	Marlborough,	Ulster,	April 3, 1804

### MILITARY, TRAVELING, AND PROVINCIAL LODGES,

THAT HAD EXISTED IN NEW YORK, OTHER THAN THOSE MENTIONED BY GRAND SECRETARY ELIAS HICKS, AS EXTINCT.

Name.	Date.
Union Lodge, No. 74,	1737
No. 52, 37th Infantry,	1756
Lake George Lodge,	1757
Temple, Trinity, Union, and Hiram,	1758
Crown Point Lodge,	1759
No. 90, 32d Regiment,	1761
No. 7, 55th Regiment,	1762
No. 399,	1763
No. 441, 38th Regiment,	1765
St. Patrick's Lodge, No. 4,	1766
No. 132, 22d Regiment, Scotch,	1767

Name.	Date.
King Solomon's Lodge, No. 7,	1767
No. 478, 17th Dragoons,	1769-95
King David's Lodge,	1769
American Union, No. 1, and Military Union,	1776
Washington, No. 10, Army Lodge,	1779
No. 213, 4th Battalion Royal Artillery,	1781
No. 215, 2d Regiment of Anspach Beranth,	1781
No. 232, "Recton's Hanoverian Brigade,"	1786
Lodge of Unity, No. 517, Fort William Henry,	1787
New Oswegatchie Lodge, No. 520,	1787

## A. L. 5819.

## LIST OF LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE  
OF NEW YORK, AS NUMERICALLY ARRANGED JUNE 4, A. L. 5819,  
WITH THEIR PLACES OF MEETING, DATE OF OLD AND RENEWED  
WARRANTS.

Those Lodges printed in *italics*, were at that time inoperative.

Rank. No.	Title.	Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.
1	St. John's,	New York,	New York,	{ O. W. Dec. 7, 1757 R. W. June 9, 1789
2	Ind. Royal Arch,	New York,	New York,	{ O. W. Dec. 15, 1760 R. W. June 9, 1789
3	Zion (62),	Detroit,	Michigan Ter- ritory,	{ O. W. April 27, 1764 R. W. Sept. 3, 1806
4	Mt. Vernon (3),	Albany,	Albany,	{ O. W. Feb. 21, 1765 R. W. Dec. 3, 1806
5	Master's (4),	Albany,	Albany,	{ O. W. March 5, 1768 R. W.
6	Solomon's (5),	Poughkeepsie,	Dutchess,	{ O. W. April 18, 1771 R. W. March 2, 1797
7	St. Andrew's (3),	New York,	New York,	{ O. W. July 13, 1771 R. W. June 9, 1789
8	St. George's,	Schenectady,	Schenectady,	{ O. W. Sept. 14, 1774 R. W.
9	St. John's (6),	New York,	New York,	Feb. 5, 1783
10	Hiram (7),	New York,	New York,	{ O. W. March 10, 1783 R. W. April 2, 1792
11	St. Patrick's (9),	Johnstown,	Montgomery,	July 20, 1784
12	Temple (10),	Northeast,	Dutchess,	Sept. 26, 1785
13	Washington (11)	Fort Edward,	Washington,	Sept. 26, 1785
14	St. Simon & St. Jude (12),	Fishkill,	Dutchess,	June 20, 1786
15	Hudson's (13),	Hudson,	Columbia,	March 7, 1787

Rank. No.	Title.	Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.
16	Holland (8),	New York,	New York,	Sept. 20, 1787
17	Unity,	Canaan,	Columbia,	Sept. 18, 1788
18	St. John's (19),	Warwick,	Orange,	March 26, 1790
19	La Fayette (20),	Armenia,	Dutchess,	July 23,
20	Kingston (24),	Kingston,	Ulster,	Dec. 8,
21	Montgomery,	Stillwater,	Saratoga,	Oct. 22, 1791
22	Amicable,	Whitestown,	Oneida,	April 7, 1792
23	Ontario,	Canandaigua,	Ontario,	Oct. 12, 1793
25	<i>Aurora,</i>	<i>Hampton,</i>	<i>Washington,</i>	March 12,
26	<i>Huntington,</i>	<i>Huntington,</i>	<i>Suffolk,</i>	March 22,
27	Hiram,	Washington,	Dutchess,	May 10,
28	Livingston,	Kingsbury,	Washington,	June 6,
29	Freehold,	Greenville,	Greene,	June 6,
30	Union,	Elmira,	Tioga,	June 28,
31	<i>Harmony,</i>	<i>Catskill,</i>	<i>Greene,</i>	Sept. 3,
32	<i>Rural,</i>	<i>Cambridge,</i>	<i>Washington,</i>	Oct. 14,
33	Federal,	Hosick,	Rensselaer,	Nov. 15,
34	Cortlandt,	Peekskill,	Westchester,	Dec. 21,
35	<i>Howard,</i>	<i>New York,</i>	<i>New York,</i>	March 20, 1794
36	Amicable,	Herkimer,	Herkimer,	April 6,
37	Franklin,	Ballston,	Saratoga,	May 16,
38	Columbus,	South East,	Putnam,	Aug. 4,
39	Trinity (10),	New York,	New York,	March 23, 1795
40	Phoenix (11),	New York,	New York,	March 30,
41	Otsego (40),	Cooperstown,	Otsego,	Aug. 14,
42	Montgomery,	Broadalbin,	Montgomery,	Nov. 24,
43	Orange,	Waterford,	Saratoga,	Nov. 25,
44	Canaan,	Canaan,	Columbia,	March 26, 1796
45	St. Andrew's (48),	Stamford,	Delaware,	April 12,
46	Westchester,	New Rochelle,	Westchester,	May 7,
47	<i>Beekman,</i>	<i>Beekman,</i>	<i>Dutchess,</i>	May 12,
49	Apollo,	Troy,	Rensselaer,	June 19,
50	<i>Cozsackie,</i>	<i>Cozsackie,</i>	<i>Albany,</i>	July 6,
51	North Star,	Salem,	Washington,	Oct. 13,
52	Aurora,	Fairfield,	Herkimer,	Nov. 4,
53	Temple,	Albany,	Albany,	Nov. 11,
55	Granville,	Granville,	Washington,	Dec. 7,
56	Western Star (59),	Bridge water,	Oneida,	Jan. 18, 1797
57	Suffolk (60),	Smithtown,	Suffolk,	March 7,
58	Scipio,	Scipio,	Cayuga,	March 22,
59	<i>Bath,</i>	<i>Bath,</i>	<i>Steuben,</i>	March 22,
60	<i>St. Albans,</i>	<i>Brooklyn,</i>	<i>Kings,</i>	June 7,
63	Morton,	Hempstead,	Queens,	June 23,
64	St. Paul's,	Canajoharie,	Montgomery,	Jan. 5, 1798
65	<i>James',</i>	<i>Middletown,</i>	<i>Ulster,</i>	Jan. 6,

Rank. No.	Title.	Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.
66	<i>Montgomery,</i>	<i>Rhinebeck,</i>	<i>Dutchess,</i>	Jan. 8, 1798
67	<i>Moriah,</i>	<i>Marbletown,</i>	<i>Ulster,</i>	Jan. 8,
68	Rensselaer,	Rensselaerville,	Albany,	March 7,
69	<i>Adoniram,</i>	<i>Franklin,</i>	<i>Dutchess,</i>	March 9,
70	Sharon Felicity,	Sharon,	Schoharie,	March 13,
71	L'Union Française (14),	New York,	New York,	June 25,
72	Salem (74),	North Salem,	Westchester,	Dec. 20,
73	Walton (75),	Duanesburgh,	Schenectady,	Jan. 2, 1799
74	Homer (76),	Schaghticoke,	Rensselaer,	Jan. 3,
75	Franklin (77),	Charlestown,	Montgomery,	Jan. 4,
76	United Brethren (78),	Cazenovia,	Madison,	Jan. 5,
77	Binghamton (79),	Binghamton,	Broome,	Jan. 7,
78	Wadsworth (81),	Nassau,	Rensselaer,	Jan. 9,
79	Roman (82),	Rome,	Oneida,	Feb. 13,
80	Federal (83),	Paris,	Oneida,	Nov. 23,
81	Fortitude (84),	Brooklyn,	Kings,	Dec. 4,
82	Horizontal 85),	Carmel,	Putnam,	Dec. 4,
83	Abrams (15),	New York,	New York,	Jan. 18, 1800
84	Washington (16),	New York,	New York,	March 5,
85	Warren (17),	New York,	New York,	March 25,
86	Hiram (88),	Aurelius,	Cayuga,	March 25,
87	Morton (86),	Schenectady,	Schenectady,	April 20,
88	Asylum (87),	Westerlo,	Albany,	April 21,
89	Herschel,	Hartford,	Washington,	June 30, 1801
90	St. John's,	Greenfield,	Saratoga,	Feb. 12, 1802
91	Adelphi (18),	New York,	New York,	June 29,
92	St. Lawrence,	Kortright,	Delaware,	June 29,
93	Military,	Manlius,	Onondaga,	Sept. 2,
94	Phœbus,	New Berlin,	Chenango,	Sept. 2,
95	Friendship,	Stephentown,	Rensselaer,	Oct. 8,
96	Farmers',	Easton,	Washington,	Dec. 4,
97	Mount Vernon,	Vernon,	Oneida,	Jan. 21, 1803
98	Onondaga,	Onondaga,	Onondaga,	Jan. 21,
99	Vernon,	Hillsdale,	Columbia,	June 4,
100	Armour,	Rye,	Westchester,	June 10,
101	<i>Columbia,</i>	<i>Claverack,</i>	<i>Columbia,</i>	June 30,
102	Olive Branch,	Minisink,	Orange,	Dec. 9,
103	Constellation,	Mayfield,	Montgomery,	Feb. 11, 1804
104	Hiram,	Bern,	Albany,	Feb. 25,
105	Western Light,	Lisle,	Broome,	March 20,
106	Malta,	Malta,	Saratoga,	March 22,
107	Fraternal (31),	New York,	New York,	March 26,
108	Morton (50),	New York,	New York,	June 25,
109	Sullivan,	Sullivan,	Chenango,	June 29,
110	Farmers',	Turin,	Chenango,	June 29,

Rank. No.	Title.	Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.
111	Hampton,	Sag Harbor,	Suffolk,	July 9, 1804
112	Mount Moriah,	Palmyra,	Ontario,	July 9,
113	Bethlehem,	Bethlehem,	Albany,	July 27,
114	Charity,	Worcester,	Otsego,	Aug. 30,
115	<i>Chenango,</i>	<i>Norwich,</i>	<i>Chenango,</i>	Nov. 22,
116	Friendship,	Durham,	Greene,	Nov. 28,
117	Revival,	Windham,	Greene,	Dec. 5,
118	Friendship,	Milton,	Saratoga,	March 22, 1805
119	<i>Ontario,</i>	<i>Sackett's Harbor,</i>	<i>Ontario,</i>	March 27,
120	King Solomon's,	Dover,	Dutchess,	April 11,
121	Hamilton,	Hamilton,	Madison,	April 16,
122	<i>La Sincerité,</i>	<i>New York,</i>	<i>New York,</i>	April 16,
123	<i>Oneida,</i>	<i>Utica,</i>	<i>Oneida,</i>	June 5,
124	Hopewell,	Fishkill,	Dutchess,	June 5,
125	Rising Sun,	Adams,	Jefferson,	June 5,
126	Rising Sun,	Greenwich,	Washington,	June 5,
127	Machin,	Charleston,	Montgomery,	Nov. 6,
128	<i>Union,</i>	<i>Charlton,</i>	<i>Saratoga,</i>	Dec. 13,
129	Friendship,	Bainbridge,	Chenango,	Dec. 16,
130	Genesee,	Avon,	Ontario,	Feb. 13, 1806
131	Hiram,	Newburgh,	Orange,	Feb. 19,
132	Mount Moriah,	New York,	New York,	March 5,
133	Sherburn,	Sherburn,	Chenango,	March 5,
134	Hamilton,	Palatine,	Montgomery,	March 5,
135	Rising Sun,	Springfield,	Otsego,	March 5,
136	<i>Eastern Light,</i>	<i>Watertown,</i>	<i>Jefferson,</i>	April 7,
137	Homer,	Homer,	Cortlandt,	May 9,
138	Genesee,	Richmond,	Ontario,	June 14,
139	<i>Trinity,</i>	<i>Cherry Valley,</i>	<i>Otsego,</i>	June 19,
140	Friendship,	Oswego,	Broome,	June 24,
141	<i>Washington,</i>	<i>Stephentown,</i>	<i>Westchester,</i>	Sept. 3,
142	Benevolent,	New York,	New York,	Sept. 3,
143	Clinton,	New York,	New York,	Sept. 3,
144	Hamilton,	Queensbury,	Warren,	Oct. 22,
145	Whitehall Social,	Whitehall,	Warren,	Dec. 3,
146	Champion,	Champion,	Jefferson,	Dec. 3,
147	Brothers,	Fort Ann,	Washington,	Dec. 3,
148	Northern Constellation,	Malone,	Franklin,	Dec. 3,
149	Farmers',	Half Moon,	Saratoga,	Dec. 3,
150	Orient,	Denmark,	Lewis,	Dec. 3,
151	Clinton,	Plattsburg,	Clinton,	Dec. 3,
152	Essex,	Essex,	Essex,	Feb. 14, 1807
153	Mechanic,	New York,	New York,	March 4,
154	Harmony,	Champlain,	Clinton,	March 4,
155	Warren,	Columbia,	Herkimer,	March 4,

Rank. No.	Title.	Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.
156	Philanthropic,	Pompey,	Onondaga,	March 4, 1807
157	Warren,	Pine Plains,	Dutchess,	June 10,
158	New Jerusalem,	Bloomington,	New York,	June 10,
159	<i>St. Tammany,</i>	<i>Hudson,</i>	<i>Columbia,</i>	Sept. 2,
160	Ark,	Geneva,	Ontario,	Sept. 2,
161	Louisiana,	New Orleans,	State of Lou- isiana,	Sept. 2,
162	North Star,	North Field,	Saratoga,	Sept. 2,
163	Northern Light,	De Kalbe,	St. Lawrence,	Sept. 2,
164	Jefferson,	Martinsburg,	Lewis,	Sept. 3,
165	Farmers',	Burlington,	Otsego,	Dec. 2,
166	Farmers',	Pompey,	Onondaga,	March 2, 1808
167	Angelica,	Angelica,	Alleghany,	June 1,
168	<i>Delaware and Ulster,</i>	<i>Middletown,</i>	<i>Delaware,</i>	June 1,
169	Eagle,	Spencer and Ulysses,	Tioga and Seneca,	July 1,
170	Charity,	Tompkins,	Delaware,	Sept. 7,
171	Occelick,	German,	Chenango,	Sept. 1,
172	Zion,	Bloomfield,	Ontario,	Sept. 7,
173	St. Paul's,	Beekman,	Dutchess,	Sept. 30,
174	Newtown Union,	Newtown,	Queens,	Oct. 1,
175	<i>Tompkins,</i>	<i>Guilderland,</i>	<i>Albany,</i>	Dec. 7,
176	Sanger,	Sangerfield,	Oneida,	Dec. 7,
177	Hamilton,	Madrid,	St. Lawrence,	March 1, 1809
178	Yates,	Schodack,	Rensselaer,	March 1,
179	Freedom,	Unadilla,	Otsego,	March 1,
180	Cassia,	Delhi,	Delaware,	March 1,
181	Le Temple Bienfaisance,	Havana,	Island of Cuba,	March 6,
182	Richfield,	Richfield,	Otsego,	April 18,
183	Clinton,	Clinton,	Dutchess,	June 1,
184	Meridian,	Ovid,	Seneca,	Sept. 6,
185	Rising Sun,	Northumberland,	Saratoga,	Sept. 6,
186	St. Lawrence,	Oswegatchie,	St. Lawrence,	Sept. 6,
187	Harmony,	Potsdam,	St. Lawrence,	Dec. 6,
188	Philanthropic,	Camden,	Oneida,	Dec. 6,
189	Mount Moriah,	Wallkill,	Orange,	Dec. 6,
190	Vernon,	Benton,	Ontario,	March 7, 1810
191	Meridian Sun,	New Lisbon,	Otsego,	May 24,
192	Charity,	Spencer,	Columbia,	July 13,
193	Benevolence,	Hopkinton,	St. Lawrence,	Jan. 24, 1811
194	Tioga,	Catharine,	Tioga,	Feb. 4,
195	Moriah,	De Ruyter,	Madison,	June 17,
196	Scipio Morning Star,	Scipio,	Cayuga,	Nov. 18,
197	Ark,	Windsor,	Broome,	Nov. 20,
198	Hampton,	Westmoreland,	Oneida,	Dec. 5,

Rank. No.	Title.	Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.
199	Morning Star,	Cairo,	Greene,	Dec. 6, 1811
200	Sincerity,	Phelps,	Ontario,	Dec. 7,
201	Pulteneyville,	Pulteney,	Steuben,	Dec. 7,
202	<i>Clinton,</i>	<i>Watervliet,</i>	<i>Albany,</i>	Dec. 12,
203	Painted Post,	Painted Post,	Steuben,	March 14, 1812
204	Rising Sun,	Oxford,	Chenango,	March 17,
205	West Star,	Sheldon,	Genesee,	March 17,
206	Rainbow,	Chateaugay,	Franklin,	March 18,
207	Columbia,	New Paltz,	Ulster,	July 10,
208	Eastern Light,	Greene,	Chenango,	Sept. 2,
209	Solomon's,	White Plains,	Westchester,	Nov. 13,
210	Gilboa,	Blenheim,	Schoharie,	Dec. 2,
211	Adoniram,	Pawlings,	Dutchess,	Dec. 16,
212	Harmony,	Riga,	Genesee,	March 6, 1813
213	Genoa,	Genoa,	Cayuga,	May 3,
214	Farmers',	Verona,	Oneida,	May 8,
215	Olive Branch,	Batavia,	Genesee,	May 20,
216	Hebron,	Hebron,	Washington,	May 21,
217	Morality,	Cobleskill,	Schoharie,	May 23,
218	Schuyler,	Saratoga,	Saratoga,	May 25,
219	Selected Friends,	Camillus,	Onondaga,	June 8,
220	Washington,	Bloomingrove,	Orange,	June 10,
221	Olive Branch,	Litchfield,	Herkimer,	June 10,
222	<i>Clermont,</i>	<i>Clermont,</i>	<i>Columbia,</i>	July 14,
223	Morning Star,	Pittsford,	Ontario,	Sept. 8,
224	Charity,	Harpersfield,	Delaware,	Sept. 27,
225	Rising Virtue,	Luzerne,	Warren,	Oct. 6,
226	Western Star,	Peterborough,	Madison,	Oct. 7,
227	Aurora,	Meredith,	Delaware,	Nov. 25,
228	Rising Sun,	Trenton,	Oneida,	Nov. 26,
229	Sylvan,	Sempronius,	Cayuga,	Nov. 27,
230	<i>Lawrence,</i>	<i>Montgomery,</i>	<i>Orange,</i>	May 16, 1814
231	Corner Stone,	Monroe,	Orange,	May 26,
232	Science,	Locke,	Cayuga,	June 2,
233	Augusta,	Augusta,	Oneida,	June 2,
234	Washington,	Manheim,	Montgomery,	June 11,
235	Oxford,	Oxford,	Chenango,	July 7,
236	Morning Star,	Albany,	Albany,	Oct. 11,
237	Hesper,	Preble,	Cortlandt,	Nov. 10,
238	Milford,	Milford,	Otsego,	Dec. 19,
239	Western Star,	Buffalo,	Niagara,	Dec. 24,
240	Halcyon,	Carmel,	Putnam,	March 28, 1815
241	Star,	Petersburgh,	Rensselaer,	June 2,
242	Zerubbabel,	Sandlake,	Rensselaer,	June 2,
243	Morning Star,	Argyle,	Washington,	June 2,

Rank. No.	Title.	Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.
244	Olive Branch,	Warsaw,	Genesee,	June 9, 1815
245	Mount Moriah,	Otisco,	Onondaga,	June 23,
246	Fredonia,	Murray,	Genesee,	Sept. 8,
247	Jerusalem Temple,	Cornwall,	Orange,	Sept. 9,
248	M'Donough,	Greenbush,	Rensselaer,	Sept. 12,
249	Charity,	Danby,	Tioga,	Sept. 15,
250	Morning Star,	Bern,	Albany,	Oct. 3,
251	Franklin,	Franklin,	Delaware,	Oct. 13,
252	Dryden,	Dryden,	Cayuga,	Dec. 29,
253	Dutchess,	Clinton,	Dutchess,	Jan. 5, 1816
254	Mount Hope,	Ticonderoga,	Essex,	March 7,
255	Florida,	Florida,	Montgomery,	March 8,
256	Washington,	Henderson,	Jefferson,	March 10,
257	Alluvion,	Ridgeway,	Genesee,	March 12,
258	Clinton,	Schuyler,	Herkimer,	March 15,
259	Evening Star,	Canisteo,	Steuben,	June 11,
260	Le Roy,	Le Roy,	Genesee,	June 11,
261	Union,	Lima,	Ontario,	June 11,
262	Doty,	Princeton,	Schenectady,	June 11,
263	Forest,	Pomfret,	Chautauqua,	June 11,
264	Widow's Son,	Red Hook,	Dutchess,	June 11,
265	St. Paul's,	Auburn,	Cayuga,	July 10,
266	Mohawk,	Minden,	Montgomery,	July 15,
267	Galway,	Galway,	Saratoga,	Nov. 9,
268	Prestor,	Jay,	Essex,	Nov. 9,
269	Manchester,	Farmington,	Ontario,	Nov. 20,
270	Utica,	Utica,	Oneida,	Nov. 20,
271	Ark,	Coxsackie,	Greene,	Dec. 5,
272	Sullivan,	Monticello,	Sullivan,	Dec. 13,
273	Allegany,	Friendship,	Allegany,	Jan. 22, 1817
274	Hamilton,	Olean,	Cattaraugus,	Jan. 22,
275	Rushford,	Rushford,	Allegany,	April 22,
276	Cherry Valley,	Cherry Valley,	Otsego,	Feb. 6,
277	Allegany,	Pembroke,	Genesee,	April 21,
278	Clinton,	Fort George,	Warren,	April 21,
279	Sprig,	Norway,	Herkimer,	June 5,
280	Northern Light,	Wolcott,	Cayuga,	June 5,
281	Lenox,	Lenox,	Madison,	June 5,
282	Wells,	Gates,	Genesee,	June 5,
283	Humanity,	Lyons,	Ontario,	June 5,
284	Liberty,	Mentz,	Cayuga,	June 5,
285	Meridian Sun,	Middlebury,	Genesee,	June 5,
286	Orion,	Ellisburgh,	Jefferson,	June 5,
287	Franklin,	Fabius,	Onondaga,	June 5,
288	Fellowship,	Richland,	Oneida,	June 5,

Rank. No.	Title.	Town.	County.	Date of Warrant.
289	Watertown,	Watertown,	Jefferson,	June 5, 1817
290	Morning Star,	Marcellus,	Onondaga,	June 5,
291	Junius,	Junius,	Seneca,	June 5,
292	Clinton,	Schenectady,	Schenectady,	June 5,
293	Harmony,	Gorham,	Ontario,	June 5,
294	Blazing Star,	Willink,	Niagara,	July 31,
295	Morning Star,	Nunda,	Allegany,	Aug. 1,
296	Colden,	Middletown,	Delaware,	Sept. 3,
297	Mount Moriah,	Ellicott,	Chautauqua,	Sept. 4,
298	Rising Sun,	Scipio and Aurelius,	Cayuga,	Sept. 5,
299	Montgomery,	Rhinebeck,	Dutchess,	Sept. 10,
300	Hoffman,	Walkkill,	Orange,	Dec. 3,
301	Rockland,	Haverstraw,	Rockland,	Dec. 4,
302	Catskill,	Catskill,	Greene,	March 4, 1818
303	Milnor,	Victor,	Ontario,	March 5,
304	Concord,	New York,	New York,	April 22,
305	Hicks,	Schoharie,	Schoharie,	June 4,
306	Dansville,	Dansville,	Steuben,	June 5,
307	Mexico,	Mexico,	Oneida,	June 6,
308	Atholl,	Hounsfield,	Jefferson,	June 7,
309	Fidelity,	Ulysses,	Tompkins,	June 8,
310	Bloomington,	Mamakating,	Sullivan,	June 24,
311	Newcomb,	Caroline,	Tioga,	Sept. 3,
312	Summit,	Chautauqua,	Chautauqua,	Sept. 4,
313	Union,	Aurelius,	Cayuga,	Sept. 5,
314	Valley,	Elizabethtown,	Essex,	Sept. 6,
315	Whitesborough,	Whitestown,	Oneida,	Oct. 16,
316	Mount Morris,	Mount Morris,	Genesee,	Oct. 23,
317	Rising Star,	Attica,	Genesee,	March 3, 1819
318	Brownville,	Brownville,	Jefferson,	March 4,
319	Peru,	Peru,	Clinton,	March 5,
320	Constellation,	Perry,	Genesee,	March 6,
321	Rising Virtue,	Ontario,	Ontario,	March 8,
322	German Union,	New York,	New York,	April 14,
323	Enos,	Bath,	Steuben,	May 29,
324	Brutus,	Brutus,	Cayuga,	Aug. 18,
325	Canton,	Canton,	St. Lawrence,	Sept. 11,
326	Oswego,	Oswego,	Oswego,	Sept. 21,
327	Salina,	Salina,	Onondaga,	Dec. 2,

## ST. GEORGE'S LODGE INHIBITED.

On a representation of the Grand Secretary, made June 4, 1819, that St. George's Lodge at Schenectady, acting under

an ancient Warrant, had not, conformably to its own proposition, made on June 4, A. L. 5817, and concurred in by this Grand Lodge, surrendered the same, it was

*Resolved*, That St. George's Lodge at Schenectady, by delaying to surrender its Warrant, and thereby denying the authority of the Grand Lodge, has forfeited its Masonic privileges, and has become an unauthorized and unwarranted Lodge.

*Resolved*, That all Masonic intercourse with the said Lodge and its members, and the Lodges and members of Lodges under this jurisdiction, be, and the same is hereby, prohibited, and that unless the said Warrant be surrendered and a new Warrant taken out before the next quarterly Communication, the individuals composing the said Lodge, or that may hereafter be initiated in or admitted members of the same, be expelled the order and deprived of all the benefits and privileges of Freemasonry." (See under date April 29, 1822.)

#### LODGE MEMBERSHIP DEFINED.

*Resolved*, That the 4th Rule, in Section 10, Chapter III., of the Book of Constitutions, be so construed as that every Mason attending the meetings of a Lodge and participating in its deliberations, voting, etc., shall be deemed a member of said Lodge, and subject to quarterly dues, as provided for in the aforesaid rule.

*Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is, enjoined upon the Grand Secretary and Grand Visitors to see that the preceding resolution be acted upon, and that they be severally authorized to require from the officers of Lodges such information and explanations as may appear to them necessary for carrying the same into full force and effect."

#### ASSISTANT GRAND PURSUIVANT. OFFICE CREATED.

*Resolved*, That, in consequence of the deafness of the present Grand Pursuivant, and in consideration of his long

and faithful services, a brother be elected to aid him in the discharge of his duties, to be styled Assistant Grand Pursuivant, and to be paid the same salary as is now allowed to the said Grand Pursuivant."

The Grand Lodge accordingly proceeded to the choice of a brother to fill that office, when Brother James Thorburn was duly elected Assistant Grand Pursuivant. The office of Grand Tyler becoming thereby vacant, Brother Hosea Dodge was duly elected Grand Tyler.

The Right Worshipful Brother Ebenezer Wadsworth, Grand Visitor, reported the dissolution of Lawrence Lodge, No. 230, and surrendered its Warrant.

#### NON-RESIDENT CHARITY.

The Worshipful Brother Ditchett appealed from a decision of the Grand Stewards' Lodge in the case of Patty Dewitt, widow of Levi Dewitt, formerly of a Lodge in this State, an applicant for charity, now residing and being in Newark, in the State of New Jersey.

It was held by the Grand Stewards' Lodge, that to admit the principle that it was necessary for the applicant to send back to the State in which her husband had been made a Mason, in order to obtain relief, was striking at the very root of Masonry; that being necessitous and deserving, her claim was equally strong in every part of the world where Masonry was known and cultivated; that it must be made to the Grand Lodge, or to some portion of the fraternity within the jurisdiction under which she resides; and, that if assistance had been refused by the Craft in Newark (as was alleged) on the sole ground that the applicant's right of claim was New York and not New Jersey, a communication of the facts on the subject ought to be made to the Grand Lodge of that State.

And, on motion that the decision of the Grand Stewards' Lodge be confirmed, it was carried in the affirmative by a large majority.

## PAST MASTER A MEMBER OF GRAND LODGE.

A proposed preamble and order was presented on September 1, 1819, to the following effect :

“ *Whereas*, by Section 1, Chapter III., of the Book of Constitutions it is provided that no Past Master shall be considered a member of the Grand Lodge, unless he is a member of some regular Lodge under the jurisdiction.

*Ordered*, That any Mason who shall have been elected Master of any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and who shall have performed the duties appertaining to the Chair for at least one year, shall hereafter be deemed a member of this Grand Lodge upon his paying the usual dues in advance to the Grand Secretary, although he may not be a registered member of a subordinate Lodge.”

On June 8th following, this proposed order was called up and rejected. In a somewhat modified form this subject had been considered on June 7, 1809.

## BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS AND OLD CHARGES.

The preparation for publication of a new edition of the Book of Constitutions being delayed, the Grand Secretary, Elias Hicks, reported that he had collected and digested all the particular rules of this Grand Lodge, and he now submitted the same.

Whereupon the Committee on Constitutions was discharged, and a resolution presented, that the rules as collected, digested, and submitted by the Grand Secretary be declared to form Section 10, Chapter III., of the Book of Constitutions; and that the same be printed for distribution; and, further, that a Committee be appointed to collate and correct the same.

This Committee consisted of Brothers Elias Hicks, Cornelius Bogert, John W. Mulligan, George B. Smith, and James Lyons, Jr., who reported on December 15, 1819, as follows :

“ That they have fulfilled the duty assigned to them, have approved the arrangements of the Grand Secretary, and have authorized their publication.

That had they been vested with the power, they would have directed the entire omission of the three hereafter mentioned regulations: the first two, as having been calculated for the infant state of the Grand Lodge, and latterly not acted upon; - and the last, as impolitic and injurious, bearing an erroneous construction that a direct and free communication with the Grand Lodge, other than through the Grand Visitors, is forbidden and prohibited to the country Lodges.

The difficulty presented by that want of power being obviated by this early Emergent meeting, the Committee take the liberty of suggesting to the Grand Lodge the propriety of repealing the following resolutions, viz. :

The 3d Rule of Section 10, Chapter III., of Book of Constitutions, which declares that ‘every member of this Grand Lodge shall pay quarterly into the treasury of the same fifty cents, and the same sum on default of attendance at any quarterly meeting, without such excuse as the by-laws admit to be reasonable.’

And the resolution, passed on February 15, A. L. 5783, declaring ‘that six guineas be paid for a Warrant, and one guinea for a book of By-Laws.’

And, also, that section of the act for the establishment of Grand Visitors, passed on February 19, 1806, which declares ‘that all communications to the Grand Lodge, unless it be a complaint touching the Grand Visitor, shall be made through him.’

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed)	ELIAS HICKS,	} Committee.
	CORNELIUS BOGERT,	
	JOHN W. MULLIGAN,	
	GEORGE B. SMITH,	
	JAMES LYONS, JR.,	

NEW YORK, December 15, 5819.”

Which being read, was accepted and approved, and the ordinances recommended for annulment repealed accordingly.

By reference to the early portion of this volume, it will be seen that the Constitutions and old charges adopted by the Grand Lodge in 1785 and readopted in 1801, are printed in full (pp. 136–187). They remained in force and effect.

A new edition was printed by Grand Secretary Elias Hicks, as ordered by Grand Lodge and above noted. The rules of the Grand Lodge which had been altered are herein printed as they stand at this date, 1819.

“SECTION X.

*Particular Rules of the Grand Lodge of New-York.*

Every Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make local ORDINANCES and *new* REGULATIONS, as well as to amend and explain the *old* ones, for their own particular benefit and the good of Masonry in general; provided always, that the *ancient landmarks* be carefully preserved, and that such regulations be first duly proposed in writing for the consideration of the members, and be at last duly enacted with the consent of the majority. This has never been disputed; for the members of every Grand Lodge are the true representatives of all the fraternity in communication, and are an absolute and independent body, with legislative authority, provided (as aforesaid) that the Grand Masonic Constitution be never violated, nor any of the *old landmarks* removed. Upon these principles, the following PARTICULAR RULES have been made, or adopted, in the Grand Lodge of New-York, viz.:

“1. The quarterly communication of all the Lodges under the masonic jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall be held in the Grand Lodge Room, at the city of New-York, on the four following days annually for ever: that is to say, on the first Wednesdays in March, June, September, and December;

and the different Lodges are to attend on these days by their proper officers or deputies, with or without notice for that purpose.

“ 2. None but a Master Mason, who has passed the chair in some regular Lodge, and is a resident or honorary member of the Lodge he is chosen to represent, can be admitted as the proxy of such Lodge; each proxy shall be entitled to three votes on behalf of the Lodge he represents, but no person shall be admitted as proxy for more than one Lodge: and every proxy claiming a seat shall produce a power, sealed with the seal, and signed by the Master, Wardens, and Secretary of such Lodge, in the words following, to wit:

“ At a Meeting of                      Lodge No.            held at  
in the County of                      in the State of New-York, on  
the                                      day of                      A. L. 58

“ On Motion,

“ Resolved, That our Worshipful Brother,                      be  
[*admitted an Honorary Member of this Lodge, and is*] hereby  
appointed to represent this Lodge in the Grand Lodge of  
the State of New York, and fully empowered to act in our  
behalf, in all the transactions of the Grand Lodge, as effec-  
tually as if we ourselves were personally present.

..... : “ All which we have caused to be certified by  
: l. s. : our Master and Wardens, and the Seal of our  
: ..... : Lodge to be affixed.

*Master.*  
*Senior Warden.*  
*Junior Warden.*

*Secretary.*

“ 3. Every person, the Grand Officers and proxies excepted, claiming a seat in this Grand Lodge, shall, before he be allowed to take the same, produce to the Grand Secretary a Certificate from the Lodge which he claims to represent; which Certificate, sealed with the Seal of such Lodge, and

signed by the Secretary thereof, shall be in the form of either of the following, to wit:

“Be it known, that our worthy Brother \_\_\_\_\_ was on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. L. 58 at a Regular Meeting of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge, No. \_\_\_\_\_ held in the town of \_\_\_\_\_ county of \_\_\_\_\_ and state of New-York, duly elected and installed [Master or Warden, *as the case may be*] of said Lodge for the ensuing year.

.....  
L. S.  
.....

“In testimony whereof, we, the Members of the said Lodge, have caused the Seal thereof to be hereunto affixed, and our Secretary to sign the same.

*Secretary.*

“Be it known, that our Worshipful Brother, Past Master \_\_\_\_\_ having, in the year A. L. 58 \_\_\_\_\_ been duly elected, and filled the office of Master of \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ held in the town of \_\_\_\_\_ in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ in the state of New-York, and being now a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge, No. \_\_\_\_\_ held in the town of \_\_\_\_\_ in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ and state aforesaid [or “*said Lodge,*” as the case may be] is duly authorized to represent the said Lodge in the Grand Lodge of this state.

.....  
L. S.  
.....

“In testimony whereof, we the Master and Wardens of said Lodge have subscribed these presents, and caused the Seal of the same to be hereunto affixed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. L. 58

*Master.*  
*Senior Warden.*  
*Junior Warden.*

*Secretary.*

“4. No Past Master shall be entitled to vote in the Grand Lodge, unless he has passed the chair of some Lodge under its jurisdiction.

“ 5. None but members of the Grand Lodge, past or present officers of other Grand Lodges excepted, shall be present at the opening of the same, nor shall any person whomsoever be admitted into the Grand Lodge after one hour from its opening.

“ 6. All Rules passed by this Grand Lodge which shall have an operation upon the Craft in general, shall be called and considered as *Ordinances*; and such as are intended only to affect the Grand Lodge itself, as to its internal government, shall be styled *Regulations*: and no Ordinance shall at any time be passed unless the same be proposed and read at a previous meeting of the Grand Lodge.

“ 7. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Secretary, shall be annually elected at the same time, in the same manner, and for the same term, as the Grand Wardens.

“ 8. None but the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers shall be allowed to wear gold jewels and hangings: officers of subordinate Lodges shall wear silver jewels, with such silk hangings as they may think proper.

“ 9. All moneys due, and to grow due, to the Grand Lodge, shall be paid to the Grand Secretary, and by him paid over to the Grand Treasurer, of which receipts and payments the Grand Secretary and Treasurer shall respectively keep regular and accurate accounts; and no money shall be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge but by the Grand Treasurer, on due authority by him received for such payment, according to the laws of the Grand Lodge and the Masonic Constitution.

“ 10. The books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer shall be submitted to the Grand Stewards' Lodge at each Quarterly Meeting thereof, by which the same shall be examined, audited, and passed; and, annually, at the meeting of the Grand Lodge for the election of officers, the Grand Secretary shall cause an account to be prepared, as

passed by the Grand Stewards' Lodge, which shall show each item of expenditure for the year preceding, and the receipts of the Grand Lodge for the same time; a list of all Lodges that may be in arrears for dues for two years and upwards; and also the amount of stock or property of the Grand Lodge; which said account the Grand Secretary shall cause to be printed, and a copy thereof forwarded to each of the Lodges within the jurisdiction.

“11. The Grand Secretary shall make an annual communication to the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and to the respective Lodges under its jurisdiction, immediately after the election of Grand Officers, of the persons so elected, and of such matters generally as have relation to the craft at large, or may affect the government of such Lodges in particular.

“12. All moneys that may be expended by the Grand Secretary for books, stationery, or in any other manner, in the discharge of the duties of his office, shall be allowed and paid by the Grand Lodge.

“13. The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer are authorized, from time to time, to invest so much of the moneys of the Grand Lodge in the purchase of bank, or United States' stock as they may deem expedient.

“14. The Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler are to attend all meetings of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, as well as of the Grand Lodge, and to the Grand Tyler it especially belongs to carry the summonses, and to perform all the out-door services.

“15. The Grand Master shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Grand Lodge, by warrant under his hand, and under the seal of the Grand Lodge, appoint discreet and experienced Masons, who are Masters or Past Masters of Lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and who shall be styled and called “*Right Worshipful Grand Visitors*;” and shall assign to each of the said

*Visitors* the visitation, care, and superintendence of such of the Lodges under the jurisdiction, as to the Grand Master may appear expedient.

“16. Each Grand Visitor, when he visits a Lodge in his official capacity, shall have power to work as Master of that Lodge which he visits, so that the brethren may profit by his example.

“17. It is the duty of each Grand Visitor, once in a year at least, and as much oftener as the Grand Master shall direct, to visit each Lodge committed to his care and superintendence, to instruct the members thereof, as well in the principles and mysteries of Masonry, as in the operations of the Craft; so that in their work, the Lodges may conform to the precepts and example of the Grand Lodge, and most ancient and enlightened members of the Craft: and also, to require from each Lodge under their respective visitations the annual return of their members, an account of their admissions and initiations, and the fees due to the Grand Lodge; which fees shall be paid to the Grand Visitor, and transmitted, together with the said return and accounts, to the Grand Secretary, as soon as may be after the same shall be received.

“18. The Grand Visitors shall be allowed their reasonable expenses out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and shall annually render to the same a report of their visitations, and an account of their expenses; which account shall specify the distance to each Lodge visited by them respectively, from their place of residence; and the said account shall be audited by the Grand Stewards' Lodge, upon whose report it shall be allowed and passed by the Grand Lodge.

“19. Any Grand Visitor who shall unduly withhold money paid or entrusted to him for, or on account of, the Grand Lodge, shall be removed from office, and be suspended from the benefits of Masonry, for such time as the Grand Lodge shall think proper and decree.

“20. The Grand Stewards’ Lodge shall, from and after the first Wednesday in June, 5816, be composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, and Grand Treasurer, *ex officio*, and of twelve Grand Stewards of Charity, to be elected from the Past Grand Officers, Past Masters, and Masters of the several Lodges in the city and county of New-York, who at the time shall be members of the Grand Lodge. The election of the said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity shall take place at the time of the annual election of the Grand Officers; and immediately thereafter, the presiding officer of the Grand Lodge shall arrange the said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity into four equal classes, numbering them first, second, third, and fourth class. The seats of the members of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the first year; the second class the second year, and so continually to the end, that three Grand Stewards of Charity may be annually elected. The said Grand Stewards’ Lodge shall possess and exercise all the power hitherto vested in the present Grand Stewards’ Lodge, and assemble at the times heretofore prescribed for its meetings, and whenever the Grand Master may specially convene them. They shall also appoint from the said twelve Grand Stewards a committee consisting of three, to be called the “Grand Stewards’ Committee of Charity;” who shall have and exercise the same powers that hitherto belonged to, and were exercised by the Committee of Charity of the existing Grand Stewards’ Lodge, which may however be limited or extended by the said Grand Stewards’ Lodge, to be organized as aforesaid;—and the said Committee shall discharge the duties of their appointment, until the next quarterly meeting, and so from time to time, in such rotation as nearly as may be, that the whole of the said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity shall discharge the said duties three months of every year; provided, however, that instead of appointing a Grand Stewards’ Committee of Charity for the first three months as before directed, the persons composing the first class of the said Grand Stewards of Charity, shall be the first Grand Stewards’ Committee of

Charity—In case of the death, absence, sickness, resignation, or disqualification of any of the said twelve Grand Stewards of Charity, the said Grand Stewards' Lodge shall, at their next quarterly meeting, elect another member or members to fill the place or places so rendered vacant; and the Grand Master may, during the recess of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, fill such vacancy until such election shall take place.—Appeals may be made from the Grand Stewards' Committee of Charity to the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and thence to the Grand Lodge.

“21. There shall be paid toward the Charity Fund of this Grand Lodge the following fees and contributions, viz.

“For every Warrant to constitute a Lodge, *Seventy-five Dollars*.

“For every Dispensation to constitute a Lodge, [which sum to be deducted from the fees for a Warrant, provided such Warrant be applied for and granted within one year from date of the Dispensation,] *Twenty-five Dollars*.

“For every Dispensation to confer three degrees at one meeting, *Ten Dollars*.

“For all other Dispensations, *Five Dollars*.

“For every Grand Lodge Certificate, *Two Dollars and Fifty Cents*.

“For every Member of a Lodge in the City of New-York, per quarter, *Twenty-five Cents*.

“For every member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction and out of the said City of New-York, per quarter, *Twelve and a half Cents*.

“For every Member of a Lodge whose name is returned to be registered in the Grand Lodge Book, *Twelve and a half Cents*.

“For every person initiated in any Lodge in the City of New-York, *Two Dollars and Fifty Cents*.

“For every person initiated in any Lodge out of the said City and within the jurisdiction, *One Dollar and Twenty-five Cents*.

“For every Master Mason, joining a Lodge other than

that in which he was initiated, or had previously belonged to, *One Dollar*.

“For every Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft joining a Lodge, *One Dollar and Twenty-five Cents*.

“22. Every Mason attending the meetings of a Lodge, and participating in its deliberations, voting, &c., shall be deemed a member of said Lodge, and subject to quarterly dues, as provided for in the 6th and 7th specifications of the preceding rule.

“23. Each Lodge shall be answerable for the Dues of every Brother who, by the Book of Constitutions and the Bye-Laws of such Lodge, is considered a member thereof.

“24. Returns of Members for registry and payment of Dues according to the forms hereafter prescribed, shall be made to the Grand Lodge annually, by all Lodges under the jurisdiction, except the Lodges in the City of New-York, by whom the same shall be made quarterly.

“25. Any Lodge in the City of New-York failing in the payment of Dues for six months, and any Lodge out of the said City, and under this jurisdiction, failing in the payment of Dues for eighteen months, shall be thereby disqualified from exercising the right of voting in the Grand Lodge, in any case whatsoever.

“26. Any Lodge failing to make returns and payment of Dues for three years successively, shall be deemed to have forfeited its warrant, and shall surrender the same on the requisition of the Grand Lodge to that effect.

“27. The contributions due to the Charity Fund from the several Lodges ought not to be diverted from the benevolent purposes for which they are intended, and no Lodge, therefore, shall divide its funds among its members, nor provide out of the same any banquets or other refreshments without first paying those dues which belong to, and ought to be appropriated to the said Charity Fund.

“ 28. All members of Lodges being in arrears for one year’s Dues, may be suspended by their respective Lodges from all Masonic communication ; and upon report being duly made to the Grand Lodge, they shall be notified thereof by the Grand Secretary, and enjoined to discharge or commute the same within twelve months from the date of such notice, on pain of being excluded by a formal expulsion from all communication with, or benefit from, the Institution : which penalty, on failure, and at the instance of the Lodge to which the delinquent belongs, shall be duly inflicted.

“ 29. No Lodge within this jurisdiction, nor any member thereof, shall publish or in any manner make public, except it be to the Fraternity, or within the walls of a Lodge, the expulsion of any member.

“ 30. The use of distilled spirits in Lodge rooms, at the meetings of Lodges, is of evil example, and may be productive of pernicious effects ; and the same is therefore expressly forbidden under any pretence whatever.

“ 31. All Lodges in the City of New-York, on the suspension or expulsion of any member for non-payment of Dues or otherwise, and also on the removal of any suspension or expulsion, shall report the same to the Grand Lodge, and also to the different Lodges in the City :—and all Lodges out of the said City and under this jurisdiction, shall in like cases make report of the same to the Grand Visitor of the District, as well as to the Grand Lodge :—and no Lodge, after the suspension of a brother, shall permit him to meet with such Lodge, or otherwise exercise his Masonic privileges, until such suspension is regularly taken off.

“ 32. There shall be paid out of the funds of this Grand Lodge to the following officers, as a compensation for the services rendered by them in their respective offices, in equal quarterly payments as follows, viz.

“ To the Grand Secretary, *Six hundred Dollars per annum.*

“ To the Grand Treasurer, *One hundred Dollars per annum.*

“ To the Grand Pursuivant, *Fifty Dollars per annum.*

“ To the Assistant Grand Pursuivant, *Fifty Dollars per annum.*

“ To the Grand Tyler, *Fifty Dollars per annum.*

“ 33. In the computation of time relative to salaries allowed, or that may hereafter be allowed, the quarter shall be considered as terminating on the day of the regular meeting of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and such salaries paid accordingly.

“ 34. All petitions for Warrants shall come recommended by the officers of the Lodge, nearest to the place where the new one is to be erected.

“ 35. No Charter or Dispensation for constituting a Lodge shall be granted to any person or persons whomsoever residing out of this State, if within the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge.

“ 36. All Lodges out of the City of New-York that have forfeited or shall forfeit their Warrants, shall forthwith surrender the same to the Grand Visitor of the District within which such Lodges were respectively established, on his demand for that purpose duly made, together with all the books, furniture, jewels, ornaments, money, debts, demands, and other property, whether real or personal, belonging or due to any such Lodge, and shall cause proper deeds or other instruments in writing to be executed and delivered to the said Grand Visitor, for the purpose of vesting the same in him for the use of the Grand Lodge: and it shall be the duty of the Grand Visitors to report to the Grand Lodge any neglect or refusal to comply herewith, in order that proper measures may be taken to enforce the same.

“ 37. No Lodge under this jurisdiction shall receive, for conferring the first three degrees of Masonry, a less sum

than *Twenty Dollars*, that is to say, for initiating an E. A. *Ten Dollars*; passing a F. C. *Five Dollars*; and raising a M. M. *Five Dollars*.

“ 38. No Lodge shall initiate into the mysteries of the Craft any person whomsoever, without being first satisfied by a test or otherwise, whether such candidate hath at any time made application to a Lodge, and been rejected or otherwise refused admission into the same: and if it shall appear that the candidate has been rejected, then, not until the Lodge to which he applies is satisfactorily convinced that such rejection has not been on account of any circumstances that ought to preclude him from the benefits of Masonry.

“ 39. All candidates for initiation into Lodges within this jurisdiction, shall be proposed at a Regular Stated Meeting of the Lodge; no candidate so proposed shall be balloted for before the next (nor at any other than a) Regular Stated Meeting of such Lodge: and in all cases where the Stated Meetings of a Lodge occur oftener than semi monthly, two weeks' interval at least shall transpire between the proposing and balloting for any candidate.

“ 40. No person shall be entitled to a Grand Lodge Certificate, without a previous certificate from the Master, or, in his absence, the presiding officer of the Lodge of which he is a member, setting forth his regular behavior, and that he hath discharged all Lodge dues.

“ 41. All applications for charity shall be made to the Grand Stewards' Lodge, or to the Grand Stewards' Committee of Charity, and not to the Grand Lodge, unless under special circumstances, to be stated in the petition.

“ 42. The Masters of Lodges in the City of New-York shall cause their Secretaries, immediately after each meeting of their respective Lodges, to report to the Grand Treasurer, (who shall file the same for the inspection of any that may require it,) the amount of any charitable donations that may

be made, the persons to whom made, and the merits as ascertained by the said Lodges, of the respective applicants, together with any other information relating to such donations, that may be deemed important.

“ 43. No dispensation, authorizing a funeral procession in the City of New-York, except for a sojourner, shall be issued, unless requested by the Master and Wardens of the Lodge to which the deceased member shall have belonged, and who, at the same time shall certify, and the Secretary of said Lodge shall countersign the Certificate, that he, for whose interment the dispensation is requested, has paid his Lodge dues until within six months before his decease.

“ 44. A modern Master Mason, known to be such, may be healed and admitted into the mysteries of the Ancient Craft, in the manner determined upon : but no Lodge shall heal a modern Mason for a less sum than *Five Dollars*.

“ 45. All Free Masons, who are acknowledged as such by any of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, Ireland, and South Carolina, shall be considered as legitimate Free Masons by the Lodges under this jurisdiction.”

#### NON-AFFILIATES.

The following Ordinance, proposed on December 1, 1819, was passed June 8, 1820, and ordered to be engrafted in the particular rules of the Grand Lodge, to wit: “ Any Lodge may take cognizance of the conduct of any sojourning brother or brethren unattached to any particular Lodge, upon a charge of un-Masonic conduct, committed by such brethren while residing or sojourning in the vicinity of such Lodge ; and having cited the parties to a hearing and investigated the facts in the case, shall make report thereof to the Lodge to which the offender belongs, if within the United States ; or, if otherwise, shall decide upon the merits of the same, and, in either and every case, shall make report of its

proceedings in the premises to the Grand Lodge, to which, as in all other cases, there remains the right of appeal.”

MASONIC HALL.

A Committee was appointed December 15, 1819, to look for and select a proper and suitable site in the city of New York for a Grand Masonic Hall, to ascertain the conditions upon which the same may be purchased, and the uses to which it may be employed until it be deemed expedient to build.

1820.

On March 1, the following report was made :

“ *To the Right Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of New York :*

The Committee appointed to look out for an eligible site for a Masonic Hall and to report the same to this Grand Lodge, respectfully report :

That they have not been able to procure answers from all the persons owning ground in situations that might prove eligible for the erection of a Masonic edifice.

That in Grand Street, at the intersection of Elizabeth Street, are four lots of ground forming a front on Grand Street of about 94 feet, and in length about 30 feet, which may be had for about the sum of \$4,600, provided it is immediately purchased, and about half this amount may remain on mortgage on the premises.

That at the corner of Beekman and Nassau streets several lots may be had for \$20,000, making 48½ feet on Beekman and 104 feet on Nassau Street, and about one-half of this sum may remain on mortgage for ten or twelve years, if not longer.

That at the corner of Grand Street and Broadway, there are several lots comprising a front on Broadway of 107 feet, extending in length toward Mercer Street 100 feet, which may be purchased for \$18,000 cash.

CORNELIUS BOGERT, }  
 GEORGE HODGSON, } Committee.”

Which being read, it was

“*Resolved*, That the same Committee be requested to continue their researches, and make a final report at the next Quarterly Communication.”

On June 9, 1820, the Committee further reported that the places referred to in their former report as eligible for a Masonic Hall, were not for sale, and that they had nothing further to communicate on the subject.

The importance of

#### UNIFORMITY OF WORK

had been referred to a Committee and considered in 1810, when finally the subject had been referred to the Grand Officers with power. At the meeting, December, 1820, the subject was reintroduced, and referred to a Committee consisting of the Right Worshipful Brothers Elias Hicks, Ebenezer Wadsworth, Joseph Enos, John W. Mulligan, and Thomas Lowndes to settle a uniform mode of work for the Lodges, and to report their proceedings in June next. It will be observed that the same chairman was appointed as in 1810, but again the matter was allowed to slumber.

Harmony Lodge, No. 154, was authorized to change its place of holding meetings from Champlain to Chazy.

Inasmuch as a letter was received on June 7, 1820, from the Hon. De Witt Clinton declining re-election as Grand Master, and the Right Worshipful Martin Hoffman having announced his declination to a re-election as Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Lodge elected Most Worshipful Daniel D. Tompkins (Vice-President of the United States), Grand Master; Right Worshipful John Wells, Deputy Grand Master; Right Worshipful John W. Mulligan, Senior Grand Warden, and the remaining officers as in the preceding year. On June 21, letters were received from the Deputy Grand Master elect, John Wells, declining to serve. Whereupon,

John W. Mulligan was elected Deputy, and Hon. William Irving, Senior Grand Warden, for the ensuing year.

BRIEF SKETCH OF HON. DANIEL D. TOMPKINS.

Hon. Daniel D. Tompkins was Grand Secretary from 1801 to 1805, and his next official position in Grand Lodge was as Grand Master in 1820; he was re-elected in 1821. He was a famous statesman and jurist. Brother Tompkins was born in Scarsdale, Westchester County, in 1774; died on Staten Island, June 11, 1825. He graduated at Columbia College, was elected to Congress, and resigned to become one of the Justices of the Supreme Court. From 1807 to 1817 he was Governor of New York State. In 1816 he was elected Vice-President of the United States, and was re-elected in 1820, retiring in 1825. He received two hundred and eighteen votes, including those of all the States, except New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Delaware, and Maryland. James Monroe was the President. Daniel D. Tompkins held the high office of Vice-President at the same time that he was Grand Master of Masons.

THE "UNION" OF ANCIENT AND MODERN MASONS IN GREAT BRITAIN. A NEW DEGREE AUTHORIZED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK.

Right Worshipful William H. Snelling, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Lower Canada, on December 1, 1819, by letter, had conveyed information to this Grand Lodge on the subject of the "Union" between the Ancient and Modern Masons in Great Britain, and as to which, allusion had been made and information sought, by means of a preamble and resolution, adopted March 3, 1819; and conformably to the sanction of the Grand Lodge of the Province of Lower Canada, a Brother had been fully instructed in the formula and ceremony of the "Union," and charged with communicating the same to this Grand Lodge, which had been done through the Grand Secretary, who was

authorized to impart it and to extend the same. Whereupon it was

“ *Ordered*, That the mystery of the ‘ Union,’ as communicated by the Grand Lodge of Lower Canada, be referred to the Grand Officers, the Grand Visitors, and the Masters of the Lodges of the city of New York (or in the absence of the Master of any Lodge, to the Senior Warden, or in the absence of both, to some past Master of such Lodge) for the purpose of adopting and disseminating the same, if the Grand Officers shall deem it proper so to do, after being made acquainted therewith.”

On December 6, 1820, the Grand Lodge being in session, the Grand Master, from the Committee of Grand Officers and Masters of Lodges, presented a minute of its proceedings, together with the report of its Sub-Committee, in the words following, to wit :

“ Minutes of the Proceedings of the Grand Officers and Masters of Lodges, convened pursuant to a resolution of the R. W. Grand Lodge, of the 8th of June, last, at the Grand Lodge room in the City Hotel, in the city of New York, on Wednesday evening, November 8, A. L. 5820.

PRESENT.

The M. W., His Excellency Daniel D. Tompkins, Vice-President of the United States, etc., etc., G. M., in the chair.

R. W. John W. Mulligan, D. G. M.

R. W. the Hon. William Irving, S. G. W.

W. Smith Ovutt, Master St. John's, No. 1, as J. G. W.

R. W. Elias Hicks, G. S.

R. W. Cornelius Bogert, G. T.

W. and Rev. Henry I. Feltus, A. G. C.

W. George McKinley, Master of No. 2.

W. Thomas W. Garniss, Past Master of No. 7.

W. John C. Fraser, Master of No. 9.

W. James Bertine, Master of No. 10.

W. Archibald McCoulm, Master of No. 39.

W. Daniel Wishart, Master of No. 40.

W. James Bouchaud, Master of No. 71.  
W. James A. Moore, Master of No. 83.  
W. Silas Lyon, Master of No. 84.  
W. Benjamin W. Peck, Master of No. 108.  
Brother D. Haselton, Senior Warden of No. 132.  
W. Daniel West, Master of No. 142.  
W. James P. Allaire, Master of No. 143.  
W. Paul Lamson, Master of No. 153.  
W. Edward S. Bellamy, Master of No. 304.  
Brother Alexander Thompson, of No. 2."

It being stated by the Grand Secretary, that, in order to carry the object of the meeting into effect, it would be necessary that a Lodge should be opened, the same was done in ample form, and with solemn prayer.

#### THE UNION COMMUNICATED.

"The G. Secretary, assisted by the W. Bro. McKinley, of No. 2, the W. Bro. Garniss, of No. 7, and Bro. Thompson, of No. 2, then proceeded to initiate the R. W. and W. Brethren above enumerated and particularized, in the mystery of the 'Union,' as communicated by the Grand Lodge of Lower Canada; and the ceremony being ended, a motion was made and carried, that the Masters of Lodges here present, do advise and recommend to the R. W. Grand Officers the dispersion of the same."

The Grand Officers having conferred, the Grand Master announced as their pleasure, and gave permission for, the free dissemination of the "Union" to all brethren entitled to receive the same; but, on the suggestion of the Senior Grand Warden, it was afterward

"*Resolved*, That a Sub-Committee be appointed to arrange and digest the mode in which the 'Union' is to be used and communicated, and to make report thereon at the next quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge; and that the said Committee consist of the R. W. Brothers Mulligan, Irving, Hicks, Bogert, and the W. Brother Ovutt."

The Sub-Committee appointed by the Grand Officers and the Masters of Lodges in the city, to digest and arrange the mode in which the "Union" was to be communicated, submitted the following, as the result of their deliberations :

"The 'Union' can only be communicated in a Master Mason's Lodge, and to no brother below that degree. It is obligatory on the part of the Master of a Lodge to communicate it to any member, being a Master Mason, requiring the same; but it is discretionary with every member to receive or decline it. The Masters of Lodges to whom the 'Union' has been imparted, forthwith (*sic*), and those who are yet to receive it, as soon as convenient after it shall have been communicated to them, are to cause the members of their Lodges to be specially notified, that at a given meeting, to be selected by such Master, the 'Union' will be imparted to all brethren qualified and desirous of receiving the same. Afterward the 'Union' shall be communicated only in a Lodge of United Masons, that is, in the presence of five brethren who have already received it, for which purpose the Master of the Lodge is authorized and enjoined to exclude, during the ceremony, all such brethren as have not received, or may decline to receive, it.

JOHN W. MULLIGAN.  
WILLIAM IRVING.  
ELIAS HICKS.  
CORNELIUS BOGERT.  
SMITH OVUTT."

Which was accepted and confirmed.

Pending the consideration of the revision and reprint of the Constitution and Rules, on June 12, 1822, the following resolution was referred to a Committee of nine, of which Grand Master, Joseph Enos, was one, to wit :

"*Resolved*, That the introduction of the Union Degree, or any other degree, into the present Masonic system is unnecessary and inexpedient. . . ."

Further action thereon does not appear until the Grand Secretary, on June 13, 1823, from the Committee appointed for the purpose of preparing a new Book of Constitutions for the Grand Lodge, made a report of their proceedings, and stated that, agreeably to the tenor of the resolution by which the Committee was appointed, the same had been printed and circulated, as therein directed. Which report was accepted.

THE IMPOSTOR, J. DE GLOCK D'OVERNAY.

At a Convention of Grand Officers and Masters of Lodges, a Committee, on December 9, 1820, reported as follows :

“ A person calling himself Joseph De Glock D'Obernay, and styling himself the representative of the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, to the Grand Lodge of New Spain, and exhibiting a diploma to that effect, has presented himself at the door and claimed admission ; but, being a person who for several years past has been in the practice of setting at defiance the rules and regulations of the Craft, contemning the authority of all Grand Lodges, and in many cases infringing their rights and prerogatives ; and this Committee of the Grand Lodge, believing that the document offered for their inspection is a forgery, or, if genuine, that the Most Worshipful Brother from whom it has been obtained, has been deceived as to the character of the said Joseph De Glock D'Obernay, it was thereupon

*Ordered,* That the Grand Secretary detain the said diploma until the aforesaid individual shall furnish more satisfactory evidence of his being what he represents himself to be, or until it shall be ascertained from the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of England, that the same has been rightfully obtained, and that it is their wish that it should be returned to him.”

An adjournment of the Committee was then had.

In response to the letter of inquiry from the Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodge of England in relation to the above,

an answer was returned and read to Grand Lodge, on June 8, 1822.

The following letter received from the Right Worshipful William H. White, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, was read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes:

“FREE MASON’S HALL, LONDON, January 2, 1822.

R. W. BROTHER: In answer to your communication of the 7th of September last, I am commanded by the M. W. Grand Master, His Royal Highness, the Duke of Sussex, to state to you that the Bro. J. G. D’Obernay was invested with powers only to give the Royal Arch Degree in New Spain, and nowhere in the British Colonies; but that, intelligence having been received of his misconduct as a Mason, while at Jamaica, orders were sent out to the R. W., Provincial Grand Master of that island (Brother Dr. Clare) to withdraw the diploma which had been given him for that purpose. You will therefore be good enough to return the document which Brother D’Obernay has so abused, and which you have so properly detained, in a letter addressed to the M. W. Grand Master, ‘to be delivered into His Royal Highness’ own hands,’ and that letter inclosed in a cover addressed to me at this place, in the usual form.

I have the honor to be, with every sentiment of fraternal regard, R. W. Brother,

Your very obedient servant and Brother,

WILLIAM H. WHITE,

Grand Secretary United Grand Lodge of England.

To the Right Worshipful Elias Hicks,  
Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of New York.”

#### CHANGE IN THE GRAND OFFICES.

Action was had on June 9, 1820, pertaining to Grand Lodge Offices as follows:

The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer from the Committee to whom was referred the Communications from other Grand Lodges, made the following report:

*“ To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York :*

The Committee appointed to investigate the Communications from the several Grand Lodges of the United States of North America, of Upper and Lower Canada, and from the United Grand Lodge of England, beg leave to report that they have examined said Communications, and find that the most important regulations contained in those documents are in operation under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee observe that the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge have each a Senior and a Junior Grand Deacon only, and many of them have a Grand Sword-Bearer, Grand Marshal, and Grand Standard-Bearer; we, therefore, respectfully suggest to the Grand Lodge the propriety of the appointment of two Deacons, which we think will be conformable to the ancient usage of the Fraternity; and to appoint a Grand Sword-Bearer, a Grand Marshal, and a Grand Standard-Bearer. Should the latter offices be created, we recommend that the proper insignia be provided for the officers, together with the jewels for the Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler.

GEORGE MCKINLEY, M. of No. 2.

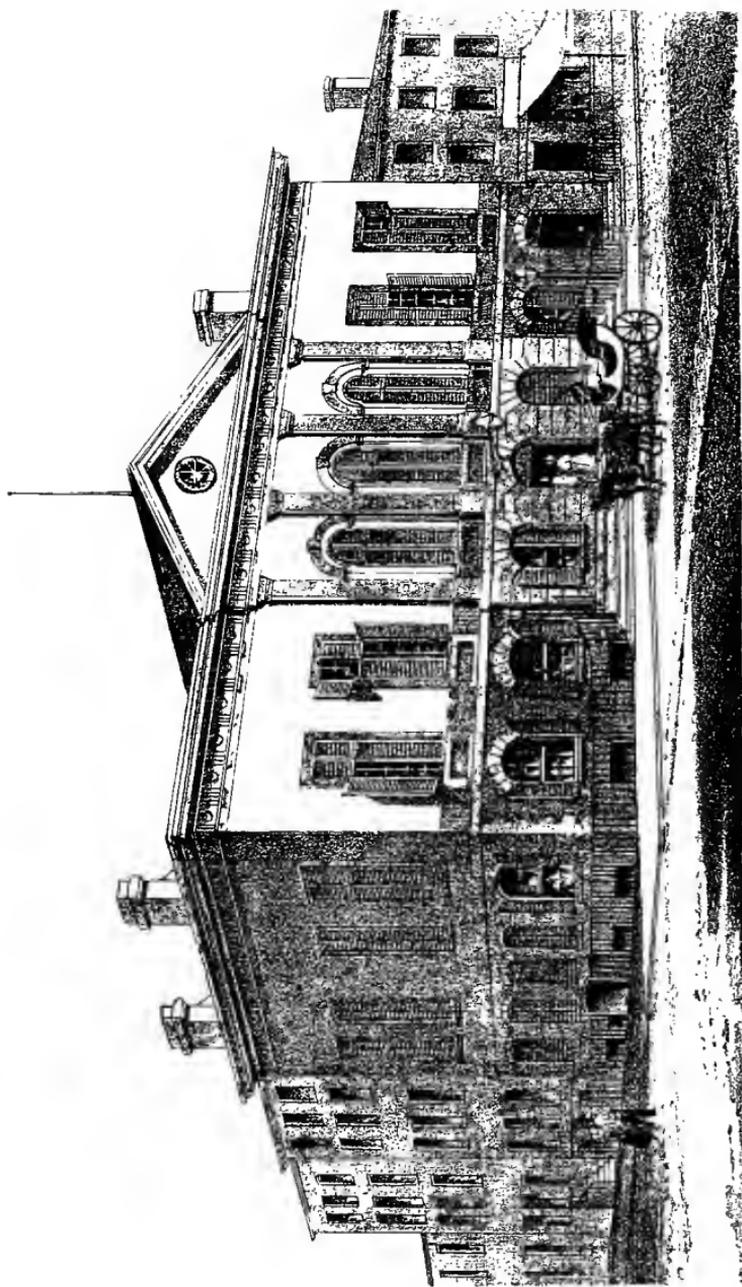
CORNELIUS BOGERT, P. M. of No. 7.”

Which being read was accepted, and the consideration postponed until the next Quarterly Communication. This occurred September 12, when,

On motion of the Worshipful Brother McKinley, of No. 2, that part of the report of the Committee on Foreign Communications which has relation to the creation of additional offices in this Grand Lodge, conformable to the general usage in other Grand Lodges, was called up for consideration. Whereupon it was

*“ Resolved,* That the number of Grand Deacons be reduced to two, viz., a Senior and a Junior Deacon; that in addition to the officers already recognized by this Grand Lodge, there shall hereafter be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master,





WASHINGTON HALL,  
BROADWAY, CORNER OF READE STREET





annually, at the time and in the manner of making such other appointments as are vested in the Chair, a Grand Sword-Bearer, a Grand Marshal, and a Grand Standard-Bearer, who shall be selected from among the members of this Grand Lodge, shall be styled "Right Worshipful," and shall take rank immediately after the Grand Chaplains, and in the order hereinbefore observed.

*Resolved*, That the R. W. Grand Treasurer, the W. Brother Ovutt, of No. 1, and the W. Bro. McKinley, of No. 2, be a Committee for providing suitable insignia for the aforesaid Officers, and also for the Grand Chaplains, the Grand Pursuivant, and the Grand Tyler."

WASHINGTON HALL,

where the Grand Lodge at this time was holding its sessions, was celebrated as a social resort. It stood on Broadway, between Chambers and Reade streets, on part of the former negro Burying Ground, and whereon now is located the "Stewart Building," built of marble.

Spring Lodge, No. 279, was authorized to change its place of meeting from the town of Norway to that of Newport.

Also, St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 92, to change its location from Kortright to Stamford.

FEEES FOR INITIATION,

Numerous complaints from Lodges were received in June, 1820, that the charges for initiation fees were excessive; a Committee to whom the subject was referred, reported in December that the following were the prices charged by other Grand Lodges :

New Hampshire.....	\$15	Vermont.....	\$15
Massachusetts.....	19	Rhode Island.....	24
Connecticut.....	13	South Carolina.....	29
Georgia.....	15	Ohio.....	20
Pennsylvania, no restriction.		New Jersey, no restriction.	
Kentucky, " "		Indiana, " "	

And that in their opinion the fee charged in New York (\$20) ought not at this time to be lessened. That the average in other jurisdictions was more than in New York.

At the election held June 21 to fill the office of Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful John Wells having declined to accept the office, John W. Mulligan was elected, and William Irving was elected Senior Grand Warden, which office was made vacant by the promotion of Brother Mulligan.

In response to a question as to whether a

ROYAL ARCH MASON IS RELEASED FROM HIS OBLIGATION TO  
ANSWER SUMMONSES

sent to him from a Lodge of Masters, the following answer was approved: "This Grand Lodge does not admit a power to exist in any order or description of Masons, of absolving Master Masons from any of the duties imposed by their Obligations, the Book of Constitutions, or the By-laws of the Lodge to which they may respectively belong."

THE GRAND LODGE OF MAINE

duly announced its first formal Convention on June 1, 1820; incident to the political separation of that Territory from the State of Massachusetts, the general convention of all Lodges following the consent of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

## CHAPTER V.

1821-1830.

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1821.

## RIGHT OF VISIT.

A RESOLUTION was presented December 16, "that upon the application of a visiting brother for admission into any Lodge, the Presiding Officer, on receiving information which he, or a majority of the members present, may see fit to respect, that the admission of such individual will disturb the harmony of the Body, or embarrass its work, he is hereby authorized, exercising a due discretion, to deny such applicant the privilege he claims." This resolution was adopted March 7, 1821.

## RECOGNITION OF OFFICIAL SIGNATURES.

At the instance of the Grand Secretary, a preamble and resolution were adopted, to the effect that a perfect acquaintance with the signatures of the Grand Officers of the several Grand Lodges is of material importance in testing the authenticity of papers professedly issuing from under the hands and by the authority of any of them; and that the Grand Secretary, when communicating with Grand Lodges, shall accompany the same with the signatures of the Grand Master, the Deputy, and the Grand Wardens, written in their own proper hand, authenticated under the hand and seal of the Grand Lodge; and that the Officers of other Grand Lodges, in responding, be requested to follow the same suggestion, especially in the case where Grand Officers have changed under election.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 228, was granted permission to change the place of its meeting from Trenton, Oneida County, to Remsen, in the same county.

COMMITTEE EXPENSES TO BE PAID BY CONTENDING PARTIES.

It was determined by the Grand Lodge, March 9, 1821, by an order, that the actual expenses, which may accrue to Committees of this Grand Lodge, appointed to settle any difference or misunderstanding between Masons, or between a Lodge and its members, shall be borne by one or both of the parties, if the Committee to whom such difference shall be referred shall so decide.

On the following March 14, it was ordered that the mode heretofore pursued, of notifying the members of this Grand Lodge of the meetings of the same, be discontinued; and that, in future, all meetings of this Grand Lodge, both regular and Emergent, shall be called by advertising the same three days next before and including the day of meeting, in three of the newspapers printed in the city of New York, to be selected by the Grand Secretary.

The officers elected on June 6, 1821, were as follows :

His Excellency Daniel D. Tompkins, Grand Master.  
 Gen. John Brush, Deputy Grand Master.  
 R. W. John Greig, Senior Grand Warden.  
 R. W. Richard Hatfield, Junior Grand Warden.  
 R. W. Cornelius Bogert, Grand Treasurer.  
 R. W. Elias Hicks, Grand Secretary.  
 R. W. and Rev. James Milnor, Grand Chaplain.  
 R. W. and Rev. Henry I. Feltus, Asst. Grand Chaplain.  
 Bro. Joseph Jacobs, Grand Pursuivant.  
 Bro. John Utt, Asst. Grand Pursuivant.  
 Bro. Bryan Rossetter, Grand Tyler.

On September 5, 1821, Thomas U. P. Charlton, Grand Master of Georgia, visited and received the honors of the Grand Lodge.

## THE PRINTER TO THE GRAND LODGE.

Worshipful Brother Southwick, appointed on September 9, 1820, to do the printing, having died, thus creating a vacancy, the Worshipful Edward S. Bellamy, Past Master of Concord Lodge, No. 304, was elected printer to the Grand Lodge.

## GRAND LODGE ESPAÑOLA.

A Grand Lodge was established at the city of Havana, island of Cuba, on November 30, 1820, which, having been communicated to the Grand Lodge of New York, solicitation was made for fraternal recognition and correspondence; whereupon, in June, it was

*Resolved*, That the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in a country, the policy of whose government has ever been to exclude from its domains every description of Masonic labor and communion, is an interesting and important epoch in the annals of the Craft, and cannot fail to inspire with the most sincere and animated joy the bosoms of every member of our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity; that the Grand Lodge of New York participates in an eminent degree in this warm and natural feeling, and hereby offers to the 'Grand Lodge Española' its cordial congratulations on the auspicious event of its erection, with the assurance of that fraternal intercourse and correspondence which is cultivated and preserved with other Grand Lodges of the Ancient Craft."

Detroit Lodge, No. 337, was warranted on September 5, 1821, by the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York, to be held in the city of Detroit, Michigan Territory.

## ANDRÉ'S REMAINS CONVEYED TO ENGLAND.

Major André, who had been initiated into the Fraternity, was born in 1751. He was an Adjutant General in the British army, and was taken in disguise on his return from a

secret expedition to the traitorous American General, Benedict Arnold, also of the Brotherhood, on September 23, 1780—one of his captors, William Paulding, being a member of the Masonic Fraternity. André was sentenced to execution as a spy by a court of Brother General Washington's officers, at Tappan, N. Y., near where he had been captured, and suffered death on the following October 2. The traitor Arnold was given a commission in the British army. André's remains were removed to England in a sarcophagus, August 10, 1821, and interred in Westminster Abbey.

1822.

APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS

were made by the Grand Master March 6, 1822, and were as follows :

- R. W. George Hodgson, Grand Sword Bearer.
  - R. W. Samuel Montgomery, Grand Marshal.
  - R. W. John G. Tardy, Grand Standard Bearer.
  - W. James Lyons, Jr.,
  - W. Abraham Rider,
  - W. George B. Smith,
  - W. William M. Price,
- } Grand Stewards.
- W. Matthew L. Davis, Senior Grand Deacon.
  - W. Henry Marsh, Junior Grand Deacon.

On the same date the following was passed *nem. con.*

LAWFUL AGE.

“ *Ordered*, That that part of the Book of Constitutions which relates to the qualifications of candidates for initiation into the mysteries of Masonry, shall be so construed, as that no person shall be entered in any Lodge under this jurisdiction who shall not have attained the age of twenty-one years.”

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was convened April 29, 1822, at which Richard Hatfield, Junior Grand Warden, stated, upon a representation by the Grand Secretary, that

## ST. GEORGE'S LODGE, NO. 8, SCHENECTADY,

agreeably to the proposition made by them on March 5, 1817, and agreed to by the Grand Officers, to whom the same was referred, had now complied with the terms upon which it was settled, that the said Lodge should be received within the pale of this jurisdiction, and claimed to be received accordingly; he had caused this Emergent meeting to be called for the purpose of submitting the case to their consideration and decision.

The application from St. George's Lodge, signed by Timothy Capin and John McMichael, a Committee duly appointed for that purpose, being then read, it was thereupon

*Resolved*, That the resolutions of this Grand Lodge, passed on June 4, A. L. 5819, by which St. George's Lodge, at Schenectady, was declared to have forfeited its Masonic privileges, and the individuals then and since composing the said Lodge, expelled the Order, and deprived of all its benefits, be, and the same is, hereby repealed.

*Resolved*, That the doings of said Lodge during the continuance of the said denunciation, be held, and they are hereby declared to be, as valid and constitutional as though the same had never been decreed.

*Resolved*, That a new Warrant of this date be issued to Henry Yates, Jr., Master; Samuel Farnsworth, Senior Warden; and John McMichael, Junior Warden, of said Lodge, empowering them and their associates to hold a Lodge in the city of Schenectady, in the county of Schenectady, by the name of St. George's Lodge, No. 8, which said Lodge shall take and hold rank from September 14, 1774, the date of the original Warrant this day surrendered.

*Resolved*, That the said original Warrant be, and the same is, hereby allowed to remain in the hands of the said Henry Yates, Jr., and his successors in office, for safe keeping only, and with the express understanding that it shall not be used under any circumstances for Masonic purposes."

The Grand Lodge assembled on June 5, 1822, with most of the Grand Officers in attendance, together with the Representatives of fifty-four Lodges and the proxies of fifty-six other Lodges.

The Grand Body, finding itself cramped for want of commodious space, called off in order to assemble in Tammany Hall, where the Grand Lodge was called to order, when Josiah Randall, Grand Master, and Samuel F. Bradford, Past Grand Master, were announced and received with the accustomed honors.

#### A GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

The following communication from Brother William S. Cardell, conveying the proceedings of an assemblage of Masons at Washington, relating to the formation of a General Grand Lodge for the United States, and a report made to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on the same subject, by a Committee of that Body to whom the aforesaid communication had been referred, were severally laid before this Grand Lodge, and referred to Brothers John Brush, D. G. M.; John Greig, S. G. W.; Joseph Enos, P. G. V.; Matthew L. Davis, of No. 84; Henry W. Ducachet, of No. 2; Simeon Ford, of No. —; John Coffin, of No. 83; William M. Price, of No. 16, and Richard Goodell, of No. 125.

#### PROCEEDINGS HAD AT WASHINGTON.

“*Masonic Notice.*—Those members of Congress who belong to the Masonic fraternity, and those visitors of the city who are or have been members of any State Grand Lodge, are respectfully invited to attend a meeting to be held in the Senate Chamber this evening at 7 o'clock, to take into consideration matters of general interest to the Masonic Institution.”

Pursuant to the above notice, published in the *National Intelligencer*, a number of members of the Society of Free Masons from various parts of the United States, composed of

members of Congress and strangers, assembled at the Capitol, in the city of Washington, March 9, 1822. Brother Thomas R. Ross was appointed Chairman, and Bro. William Darlington, member of Congress, of Pennsylvania, Secretary; and it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this meeting it is expedient for the general interests of Freemasonry, to constitute a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

*Resolved*, That it be proposed to the several Grand Lodges in the United States to take the subject into their serious consideration at their next annual Communications, and that, if they approve of the formation of a General Grand Lodge, it be recommended to them to appoint one or more delegates to assemble in the city of Washington, on the second Monday of February next, to agree on the organization of such Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That if two-thirds of the Grand Lodges within the United States concur in the propriety of establishing a General Grand Lodge, it be recommended to them to instruct their representatives to proceed to the formation of a Constitution of a General Grand Lodge, to be subsequently submitted to the several Grand Lodges in the Union for their ratification; and which, being ratified by a majority of them, shall be considered as thenceforth binding on all the Grand Lodges assenting thereto.

*Resolved*, That the Most Worshipful John Marshall, of Virginia; Henry Clay, of Kentucky; William H. Winder, of Maryland; William S. Cardell, of New York; Joel Abbot, of Georgia; John Holmes, of Maine; Henry Baldwin, of Pennsylvania; John H. Eaton, of Tennessee; William W. Seaton, of Washington; Christopher Rankin, of Mississippi; Thomas R. Ross, of Ohio; H. G. Burton, of North Carolina; and the Rev. Thaddeus M. Harris, D.D., of Massachusetts, be, and they hereby are, appointed a Committee to open a correspondence with the respective Grand Lodges within the United States, and to take such measures therein as they may deem expedient to carry the aforesaid resolutions into effect.

The Committee in complying with the above resolutions, are aware that a meeting of individual Masons, however respectable in number and character, could delegate no regular authority in behalf of the Masonic body ; and if they could, it would be unnecessary. This paper will, therefore, be understood, as it is intended to be, a proceeding, originating in the necessity of the case, to adopt some mode by which the general views of Masons in the different States of the American Union may be ascertained.

The history of the Masonic institution shows that, though established among various nations, it was, in each country, confined to a comparatively small number. The jurisdiction exercised by Grand Lodges, like almost every exertion of power or of moral influence, was concentrated in different capital cities. The subordinate Lodges were few in number, and their connection with the supreme head was very direct. Till within a recent period, it is believed, no great number of Lodges have been united under a single Jurisdiction. The art of printing and other causes have produced great changes in the condition of the world, and these causes have operated in their full proportion on the society of Free Masons. The sphere of civilization is greatly enlarging its boundaries ; intellectual attainments and the influence of moral operations are taking the place of brute force ; known principles and laws are recognized ; and the advantages of cultivated reason are shared by an increased proportion of mankind. Under these circumstances, Masonry has been extended, and its Lodges so multiplied as to make their proper conduct a subject of much interest to the friends of the Society.

There are two points which at once present themselves in connection with the idea of establishing a General Grand Lodge of the United States. The first is to acquire, in a correspondence with foreign nations, an elevated stand for the Masonry of this country ; to unite with them in maintaining its general principles in their purity ; and, secondly, to preserve, between our own States, that uniformity in work, and that active interchange of good offices, which would be difficult, if not impossible, by other means.

The Committee do not presume to instruct their brethren in the nature of an institution in which they have a common interest. They are governed by a few plain considerations, known to all who have attended to the subject.

The antiquity of the Masonic Society, extending so far beyond all other human associations, seizes the attention, and the mind is naturally impressed with feelings of interest for an institution transmitted to us through the long train of a hundred ages. Time, which destroys all perishable things, seems to have consolidated the pillars of this moral temple. We contemplate the long catalogue of excellent men who have been equally the supporters of Masonry and the ornaments of human nature; and we say, almost unconsciously, that the present generation, with all its lights, must not tarnish the name of an institution consecrated by so many circumstances calculated to endear it to the mind of a good man.

Without making invidious comparisons between the United States and other portions of the world, there are some great considerations of responsibility which our intelligent citizens, accustomed to reflect on the affairs of nations, cannot overlook. The Masons of the United States, in character as such, have their full share of this moral responsibility. They will consider their institution as one of the great social causes to allay low-minded jealousies between nations at peace, and in war to mitigate the horrors which it cannot avert. While they offer their gratitude to a beneficent Providence for their own blessings, they will not be regardless of their obligations to their brethren throughout the world.

These reflections, drawn from the external circumstances of Masonry, are strengthened by the consideration of its intrinsic nature. Its foundation is fixed in the social feelings and the best principles of the human mind. Its maxims are the lessons of virtue, reduced to their practical application. It stands opposed to sordidness; to a jealous or revengeful temper; to all the selfish and malevolent passions; it coincides with the highest motives of patriotism, the most expanded philanthropy, and concentrates all its precepts in reverence to a Divine Creator and good-will to man.

The United States are supposed to contain near 80,000 Free Masons. They are generally in the vigor of manhood, and capable of much active usefulness. Notwithstanding the abuses in some places by the admission of unworthy members, they are, as a body, above mediocrity in character and talent. It becomes an interesting question how the energies of this body can be best combined to give effect to the benevolent design of their association.

From causes which need no explanation, the Masonic jurisdiction in this country has taken its form from the political divisions. The modification which it has undergone, from the spirit of our civil institutions, has its benefits and its defects. Each of our State jurisdictions is supreme within itself. Whatever collisions may exist, whatever abuses, whatever departures from the correct standard, in principle or in rites, whatever injury to the common cause, there is no mode assigned to obviate the wrongs which it is the interest of all to prevent.

There is no provision for a systematic interchange of Masonic intelligence. In one or two instances there are already two or more Grand Lodges in the same State, each claiming superior jurisdiction, and with no acknowledged boundaries between them. Will not these evils increase as our population becomes more dense, unless means be seasonably used to guard against them? Is the difference now prevailing between different States, an evil which calls for remedy? Every good Mason must wish chiefly for the harmony of the general institution; for the Society is so formed that no particular part, however meritorious by itself, can continue to prosper if the body at large is brought into disgrace. Is the Masonry of our country at present a great arch without a keystone? Is it not in danger of falling? Are not many of the books which are published in the name of the Masonic institution derogatory to its character and interest?

It is not the design of the Committee to enter into arguments on this subject, nor to lay down their own opinions as a guide for those better able to judge, but to proceed to the only duty required of them to perform.

According to the preceding resolutions, the Committee are to submit the question, whether it be expedient that a Grand Lodge of the United States be formed; and, secondly, to request those Grand Lodges which approve that object, to appoint delegates to meet at Washington on the second Monday of February next, to take such measures as may be deemed most proper for the organization of such General Grand Lodge.

It is requested that this letter may not be published in newspapers, but submitted to the several Grand Lodges, and distributed among Masons, as a subject concerning the affairs of their own Body.

If the information furnished to the Committee should render it expedient, perhaps another letter may be forwarded, giving a statement of such facts as may be interesting to be known, previous to a final decision on the course to be taken.

An answer is requested, with a free expression of opinion on the subject of this communication. Such answer may be directed to any member of the Committee, or, in particular, to William W. Seaton, Esq., Washington.

HENRY CLAY,  
 WILLIAM H. WINDER,  
 WILLIAM S. CARDELL,  
 JOEL ABBOT,  
 JOHN HOLMES,  
 HENRY BALDWIN,  
 JOHN H. EATON,  
 WILLIAM W. SEATON,  
 CHRISTOPHER RANKIN,  
 THOMAS R. ROSS,  
 H. G. BURTON,  
 THADDEUS MASON HARRIS."

"REPORT TO THE R. W. GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The Committee to whom were referred the Communication reciting the proceedings of 'A number of members of

the Society of Free Masons, from various parts of the United States, composed of members of Congress and strangers, assembled at the Capitol, in the city of Washington, March 9, 1822, recommending the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States,' make report :

That they have considered the Communication referred to them, with all the care and attention that the importance of its object and the respectability of the source from which it emanated would require. By a reference to the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, it will appear that, as early as the year 1790, the Grand Lodge of Georgia proposed the establishment of a General Grand Lodge throughout the United States. On the 7th of June, 1790, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania unanimously expressed its disapprobation of the proposed measure, which, at that time, appears to have been abandoned.

On June 24, 1799, the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, prompted, it is imagined, by its then peculiar situation, renewed the proposition of a General Grand Lodge, for the purpose of reviving 'the drooping spirit of the Ancient Craft,' and adopted a number of resolutions similar to those contained in the Communication now referred, and declaring that they would appoint deputies to meet the Convention at Washington, as soon as two-thirds of the different Grand Lodges in the United States should approve the measure. The Grand Lodge of South Carolina transmitted its proceedings to the different Grand Lodges, and, among others, to that of Pennsylvania. On March 7, 1803, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, while the proceedings from South Carolina were under consideration, declared, 'That a supreme superintending Grand Lodge in the United States is inexpedient and impracticable; but that a convention of deputies from the several Grand Lodges, for the purpose of forming a more intimate union, and establishing a regular and permanent intercourse between the said Grand Lodges, and considering other interesting matters, would be conducive to the advancement and respectability of the Ancient Craft.' These sentiments were subsequently approved and adopted by the

Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia, and by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, in which the measure, in 1790, was originally brought forward.

On March 6, 1809, this Grand Lodge, having the original Communication from South Carolina still under consideration, once more unanimously reiterated their former sentiments upon this subject, and, by the report of the Committee of Correspondence made at that time, it appears these sentiments were again, in the years 1807-08, concurred in by the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey.

After a careful review of the whole ground, your Committee most fully and cordially concur in the sentiments heretofore expressed by your body on this subject. Previous to the American Revolution, Provincial Grand Lodges were established in the Colonies, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. After the Declaration of Independence by these United States, the different Provincial Grand Lodges declared themselves sovereign and independent. Well-known and established boundaries, whether natural or artificial, have always been fixed upon as the limits of the jurisdiction of separate Grand Lodges. In this country, therefore, we have always been divided by States, and such division appears to your Committee to be useful and judicious. Under this system, Masonry has continued to advance in the United States to a degree of splendor and brilliancy hitherto unparalleled, and no longer requires any new plan 'to revive its drooping spirit;' little or no collision has ever existed between the different Grand Lodges; and, so far as the knowledge of your Committee extends, the utmost harmony and cordiality now subsist, without an exception, between the different Grand Lodges throughout the United States.

In the opinion of your Committee, the reasons that produced the present political confederation or union of the United States, altogether fail when applied to the interests of Freemasonry. The Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and

Ireland are sovereign and independent of each other ; they are more contiguous ; their jurisdictions embrace a less space of territory than the United States ; and they are under one consolidated government, without even the subdivision of power peculiar to our State and Federal Governments. We believe, in the mother country, they have experienced as few evils from this system as we have ; and, although the late union of the two Grand Lodges in England presented a favorable opportunity of proposing to establish one consolidated General Grand Lodge, if it had been desired, yet we do not find that it was even suggested.

In the opinion of your Committee, the exercise of a jurisdiction so extensive and so particular as that proposed, comprehending not only the most important concerns, but the most minute affairs of the subordinate Lodges, would be attended with innumerable delays, difficulties, and embarrassments, and would produce the greatest confusion and disorder throughout the whole Fraternity. The general advantage of the Craft requires, that the subordinate Lodges should be placed under the immediate superintending care of a Grand Lodge, which, by its proximity of situation, and the exercise of its legitimate authority, may correct their errors, attend to their wants, and inspire them with the sublime spirit of our Order. The establishment of a General Grand Lodge would deprive the different Grand Lodges of these powers—they would become subordinate bodies ; and not only every Lodge, but each individual member of every Lodge, would have the right of appeal to the General Grand Lodge. The proceedings of the subordinate Grand Lodge would, in many cases, be reversed at a great distance from the scene of action, where the parties were but little known, the circumstances of the case less understood, the Grand Lodge appealed from perhaps not represented, and the ultimate tribunal be operated upon by the perseverance and importunities of such of the parties as might attend upon its deliberations.

It is also feared that, in the course of time, many of the

Grand Lodges would be nominally represented, and thus the attributes of this colossal power, embracing complete and universal control over the fiscal and more purely Masonic concerns of every Grand Lodge, subordinate Lodge, and individual member in the United States, would be concentrated in the hands of a few who would constitute the meeting. To prevent this evil, it may be said, the meetings of the General Grand Lodge might be less frequently holden; but, in the opinion of your Committee, this would be an insurmountable objection. A prompt decision upon all questions connected with Masonry is absolutely necessary; and the delay and procrastination consequent upon an appeal to the General Grand Lodge, as well in trivial as important concerns, would be a greater evil than all the advantages to be derived from the establishment of the body. The distance of many of the Grand Lodges from the seat of government, and the inclemency of the season proposed as the time of meeting, would be serious difficulties. It is to be apprehended that persons would be selected as delegates rather from the circumstance of their attendance upon the seat of government, upon public duty or private business, than from the knowledge of the principles of the Order and its forms and ceremonies. The members of such a body as the one proposed ought to be intimately acquainted with the local concerns and separate interests of the bodies they represent; not only ought they to have been bright and expert workmen in their progression to distinction in the Order, but they should continue to be so by constant and uninterrupted intercourse with the Lodges, and daily participation in their labors. In short, the members of such a body ought to constitute the Masonic energy and intelligence of the Grand Lodges whom they would represent. On the other hand, your Committee apprehend many of the members would be selected rather from their rank and dignity in political life, and the casual circumstances before referred to, than the possession of those attainments in the Order which ought to be necessary qualifications of its members. These remarks are intended to convey our ideas of what would,

in the progress of time, be the result of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, and not as reflections upon the highly respectable members who were convened at Washington.

Your Committee, however, believe that an occasional Convocation of Delegates from the different Grand Lodges would have a salutary tendency, and would furnish a remedy for many of the evils delineated in the communication referred to them. The deliberations of such an august and venerable body, consulting upon the great interests of the Order, and dependent upon the good sense and judgment of the Craft for the fulfillment of its wishes, would be received with enthusiasm and its recommendations performed with alacrity. Although your Committee are not aware that, at present, 'in one or two instances there are already two or more Grand Lodges in the same State, each claiming superior jurisdiction,' as is stated in the communication, yet, as the evil has heretofore existed and may occur again, the contemplated convention might propose, as a fundamental principle, that not more than one Grand Lodge should exist in a State; and there is little doubt but that the recommendation would be adopted by the different Grand Lodges. They could adopt measures calculated to promote a uniformity of work; though most assuredly they would find it difficult, if not impracticable, to enforce universal obedience to any Masonic ritual, whether it be the good old system, as handed down to us by our Masonic forefathers, or any of the new plans that have been recently adopted in various parts of our country. They might also propose measures calculated to suppress the publication of improper books on Masonry, an evil already of considerable magnitude and rapidly increasing with the times.

Your Committee are therefore of opinion that a Grand Convocation of Delegates from the different Grand Lodges throughout the United States, to meet on St. John the Baptist's day in June, 1823, in either of the cities of New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore, would be proper and expedient. They would observe some delicacy in fixing upon our own

city as the place of meeting; and if either of the other cities, or any other place not yet designated, should be preferred, they would abandon their preference and cheerfully abide by the views of their other brethren. At the same time, they would observe that the central position of the city of Philadelphia and the conveniences afforded by the use of the Masonic Hall, render it, in their humble opinion, the most suitable place at which the Convocation should be holden. Your Committee believe that any general meeting should not be held at the city of Washington, but in one of our large cities, where the numbers, wealth, and respectability of the Craft would afford the Delegates suitable accommodations, and such other conveniences as might render their attendance pleasant and agreeable.

Your Committee, therefore, offer the following resolutions for adoption :

*Resolved*, That the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, and the calling a Masonic Convention for the purpose of instituting and organizing the same, as proposed, is inexpedient, and, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, impracticable.

*Resolved*, That a General Grand Convention of Delegates from the different Grand Lodges throughout the United States, for the purpose of consulting upon the interests of the Order, be recommended to be holden on St. John the Baptist's day in June (the 24th), 1823, at the city of Philadelphia, or such other place as may be designated by the other Grand Lodges throughout the United States.

*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will appoint Delegates to meet such Convocation as soon as it shall appear to be the wish of the different Grand Lodges throughout the United States that the same shall be holden.

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing report and resolutions to the different Grand Lodges throughout the United States, and one copy of the same to William W. Seaton, Esq., at the city

of Washington, agreeably to the request contained in the Communication referred to your Committee.

JOSIAH RANDALL, G. M.,	}	Committee.
SAMUEL F. BRADFORD,		
RAYSE NEWCOMB,		
JAMES HARPER, JR.,		
THOMAS KITTERA,		
JOSEPH S. LEWIS,		
GEORGE A. BAKER,		
EDWARD KING,		

Which report and resolutions were adopted.

Extract from the minutes.

GEORGE A. BAKER, Grand Secretary."

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, from the Committee to whom was referred the proposal for forming a General Grand Lodge for the United States, and the report made to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on that subject, reported, on June 8, 1822, that, "having considered the subject submitted to them, and with due deference to the credible source whence the Communication originated, they were of the opinion that it is inexpedient to form a General Grand Lodge of the United States; and, further, that it is unnecessary to adopt any measures for an occasional convocation of delegates from the different Grand Lodges of the respective States, as proposed by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania." This proposed action was "accepted, approved, and confirmed."

Earlier proceedings of Grand Lodges as to constituting a General Grand Lodge, and placing General George Washington in the Supreme Chair, will be found in Vol. I., pp. 372 to 385 of this History.

A Communication was received on June 8, 1822, from the

CONVENTION ESTABLISHING THE GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA,

which was organized June 12, 1821.

Fraternal intercourse and correspondence were authorized, and the Grand Secretary directed to assure the new-born Grand Lodge thereof.

General Andrew Jackson, who became President of the United States in 1829, was elected Grand Master of Masons of Tennessee in 1822.

#### MASONIC PUBLICATIONS CONDEMNED.

A Communication was received from Kingston Lodge, No. 20, informing the Grand Lodge that a printed work, as a help to the memory, called the "Masonic Tablet," was being advertised and sold by the Rev. Daniel Parker, to whom the Grand Secretary had written, condemning the same. The Communication of the Grand Secretary was approved by the Grand Lodge, which added that it decidedly condemned the use of all books or manuscripts, the support or tendency of which was to elucidate and explain Freemasonry.

#### THE CITY AND COUNTRY GRAND LODGES.

Grand Lodge management for several decades was gradually culminating in a division of that Grand Body. It will readily be observed by the reader of the early history of Masonry in New York, that there was an existing love of independence and freedom of action on the part of those brethren who had lived under Warrants obtained from sources other than that of the Grand Lodge of the State; especially in cases where the Warrants antedated that of the Grand Lodge. There would crop out the *alma mater*. There was an unwillingness to surrender the original document of authority; to taking a new number and therewith incurring a possible loss of rank; to subserviency to an organized confederation, in which there was virtual non-representation, consequent upon Lodge distance from the seat of legislation, and accordingly partial ostracism from the law-making power; to permitting country representation by city proxies; to submission to taxation without the opportunity

of discussion; to giving to Past Masters the right to a seat with full powers in the Grand Lodge. Earnest attention had been frequently called to the peculiar establishment and maintenance of District Visitors, whose tax collections were at times almost half consumed before the balance reached the Treasury; to the necessity of all the twenty office-bearers being citizens of New York, and all honors thereby being held by city Masonic officials. These matters, and other minor ones, were slowly tending to estrange the country Lodges from those of the city, and surely leading to a disruption of the Grand Body, unless strength and wisdom should interpose some plan of re-establishing and maintaining harmony.

It is essential to recount some of the historical facts and incidents that immediately antedated the rupture of June, 1823, whereby there became, for the first time in the State of New York, two Grand Lodges, which were known as the "*City Grand Lodge*" and the "*Country Grand Lodge*."

Tenacity in holding to an ancient Warrant may be instanced in the case of St. George's Lodge, No. 1, which was dated in 1774, and which was not finally surrendered until April, 1822.

It will be necessary to revert to occurrences in several preceding years, in stating these causes that led to the creation of the two Grand Lodges. The brethren in the country were intercommunicating on the subjects of Grand Visitors, Proxies, and of moving the Grand Lodge to the city of Albany. The following important circular, distributed in 1819, will show their activity:

#### THE ELMIRA CIRCULAR.

"BRETHREN:

Agreeable to a resolution of Union Lodge, No. 30 (located at Elmira), we transmit for your consideration the report of their Committee respecting the circular of the Grand Lodge, dated April 22, 5818, and the circular of Clinton Lodge, No. 292, both of which we presume you have long ere this received from the Grand Secretary of the one, and the

Committee of the other. Whatever may be your sentiments respecting the adoption of the measures proposed by the Grand Lodge, we earnestly solicit that your Lodge may be properly represented in the Grand Lodge, at their regular Communication in June next.

Yours, etc.,

D. E. BROWN,	} Committee.
O. CHAPMAN,	
L. HUDSON,	
E. JONES,	
J. ROBINSON,	

ELMIRA, TIOGA COUNTY, April 25, 5819.”

At a regular Communication of Union Lodge, No. 30, on April 10, 5819, the Committee appointed for that purpose made the following report, which was accepted: and it was ordered that the Secretary should transmit a copy thereof to the R. W. Grand Secretary and to the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York.

*“To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of Union Lodge, No. 30:*

Your Committee, appointed on March 11 last, to take into consideration the circular of the Grand Lodge on the subject of collecting dues from the country Lodges, and of the compensation to Grand Visitors, dated April 22, 5818, and a Communication from Clinton Lodge, No. 292, on the same subject, dated November 25, 5818, respectfully report:

That, as Free and Accepted Masons, they view the Masonic Institution as one of the most sacred, the rights of which cannot be infringed, except by such as are so degenerate as to be unworthy the appellation of ‘Brother;’ and, with due deference, would appeal to the feelings and principles of all those who have been accepted as Master Masons, to review with us the benefits which have been enjoyed for ages past, and anticipate that which may in the greatest degree govern the welfare of generations yet unborn, and the influence of the benign principles of Masonry, which we

sincerely hope may be perpetuated to the latest ages, in their pristine purity.

The reports under consideration, your Committee would beg leave to state, are of the utmost importance to the welfare of Masonry in the final issue, and we cannot indulge the idea but that the intentions of the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodges would at all times be for the promotion of the best interests of the Institution. Your Committee acknowledge the high veneration due the Grand Lodge of this State, but still feel the highest obligation to the Fraternity in general to dissent from the rules and requirements laid down in the circular of April 20, 5818, and, at the same time, claim the preference of reviewing the several paragraphs and resolutions contained in their report or circular for consideration. In the second paragraph we find it stated: 1st. That there are many inconveniences and much expense attending the visiting and collections of the several different Lodges; 2d. They being very numerous, some making returns, but paying no dues; 3d. Some several years in arrears; 4th. Some not acknowledging the authority of the Grand Lodge, some making no returns and paying no dues; 5th. The Grand Lodge admits the paying of large sums of money collected by the Grand Visitors, etc. 6th. That members of country Lodges pay but half the sum collected from those of city Lodges, which their Committee consider as improper; 7th. Their Committee recommended the immediate abolition of the present system.

In reply to the several positions taken in the second paragraph of the report of the Grand Lodge Committee, your Committee feel themselves in duty bound to remark:

1st. That country Lodges on receipt of their charters have to pay a considerable sum therefor, which is not through the medium of the Grand Visitors, and that 179 new Lodges have been chartered since the adoption of the system of Grand Visitors; that the Lodges have to pay fifty cents annually for each of their members, which is frequently paid to the Visitors. That these sums of money are expended in the immediate vicinity of the Grand Lodge, and from which

the country Lodges can derive but little benefit, except the satisfaction of being visited by persons well instructed in the art and of introducing a uniform system of work.

2d. It is true that the State is large and the Lodges very numerous, and some very remote from the sittings of the Grand Lodge, all which strongly suggests that policy and principle require the removal of the Grand Lodge to a more central part of the State, so that the Lodges remote from the city of New York (whose privileges are as dear to them as those in its vicinity) may have it in their power to be represented without having to travel from three hundred and fifty to four hundred and fifty miles, as many now have to do. Your Committee can see no necessity of the Grand Visitors staying from three to seven days; and should they stay at some places even that length of time, we confidently believe that the information which can be derived from other sources for a future benefit, would not justify them in so doing. One of your Committee, from his own knowledge, can say that he has known a Grand Visitor not to be under the necessity of staying more than six hours before the Lodge was assembled, dues paid, returns prepared, and a lecture given. That the dues at that time paid was about thirty-six dollars.

3d. That seventy-eight Lodges who are from three to twelve years in arrears, your Committee would suppose ought to be called to an account for neglect of duty, and that through the medium of Grand Visitors, who should be clothed with discretionary power to commute and settle with such, and take away their charters and silence them if they refuse to comply with Masonic rules. The defaults of this nature ought not to be chargeable to the system of Grand Visitors, but to the neglect of the Grand Lodge whose duty it is to enforce compliance.

4th. Your Committee very much regret that any one Lodge should neglect to acknowledge the authority of the Grand Lodge. It will be seen by the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of September 3, 5817, that there are four Lodges, one in the island of Cuba, one in the island of

Demerara, one in Louisiana, and one in Michigan, who probably might have some doubt where they ought to report themselves, although they received their charters from the Grand Lodge of this State. Your Committee heartily concur in the report of the Committee of the Grand Lodge in disapproving the neglect of many Lodges; but, at the same time, would be very unwilling to have the source of information entirely cut off from such a vast number of Lodges in consequence of the neglect of a few, who undoubtedly ought to be dealt with for such improprieties.

5th. Your Committee, in reviewing the circular of April 20, 5818, of the Grand Lodge, find that the sum of \$3,474.56 has been paid to the Grand Lodge, and, after deducting the expenses of the Visitors, leaves a surplus in the Treasury of \$1,779.56. From this statement, it appears that the expenses of collecting dues through the Grand Visitors amounts to almost one-half of the sum collected from the country Lodges; and we with confidence submit to your body and to that of the Grand Lodge, whether this plan of receiving money, crude and undigested as it now is, is not better than to put the burthen on each Lodge of transmitting its own dues, which would cost, your Committee believe, at least one-third more than the amount of each, thereby indirectly burthening each Lodge with more than double the sum they now have to pay. Your Committee think, however, that the mode of Grand Visiting may be beneficially amended so as to save at least one-half the expense now attending it. Your Committee would suggest that it be made the duty of each Grand Visitor (by a rule of the Grand Lodge), on making his annual report to the Grand Lodge, to give notice to every Lodge in his district of the time (as near as may be) that he will visit each Lodge. That a Lodge on receiving such notice, if in default and not ready to settle with its Visitor, shall pay all expenses out of its own funds over and above the time he would otherwise be detained with such Lodge, according to the rate which may be hereafter allowed by the Grand Lodge.

6th. In reviewing the sixth section of the second para-

graph, your Committee would take the liberty of introducing that part verbatim. 'That, as the members of the country Lodges pay only half the sum annually that the members of the Lodges in the city pay, your Committee cannot see the propriety of being obliged to pay such an enormous sum for the collecting of their dues; but that every Lodge in the country is bound by every sacred tie to make a prompt remittance to the Grand Lodge of their dues, or they are unworthy the name of Brother, and ought to be forever excluded from the benefits and privileges of Masonry.' As to this part of the paragraph, your Committee would beg leave to reply that, as a single member in the city pays double the amount of a member in the country, provided they were equal in number, it would be 'an enormous sum' indeed; but as there are but 15 Lodges in the city of New York, leaving the number of 294 in the country, and these same Lodges in the city have been represented in the Grand Lodge, together with only 6 more, and these by proxy (according to the report of the last meeting of the Grand Lodge), to recommend the adoption of the said resolutions contained in the said report; and, as it further appears in the latter part of the report of the Grand Lodge, which bears date, September 2, 5818, that all this business was called up and acted upon in a 'Grand Lodge of Emergency,' your Committee cannot but state that they view the proceedings thus far as rather strained, and as tending materially to affect the rights and interests of the country Lodges; but feel much gratified that the consideration of the report was laid over until the Quarterly Communication in June, when they hope the country Lodges may be generally represented, or, in case of a failure on their part, that it may be adjourned until after Communication, and not acted upon in a 'Lodge of Emergency.'

7th. Your Committee take the liberty of considering the seventh and last part of the said paragraph, which they consider a little singular and somewhat hasty, but which, perhaps, may have arisen more from warmth of feeling than a liberal view of the very numerous Lodges situated in every

part of the State, and the place of sitting of the Grand Lodge being so far from the territorial center.

From many considerations which might be urged, your Committee think it a duty respectfully to remonstrate against the '*immediate abolition of the present plan,*' as they conceive that the abolition of these privileges would be striking a vital stab to the very principles of Masonry, and have many reasons to fear that, in a short time, a much less sum would be received into the treasury of the Grand Lodge, and the brightness of Masonry would inevitably be on the decline. As to the ultimate consequence, your Committee, from delicacy, would withhold any further opinion.

Your Committee, in reviewing the resolutions of the Grand Lodge of June 3 (or which appears to be, on an extra of June 6), find a hasty recommendation for revoking the powers of the Grand Visitors—we say hasty, as it is an old maxim that large bodies move slowly—and, in further summing up the substance of the said resolutions, we find them highly tinged with the same spirit, which we cannot reconcile with the generally acknowledged principles of the Masonic Institution. We further observe a recommendation that the Grand Secretary be compensated with —— dollars for his services, to be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, which will be an increase of pay, without any benefit to the country Lodges for the tax laid on them; and at the close it is recommended, that if the Grand Visitors are continued, the members of country Lodges shall pay a sum equal to the members of the city Lodges of New York, which we acknowledge we would not object to, provided the Grand Lodge could be situated as near to us as it is now to them.

Your Committee would introduce many other remarks, but conclude with referring to the general principles contained in the circular of Clinton Lodge, No. 292, dated November 25, 5818, on the subject of that of the Grand Lodge of April 20, 5818.

It will be found, by reference to the report of the Grand Lodge of September 30, 5817, that there are 309 Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge; and, by further

examination, we find that out of this number, there are 213 Lodges (117 majority), which, in a territorial point of view, might claim Albany for their center, or the more proper place for the sessions of the Grand Lodge. From this estimate it might be inferred that a majority would carry it still further northwest. But we confidently believe that no other place in this State would be more central in point of convenience.

And now, for innumerable reasons, your Committee would respectfully recommend (for the better enabling the Craft to meet on the level and part on the square) the removal of the Grand Lodge to the city of Albany; and that no alterations in its rules or regulations be made, except at its annual Communications, say in February. We would therefore recommend that measures be taken by this Lodge, to urge a general representation (at the next Communication of the Grand Lodge in June) to the several Lodges in this District, either by their proper officers or by proxy.

Your Committee beg leave to submit the following resolution for consideration :

*Resolved*, That the Secretary transmit to the R. W. Grand Secretary, and to the several Lodges in this State, a copy of the foregoing report.

All which is respectfully submitted.

D. E. BROWN,	} Committee.
L. HUDSON,	
O. CHAPMAN,	
E. JONES,	
J. ROBINSON,	

April 10, 1819."

The direct action, however, out of which grew the division in the Grand Lodge, was the memorial prepared by a Committee of the representatives of sundry Lodges in the ten Western counties of the State, assembled by previous notice at Canandaigua, January 10, 1821, complaining of certain regulations and measures of the Grand Lodge.

This was read in Grand Lodge, March 9, 1821, when it was

*Resolved*, That the R. W. John W. Mulligan, Deputy Grand Master; the R. W. Cornelius Bogert, Grand Treasurer; the W. Brother Smith Ovutt, of No. 1; the W. Brother McKinley, of No. 2; the W. Brother Coffin, of No. 83; the W. Brother Marsh, of No. 142, and the W. Brother Smith, of No. 304, be a Committee to take the same into consideration, and to report thereon to this Grand Lodge on Wednesday next, the 14th instant; and that the said Committee be particularly instructed to report at the same time a resolution expressive of the sense of this Grand Lodge at the mode adopted by the memorialists in bringing the subject of their grievances before them."

On March 14th following, the Deputy Grand Master, for the Committee, reported, first taking up the subject of creating eighteen Grand Visiting Districts, which had been introduced into the Grand Lodge by Brother Oliver Rose, in June, 1819. The report was as follows:

"That by the said Communication a renewal of the proposition formerly made by the W. Brother Rose, and rejected, is virtually brought before the Grand Lodge for its consideration. Prudence and experience dictate the propriety of yielding with caution to the introduction of radical alterations, and show the salutary effect of not adopting, without proper deliberation, even a partial modification of existing systems. But it is equally the characteristic of wisdom to consider with carefulness the change produced by circumstances in the state and relations of any collective body, and to provide for such alterations as those circumstances may render necessary, when that necessity is shown to exist. It is certainly one of the most interesting characteristics of our Order that its principles, though free and simple in themselves, are of such extensive operation as to adapt themselves readily and effectually to the universal Masonic institution, or to the parts into which it is from necessity subdivided; and thus the strength and symmetry of the whole

is established by the effect of those principles, in promoting the union and harmony of all its parts.

The necessity of any material alteration does not appeal to your Committee so strongly as to the brethren who have from time to time applied for it, either on account of the peculiar situation of the Lodges under this jurisdiction, or on account of any material difference between the Constitutions of this and those of other Grand Lodges. But while these considerations should influence the Grand Lodge to act with deliberation and caution, it is right that the opinions of those who, though at a distance from the place of its deliberations, constitute equally with those who can attend there with greater facility, the *great representative body*, should have their proper weight; and it is obvious to every one that, in all matters of weight and importance, the Grand Lodge has endeavored to obtain the opinions of the individual Lodges under its jurisdiction.

Your Committee, therefore, on a general view of the subject before them, are of opinion that, while the Grand Lodge should discountenance that spirit of innovation which is at variance with the principles and hostile to the prosperity of the Order, it ought to adopt such alterations as are sanctioned by those principles and calculated to promote that prosperity. To do this well, when the occasion requires, it should be done gradually; so that each step taken should have the test of experience of its usefulness and tendency to promote a more perfect system, before it be followed by more important deviations from the old one.

Two striking and, perhaps, the most material of the amendments which have required the consideration of the Grand Lodge, are the increase of the number and powers of the Grand Visitors, and the modification of the restriction on proxies. Your Committee, influenced, therefore, by the above considerations, propose the adoption of the following resolution, viz :

*Resolved*, 1. That it be, and is hereby, recommended to the M. W. Grand Master to proceed without delay to the

division of the State into districts for visitation, not exceeding five, and to appoint for each a Grand Visitor, residing in the district for which he is to be appointed, which Grand Visitor shall perform the same duties, be liable to the same penalties, and have the like powers, as those heretofore appointed, and shall be nevertheless subject to such instructions as shall from time to time be given him by the M. W. Grand Master.

*Resolved*, 2. That the 2d Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter of the Book of Constitutions, be amended by striking out the words 'one Lodge,' and inserting the words 'three Lodges' (in the matter of proxies).

In relation to that part of the resolution by which your Committee were appointed, and which requires of them to report a resolution expressive of the sense of this Grand Lodge on the mode adopted by the memorialists in drawing its attention to the subject of their complaint, the Committee cannot refrain from expressing their regret that the course pursued does not correspond with that which ought to regulate the intercourse between the Grand and subordinate Lodges; and in conformity with the said instructions they submit the following resolution:

*Resolved*, 3. That the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge have, in their Lodges, and by their Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Proxies, a full, perfect, and constitutional right to make any communication or representation to this Grand Lodge; and that while this right exists, it is improper and irregular to adopt any other mode of making such communication or representation.

In concluding this report, the Committee would barely remark, that the circular referred to in the communication before them was not presented therewith, but is presumed not to differ materially from the substance of the memorial itself.

JOHN W. MULLIGAN, D. G. M.,	} Committee."
CORNELIUS BOGERT, G. T.,	
JOHN COFFIN,	
GEORGE MCKINLEY,	

The second resolution having been rejected, the report and remainder of the resolutions were accepted and approved.

Brother Oliver Rose, Past Master of Zion Lodge, No. 172, then presented the following notification (*sic*):

*“ To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, and the Worshipful Brethren composing the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, greeting :*

BELOVED BRETHREN : As a member of the Grand Lodge, and believing the interest of Masonry requires it, I deem it my duty, and hereby submit to the Grand Lodge the following notice, and pray the same to be entered in your minutes, and information of the same to be sent by the Grand Secretary to the several subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction :

NOTICE.

‘ By permission of our Supreme Grand Master in Heaven, and circumstances occurring so as to render it practicable and proper, in the opinion of many brethren, at the next June Communication of the Grand Lodge, I, or we, shall move the Grand Lodge to so have the Constitutions, Rules, Laws, Regulations, Edicts, etc., of the Grand Lodge amended, that a system of Representation, Grand Visiting, Labor, etc., similar to, or having the same leading features as, the one proposed by me in June, A. L. 5819, in Grand Lodge, be embraced.

And, further, I give notice that, at said June Communication (if thought proper) I shall propose to have the representatives from those subordinate Lodges situated at a distance from the city of New York, attending said Communication, paid their reasonable and moderate expenses for traveling to, and returning from, the said Grand Lodge.

I wish to be distinctly understood in this Notice, that, as every Lodge has been furnished with a copy of the system above alluded to, this proposition is, and will then be, considered so full and explicit, that it will be constitutional and proper to act upon it at the said June Communication.’ ”

Inasmuch as several subjects before the Grand Lodge were agitating the Masonic mind, and unusual interest therein was being evinced, an Emergent Session was called in March, 1821, partly to make such arrangements for the next Quarterly Communication as might be deemed expedient, from the extraordinary number of representatives likely to be present.

Hence the adoption of the following :

“ *Resolved*, That, in order to facilitate the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at the approaching Quarterly Communication, a Committee be appointed to examine the credentials and rights of all brethren claiming seats and a vote therein ; that said Committee meet for that purpose at some convenient place, to be fixed upon by themselves, on the day next preceding said meeting ; and that, in the event of any vacancy occurring in said Committee by absence or otherwise, the place or places so vacated shall be filled by the appointment of the M. W., Grand Master.

*Resolved*, That the Committee consist of the W. Bro. Stearns, of No. 43, the W. Bro. Cardell, of No. —, and the W. Bro. Purdy, of No. 209.

*Resolved*, That, if it meet the concurrence of the M. W., Grand Master, the ensuing Quarterly Communication be held in the large room at Tammany Hall, and that he be hereby requested to cause the same to be convened at the hour of four o'clock, P.M., instead of the usual hour, for the purpose of hearing the appeals, if any should be offered, against the decision of the Committee on Credentials.”

The Grand Lodge convened on June 6, 1821, the Deputy Grand Master, John W. Mulligan, being in the chair, and immediately proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, which resulted in the re-election of Grand Master, Daniel D. Tompkins—generally mentioned in the record as the Vice-President of the United States—and of General John Brush, Deputy Grand Master, in lieu of John W. Mulligan, the remaining officers being re-elected.

An “ *adjournment* ” was then had to June 9, 1821.

In pursuance of previous notices, the Grand Lodge, having convened, proceeded to consider amendments and additions, proposed in and to the Particular Rules; and, after due discussion, the following resolutions were passed, viz.:

*Resolved*, That the 21st Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be amended by striking out of the 4th and 5th lines the words 'seventy-five,' and inserting 'thirty-two;' and also by striking out the words, 'For every member of a Lodge in the city of New York, per quarter, twenty-five cents,' from the 16th and 17th lines; the words, 'and out of the city of New York,' from the 19th line; the words, 'For every person initiated in any Lodge in the city of New York, two dollars and fifty cents,' from the 24th and 25th lines; the words, 'out of the said city,' in the 26th and 27th lines; the words, 'and twenty-five cents,' from the 28th line; and the words, 'and twenty-five cents,' from the 33d line.

*Resolved*, That the 32d Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be amended by striking out the word 'six,' and inserting 'five.'

*Resolved*, That the 37th Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be, and the same is, hereby repealed.

*Resolved*, That the 2d Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be amended by striking out the word 'one,' and inserting 'five.'

*Resolved*, That a Past Master of regular standing, and who, by the existing Rules, is entitled to a seat in this Grand Lodge, may be represented by proxy; provided, that such proxy be of equal grade with the brother whom he represents, and that no proxy represent more than five Past Masters.

*Resolved*, That every subordinate Lodge situate out of the city of New York, and at least ten miles distant therefrom, being represented in this Grand Lodge, or the proxy representing any Lodge, being a non-resident in said city, and coming a distance of at least ten miles, shall be entitled to

receive one dollar and fifty cents per day, for attendance at the June Communication of the same, and a like compensation for every forty miles' travel, coming and returning, to be paid such representative or proxy, out of the moneys received from such Lodge as the annual return of dues for the year preceding; provided, that said compensation does not exceed the amount so due and paid; and further provided, that no proxy receive compensation for more than one Lodge, although he may be the representative of five.

*Resolved*, That no ordinance or regulation affecting the interests, or obligatory upon the Lodges out of the city of New York, shall be passed at any other than the Quarterly Communication in June of each year.

*Resolved*, That no alteration or amendment of the Constitution shall be made at any other than the June Communication; and any such alteration or amendment, in order to be then considered, must have been proposed and entered on the minutes of the Grand Lodge at a like previous June Communication, and, within three months thereafter, transmitted to the several Lodges of the jurisdiction; nor shall any such alteration or amendment be then made, unless the same be approved by two-thirds of the votes present when the question is taken thereon.

*Resolved*, That the 15th Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be, and the same is, hereby repealed.

*Resolved*, That the 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be referred to the consideration of a Committee, who shall report thereon at the Quarterly Communication in December next, which report shall be printed, and transmitted to all the Lodges within the jurisdiction, in order that the brethren may be prepared to act upon the same at the June Communication, A. L. 5822.

*Resolved*, That the R. W. John Greig, the R. W. Elias Hicks, the R. W. Oliver Rose, the W. Matthew L. Davis, and the W. William M. Price, constitute the Committee.

*Resolved*, That the country Lodges, and the non-resident

proxies of country Lodges, represented in and attending this Communication, shall be paid their expenses out of the Grand Lodge funds, at the rate of one dollar and fifty cents for every day's attendance, and a like sum for every forty miles' traveling; provided that such compensation does not exceed the amount paid by any such Lodge for, and on account of, returns made for the last two years of payment.

*Resolved*, That the R. W. D. G. Master, the W. Brother Telfair, of No. 143, and Brother Edward Seaman, S. W. of No. 16, be a Committee to adjust the amount of compensation due to the representatives and proxies of the country Lodges; and that said Committee meet for that purpose, at six o'clock on Monday morning at Tammany Hall."

1822.

A letter from Grand Master Daniel D. Tompkins, declining renomination or consideration as a candidate having been received, the Right Worshipful Brother Joseph Enos, Jr., of Eaton, was unanimously elected Grand Master, the other officers being re-elected. This occurred June 6, 1822. On the succeeding day, a Committee of three was appointed to audit the accounts of the officers and proxies of the respective country Lodges attending this Quarterly Communication. On June 7 a preamble and resolution was offered and referred, setting forth that Brother Oliver Rose drew compensation for traveling both in his capacity as Grand Visitor of the Fifth District and as the proxy of Selected Friends' Lodge, No. 219, and requiring him to make refund of one or the other amount. The Committee, on June 10, reported unanimously the opinion that Brother Rose had not received more than he was entitled to, under the existing constitution.

A resolution was unanimously adopted, on June 11, 1822, thanking Grand Master Tompkins for the services rendered by him as Grand Master during the last two years, and then Brother Joseph Enos was duly installed and proclaimed

Grand Master. On Wednesday, June 12, Grand Master Enos presiding, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted :

COMMITTEE TO REVISE THE CONSTITUTIONS.

*“Whereas,* It is considered that great inconveniences exist in the manner of doing business, as at present prescribed by the Book of Constitutions of this Grand Lodge ; and,

*Whereas,* By reason of ambiguities, doubts are entertained of the true meaning of some parts of the same ; and,

*Whereas,* The interests of the Fraternity demand that the provisions of the Book of Constitutions should be clear, unequivocal, and easy to be understood ; therefore,

*Resolved,* That a Committee of nine members of this Grand Lodge be appointed, to whom shall be referred the Book of Constitutions and all Rules and Regulations of the said Grand Lodge, for the purpose of revising, amending, and completing the same ; and that the said Committee shall meet in the city of New York on the second Monday in November next, and may adjourn, from time to time, until they shall have prepared a new Book of Constitutions for this Grand Lodge ; and that it shall be the duty of the said Committee to hand the same over to the Grand Secretary, whose duty it shall be to cause it to be printed, and a copy thereof transmitted to each subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, on or before the first day of January next ; and that at the annual Communication of this Grand Lodge in June next, the same shall be considered, altered, or amended, if required ; and if, after such consideration, alteration, or amendment, it shall be accepted by a majority of two-thirds, to be ascertained by ballot, then it shall become the Book of Constitutions of this Grand Lodge.

*Resolved,* That the said Committee shall be nominated and located as follows : The Most Worshipful the Grand Master shall be one ; the members attending this Grand Lodge from the late Western Senatorial District shall select two ; the members from the late Eastern Senatorial District shall select two ; the members from the late Middle Senatorial

District shall select two; and the members from the late Southern Senatorial District shall select two; which nominations shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That the members of this Committee be allowed for their services and attendance, while in the actual discharge of their duties, at and after the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per day, and a like sum for every thirty miles' travel to and from the place of meeting of said Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to pay to the order of the Chairman of the Committee, the amount of the compensation allowed the members for their attendance and travel, as well as all other bills and accounts for contingent expenses, which shall have been presented and audited by said Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, directed and required to place in the hands of said Committee all books, papers, and records which may be deemed necessary for their use."

The selected Committee of Nine was composed of Most Worshipful Brother Joseph Enos; Right Worshipful Elias Hicks; Worshipful Brothers John Greig, Thomas Walker, Ebenezer Wadsworth, Benjamin Chamberlain, Augustus F. Hayden, Welcome Esleek, Matthew L. Davis, and W. S. Cardell.

#### PRECEDENCY IN GRAND LODGE OFFICE.

No report appears to have been made on the following, which was referred to the same Committee:

"*Resolved*, That from and after the first Wednesday in June, 1823, the manner of calling members to fill stations pro tem. in this Grand Lodge, as now practiced, in the absence of those elected, be abolished; and that the Constitution or Regulations be so altered, that, in the absence of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior or Junior Grand Wardens, or Past Grand Officers of those grades, or either of them, the Grand Secretary, or person acting as such, shall call upon the W. Master of No. 1, if present, to take the first

vacancy ; in his absence, the Senior Past Master of that Lodge present ; if neither Master nor P. Masters be present, to call upon the W. Master or Senior P. Master of No. 2 in like manner ; and also upon the numbers next in the order to the end, that the vacancies may be filled. At the next meeting, either regular or emergent, the next Lodge in number to the one last called upon to officiate, shall be called upon by the Grand or Acting Grand Secretary, to fill any vacancy which may occur, and so on, in regular order, that all the Lodges represented may be placed upon the same footing as to their eligibility to fill those offices."

#### DUES THREE YEARS IN ARREARS.

At the June session, it was

"*Resolved*, That all Lodges in arrears for dues for three years and more, be summoned to make returns, and pay the same, or to show cause, at the Quarterly Communication in June next (1823), why their Masonic labors should not be suspended and their Warrants surrendered."

#### TWO GRAND LODGES PROPOSED.

The Worshipful Brother Henry Marsh, conformably to the 56th Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter of the Book of Constitutions, laid the following resolutions upon the table :

"*Whereas*, Serious dissensions have arisen in this Grand Lodge, calculated to impair the dignity and respectability of our Order ; and, *whereas*, these dissensions are wide spreading in their direful consequences and are fraught with mischiefs, the termination of which cannot be foreseen ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it is expedient to form in the State of New York two Grand Lodges ; one to be located in the city of New York, and the other in such town or place as a majority of the Lodges out of the city may designate.

*Resolved*, That the Lodges out of the city be permitted to select the Grand Lodge from under whose jurisdiction they will hail.

*Resolved*, That the mode and manner of dividing the funds be submitted to the decision of the Grand Lodge of the State of ——.”

## REVISION OF PROXIES.

In order that the loose manner of using proxies might be regulated and restricted, notice was given in December, 1822, that an amendment to the rule relating thereto would be called up for consideration, and the following preamble and resolutions were accordingly submitted :

“ *Whereas*, By the 2d Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, it is provided ‘ That every proxy claiming a seat, shall produce a power, sealed with the seal, and signed by the Master, Wardens, and Secretary of such Lodge, in the words following, viz. :

At a meeting of                    Lodge, No.                    , held at                    ,  
in the county of                    , in the State of New York, on the  
day of                    , A. L. 58                    .

On motion,

*Resolved*, That our Worshipful Brother —— be (admitted an Honorary Member of this Lodge), and is hereby appointed to represent this Lodge in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and fully empowered to act in our behalf, in all the transactions of the Grand Lodge, as effectually as if we ourselves were personally present.

All which we have caused to be certified by our Master and Wardens, and the seal of our Lodge to be affixed.’

And *whereas*, The form of this Certificate clearly and distinctly shows, that the appointment of a proxy must be in open Lodge, regularly and constitutionally convened, in order that the members of each Lodge may have an opportunity fairly and fully to express their approbation or disapprobation of the person selected to represent them.

And *whereas*, It has been reported that, on some former occasions, the above salutary regulation has not been com-

plied with; but, on the contrary, that blank proxies have been issued, and, it is to be apprehended, improperly used, thus perverting the intentions of this Grand Lodge in authorizing the Lodges to be represented by their proxies.

And *whereas*, It is the intention of this Grand Lodge, that the above regulation shall be literally and faithfully complied with, believing, as they do, that it is the most certain and safe mode of ascertaining the opinions of distant brethren; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the name of every person appointed a proxy to represent any Lodge in this Grand Lodge, shall be filled up, in open Lodge, at the time of his appointment.

*Resolved*, That, accompanying the proxy, there shall be a certificate, signed by the Master, Wardens, and Secretary, stating that such proxy was chosen at a regular meeting of the Lodge he was selected to represent, there being present a constitutional number of members duly qualified to vote at such election, and designating by name such constitutional number of members of said Lodge as were personally present at the time said proxy was appointed."

The above preamble and resolutions were approved and adopted, March 5, 1823.

1823.

Matters had now been brought into a definite form for a contest, as to the wisdom of dividing the Grand Lodge. On June 3, 1823, the Grand Officers and a large representation of the subordinate Lodges—112 in number—by Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Proxies, were present. The room being inadequate for the attendance, an adjournment was had to Tammany Hall.

SYNOPSIS OF DIFFICULTIES OF 1823. COMPROMISE IN 1827.

Difficulties resulting from an unwillingness to surrender old original Charters to the Grand Lodge of New York, which was instituted under the Provincial Warrant from England, and the manner of establishing and maintaining

Grand Visitors of Lodges, as well as the system of Representation of country Lodges by proxies to the Grand Lodge, slowly but surely were estranging the country Lodges from the Grand Lodge Organization, which was solely a city institution so far as Office Bearers and many local matters were concerned. The proxy power was specially claimed as an abuse by the Grand Lodge, for on March 5, 1823, it

“ *Resolved*, That the name of every person appointed a proxy should be filled up in open Lodge at the time of his appointment, and at a regular meeting.”

In June the clash came. The day before the Grand Lodge Session, the country Delegates caucused for Grand Officers, which *excluded* every city member as an officer. The examining Committee of Credentials were instructed to consider as regular only those holding under the above resolution. This was vehemently opposed, and an appeal asked from the decision of the Chair, upon a question of order. The Chair declared there was no appeal, and adjourned Grand Lodge till next morning, when city Lodges could not attend.

But the Grand Lodge, on the demand of at least one-half of the number present, was convened by the Junior Grand Warden, who reopened the Grand Lodge and proceeded with business, elected Grand Officers, and adopted the resolution of June, 1823, which declared that it was expedient that two Grand Lodges be formed in the State of New York, viz.: the one already in the city, and the other to be out of the city, as a majority of the Lodges consenting to form a part thereof should designate.

In time the city and country Grand Lodges compromised, under a “Compact” of 1827, and united on June 7, declaring that the records should remain in New York City; that the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary should be chosen from the city; that the Grand Master or the Deputy should be chosen from the city, the other officers, including the two Wardens, from outside the city; that the number of Lodges which one Master or Past Master may represent

should not exceed three; that Past Masters should not be represented by proxies.

PROCEEDINGS.

On June 3, 1823, the Deputy Grand Master offered the following resolution :

“*Resolved*, That —— be a Committee to examine the Credentials of representatives of the Subordinate Lodges, either in person or by proxy, agreeably to the constitutional regulations of the Grand Lodge, and that they make report stating the number of votes such representatives are respectively entitled to, at this Communication.”

Brother Matthew L. Davis, of Washington Lodge, No. 84, moved to amend the resolution by inserting after the word “Lodge” the words “as explained in the resolutions of March 5, 1823 ” (quoted above).

This proposed action seems to have immediately created a commotion. A debate ensued, and “*an appeal* from the decision of the Chair on a question of order was made, and refused by the Grand Master, who declared that there should be no appeal from his decision.”

Brother Davis then rose to offer a protest against the decision, and (as it was alleged) against other and various objectionable measures, “when the Grand Master authoritatively stopped the same by declaring the Grand Lodge to be adjourned until to-morrow at ten o’clock. The brethren who dissented to these decisions, thereupon withdrew in a body, repaired to the Lodge room in St. John’s Hall, and reorganized the Grand Lodge,” on June 3, 1823, as follows :

The R. W. Richard Hatfield, Esq., in the chair.

The W. James E. Betts, Master of St. John’s, No. 1, as D. G. Master.

The W. Joseph Hoxie, Master of St. Andrews, No. 7, as S. G. Warden.

The W. Robert Phillips, Master of Hiram, No. 10, as J. G. Warden.

The R. W. Elias Hicks, G. Secretary.  
 “ Cornelius Bogert, G. Treasurer.  
 The W. Henry Marsh, S. G. Deacon.  
 “ Wm. F. Stevenson, J. G. Deacon.  
 Bro. Joseph Jacobs, G. Pursuivant.  
 “ Bryan Rossetter, G. Tyler.

*Lodges present by their Officers and Past Masters.*

St. John's, No. 1.	Horizontal, No. 82.
Independent Royal Arch, No. 2.	Abrams, No. 83.
St. Andrew's, No. 7.	Washington, No. 84.
St. John's, No. 9.	Adelphi, No. 91.
Hiram, No. 10.	Morton, No. 108.
Holland, No. 16.	Mount Moriah, No. 132.
Trinity, No. 39.	Benevolent, No. 142.
Phoenix, No. 40.	Clinton, No. 143.
Westchester, No. 46.	Mechanic, No. 153.
Suffolk, No. 57.	New Jerusalem, No. 158.
Morton, No. 63.	Newtown Union, No. 174.
Rensselaer, No. 68.	Concord, No. 304.
L'Union Française, No. 71.	German Union, No. 322.
Homer, No. 74.	Hohenlinden, No. 338.
Fortitude, No. 81.	Hibernia, No. 339.
	Philipstown, No. 352.

This being the day appointed by the Book of Constitutions for the election of Grand Officers, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the performance of that duty, and the following brethren were unanimously elected Grand Officers for the ensuing year, viz. :

The M. W. John Wells, Esq., Counselor at Law, Grand Master.

The R. W. Martin Hoffman, Esq., Deputy Grand Master.  
 “ Richard Hatfield, Esq., Senior Grand Warden.  
 “ Matson Smith, M.D., Junior Grand Warden.  
 “ Elias Hicks, Grand Secretary.  
 “ Cornelius Bogert, Grand Treasurer.

- The R. W. and Rev. Henry I. Feltus, D.D., G. Chaplain.  
 “ “ Evan Malbone Johnston, G. Chaplain.  
 Bro. Joseph Jacobs, Grand Pursuivant.  
 “ Bryan Rossetter, Grand Tyler.  
 “ Gerrit Lansing, Assistant Grand Pursuivant.

The resolutions offered in June, 1822, were then taken up and unanimously adopted, in the following form :

“*Resolved*, That it is expedient that two Grand Lodges be formed in the State of New York, viz. : the one already located in the city of New York, and the other to be located in such town or place out of said city, as a majority of the Lodges out of the said city consenting to form a part of the same, may designate.

*Resolved*, That the Lodges in good standing out of the city be permitted to select the Grand Lodge from under whose jurisdiction they will hail.”

An adjournment was then had, to meet at the City Hotel, June 6 (Friday), at 7 P.M. ; but it being found that the Lodge L'Union Française, No. 71, was holding its regular convention at the same time and place, the Grand Lodge proceeded to St. John's Hall, and opened in due form, with Right Worshipful Richard Hatfield, Junior Grand Warden in the chair, and twenty-four Lodges present by their officers and Past Masters.

The Grand Officers, with the exception of John Wells, Grand Master elect, were duly installed, and the Grand Lodge adjourned until the following Friday evening, June 13 ; on which occasion a communication from Brother Wells was read, declining the proffered honor of the Grand Mastership, in consequence of its being inconsistent with his professional duties.

The upper Lodge room of St. John's Hall was then permanently engaged, at a rental of “sixty dollars per annum, including lights and fire.”

Thus, in brief, it will be perceived that the country delegates had amply prepared for a continuance. The day

before the Grand Lodge session, at which Grand Officers were to be elected, a caucus had been held, when it was determined to exclude every city member from election as an officer. The voting was to be strictly in pursuance of the new law as to proxies, which would give the country members, who had come to the city in force, a majority of the votes. The question of the appeal brought on the crisis, and the Chair declared Grand Lodge adjourned until next morning, when the city representatives could not attend. But the Grand Lodge, on the demand of at least one-half of the members present, was re-convened by the Junior Grand Warden, reopened, proceeded to business, elected Grand Officers, and adopted the resolution of June, 1822, as to the establishment of two Grand Lodges in the State.

#### ARREARAGE OF DUES.

As instructed in June, 1822, the Grand Secretary reported, June 13, 1823, that he had summoned 118 Lodges that were in arrears for dues to Grand Lodge for three years and upwards; that 16 had complied with the summonses, and that 24 had prayed for partial or total remission of the amounts due; from the remaining Lodges no reply had been received. Whereupon the subject was referred.

#### LEGAL PROTECTION OF GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the R. W. Elias Hicks, G. S., and the R. W. Cornelius Bogert, G. T., of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in their official capacities or as individuals, be, and are hereby authorized, in case they shall deem the same necessary, to employ such solicitors or counsel for the purpose of defending any suit that may be instituted against them, touching the stock, mortgages, money, or other property now in their possession or under their control belonging to this Grand Lodge; and for their indemnity against all

damages, cost, or charges the funds of the Lodges here represented are pledged.”

Right Worshipful Martin Hoffman was elected Grand Master on June 25, 1823, and Elisha W. King, Deputy Grand Master, who were severally installed into office on July 7.

#### FEALTY OF LODGES.

On the succeeding day, in regular session, two resolutions and an order were read and confirmed, to wit :

“ *Resolved*, That the R. W. Elisha W. King, the R. W. Richard Hatfield, the R. W. Elias Hicks, the R. W. Henry I. Feltus, and the W. Matthew L. Davis, be a Committee to draft a circular to be transmitted to the respective Lodges in the State of New York, detailing the causes which have led this Grand Lodge to declare it expedient that two Grand Lodges should be formed within the State, and requiring from said Lodges to decide and declare to whose jurisdiction they will in future severally belong.

*Resolved*, As the sense of this G. L., that every subordinate Lodge acknowledging its jurisdiction has a right to suspend any member of such Lodge who may treat with contempt the authority of this G. L. or deny its jurisdiction.

*Ordered*, That the preceding resolutions be forthwith communicated to the respective Lodges acknowledging this Grand Lodge.”

The circular above authorized was duly prepared, submitted, approved, and a thousand copies printed for distribution among the Lodges and the several Grand Lodges. Among the purposes in view was to require the Lodges to decide to whose jurisdiction they would in future belong.

#### THE CIRCULAR LETTER OF THE GRAND LODGE AS TO FEALTY.

The Grand Lodge of the State of New York having been reduced to the painful necessity of dissolving its connection with certain of the Lodges subordinate to its jurisdiction and

located beyond the limits of the city of New York, owes to the purity of the motives by which it has been influenced, to the individuals who are immediately affected thereby, and to the Masonic community at large, whose favorable opinion it is solicitous to deserve, an explanation of the causes which have gradually led to this lamentable alternative.

Several Lodges, some of them long since removed or extinct, but others still operative, located in the city of New York, all deriving their authority, mediately or immediately, from the Grand Lodge of England, met in General Convocation in 1781, and unanimously agreed to petition the Grand Lodge of England for a Warrant for opening and holding a Grand Lodge in the said city, which application was favorably received, and a Warrant granted "authorizing and empowering the Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons, inhabitants of the province of New York, in North America, to congregate, form, and hold a Provincial Grand Lodge in the city of New York and province of New York, independent of any former Dispensation, Warrant, or Constitution," etc.

Under this Charter the Grand Lodge was established and organized on December 2, 1782, and under this Warrant continued to act until March, 1787, when a Committee was appointed to consider and report upon the propriety of holding the Grand Lodge under said Warrant, and the proper measures to effect a change, if it should be thought consistent and expedient. What report that Committee made does not appear on the minutes; but from the passage of a resolution at the next Quarterly Communication, directing "the same Committee to draw up a form of Warrant to be granted to Lodges making application," it is to be inferred that they reported in favor of acting independently of the Provincial Warrant, and that the Grand Lodge confirmed and adopted the report.

Previous to this, and while acting under the authority of that Warrant (March 2, 1785), the Book of Constitutions was, by direction of the Grand Lodge, revised and published, whereby it was ordained, "that the Quarterly Communication should be held in the Grand Lodge Room, at the city of

New York, on the first Wednesdays of March, June, September, and December, annually, forever ;” that every member of a constituted Lodge under the Grand Lodge should pay twelve and a half cents quarterly to the Charity Fund of the same, except the members of the Lodges in the city of New York, who should pay quarterly twenty-five cents ; that every person initiated should pay one dollar and twenty-five cents to the Charity Fund, except those initiated in Lodges in the city of New York, who should pay each two dollars and fifty cents.

The Lodges whose Warrants are of subsequent date to the Book of Constitutions, must be considered as bound by its ordinances ; and being so bound, may it not with reason be contended that no right exists of altering the place of its meetings, or of passing any regulations by which the contributions thus exacted for charitable purposes shall be wasted in compensation for the attendance of delegates? etc., etc.

Very great irregularity on the part of the Lodges out of the city in making their returns, and a general neglect in the payment of their dues, led to the appointment, from time to time, of Grand Visitors ; an injudicious selection of which constantly defeated the object proposed, and was productive of little else than disappointment. In 1814 a new plan was proposed and adopted, which, though attended with better consequences, so far as the receipt of moneys went, was still deemed defective, from the compensation for collecting, amounting to an average of nearly fifty per cent. upon the moneys received.

Confiding in the purely benevolent feelings of the country brethren, who had spontaneously admitted that the excess of want must necessarily be felt in a populous city, and promptly provided for its relief ; and believing that a diversion of so large a portion of moneys, intended for charity, from that sacred purpose was neither compatible with their duty as faithful stewards, nor consonant to the views of the contributors to that fund, the Grand Lodge proposed, on the suggestion of its Committee, to discontinue the practice of collecting the dues through the medium of Visitors, and to have

them transmitted by mail, or otherwise, as circumstances might suggest.

It is not here intended, nor is it perhaps essential, to examine the motives which originated the loud and active opposition to this proposal. Such an opposition, however, arose; circular letters were written and distributed; conventions called and resolutions passed; and the country Lodges, instead of viewing it as designed to save the contributions made by them from waste and misapplication, were taught to consider it as an effort to exclude them from a rightful participation in the benefits of the fund.

Under this feeling, delegates were appointed by a few Lodges to attend the Quarterly Communication in June, 1819, for the purpose not only of securing to the country Lodges the right and the advantages of Grand Visitors, but also of changing and improving the system. An entire new plan, dividing the State into eighteen districts, with a Visitor in each, was laid upon the table for that purpose; but the Grand Lodge, opposed to every system of visitation that combined with its execution the expenditure of moneys expressly bestowed for charitable uses, and alarmed at the undue influence claimed for the country Lodges, by making a Grand Visitor the proxy for every Lodge not otherwise represented within his district, rejected it as alike objectionable and inexpedient. The subject was not suffered to rest here, but revived in a formidable and imposing shape, by "a communication from the representatives of a number of Lodges, met in convention at Canandaigua, on January 10, 1821," which communication, though unnatural in its birth, and misshapen in its form, was treated by the Grand Lodge with all the courtesy of a regular constitutional production, submitted to the consideration of a Committee, which Committee reported against the proposition, and which report the Grand Lodge confirmed.

Upon this last rejection, notice was given that at the next Quarterly Communication (June, 1821) a motion would be made to have the Constitution so amended as to embrace Brother Rose's plan of Visitation, and also to provide for the

payment, out of the Charity Fund, of the expenses of the delegates who might attend that and all future annual (June) Communications of the Grand Lodge. Stimulated by this notice, or by some portion of it, and by which portion it is left to be inferred by what ensued, above fifty delegates from the country Lodges attended that Communication; and notwithstanding the said notice—notwithstanding all that had been urged about the importance and advantage of Grand Visitors, the subject, when brought up, found scarcely an advocate; and the motion for their abolition, by a repeal of the regulation under which it had been conducted, passed almost unanimously. The satisfaction which this coincidence was calculated to afford to the city Lodges was, however, greatly diminished by the appropriation of near \$1,300 from the Charity Fund for the compensation of the members attending that Communication from the country Lodges; and not only that, but the passage of a regulation providing for the compensation of all delegates from the country Lodges, who might in future attend the Quarterly Communication in June, out of the same fund; another, destroying all equality of representation, by authorizing any delegate to represent five Lodges and five Past Masters, whereby a single individual might give, on any question, twenty-one votes; and several other regulations, all bearing the same unfriendly character.

So extraordinary and undue an acquisition of power could not be sought without a proportionate object, and what that was it was not difficult to divine. The removal of the Grand Lodge, which had been repeatedly threatened in the various circulars, exciting disaffection in the country Lodges, and arraying them in hostility against the city, was evidently to be attempted whenever it should be found that the same could be done with certainty of success. But the hour for this had not yet arrived. By the Book of Constitutions, the meetings of the Grand Lodge were fixed to be held in the city of New York forever; and little as the provisions of that Constitution had, in some other points, been attended to, here they commanded respect. Upon this the city Lodges

rested for their safety ; and it was not until the appointment of a Committee, consisting of six country and two city members, for the purpose of revising and altering the Constitution, that they were made sensible that that object was not only still persevered in, but was to be effected by their apparent co-operation and concurrence. The opposition to the appointment of this Committee and of its component parts, on the ground of the inequality of representation of interests, proving unavailing, it only remained for the city Lodges to wait for its report, and to determine therefrom whether they were not mistaken in their conclusion, or whether the Grand Lodge was to be left undisturbed, and the moneys contributed for charitable uses bestowed alone upon charitable objects, and in that place where the calls for assistance were the most loud and frequent.

The Committee met pursuant to their appointment, and after a long sitting repealed sundry amendments, the prominent features of which were: depriving all Past Masters (excepting one from each Lodge) of a seat in the Grand Lodge, compensating delegates of Lodges and non-resident Grand Officers for their attendance, allowing one proxy to represent five Lodges, limiting the Stewards of Charity to an expenditure of \$1,000 per annum, etc., etc.

From these reported amendments, as well as from the provision made in the resolution under which the Committee was appointed for their irregular adoption, it was manifest that the interests of the city Lodges were totally disregarded. The principles against which they had contended were maintained in their most obnoxious form ; and the avidity with which every occasion was seized for invading the Charity Fund, intimated that possession was all that was required to seal its total extermination. The location of the Grand Lodge, to be sure, appeared to be left undisturbed ; but the city was not to be deceived, for the veil was too flimsy to cover the real intention. If the proposed amendments were liable to alteration, it was an easy thing to strike out New York, and insert any other place that six or eight delegates, thus armed with votes, might choose to select.

Anticipating such an issue, a resolution, in conformity to the Constitution, had been laid upon the table in June preceding, declaring it expedient, under existing circumstances, that two Grand Lodges should be formed in the State; the one to be and remain located in the city of New York, and the other at such place, out of said city, as a majority of the Lodges submitting to its authority might select and resolve upon. But before resorting to the alternative proposed by that resolution, it was determined to make a last effort for the preservation of unity. Accordingly, after maturely considering the rights and interests of all parties, and the weight and influence of the Funds in the views and wishes of the country delegates, the following protocol was drawn up and submitted :

“NEW YORK, May 20, A. L. 5823.

*Whereas*, Difficulties and difference of opinion have for some time existed, and do now exist, between the delegates from the country Lodges and the delegates from the Lodges in the city of New York and its vicinity, touching the mode and manner of the government of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and also as respects the disposition of the Funds thereof; and whereas the delegates from the Lodges in the city of New York and its vicinity are firmly of the opinion that, as the Grand Lodge aforesaid was located in the city of New York, by patent, forever, there to be and remain unmoved, any attempt to remove the same would be a violation of the powers and rights vested in them; and whereas certain alterations in the Constitution of the said Grand Lodge have already been made, and further alterations and provisions have been proposed, which, if carried into effect, would partially, if not altogether, destroy the original intentions therein contemplated, and above all, that harmony and friendship so essentially necessary for the well-being of the Fraternity at large.

Now, therefore, we, the delegates from the Lodges in the city of New York and its vicinity, with a desire of restoring harmony and reconciling the existing difficulties and differ-

ences of opinion as aforesaid, do hereby agree to offer for the consideration of the Grand Lodge (at the ensuing June Communication) the following

## PROPOSITIONS FAVORING A REUNION.

*First.* To repeal the following alterations and additions to the Book of Constitutions, as passed on June 9, 5821, whereby the Grand Lodge will be placed in the situation it then stood, excepting that the fees for Warrants, which were \$75, will remain at \$32; and the lowest fees for the first three degrees, which were \$20, will remain at \$14, viz.:

*Resolved,* That the 21st Rule, 20th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be amended by striking out the words, 'For every member of a Lodge in the city of New York, per quarter, twenty-five cents,' from the 16th and 17th lines: the words, 'and out of the city of New York,' from the 19th line; the words, 'For every person initiated in any Lodge in the city of New York, two dollars and fifty cents,' from the 24th and 25th lines; the words, 'out of the said city,' in the 26th and 27th lines; the words, 'and twenty-five cents,' from the 28th line; and the words, 'and twenty-five cents,' from the 33d line.

*Resolved,* That the 32d Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be amended by striking out the word 'six,' and inserting 'five.'

*Resolved,* That the 2d Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions, be amended by striking out the word 'one,' and inserting 'five.'

*Resolved,* That a Past Master of regular standing, and who by the existing rules is entitled to a seat in this Grand Lodge, may be represented by proxy; provided that such proxy be of equal grade with the brother whom he represents, and that no proxy represent more than five Past Masters.

*Resolved,* That every subordinate Lodge situate out of the city of New York, and at least ten miles distant therefrom, being represented in this Grand Lodge, or the proxy repre-

senting any Lodge being a non-resident in said city, and coming a distance of at least ten miles, shall be entitled to receive one dollar and fifty cents per day, for attendance at the June Communication of the same, and a like compensation for every forty miles' travel, coming and returning, to be paid such representative or proxy out of the moneys received from such Lodge, as the annual return of dues for the year preceding; provided, that said compensation does not exceed the amount so due and paid; and further provided, that no proxy receive compensation for more than one Lodge, although he may be the representative of five.

*Resolved*, That no ordinance or regulation, affecting the interests or obligatory upon the Lodges out of the city of New York, shall be passed at any other than the Quarterly Communication in June of each year.

*Resolved*, That no alteration or amendment of the Constitution shall be made at any other than the June Communication; and any such alteration or amendment, in order to be then considered, must have been proposed and entered on the minutes of the Grand Lodge, at a like previous June Communication, and within three months thereafter transmitted to the several Lodges of the jurisdiction; nor shall any such alteration or amendment be then made, unless the same be approved by two-thirds of the votes present, when the question is taken thereon.

*Second*. The Grand Lodge having been located by patent in the city of New York, no motion for its removal, except by unanimous consent of the Lodges therein, shall ever be agitated.

*Third*. Hereafter the Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, and all past officers of these grades, all present and past Grand Chaplains, all present and past District Grand Masters, and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of all the regular Lodges in the counties of New York, Richmond, Kings, Queens, Suffolk, Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, Sullivan, and Rockland.

*Fourth.* The residue of the State to be divided into Districts, not more than four, as follows (the division and the place of meeting of the District Grand Lodges to be settled by the country Lodges): in each of which a District Grand Lodge shall be established by Warrant from the Grand Lodge, to be composed of a District Grand Master, District Deputy Grand Master, District Grand Wardens, etc., etc., and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of all the regular Lodges within the District.

*Fifth.* The Lodges in that portion of the State under the immediate superintendence of the Grand Lodge, and those without the State, to make returns and pay dues as heretofore; the Lodges within the respective Districts to make duplicate returns annually and payment of dues, one of the returns to be sent to the Grand Secretary, and the other to the District Grand Secretary, with an equal half of the amount of said returns to each, to be applied to their respective Charity Funds.

*Sixth.* The Grand Lodge shall alone have the power of granting Warrants, with this understanding, that no new Warrant shall be granted for holding a Lodge within the limits of any District Grand Lodge, unless accompanied by a recommendation from the said District Grand Lodge; of passing new regulations, and of altering old ones, provided that such regulations as may affect the Fraternity at large, and be binding upon the Lodges in the several Districts, shall, after being proposed, be printed at the then or next immediate annual June Communication, and without delay submitted to each Lodge within the jurisdiction; and if, at the next June Communication, the said regulation shall not appear to be objected to by a majority of the Lodges within the jurisdiction, the same shall then be considered as adopted, and become one of the regulations of the Fraternity; of hearing appeals, where the decisions of a District Grand Lodge shall not be acquiesced in, and of hearing and settling differences that may arise between a District Grand Lodge and any one or more of the Lodges within said District, and between any two or more District Grand Lodges; and of

exercising all those powers not specially delegated to the District Grand Lodges.

*Seventh.* The District Grand Lodges shall meet on the —— Monday in January of every year, at which time the election of officers shall be held, and the returns of the subordinate Lodges, and the payment of the dues, made. The main business shall be to hear and decide upon appeals from the decision of any Lodge within the District; to suggest alterations of, or additions to, the existing particular rules of the Grand Lodge; to pass all necessary regulations for its own government, not inconsistent with the ancient landmarks and the Book of Constitutions; to direct the mode in which the District Charity Fund shall be disbursed; to grant Dispensations for conferring the first three degrees of Masonry at sight; correct errors, reform abuses, superintend the labors, and afford the requisite instruction to the Lodges within its limits; and generally to watch over the interest and advance the prosperity of the Craft. They may adjourn from day to day, until the business before them be disposed of, and may hold Emergent meetings, whenever the same shall, by the District Grand Master or his Deputy, be deemed necessary.

*Eighth.* The District Grand Masters, being members of the Grand Lodge, shall each, while in office, be entitled to four votes, and have the right at all times to attend its meetings; but it is made their particular duty so to do at the June Communication of every year, or, if it be inconvenient for them to attend in person, then to cause a written report to be made by the District Grand Secretary of the state of Masonry within such District, and such other matters as it may be important to the Grand Lodge, and for the benefit of the Craft to know. The expenses of the District Grand Master for every day's attendance at the June Communication, and for every forty miles' traveling from his residence to New York and back, shall be estimated at one dollar and fifty cents, and be defrayed out of the Grand Lodge funds.

*Ninth.* The present invested permanent fund shall be equally divided, one-half to remain as the fund of the Grand

Lodge, and subject to its sole control; and the other half to be equally apportioned among the said District Grand Lodges, to constitute a separate and distinct fund for, and subject to the sole control of, each.

SMITH OVUTT, St. John's, No. 1.

J. VAN BENSCHOTEN, Independent Royal Arch, No. 2.

JAMES HERRING, JR., " " "

RICHARD PENNELL, " " "

JOHN LEONARD, St. Andrew's, No. 7.

J. WILKIE, St. John's, No. 9.

R. PHILIPS, Hiram, No. 10.

S. MONTGOMERY, Hiram, No. 10.

HARRIS BLOOD, Holland, No. 16.

R. U. LANG, " "

J. G. FINN, Trinity, No. 39.

GEORGE HODGSON, Phoenix, No. 40.

PATRICK MOTT, Morton, No. 46.

JOSEPH BOUCHAUD, L'Union Française, No. 71.

S. S. BIRDSALL, Fortitude, No. 81.

N. GREENARD, Abrams, No. 83.

MORDECAI MYERS, Washington, No. 84.

MATTHEW L. DAVIS, " "

JOHN P. GARNISS, Adelphi, No. 91.

W. F. PIATT, Morton, No. 108.

GEORGE W. HYER, Mount Moriah, No. 132.

HENRY MARSH, Benevolent, No. 142.

J. T. BELLANY, Clinton, No. 143.

RICHARD ELLIS, Mechanic, No. 153.

JAMES FLANAGAN, New Jerusalem, No. 158.

LEBBEUS CHAPMAN, Concord, No. 304.

HENRY WILLET, German Union, No. 322.

EDWARD HAMILTON, Hibernia, No. 339.

MATTHEW L. DAVIS, Chairman.

LEBBEUS CHAPMAN, Secretary."

Reasonable as these propositions must be considered, they were, nevertheless, silently rejected; and from no counter proposition being offered, it was understood that the country

delegates, possessing, as they supposed, the power, were bent and resolved upon exercising it. To remove all doubts, however, if doubts remained with any, a caucus, composed solely of delegates from the country, was held on the day preceding the meeting of the Grand Lodge, for the purpose of nominating the Grand Officers. At this meeting a list was made out, which, as it was well understood, excluded every person resident in the city; at all events, the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were selected from Albany and its vicinity, by which it was evident that the removal of the Grand Lodge had been previously settled.

The Grand Lodge having, from its first organization, held its meetings in the evening, had, as usual, been summoned at 7 o'clock P.M., at or near which hour the Grand Officers took their seats, and the same was opened. The privilege of the country Lodges, and no less of the Past Masters, of being represented by proxy, having in the exercise of it, and through the instrumentality of interested individuals to promote their sinister designs, been grossly perverted and abused, an explanatory regulation had been passed at the Quarterly Communication in March, defining the manner in which proxies ought to be appointed, and upon a motion for the appointment of a Committee to examine the credentials of the delegates claiming seats, it was proposed to consider as regular such credentials only as had been made out conformably to that explanatory regulation. In the course of the debate which ensued upon this proposition, an appeal was made from the decision of the Chair upon a question of order, when the Grand Master decided that there should be no appeal from his decision; and without the consent, and contrary to the wishes of, the Grand Lodge there assembled, declared the meeting to be adjourned until the morning of the following day. Viewing this measure as arbitrary in its bearings, and calculated to render the representatives of the great Masonic body subordinate to the will, and subject to the perpetual domination, of any individual, who, being once placed in the chair, might, if the principle were admitted, prevent by adjournment the election of a successor; and

considering that as the Constitution prescribes (page 38) that "the Grand Lodge must meet in some convenient place in order to elect new, or re-appoint the old officers; and such election or re-appointment shall be held or made on the first Wednesday in June," such election, in order to be legal, must at least have been opened or begun, if not closed and completed, at such meeting; the following Lodges, to wit: St. John's, No. 1; Independent Royal Arch, No. 2; St. Andrew's, No. 7; St. John's, No. 9; Hiram, No. 10; Holland, No. 16; Trinity, No. 39; Phoenix, No. 40; Westchester, No. 46; Rensselaer, No. 68; Homer, No. 74; Fortitude, No. 81; Horizontal, No. 82; Abrams, No. 83; Washington, No. 84; Adelphi, No. 91; Morton, No. 108; Mount Moriah, No. 132; Benevolent, No. 142; Clinton, No. 143; Mechanics', No. 153; New Jerusalem, No. 158; Concord, No. 304; German Union, No. 322; Hohenlinden, No. 338; Hibernia, No. 339; and Phillipstown, No. 352, after entering their solemn protest against the procedure, repaired forthwith to St. John's Hall, and re-forming the Grand Lodge, resumed the business for which they had been assembled, and proceeded to an immediate election of Grand Officers, according to the charter, when the following brethren were unanimously chosen, viz.:

M. W. John Wells,\* Grand Master.

R. W. Martin Hoffman, Deputy Grand Master.

" Richard Hatfield, Senior Grand Warden.

" Matson Smith, Junior Grand Warden.

" Elias Hicks, Grand Secretary.

" Cornelius Bogert, Grand Treasurer.

" and Rev. Henry I. Feltus, } Grand Chaplains.  
 " " Evan M. Johnston, }

The resolutions laid upon the table in June last were then called up and, without a dissenting voice, it was

\* Most Worshipful John Wells having refused to accept, the Most Worshipful Martin Hoffman was subsequently elected Grand Master, and the Right Worshipful Elisha W. King, Deputy Grand Master.

*Resolved*, That it is expedient that two Grand Lodges be formed in the State of New York, viz.: the one already located in the city of New York, and the other to be located in such town or place out of the said city as a majority of the Lodges out of the said city, and consenting to form a component part of the same, may designate.

*Resolved*, That the Lodges in good standing out of the city be permitted to select the Grand Lodge under whose jurisdiction they will hail."

Upon a review of the preceding statement of facts, the inquiry will naturally suggest itself, What were the objects contemplated by the measure adverted to, and what has resulted therefrom?

The system of visitations was expected to produce regularity in the form of making returns, punctuality in their discharge, and uniformity in labor. In the first particular, little improvement has resulted; the Lodges, instead of making out annual returns, still combining one year with another, and the two remote districts (viz., second and third) each using a totally different form. In the second, a larger amount has been received than heretofore, but attended with an expense that seemed to render its continuance unjustifiable; the average amount of compensation being nearly fifty per cent. on the moneys received, and that taken by the Grand Visitor of the Second District for the last year of his service, to nearly seventy-five per cent. of the moneys collected by him individually. In the third, so great was the neglect of performance, or so imperfect and unsatisfactory the lecturing, that the motion for the abolition of the system scarcely found an opponent.

In vain shall we look for more happy consequences from the annual assembly of the delegates. What might not have been expected from the united wisdom of the Masonic family, drawn from all parts of the jurisdiction and collected in one body, had that body been actuated by brotherly love and the sole desire of contributing mutually to support the dignity and advance the prosperity of the Craft? Yet what

measure has been proposed, what plan suggested, what resolution adopted that had this most desirable end for its object? None. On the contrary, acrimonious feelings have been indulged, bitter resentments cherished, and sectional divisions created that have set at variance our hitherto united and happy family, and left us no alternative but separation.

Appealing to the Searcher of hearts, the great Architect of the Universe for the purity and disinterestedness of the motives which have guided it to the course now taken, the Grand Lodge submits to the various subordinate Lodges to consider and decide to whose jurisdiction they will hereafter belong; claiming from each and every one an unequivocal expression of their adhesion or withdrawal on or before the Quarterly Communication in March next; offering to those who can still feel the weight of an obligation and respect for that Constitution which they have vowed to maintain; who love Masonry, not for the advantage which they may personally draw from it, but for the means which it affords of lightening the burthen of human misery, their frank counsels, their protecting arm, and their ardent affection.

MARTIN HOFFMAN, Grand Master.

ELISHA W. KING, Deputy Grand Master.

RICHARD HATFIELD, Senior Grand Warden.

MATSON SMITH, Junior Grand Warden.

ELIAS HICKS, Grand Secretary.

The consideration of this subject was resumed the following year, which see.

The Grand Secretary was ordered to procure a new set of

JEWELS, HANGINGS, AND APRONS

for the Grand Officers.

1824.

The Committee having the subject of arrears of dues in charge, reported that there was some reason why the indulgence of the Grand Lodge should be exercised in relation

thereto ; that some Lodges may have transmitted their dues by delegates or proxies, who, from the existing state of things last June, may have felt themselves authorized to withhold payment for the time being. The Committee recommended that no decisive measures be adopted at present.

The following Memorial of Delegates from the Lodges and other Masonic Bodies in the city of New York, praying the Grand Lodge to unite in the building of a

GRAND MASONIC HALL,

was received and read, and referred to the Right Worshipful Elisha W. King, Richard Hatfield, Elias Hicks, Worshipful Brothers Lebbeus Chapman, Henry Marsh, John Leonard, and Lewis Seymour :

*“ To the R. W., the Grand Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York :*

The undersigned delegates from the Lodges and Masonic Bodies from which they respectively hail, appointed by the same a Committee to confer on the expediency and practicability of building a Grand Masonic Hall in the city of New York, suitable for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge, the subordinate Lodges, and other Masonic bodies affiliated therein, having met pursuant to notice, on Saturday evening, the 21st inst., and again, by adjournment, this evening, and decided that such a measure was both expedient and practicable ; and having heard read a report from a sub-committee of the said meeting suggesting a plan, which has for its foundation the purchase by the Grand Lodge of the ground or site upon which to erect such building, upon an engagement being entered into, by the trustees of the said building, to pay to the Grand Lodge, or its agent, seven per cent. per annum for all the moneys so by them expended in the said purchase, do hereby unite in respectfully recommending to and entreating the Grand Lodge to give to the said subject a deliberate and serious consideration ; and if it shall not be considered as infringing the rights of any of its branches, or

impairing the security which the present investment of the funds now affords, that they will direct, authorize, and empower the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer, by and with the advice of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, by a sale and transfer of the whole or part of the property by them jointly held as trustees for the Grand Lodge, to become the purchasers of a lot suitable for that purpose, or otherwise, that Right Worshipful Body will adopt such proper necessary measures as in your wisdom may be conceived better calculated to advance and secure the attainment of an object to the Craft so honorable and praiseworthy, to the Fraternity in the city so useful and indispensable, and to the city itself an ornament and convenience.

NEW YORK, February 28, 1824."

This Memorial was signed by thirty-two representative symbolic Masons, and the representatives of three Royal Arch Chapters and two Commanderies of the Order of the Temple.

The Committee to whom was referred the Memorial as to building a Free Masons' Hall, composed of the Deputy Grand Master, Elisha W. King, and other Grand Officers, reported favorably on March 25, and concurred in deeming the project expedient and practicable. That the permanent fund might with safety and propriety be invested with less liability to fluctuation in the income. The Committee disapproved of the proposition of retaining the power to redeem the stock at pleasure, that any doubt of the yielding at least six per cent. was imaginary, and that there was a possibility of a yield of ten or twenty per cent., which should be shared by those who consent to take the stock. The plan proposed was to raise by subscription the sum of fifty thousand dollars; that from subordinate Lodges, individual brethren, or others, the sum of forty-five thousand dollars. This was to be done by two thousand eight hundred shares of twenty-five dollars each. The interest to be paid half-yearly, as the rents, issues, and profits of the said Hall will permit, after deducting six

per cent. on the amount invested by the Grand Lodge for the purchase of the lot, and the amount necessary to meet taxes, repairs, insurance, etc. The site to be selected by the Grand Officers and paid for by the Grand Lodge; and, upon the completion of the Hall, the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer shall execute the necessary deed and instruments for vesting the right and title in fee to the said ground and building in the trustees of the said Hall. A bond and mortgage in return to be executed for the sum that may be expended in the purchase of the same, bearing an interest, to be paid semi-annually, at the rate of six per centum per annum.

The recommendations of the Committee were approved, and so rapidly did matters progress, that on St. John's Day in 1826, the Grand Master, Grand Officers, and others proceeded in line to the site of the proposed Free Masons' Hall in Broadway, where the Grand Master, Elisha W. King, assisted by the Deputy Grand Master, Richard Hatfield, and the Senior and Junior Wardens, performed the ceremony, agreeably to ancient custom, of laying the foundation stone.

On April 14, 1827, a Committee on rent of new Masonic Hall reported as follows :

That they had been "appointed by the Grand Stewards' Lodge on the subject of procuring a suitable room for the meetings of the Grand Lodge and Grand Stewards' Lodge for the ensuing year, and that they recommend the hiring of the Lodge Room in the Masonic Hall in Broadway, at the yearly rent of one hundred dollars, that is to say, for the four Quarterly Communications, and that twenty-five dollars be paid for each extra meeting.

Your Committee also recommend that the Grand Stewards' Lodge meet the following year in St. John's Hall, and also that the Committee of Charity meet at St. John's Hall, and that one hundred dollars be paid therefor."

An election for officers of the Grand Lodge being held on June 2, 1824, resulted in the re-election of Martin Hoffman as Grand Master and of all other officers.

## VARIOUS MATTERS PERTAINING TO ONE GRAND LODGE CONSIDERED.

The Committee appointed to report what course the Grand Lodge should adopt as to subordinate Lodges selecting under what Grand Lodge Jurisdiction—the city or the country—they will hail, favored the granting of more time. That the Grand Officers of the country Grand Lodge, not having, conformably to the Book of Constitutions, held Quarterly Communications, etc., may be considered as having relinquished the pretensions to the control and management of the Fraternity, by them heretofore assumed, therefore,

“*Resolved*, That the Lodges within this Jurisdiction be, and they are hereby, allowed until the Quarterly Communication, which shall be in June, 1825, to make returns and payment of dues conformably to the rules on that subject prescribed in the Book of Constitutions.”

This course was pursued and the resolution adopted.

The following resolutions were also adopted, which affected the standing rules of the Grand Body :

## COMPENSATION FOR ATTENDANCE.

“*Resolved*, That the following rules be, and they are hereby, repealed, viz. :

That every subordinate Lodge situate out of the city of New York, and at least ten miles distant therefrom, being represented in this Grand Lodge, or the proxy representing any Lodge, being a non-resident in said city, and coming a distance of at least ten miles, shall be entitled to receive \$1.50 per day for attendance at the June Communication of the same, and a like compensation for every forty miles' travel, coming and returning, to be paid such representative or proxy out of the moneys received from such Lodge, as the annual return of dues for the year preceding ; provided that said compensation does not exceed the amount so due and paid ; and further provided that no proxy receive compensa-

tion for more than one Lodge, although he may be the representative of five.

CONSTITUTION HOW AMENDED.

That no ordinance or regulation affecting the interests of, or obligatory upon, the Lodges out of the city of New York, shall be passed at any other than the Quarterly Communication in June of each year.

That no alteration or amendment of the Constitution shall be made at any other than the June Communication; and any such alteration or amendment, in order to be then considered, must have been proposed and entered on the minutes of the Grand Lodge at a like previous June Communication, and within three months thereafter transmitted to the several Lodges of the Jurisdiction; nor shall any such alteration or amendment be then made, unless the same be approved by two-thirds of the votes present when the question is taken thereon."

The following regulation was then adopted as one of the particular rules of this Grand Lodge, viz. :

" All alterations or amendments of the Constitution affecting the interests or obligatory upon the Lodges out of the city, shall, after being proposed, be printed at the then or next immediate June Communication, and without delay submitted to each Lodge in good standing within the Jurisdiction; and if at the next June Communication the said regulation shall not appear to be objected to by a majority of the Lodges within the Jurisdiction to whom the same has been submitted, it shall then be considered as adopted, and become part of the Regulations of this Grand Lodge."

DUES. SALARY OF GRAND SECRETARY. PROXIES.

It was then further

" *Resolved*, That the 4th Rule be so altered as that the dues of the members of Lodges in the city shall hereafter be twenty-five cents per quarter, and the contribution from the

city Lodges to the Charity Fund for candidates for initiation twenty dollars.

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary, as an equivalent for the perquisites of his office, which are now paid into the Charity Fund, shall hereafter receive \$350, which, added to his salary of \$250, will make his gross compensation \$600 per annum.

*Resolved*, That the 2d Rule be amended by striking out the words 'but no person shall be admitted as proxy for more than five Lodges,' and inserting 'but no person shall be allowed to vote as proxy for more than *one* Lodge.' "

#### GRAND LODGE OF HAYTI.

A Committee reported September 1, 1824, that, inasmuch as Hayti was now assuming an independent position in the political world, a brotherly Communication should be opened with the Grand Lodge established there.

A Warrant for a Lodge was authorized to issue to Robert Irwin and others, to be located in the town of Green Bay, Brown County, in the Territory of Michigan, to be known by the name of Menomania Lodge; it having been recommended by Zion Lodge, No. 3.

Fraternal Lodge, No. 107, chartered in 1804, under the name of Albion Lodge, and which had changed its name, by permission of the Grand Lodge, when the war between Great Britain and America was proclaimed—was by further permission allowed to resume its original name of Albion Lodge, No. 107.

#### THE RECEPTION OF BROTHER MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE.

It was

" *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to wait upon Brother Lafayette immediately on his return from Boston, and tender him, on behalf of this Grand Lodge, its congratulations on his safe arrival, and to invite him to honor the Craft by partaking of a public dinner."

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was convened September 20, 1824. All the Grand Officers present, and the officers

and Past Masters of thirty-six Lodges. Brethren generally were permitted to the floor of the Grand Lodge.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master announced that the Grand Lodge had assembled to welcome Brother Lafayette, who had kindly accepted their invitation to partake of a public dinner.

The Right Worshipful Mordecai Myers, Grand Marshal and Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, reported that over five hundred seats for the dinner had been disposed of among the brethren, the receipts from which, together with the liberal contributions received by the Committee, had enabled them to anticipate all necessary requirements and expenses of the occasion.

Brother Lafayette being announced in waiting, was escorted into the presence of the Grand Lodge, the brethren unanimously manifesting the most intense enthusiasm by plaudits of heartfelt welcome. After a partial abatement thereof, and the reception by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Martin Hoffman, Brother Lafayette, the nation's guest, was introduced to the assembled brethren, when a renewal of the deep and sincere appreciation of the Craft was most heartily expressed. After the warm and fervent congratulations and greetings, the Grand Lodge was formed in procession, and accompanied by their honored guest, the members of the subordinate Lodges and visiting brethren, proceeded to Washington Hall, where a sumptuous repast had been prepared, and the festivities continued until nearly *low twelve*.

On the following December, one thousand dollars was authorized to be contributed by the Grand Lodge for the purpose of

ERECTING A MONUMENT AT THE GRAVE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON,  
AT MOUNT VERNON,

whenever the sum of ten thousand dollars should be appropriated in unison with this object, by the other Grand Lodges of the United States.

Fireman's Lodge, No. 368, petitioned for a change of name to that of New York Lodge, in consequence of a very inconsiderable number of firemen making application for initiation, contrary to the expectation of the originators.

1825.

CREATION OF A MASONIC LIBRARY DENOUNCED.

At the instance of Silentia Lodge, No. 360, the subject of the formation of a Masonic Library was referred to the Grand Officers, in April, 1825.

The communication is worthy of preserving, and was as follows :

*“ To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and others :*

Agreeably to a motion made by Brother Elias Wolf, and seconded by W. Past Master Hampton Dunham, of Silentia Lodge, No. 360, it was

*‘ Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to recommend to the notice of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, the propriety and importance of forming a Masonic Library.’*

We, the Committee nominated and appointed for this purpose, beg leave to address your Honorable Body on this subject.

On the other side of the Atlantic, many Lodges devote a part of their revenue to the purchase of books concerning Freemasonry ; and the circulation of these works contributes to spread instruction among the brethren, to make them acquainted with the origin, history, and tendency of our Order, to give them information of the Lodges in various parts of the globe, and, by promoting light and knowledge among the Fraternity, excites a greater interest for further inquiry, and a livelier attachment to the great chain of which they are members.

Masons who travel in their own or foreign countries, may,

from such a source, derive still other advantages. They may, by the aid of it, before they set out, without trouble or expense, make themselves acquainted with the situation of their brethren in those parts they intend to visit.

Believing that the same advantages would necessarily result from such an establishment in our city, and as we feel sensibly the want of it, we deem it superfluous to enlarge on the eminent usefulness we expect from this contemplated establishment, in addressing a Body who, deriving their light from the pure source of the East, are the better qualified to form a correct opinion of this matter, and give the object a better direction to accomplish the views of this Committee.

We therefore add only the following, to give a short explanation of our ideas of this subject :

That a Masonic Library should be established in this city, under the care and direction of this Grand Lodge, for the use of every member of the Masonic family.

That the Lodges be respectfully, and the brethren generally, invited to contribute, either in books illustrative of Masonic science, or money, for this purpose, by which means we hope to save from destruction many valuable Masonic works and documents that now lie in the hands of individuals, almost useless to the Craft, and may ultimately be destroyed, from not having a repository for their preservation.

By realizing the above proposition, we hope and expect to see the increased diffusion of Masonic information, and an enlightened Fraternity, whose science of the Order will not be inferior to that of any other country.

In submitting a subject which we deem to be of so much importance, and which may be realized (as we think) with comparatively small expense, to your mature and deliberate consideration, we indulge an expectation that we shall soon be so happy as to see the great desideratum supplied.

HAMPTON DUNHAM,  
HENRY BATTERMAN,  
ELIAS WOLF.

NEW YORK, April 6, A. L. 5825."

This was referred to the Grand Officers, who disposed of the matter as follows :

“The Grand Officers, having given the proposition emanating from *Silentia Lodge, No. 360*, relating to the formation of a Masonic Library, the consideration due to the importance of the subject, are of the opinion that, if the object of the proposition is the collection and preservation of rare and valuable works, connected with, or relating to, the arts and sciences generally, the necessity of the measure is superseded by the numerous public, as well as private and professional, libraries, which already abound in this extensive and growing city, and to which every member of the Fraternity, in common with others, may obtain access ; or, otherwise, if thereby is contemplated the collection of the histories, tracts, charts, monitors, illustrations, or by whatever name may be distinguished the various developments of the Masonic mysteries, and consequent violation of Masonic obligations, the Grand Officers are of opinion, that, so far from contributing in any shape to their preservation, the Masonic body ought to unite to a man in discountenancing their use as destructive of that simplicity and uniformity which make Freemasonry the same, meet it in whatever part of the globe you may. Under these impressions, the Grand Officers are constrained to express dissent from the plan proposed, and to recommend that it be discharged from further consideration.

MARTIN HOFFMAN,  
E. M. KING,  
ELIAS HICKS,  
RICHARD HATFIELD,  
CORNELIUS BOGERT.

NEW YORK, June 3, A. L. 5825.”

The selection of Grand Officers, held June 1, 1825, resulted in the re-election of the Grand Master, Martin Hoffman ; Right Worshipful Elisha W. King, declining re-election as Deputy, was succeeded by Richard Hatfield ; Rev. Henry I. Feltus was chosen Senior Grand Warden ; Matson Smith,

Junior Grand Warden ; George W. Hyer, Grand Treasurer, over his opponent, Cornelius Bogert ; Elias Hicks, Grand Secretary ; the Reverend Brothers, James G. Ogilvie, F. C. Schaeffer, Archibald McClay, and J. M. Wainwright, Grand Chaplains ; Joseph Jacobs, Grand Pursuivant ; Robert Young, Grand Tyler ; Gerrit Lansing, Assistant Grand Pursuivant.

MOST WORSHIPFUL MARTIN HOFFMAN, GRAND MASTER,

was one of the most ardent Masons in his day, devoted to the interests of the Fraternity, and deeply imbued with the principles of humanity taught within its walls. He was Grand Treasurer during three terms of Robert R. Livingston as Grand Master, to wit, 1795, '96, '97 ; Junior Grand Warden in 1798, and Senior Grand Warden in 1799 and 1800, under the same Grand Master ; and then at an election in 1804 he became Deputy Grand Master, and was successively chosen to that office for sixteen terms, *i.e.*, until 1820, and was elected Grand Master for the years 1823, '24, '25 ; or, as the story may be more briefly stated, he served the Grand Lodge in various capacities as a Grand Elective Officer for a quarter of a century.

On a petition from Brother Samuel H. Rogers and others for the establishment of a Lodge to be known as Hoffman Lodge, a Dispensation was granted January 25, 1825, and a Warrant was ordered March 2d following. In course of time the Lodge became poverty stricken, and its number was surrendered to Oswegatchie Lodge, Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County.

MOST WORSHIPFUL ELISHA W. KING, GRAND MASTER.

On June 7, 1826, the Most Worshipful Martin Hoffman, declining a re-election to the position of Grand Master, Brother Elisha W. King was duly elected and installed under most flattering circumstances. Brother King had been Deputy Grand Master under Martin Hoffman during the years 1823 and 1824 ; it was, therefore, with much

earnestness he presented to the retiring Grand Master a series of handsomely engrossed resolutions in acknowledgment of his long and appreciated active services in the Grand Lodge.

Most Worshipful Grand Master King had the gratification of receiving, in behalf of the Grand Lodge, an exquisite volume containing the memoir on the New York Canals, and the account of the ceremonies attending the celebration of the opening of the canal by Right Worshipful Cadwallader D. Colden, who had been Senior Grand Warden for fifteen years.

Brother King had become somewhat familiar with the duties of Grand Master, he having served for two terms as Deputy Grand Master. He was a counselor at law in the city of New York, and a Past Master of Abrams Lodge, No. 83.

It was mainly under the supervision and the trustworthy force of Most Worshipful Martin Hoffman, Grand Master, Right Worshipful Elisha W. King, Deputy Grand Master, and others, that a subscription book was directed to be opened on March 25, 1824, for the purpose of raising from such subordinate Lodges, individual brethren, or other persons as might be disposed to subscribe to the same, the sum of forty-five thousand dollars, to be exclusively appropriated to the erection of a Free Masons' Hall in the city of New York. This scheme was approved and adopted by the Grand Lodge, but like many another soon slept among hopes and postponements.

On June 1, 1825, a letter was read from Brother Elisha W. King, declining a re-election as Deputy; and in the succeeding year he was placed in the Grand Master's chair.

#### THE "QUAKER" AFFIRMATION.

What may be conceded as the commencement of the now much wrought process of "Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence" in the Grand Lodge of New York, may be dated December 7, 1825, wherein five of the principal Grand Officers reported upon Communications received from

foreign Grand Lodges. The first topic discussed was the power of conferring degrees by *affirmation*, in lieu of by the *solemn oath*, as favorably decided upon by the Grand Lodge of Maine, but dissented to by Pennsylvania, and in which the Grand Lodge of New York agrees.

#### TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.

And again, there was discussed the universally admitted principle, not to grant Warrants, and *ex-more*, not to exercise jurisdiction within a country or territory wherein any other Grand Lodge is established. This subject came up, *in re* the Lodge La Mejor Union, No. 365. A Communication had been received from the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Colombia, giving information of its establishment and regular formation. Should the Grand Lodge of New York acknowledge its independence and enter into correspondence with it, the question would be raised as to the propriety of allowing La Mejor Union Lodge, No. 365, which had been warranted by the Grand Lodge of New York, December 27, 1823, authorizing Mario Radonieck, Master, and others, to hold a Lodge in the city of Panama, Republic of Colombia, to continue its allegiance to New York, or to transfer its allegiance to the Republic of Colombia.

The Grand Officers commended the purely Masonic conduct pursued by the brethren of La Mejor Union Lodge, in refusing to shake off their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New York without first obtaining its approbation and concurrence, a circumstance which the Grand Officers took peculiar pleasure in noticing, and which it was thought ought of itself to entitle them to every courtesy, not incompatible with the true interests of the Craft, that this Grand Lodge had it in its power to show.

1826.

Martin Hoffman having declined re-election as Grand Master, on June 7, 1826, Elisha W. King was elected to such position, and the remaining officers were re-elected, and

installed on St. John's Day following, by Most Worshipful Martin Hoffman, who in return was presented by the Grand Master, in behalf of the brethren, with a handsomely engrossed series of resolutions in acknowledgment of his appreciated active services.

Elias Hicks having resigned his office of Grand Secretary, the Grand Master, by Communication dated December 1, 1826, appointed Oliver M. Lowndes to fill the vacancy.

#### CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP.

The Grand Officers were requested to prepare for adoption an economical and uniform Certificate of membership for the brethren, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The language was agreed upon by the Grand Officers, and the entire form was submitted March 7, 1827. This was adopted and ordered printed on parchment of a small and convenient size.

The following resolutions were also adopted :

*Resolved*, That from and after the first day of April next, no person who shall hail from any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be examined for admission as a visitor in any of the Lodges under the said jurisdiction unless he shall produce such certificate.

*Resolved*, That every Mason receiving such certificate shall be entitled to have his name enrolled in the register of the Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That the price of such certificate shall be seventy-five cents.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Charity shall be authorized to direct the Grand Secretary to issue certificates gratuitously to such as they may deem unable to pay for the same."

#### MASONIC PROCESSIONS PROSCRIBED.

On the same date it was

*Resolved*, As the sense of this Grand Lodge that the frequency of Masonic processions in this city is highly preju-

dicial to the interests and respectability of the Order, and ought to be prohibited.

*Resolved*, That it be respectfully recommended to the M. W. Grand Master not to grant Dispensations for processions, only upon very extraordinary occasions, such as may render such procession necessary."

#### THE REUNION OF THE CITY AND THE COUNTRY GRAND LODGES.

On a representation, made in 1825, by the Worshipful Brother Henry Marsh, that Ezra S. Cozier, L. Howard, Joseph Cuyler, Joseph O. Cole, and P. Adams had been appointed by the country Masons a Committee to confer with any Committee that this Grand Lodge may appoint, upon the means to be adopted for terminating the existing division and misunderstanding, it was, on motion,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to meet the Committee of the country Masons, and to receive from them in writing such propositions as they may see fit to make on the said subject, and to report the result of the conference to this Grand Lodge."

This was on June 1, 1825, and Brothers Matthew L. Davis, Henry Marsh, Mordecai Myers, Oliver M. Lowndes, and John Ditchett were appointed.

This Committee reported on June 3, that their Chairman, Worshipful Brother Davis, had received the following proposition :

"We, the Committee appointed by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York to confer with the Lodges in the city of New York, propose the following proposition for their consideration, as being in their opinion the best mode of settling the unhappy difference existing in the great Masonic Family in this State :

To divide the State in two distinct Grand Lodges, the jurisdiction of the first to consist of the counties of Long Island, the county of Richmond, the city and county of New York, and the county of Westchester, to be called the

Southern Grand Lodge of the State of New York. The jurisdiction of the other to consist of the residue of this State, and to be called the Northern Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

If the above proposition is agreed to, in that case the funds to be equitably divided between the two Grand Lodges, agreeably to the sums paid by each subordinate Lodge into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge.

E. S. COZIER, Chairman.

NEW YORK, June 3, 1825."

To which the Committee had replied, in acknowledging its receipt :

"That, pursuant to the tenor of their instructions, they should report the same to the Grand Lodge ; but that, in the interim, they considered it their duty to remark for themselves, that they never, in the event of a division, could consent to a jurisdiction more limited than the county of Albany, and that part of the State which lies south of the said county."

The papers were ordered to lie upon the table, and the functions of the Committee to continue in force.

In due course the subject came up again, and, finally, a Committee was appointed, with power to receive and discuss any proposition for restoring the harmony of the Masonic Body in this State, and to confer with any of that Body relating thereto, and to devise and provisionally agree on a plan for that purpose, subject to the ratification of the Grand Lodge. A report was made on June 7, 1827, at Tammany Hall, to wit :

1827.

"The Committee appointed on the 23d ultimo, in relation to the restoration of harmony in the Masonic Body in this State, respectfully report, that in the execution of their duties they have had communication with brethren of that Body, as a Committee in relation to the same object, on behalf of those usually designated as the country Masons.

In the intercourse with them, your Committee have considered themselves as authorized rather to regard the manner in which the general interests of the Masonic Order, especially in this State, were to be affected by their proceedings, than by any local or partial principles, and are most happy to state that the course adopted by the Committee of the brethren from the country, bears the fullest testimony that they have been actuated by the same considerations.

Under the influence of this principle the two Committees have united in a free and frank communication of their respective views, and in a result produced rather by their unanimous assent to the propriety of their mutual suggestion as necessary to the unity and prosperity of the Order, than by any views of concession or accommodation to inferior considerations.

This result your Committee have the favor to report to this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge in the substance of the propositions unanimously adopted by the brethren who have met, consisting of the Brethren John O. Cole, Freeman B. Hicks, Daniel Sherwood, George C. Herman, and E. Mack, and the members of your Committee who have signed this report, who regret that they have been partially deprived of the assistance of the W. Bro. Scoville, in consequence of his official engagements.

#### THE PROPOSITIONS AGREED ON

are as follows, viz. :

That there ought to be but one Grand Lodge in the State of New York, and that it ought to be held in the city of New York, and be considered as a continuation of the old Grand Lodge. That all allusion to former differences shall be avoided as far as possible.

That the proceedings of the bodies known by the name of the Grand Lodge shall be confirmed, and that the Warrants granted to subordinate Lodges by the two bodies, and the proceedings of the said bodies shall be deemed regular.

That the records and archives of the Grand Lodge being

in the city of New York, the Grand Secretary shall be chosen from the city.

That the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master shall be chosen from the city of New York, the other from the country, the two Wardens from the country, the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer from the city.

That the permanent Fund be managed by five Trustees, viz.: The Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the two Wardens, and the Grand Secretary, whose duty it shall be to invest all funds over \$3,000 agreeably to the resolution presented to this Committee.

That for the present session the representatives of Lodges shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges to which they are at present; but that it be recommended for the future, that the number of Lodges which one Master or Past Master may represent shall not exceed three, and that Past Masters shall not be represented by proxy, and that representatives be paid as heretofore.

That a Committee ought to be appointed to revise the Constitution.

Your Committee report their opinion that it is advisable that the Grand Lodge adopt the above propositions.

JOHN W. MULLIGAN,  
M. MYERS,  
H. MARSH,  
J. SPRAGUE.

NEW YORK, June 6, 1827."

It was

"*Resolved*, That the foregoing propositions recommended by the Committee be, and are hereby, ratified and confirmed."

The Grand Lodge then proceeded with the annual election of officers under the Union.

On June 7, 1827, the Most Worshipful Elisha W. King, of the city of New York, for the interest of harmony, and as an evidence of good faith toward the country, declined a

renomination, and made the personal nomination of the Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer, of Albany, who was thereupon unanimously elected Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

Then the election proceeded as follows :

Richard Hatfield, of New York City, D. G. Master.

Ezra S. Cozier, of Utica, S. G. Warden.

Welcome Esleeck, of Albany, J. G. Warden.

Oliver M. Lowndes, of New York City, G. Secretary.

George W. Hyer, of New York City, G. Treasurer.

Rev. J. M. Wainwright, D.D., of N. Y. City, G. Chaplain.

Rev. John Reed, of Poughkeepsie, G. Chaplain.

Joseph Jacobs, G. Pursuivant.

Gerrit Lansing, Asst. G. Pursuivant.

Robert Young, G. Tyler.

The usual honors were given, and a Committee, consisting of Most Worshipful Elisha W. King, Right Worshipful John W. Mulligan, and Right Worshipful Elisha Gilbert, were appointed to communicate to the Most Worshipful Stephen Van Rensselaer the fact of his unanimous election to the office of Grand Master, and request his acceptance thereof.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 10 A.M., Friday, June 8, 1827.

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1823.

#### THE COUNTRY GRAND LODGE.

The fraction of the former Grand Lodge which received the name of "The Country Grand Lodge," met in the Grand Lodge room at the City Hotel, June 3, 1823, to hold a Quarterly Communication.

There were present, as officers :

R. W. John Brush, Deputy Grand Master, in the chair.

" John Greig, Senior Grand Warden.

" Elisha Gilbert, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.

- R. W. Elias Hicks, Grand Secretary.  
 “ Cornelius Bogert, Grand Treasurer.  
 W. Matthew L. Davis, Senior Grand Deacon.  
 “ Henry Marsh, Junior Grand Deacon.  
 Bro. Joseph Jacobs, Grand Pursuivant.  
 “ Bryan Rossetter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge being in order, the Most Worshipful Joseph Enos, Jr., Grand Master, entered and assumed his position.

Immediately, however, the Grand Lodge adjourned to assemble at Tammany Hall, where an examination of credentials became the subject of serious debate; and the Grand Lodge, near midnight, adjourned to meet the following day, at 11 A.M. A Committee, at this session, was appointed to examine the credentials of representatives of subordinate Lodges in person or as proxy, according to the Constitutional regulations of the Grand Lodge, and that they report the number of votes such representatives are respectively entitled to, at this Communication.

An adjournment was then had until the morning of June 5, when the following Grand Officers were elected :

- M. W. Joseph Enos, Jr., Grand Master.  
 R. W. John Brush, Deputy Grand Master.  
 “ Nathaniel Allen, Senior Grand Warden.  
 “ Thomas Barker, Junior Grand Warden.  
 “ Charles G. Haines, Grand Secretary.  
 “ Welcome Esleeck, Grand Treasurer.  
 “ and Rev. Hooper Cummings, } Grand Chaplains.  
 “ “ “ Wm. B. Lacy, }  
 “ Wm. Whipple, Grand Sword Bearer.  
 “ Joseph Cuyler, Grand Marshal.  
 W. David S. Van Rensselaer, } Grand Stewards.  
 “ Grove Lawrence, }  
 “ James White, Senior Grand Deacon.  
 “ Daniel E. Brown, Junior Grand Deacon.  
 “ Jedediah Benjamin, Grand Pursuivant.  
 “ James Gardner, Grand Tyler.

JOSEPH ENOS, JR., OF EATON,

was Grand Master of Masons during 1822, '23, '24, and presided for two years over that division of the Body known as the Country Grand Lodge, which arose from the troubles of 1823. He was best known in connection with Brother Ebenezer Wadsworth, as Grand Visitor, with whom he served, whose functions embraced those that are now known and separately exercised by a District Deputy Grand Master and a Grand Lecturer. He was an earnest and zealous Mason, and for many years filled a large space in our Masonic history. In later years, his attention was more particularly given to Royal Arch Masonry, the highest honors of which had been awarded to him, and in which, too, he had long rendered efficient service as instructor in the ritual. His financial difficulties in connection with the Grand Lodge will be found duly recorded, and were unfortunate.

GRAND TREASURER CORNELIUS BOGERT AND GRAND SECRETARY  
ELIAS HICKS SUMMONED AND SUSPENDED.

*Copy of the First Summons; of the Preamble and Resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge; and of the Final Summons to show Cause why Suspension should not be declared, as enacted by the Country Grand Lodge.*

Right Worshipful Brothers Bogert and Hicks had cast their Masonic fortunes with the City Grand Lodge.

*To Elias Hicks, R. W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York:*

“You are hereby summoned forthwith to attend this Grand Lodge now in session at the Lodge room in Tammany Hall in this city, with the books, papers, funds, and vouchers of said Grand Lodge, now in your custody or power.

JOSEPH ENOS, G. Master.

NEW YORK, June 5, 1823.”

“*Whereas*, A summons was issued by the Most Worshipful Grand Master on the fifth inst. directed to the Right Worshipful Elias Hicks, G. Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, directing him to appear at the Grand Lodge room in Tammany Hall, with all the books, papers, funds, and vouchers of said Grand Lodge, now in his custody ; and

*Whereas*, The above summons was duly and personally served on the said Bro. Elias Hicks, by the W. Bro. Joseph Cuyler, a member of this Grand Lodge ; when the said Brother Elias Hicks returned for answer, that he did not acknowledge the authority by which the within summons was issued, and should not attend to the said summons ; and

*Whereas*, The non-attendance of the said Bro. Elias Hicks, on the said summons, is a high contempt of the said Elias Hicks against the R. W. Grand Lodge, and the answer returned by him to the said summons is a direct insult to this Grand Lodge and the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That a summons be issued directed to the said Brother Elias Hicks, commanding him to appear forthwith before the Grand Lodge, to show cause why he should not be suspended from this Grand Lodge for his contempt and un-Masonic conduct in not answering the summons of this Grand Lodge, and the insult offered by his answer to the summons, to the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, and through him to the Grand Lodge.”

The following summons was then ordered to be served :

“ *To the Right Worshipful Bro. Elias Hicks :*

You are hereby summoned to appear on the ninth inst. at four o'clock in the afternoon, in the Lodge room at Tammany Hall, in the city of New York, to show cause why you should not be suspended from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and from all Masonic communications, for your un-Masonic conduct in not answering the summons of this Grand Lodge, and the insult offered by your answer to the

said summons, to the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master, and through him to this Grand Lodge. Given under my hand at the city of New York, this 7th day of June, 5823.

JOSEPH ENOS, Grand Master."

Similar process was taken in the matter of the former Grand Treasurer, Cornelius Bogert.

The following resolution was adopted on June 9, 1823 :

"*Resolved*, That the R. W. Elias Hicks, *late* Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, be and is hereby suspended from this Grand Lodge and all Masonic communication, for the space of ten years; and also, that the R. W. Cornelius Bogert, *late* Grand Treasurer, be and is hereby in like manner for the like term suspended."

Past Grand Master D. D. Tompkins, Vice-President of the United States, and Brother Erastus Root, Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York, were invited to attend the session, and accepted.

There had been much consideration given at previous Communications of the Grand Lodge, as to alleged discrepancies in the accounts of Right Worshipful Ebenezer Wadsworth, when Grand Visitor; and a counter-claim made by him as to moneys advanced for the honor of the Grand Lodge in a special case. Brother Wadsworth for many years had been a prominent factor in the affairs of the Fraternity, and it was with much concern the brethren learned of the action had in March, 1823 (before the division of the Grand Lodge).

The following is the resolution adopted at that session :

#### THE EBENEZER WADSWORTH DIFFICULTY.

"*Resolved*, That Ebenezer Wadsworth, *late* Grand Visitor of the Second District, having, by an order of this Grand Lodge, of the 5th of December, 5821, been enjoined forthwith to pay in all moneys received by him in his capacity of a Grand Visitor; and having, from his neglect so to do, been

summoned to show cause at the Quarterly Communication in June last why he should not be suspended from Masonic communication for unduly withholding moneys so received by him in his said capacity ; and he having at that time in his hands the aforesaid sum of forty-two dollars, so received from Temple Lodge, and instead of paying the same, pursuant to the tenor of the before-mentioned injunction, concealed the fact of his having received it, has thereby shown a marked contempt of the authority of this Grand Lodge, and incurred the penalty prescribed in the 19th Rule, 10th Section, 3d Chapter, of the Book of Constitutions.

*Resolved*, That the said Ebenezer Wadsworth be and he is hereby suspended from all Masonic communication for and during the period of ten years, from the date of this resolution.

*Ordered*, That the preceding resolutions be forthwith communicated to the respective Lodges under the jurisdiction."

The Country Grand Lodge, which had always been partial to the Grand Visitors, and with whom Right Worshipful Brother Wadsworth was a favorite, believing that he had been wronged, on June 5 accepted the report of an examining Committee, and adopted the following preamble and resolution :

"*Whereas*, At a Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge in March, 5823, R. W. Ebenezer Wadsworth was suspended from all Masonic communication for and during the term of ten years from the date of the said resolution, and

*Whereas*, It appears by the minutes of this Grand Lodge that Bro. Wadsworth has been suspended without any notice, or evidence of notice, to appear and show cause, which is secured to every brother by the Constitutions of this Grand Lodge ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge do not ratify the said Quarterly Communication of March last in the premises above mentioned, but this Grand Lodge do declare the said suspension unconstitutional, irregular, and void. And it is

also ordered, that the said resolutions and recitals preceding the same be expunged from the minutes of this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary transmit a copy of the above resolution to all the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and to the several Grand Lodges of the United States."

Brother Wadsworth was invited to return to the Lodge, and the Committee on Auditing Accounts reported there was a balance of \$24.50 due said Wadsworth. Which report was accepted.

#### THE ENDEAVOR TO OBTAIN THE RECORDS.

The following resolutions were adopted on June 9 :

"*Resolved*, That the R. W. Charles G. Haines, Grand Secretary, and R. W. Welcome Esleeck, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, be, and are hereby, authorized and directed, without delay, to demand and receive from the R. W. Elias Hicks, P. Grand Secretary, and of and from R. W. Cornelius Bogert, P. Grand Treasurer of the said Grand Lodge, and of and from every and all other person or persons and corporate body or bodies, all the books, records, vouchers, parchments, and papers, together with the seal and all the moneys of every description in the hands or possession, or under the control of any such Past Grand Officer, or any person or persons, or corporate body belonging to the said Grand Lodge, and receipt therefor proper discharges and receipts, and to execute, seal, or not to seal the same, as may be deemed advisable, and to deliver the same in behalf of this Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed for the purpose of securing the legal and equitable rights of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York in relation to the conduct of the late Grand Secretary and late Grand Treasurer, and that they be authorized to see such judicial proceedings instituted as they may think proper, and to employ such counsel as they may deem proper, after finding judicial proceedings necessary and expedient."

The Constitution, rules, and regulations were taken up, discussed, and laid over until June, 1824, when "the plan of the Constitution" was adopted.

The attending representatives were authorized to receive from the Lodges which they represent the amount of their respective compensation allowed by the Constitution, and that the same be credited as dues to such Lodges by the Grand Lodge.

MAKING MASONS AT SIGHT.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was opened in ample form on June 12, 1823, the Most Worshipful Joseph Enos in the chair, who announced that the meeting was called to make a Mason of the Rev. Dr. Hooper Cummings :

*Whereupon:* The three degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason, were conferred on Hooper Cummings by the Grand Master, according to the power vested in him by the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

CHAS. G. HAINES, Grand Secretary.

On June 23, A. L. 5823, the Right Worshipful, the Deputy Grand Master, John Brush, with the assistance of Brother Randall S. Street, Past Master of Solomon's Lodge, No. 6, Poughkeepsie, at the house of the Deputy Grand Master at the place aforesaid, conferred the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason, on the Rev. Dr. John Reed, according to the power vested in the Deputy Grand Master by the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

1824.

The Session of 1824 was mainly devoted to routine business. The former Grand Officers were re-elected except in the case of the Grand Chaplains, wherein the two newly made Masons at sight were elected to fill the positions, and John W. Oakley was elected to fill the place of Charles G.

Haines as Grand Secretary, he having declined a renomination.

A new set of jewels and Regalia became essential, and the Grand Treasurer was authorized and directed to procure the same.

“Healing the differences” between the two Grand Lodges was the subject of several resolutions and of the appointment of committees, but without definite result therefrom. The Fraternity in the State became deeply concerned in the matter of Grand Lodge dissensions.

1825.

#### MASONIC DEMANDS FOR A UNION.

A large and influential meeting of Master Masons, consisting of forty-seven representatives from different sections of the State, seven only of whom were from the city of New York, was held at the Hall of Temple Chapter, in the city of Albany, February 4, 1825, and having elected Clarkson Crolius, Chairman, and John O. Cole, Secretary, adopted this preamble and resolutions:

“*Whereas*, This meeting deeply deplores the unhappy differences which at present exist between the Lodges and Masons in this State, therefore,

*Resolved*, unanimously, That Clarkson Crolius, Elisha Gilbert, Jonathan Eights, Joshua Bradley, Jacob Van Benthuyssen, Lebbeus Chapman, John F. Sibell, and John B. Scott be, and they are hereby appointed, a Committee for the purpose of conferring together upon the aforesaid unhappy differences, and, if practicable, devise such measures as may be necessary and proper to be adopted in order to restore union and harmony among the Masonic family of the State.

*Resolved*, unanimously, That the Committee named in the preceding resolution be requested to meet at Washington Hall, in the city of New York, on the Monday next preceding the first Wednesday in June next, at 12 o'clock at noon; and in case any member of said Committee does not attend

said meeting, that the members of said Committee then present shall fill such vacancy.

*Resolved*, That this meeting will use all their individual influence and exertions to bring about a union of the Masons of the State of New York."

In pursuance of the above the Committee met at Washington Hall, in the city of New York, on Monday, May 30, 1825, and approved of the following :

" *Whereas*, This Committee, feeling a deep interest in the prosperity of the Fraternity throughout the world, and more especially in the restoration of harmony among the great Masonic family in the State of New York, do profess and pledge themselves to be actuated by the pure motives of brotherly love and friendship in the discharge of the high and responsible duties which devolve upon them; and while they recommend the following resolutions to the unbiased consideration of their brethren in general, and more particularly for the consideration of those brethren who are members of and compose the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, this Committee would earnestly beseech that, whatever may heretofore have been the cause of dissension and disagreements, out of which have grown so many difficulties and conflicting interests, the brethren should now lay aside for a moment all improper feelings, if any exist, and endeavor, by the united exertions of every brother, to place the Fraternity and its concerns on its true foundation, which, if accomplished, will not only be the means of producing love and harmony at home, but of conferring honor and respectability on the Fraternity abroad.

*Resolved*, That it is desirable that all animosities heretofore existing among the great body of Masons in this State be forever obliterated.

*Resolved*, That a general meeting of the representatives of Lodges be held to-morrow evening, Tuesday, May 31, at 8 o'clock, at Tammany Hall.

*Resolved*, That we cordially and respectfully recommend to that meeting, that a Committee, to consist of four mem-

bers from the city of New York and four from other parts of the State, be appointed for the purpose of nominating suitable persons for Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Committee, the place of meeting of the Grand Lodge should be permanently fixed in the city of New York.

*Resolved*, That this Committee has viewed with feelings of the most anxious solicitude the attempts to reconcile the conflicting differences that unhappily exist in the Masonic family of this State, and do earnestly desire that every brother will use his best exertions and influence in putting an end thereto."

The meeting of representatives of Lodges from different parts of the State was held at Tammany Hall, on the evening of May 31, 1825; and the following were adopted:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the two Bodies styling themselves the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, to appoint a Committee of Conference on the subject of the differences now existing; that the said Committee consist of five from each Body.

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be presented to each of the said Bodies by the Committee of eight."

#### GRAND LODGE ACTION PRECEDENT TO A UNION.

The Grand Lodge opened its Communication at the Lodge room of Tammany Hall, city of New York, on Wednesday, June 1, 1825, Right Worshipful Elisha Gilbert, Past Senior Grand Warden, temporarily in the chair, he being the oldest Past Grand Officer present. Shortly, the Right Worshipful John Brush, the Deputy Grand Master, entered and took the East.

Subsequent to the appointment of Ebenezer Wadsworth, John O. Cole, and the Grand Secretary, as a Committee on Credentials, the Grand Lodge adjourned till 4 P.M., when it re-convened and proceeded with a large amount of routine work.

A motion was made and carried, to the effect that, in

order to "maintain good order and harmony in our election of Grand Officers,

*Resolved*, That a Committee of eight be appointed—one from each Senatorial District—to make out a ticket of nomination, for Grand Officers for the ensuing year."

This was carried; and the following morning, June 2, the Committee was appointed, to wit: Isaac Trumpour, Robert Grant, Elisha Gilbert, Timothy F. Cook, Joshua Bradley, Benjamin Enos, Nicholas G. Cheesebrough, and Samuel King.

The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution appointing a special Committee to invite the three Past Grand Masters, De Witt Clinton, Daniel D. Tompkins, and Jacob Morton, to honor this Grand Lodge with their attendance during the present session.

Subsequently, the Grand Lodge adjourned until 9 A.M., on June 3.

Incident to passing events relating to existing difficulties, it may be mentioned that two cases needing investigation and report, the one pertaining to North Star Lodge, No. 51, *versus* Hebron Lodge, No. 216, and the other, the suspension of Brother Joseph E. Bloomfield, of Camden Lodge, were referred to Grand Master Joseph Enos; but as it was alleged he had not complied with the direction of the Grand Lodge in certain matters, the subjects were discharged from his consideration and otherwise disposed of.

The Committee appointed to nominate Grand Officers reported:

John Brush for Grand Master.  
Clarkson Crolius for Deputy Grand Master.  
Nathaniel Allen for Senior Grand Warden.  
Jonathan Eights for Junior Grand Warden.  
Ebenezer Wadsworth for Grand Secretary.  
Welcome Esleek for Grand Treasurer.  
Rev. Dr. John Reed for Grand Chaplain.  
Rev. Leland Howard for Grand Chaplain.  
Philip Chase for Grand Pursuivant.  
James Gardner for Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers, when Brother Stephen Van Rensselaer, of Albany, was elected Grand Master. Whereupon an adjournment was had until 4 P.M.; when the election was proceeded with, and John Brush, of Poughkeepsie, was elected Deputy Grand Master; Ezra S. Cozier, of Utica, was elected Senior Grand Warden; Elias T. Foot, of Utica, was elected Junior Grand Warden.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 A.M., on June 4, 1825; when it was unanimously resolved to elect a Grand Treasurer by "show of hands," and Welcome Esleeck was so elected. In like manner, Rev. John Reed, of Poughkeepsie, and Rev. Leland Howard, of Troy, were duly elected Grand Chaplains; and Philip Chase, Grand Pursuivant.

#### SKETCH OF STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER.

##### *Grand Master from 1825 to 1829 inclusive.*

Stephen Van Rensselaer, known as the "Patroon," an American statesman, and patron of learning, was born in New York, November 1, 1769, the fifth in descent from Killien Van Rensselaer, the original patroon or proprietor of the Dutch Colony of Rensselaerwick, who in 1630, and subsequently, purchased a tract of land near Albany, forty-eight miles long by twenty-four wide, extending over three counties. He was educated at Princeton and Harvard colleges, and married a daughter of General Philip Schuyler, a distinguished officer of the Revolution. Engaging early in politics, at a period when they were the pursuit of men of the highest social position, he was, in 1789, elected to the State Legislature; in 1795, to the State Senate, and became Lieutenant Governor, president of a State convention, and Canal Commissioner. Turning his attention to military affairs, he was, at the beginning of the war of 1812, in command of the State militia, and led the assault of Queenstown; but the refusal of a portion of his troops, from constitutional scruples, to cross the Niagara River, enabled the British to repulse

the attack, and the General resigned in disgust. As president of the Board of Canal Commissioners for fifteen years, he promoted the New York system of internal improvements; as Chancellor of the State University, he presided over educational reforms; and as president of the Agricultural Board, aided to develop the resources of the State. At his own cost, he employed Professors Eaton and Hitchcock to make agricultural surveys, not only of his own vast estates, but of a large part of New York and New England, the results of which he published in 1824; he also paid Professor Eaton to give popular lectures on geology through the State. In 1824 he established at Troy an institution for the education of teachers, with free pupils from every county. Widening the sphere of his political interests, he went to Congress in 1823, and served several terms, exerting a powerful influence, and securing the election of John Quincy Adams as President of the United States. After an active, useful, and honorable career, worthy of his high position, he died at Albany, January 26, 1839.

Now followed the

MEETINGS OF REPRESENTATIVES AT ALBANY AND NEW YORK.

On motion of Brother Ezra S. Cozier,

The proceedings of a meeting of sundry Masons held at Albany, in February, 1825, and the doings of a Committee appointed by that meeting, held in the Grand Lodge room, New York City, on the evening of June 5, were read, whereupon the following was unanimously adopted:

“*Whereas*, Certain differences exist between the Lodges in the city of New York and this Grand Lodge; therefore,

*Resolved*, That Brothers Ezra S. Cozier, Leland Howard, Joseph Cuyler, John O. Cole, and Platt Adams be a Committee to confer with such brethren as may be appointed on behalf of the said Lodges, respecting the said differences, with a view to a settlement of the same.”

Which Committee subsequently reported:

“The Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge to confer with certain Brethren in behalf of the Lodges of the city of New York on the subject of the existing differences between them and the Grand Lodge, respectfully report :

That in the discharge of their duties they have had several conferences with the said Brethren on the subject of the said differences, but have been able to make no progress toward a settlement of the same, and therefore beg leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.”

*Ordered*, That the Committee be discharged.

Thus, for the time being, summarily ended the efforts for a union in the government of the Fraternity in the State. But what had been done in this direction was not without fruit, as the future showed.

#### KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY.

“*Resolved*, That no Lodge under this jurisdiction shall convene upon the Sabbath day or evening, for the transaction of any business, except upon funeral occasions.”

#### RECEPTION OF OFFICERS OF GRAND CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

The Most Excellent Ezra Ames, Grand High Priest, and Most Excellent Richard Pennell, Deputy Grand High Priest, of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, being announced, were received with *due honors*.

#### THE COUNTRY GRAND LODGE RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Committee appointed to digest and arrange the existing Rules and Regulations of the Country Grand Lodge for publication, reported, on Tuesday, June 8, 1825, the following, which were adopted :

“Every Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make local ordinances and new regulations as well as to amend and explain the *old* ones for their own particular

benefit, and the good of Masonry in general; provided always that the *ancient landmarks* be carefully preserved, and that such regulations be first duly proposed, in writing, for the consideration of the members, and be at last duly enacted with the consent of the majority. This has never been disputed; for the members of every Grand Lodge are the true representatives of all the fraternity in communication, and are an absolute and independent body, with legislative authority, provided (as aforesaid) that the Grand Masonic Constitution be never violated, nor any of the *old landmarks* removed. Upon these principles the following Particular Rules have been made and adopted in the Grand Lodge of New York, viz. :

I. The Grand Secretary shall make an annual communication to the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and to the respective Lodges under its jurisdiction, immediately after the election of Grand Officers, of the persons so elected, and of such other matters generally as have relation to the Craft at large, or may affect the government of such Lodges in particular.

II. All moneys that may be expended by the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, for books, stationery, or in any other manner, in the discharge of the duties of their offices, shall be allowed and paid by the Grand Lodge.

III. All members of Lodges who are or shall be in arrear for dues for two years and upwards shall be suspended by their respective Lodges from all Masonic communication; and if they do not discharge the same within one year from the date of their suspension, they may be expelled.

IV. Any subordinate Lodge may, in aggravated cases, publish in the newspapers the expulsion of a member, after the same shall have been confirmed by the Grand Lodge, provided all the members present of such Lodge shall be in favor of such publication.

V. The Grand Master shall be elected immediately after the reading of the minutes at the annual meeting, and before the transaction of any other business, except the exam-

ination and admission of members, representatives, and proxies.

VI. No Warrant shall be granted for the establishment of a Lodge, except on the petition of at least seven Master Masons, in good standing, which petition shall be recommended by the Lodge nearest to the place where such Lodge is intended to be established, signed by the Master and Wardens, with the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto, and certified by the Secretary.

VII. No Warrant or Dispensation shall be granted for constituting a Lodge out of this State, within the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge.

VIII. Each Lodge, forfeiting its Warrant, shall surrender to the Grand Lodge all its books, jewels, furniture, funds, and property.

IX. No person shall be entitled to a Grand Lodge Certificate, without a previous certificate from the Lodge of which he is a member, setting forth his regular behavior, and that he hath discharged all Lodge dues.

X. Refreshments with ardent spirits at the meetings of Lodges, is of evil example, and may be productive of pernicious effects, and the same is therefore expressly forbidden under any pretense whatever.

XI. No subordinate Lodge shall, at any time, initiate any candidate for Masonry who has been rejected in another Lodge, without the recommendation of the Masters and Wardens of the Lodge rejecting such candidate.

XII. It shall be the duty of each subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, immediately after the annual election in such subordinate Lodge, to transmit to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, a certificate of such election of Master and Wardens, subscribed by the Secretary in form as follows, viz. :

(Here follow, in Sections XII., XIII., XIV., the forms of certificates of election of Master and Wardens of a Lodge, the Proxy for a Lodge, and the Proxy for a Past Master.)

XV. The return for dues from subordinate Lodges shall be in the form following, viz. :

Return of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge, No. \_\_\_\_\_, held at \_\_\_\_\_, county of \_\_\_\_\_, in the State of New York, from \_\_\_\_\_, A. L. 58 \_\_\_\_\_, to A. L. 58 \_\_\_\_\_.

MEMBERS' NAMES.	DATE OF		AMOUNT OF		TOTAL.		REMARKS.
	Initia- tions.	Mem- bership.	Initia- tions.	Annual Dues.			

XVI. All returns of dues, reports of proceedings, and all other papers made to this Grand Lodge, by subordinate Lodges, shall be signed by the Secretary, with the seal of such Lodges thereto affixed.

XVII. The proxies of subordinate Lodges and of Past Masters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be annually appointed.

XVIII. On the opening of the Grand Lodge, at each annual Communication, it shall be the duty of the presiding officer to appoint the following Standing Committees, to be composed of three members each, viz. :

1. A Committee on Claims.
2. A Committee on Warrants.
3. A Committee on Grievances.

4. A Committee on Accounts, to be denominated the Auditing Committee.

5. Two members, who, together with the Grand Secretary, shall constitute a Committee on Credentials.

*Resolved*, That all rules and regulations heretofore adopted by this Grand Lodge be, and the same are hereby, repealed, excepting such regulations as are embodied in the Book of Constitutions."

On June 8, 1825, the Grand Lodge determined to take

LEGAL PROCESS TO RECOVER FUNDS.

Thus :

"*Resolved*, That R. W. Welcome Esleeck, Grand Treasurer, be a Committee to take such measures as he shall think

expedient to recover the funds, and all property and furniture which of right belong to this Grand Lodge, and to employ such counsel and institute such proceedings as he shall think proper for the recovery of the same; and that the Committee appointed on this subject at the last June Communication of the Grand Lodge be discharged from the further consideration of the same."

This resolution appears to have been rejected, and the resolution in the same language, making the Right Worshipful John Brush, Deputy Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Welcome Esleek, Grand Treasurer, and the Right Worshipful John W. Oakley, Grand Secretary, the Committee, presented in June, 1824, was adopted.

It was evidently the desire of the Grand Lodge to have the ceremony of the installation of the Grand Master elect, Stephen Van Rensselaer, performed by Past Grand Master De Witt Clinton, and a resolution to that effect had been adopted. Accordingly, when Brother Van Rensselaer signified his acceptance of the office, great preparations were immediately commenced to make the ceremony most imposing.

#### THE INSTALLATION OF STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency was convened at Temple Chapter Hall, Albany, September 29, 1825, for the purpose of installing the Most Worshipful Brother. Most of the Grand Officers were present, and De Witt Clinton presented himself.

A great procession of Master Masons was formed, preceded by members of the Order of the Temple, and followed by a concourse of Companions and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Then followed the Grand Officers, preceded by music and followed by a Division of Knights Templar.

The procession moved down State Street, through South Market to Montgomery Hall, up Lydius Street to Pearl

Street, up Pearl Street to State Street, and so to the Capitol, where the Installation Service transpired.

The address delivered on this occasion by Most Worshipful De Witt Clinton was so admirably adapted to the times and the condition of the Fraternity, that the same should be preserved in this record.

THE ADDRESS OF DE WITT CLINTON.

“WORTHY AND MUCH-RESPECTED BRETHREN: This solemn and interesting occasion demands from this place an illustration of the principles, the objects, and the tendencies of Freemasonry. Many volumes have been written, and numerous discourses have been pronounced, on this subject. If we were to follow the gratuitous assumptions and fanciful speculations of visionary men, in attempting to trace the rise and progress of this ancient Institution, we would be involved in the inextricable labyrinths of uncertainty, and lost in the jarring hypotheses of conjecture. Better is it, then, to sober down our minds to well-established facts, than, by giving the rein to erratic imagination, merge the radiance of truth in the obscurity of fable. History and tradition are often adulterated by misrepresentation: beyond them, the age of fable commences, when no reliance can be placed on the writings of the ancients. All history, except the Divine records, before Thucydides, is apocryphal, and oral tradition is almost entirely distorted and perverted, after the lapse of three generations. At certain periods of human affairs, and in certain stages of society, it occupies the place of written history; and there is even an end to the reign of fable, when all that relates to this ‘great globe and all which it inherits,’ is enveloped in the mysterious gloom of unexplored and impenetrable antiquity.

Enthusiastic friends of our Institution have done it much injury, and covered it with much ridicule, by stretching its origin beyond the bounds of credibility. Some have given it an antediluvian origin, while others have even represented it as coeval with the creation; some have traced it to the

Egyptian priests; and others have discovered its vestiges in the mystical societies of Greece and Rome. The erection of Solomon's Temple, the retreats of the Druids, and the Crusades to the Holy Land, have been at different times specially assigned as the sources of its existence. The order, harmony, and wonders of creation, the principles of mathematical science, and the productions of architectural skill, have been confounded with Freemasonry. Whenever a great philosopher has enlightened the ancient world, he has been resolved by a species of moral metempsychosis or intellectual chemistry into a Free Mason; and in all the secret institutions of antiquity, the footsteps of Lodges have been traced by the eye of credulity. Archimedes, Pythagoras, Euclid, and Vitruvius were, in all probability, not Free Masons; and the love of order, the cultivation of science, the embellishments of taste, and the sublime and beautiful works of art, have certainly existed in ancient, as they now do in modern, times, without the agency of Freemasonry.

Our Fraternity has thus suffered under the treatment of well-meaning friends, who have undesignedly inflicted more injuries upon it than its most virulent enemies. The absurd accounts of its origin and history, in most of the books that treat of it, have proceeded from enthusiasm operating on credulity and the love of the marvelous. An imbecile friend often does more injury than an avowed foe. The calumnies of Barruel and Robinson, who labored to connect our society with the illuminati, and to represent it as inimical to social order and good government, have been consigned to everlasting contempt, while exaggerated and extravagant friendly accounts and representations continually stare us in the face, and mortify our intellectual discrimination by ridiculous claims to unlimited antiquity. Nor ought it to be forgotten that genuine Masonry is adulterated by sophistications and interpolations, foreign from the simplicity and sublimity of its nature. To this magnificent temple of the Corinthian order, there have been added Gothic erections, which disfigure its beauty and derange its symmetry. The adoption, in some cases, of frivolous pageantry and fantastic mum-

mery, equally revolting to good taste and genuine Masonry, has exposed us to much animadversion ; but our Institution, clothed with celestial virtue, and armed with the panoply of truth, has defied all the storms of open violence, and resisted all the attacks of insidious imposture ; and it will equally triumph over the errors of misguided friendship, which, like the transit of a planet over the disk of the sun, may produce a momentary obscuration, but will instantly leave it in the full radiance of its glory.

Although the origin of our Fraternity is covered with darkness, and its history is to a great extent obscure, yet we can confidently say that it is the most ancient society in the world ; and we are equally certain that its principles are based on pure morality, that its ethics are the ethics of Christianity, its doctrines the doctrines of patriotism and brotherly love, and its sentiments the sentiments of exalted benevolence. Upon these points there can be no doubt. All that is good and kind and charitable it encourages ; all that is vicious and cruel and oppressive it reprobates. That charity which is described in the most masterly manner by the eloquent apostle, composes its very essence, and enters into its vital principles ; and every Free Mason is ready to unite with him in saying : ‘ Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And 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. Charity suffereth long and is kind ; charity envieth not ; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up ; doth not behave itself unseemly ; seeketh not her own ; is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil ; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth ; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things : charity never faileth, but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail ; whether there be tongues, they shall cease ;

whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.' How happens it, then, that our Institution has created so much opposition, excited so much jealousy, encountered so much proscription, experienced so much persecution ?

The mysteries which pertain to this Fraternity have been the source of much obloquy ; and its entire exclusion of the female sex from its communion has been considered an unjust and rigorous rule. In former times, the arts and sciences had their mysteries. The inventions of the former, and the discoveries of the latter, were either applied by individuals to their own benefit, or thrown into a common stock for the emolument of select associations. In the early stages of Freemasonry, its votaries applied themselves with great ardor to architecture and geometry. This will account for the exclusion of women. Such laborious pursuits were not adapted to their destination in life and their station in civilized society. A measure, then, that has been deemed a censure, was the highest eulogium that could be passed on the sex, and, in evincing this distinguished respect, our ancient brethren exhibited that refinement and courtesy which are always accompanied with a just appreciation of female excellence and delicacy. The secrets of the arts and sciences, which were elicited by the researches and employments of the Fraternity, were cherished for their common benefit ; but the art of printing having thrown open the gates of knowledge to all mankind, and the rights of invention having been protected by government, the utility of secrecy, so far as it related to intellectual improvement and the enjoyment of its fruits, was in a great degree superseded. There are, however, secrets of importance to the brotherhood, which are entirely innocent, neither touching the concerns, nor affecting the interests of, the uninitiated, nor impugning the doctrines of pure morality, nor the precepts of our holy religion.

Secret institutions were not uncommon among the ancients. The Eleusinian, Dionysian, and Panathenaean mysteries, the associations of the Pythagoreans, the Essenes, and of the architects of Ionia, were concealed from the uninitiated ; and

even the women of Rome celebrated the mysteries of the Bona Dea in a state of entire seclusion. The Druids had also their mysteries; and our Indians have secret institutions. As secrecy may be enjoined with pure views and for good objects, so it also may be observed with pernicious intentions and for bad purposes. The doctrines and observances of Christianity were in the last century ridiculed and caricatured by a secret society in the vicinity of London, composed of choice spirits of wickedness; and, under the cloak of mysterious associations, conspiracies have been formed against freedom and social order. As nothing of this kind can be imputed to Freemasonry, it ought to have been patronized, instead of being persecuted; but the suspicious eye of tyranny, always on the watch for victims, affected to see combinations against legitimate government, and the sanguinary hand of vengeance was soon uplifted against us. In every nation in Europe, Masonry has passed the ordeal of persecution. The Inquisition has stained it with blood. Hierarchies have proscribed and interdicted it. Despotism has pursued it to destruction. And everywhere, except in this land of liberty, it has felt the arm of unjust and tyrannical power; and even here, and in this enlightened age, fanaticism has dared to fulminate its anathemas.

The precepts of Freemasonry inculcate abstraction from religious and political controversies, and obedience to the existing authorities; and there can be no doubt of the good faith and sincerity of this injunction. And accordingly the most enlightened princes of Europe, and among others, Frederick the Great of Prussia, have been members of our Fraternity, and have not considered it derogatory to their dignity nor dangerous to their ascendancy, to afford it official protection and personal encouragement. But the truth is, that the principles of Freemasonry are hostile to arbitrary power. All brethren are on a level, and, of course, are on an equality with respect to natural rights. The natural equality of mankind and the rights of man, are not only implied in our doctrine, but the form of our government is strictly republican, and, like that of the United States, repre-

sentative and federal. The officers of the private Lodges are annually chosen by the members, and all the Lodges are represented in the Grand Lodge by their Presiding Officers and Past Masters, who elect annually the Grand Officers, and who, together with the existing and Past Grand Officers, constitute the Grand Lodge. The Lodges are thus the members, and the Grand Lodge the head of a society, which, by a combination of the representative and federal principles, constitutes a federal republic as to the government of Free Masons.

It must be obvious, then, that an institution so republican in its elements, so liberal in its principles, so free in its impartial and concentrated combinations, must have excited the apprehensions of arbitrary power, which has constantly sought to propitiate it by kindness and condescension, or to annihilate it by fire and sword—by banishment and extinction.

The celebrated philosopher, John Locke, was much struck with a manuscript of Henry VI., King of England, deposited in the Bodleian Library. It is in the form of questions and answers, and to the interrogatory, whether Masons are better than others, it is answered, 'Some Masons are not sō virtuous as some other men; but in general they are better than they would have been if they had not been Masons.' This is unquestionably correct. Masonry superadds to our other obligations, the strongest ties of connection between it and the cultivation of virtue, and furnishes the most powerful incentives to goodness. A Free Mason is responsible to his Lodge for a course of good conduct, and if he deviates from it he will be disgraced and expelled. Wherever he goes he will find a friend in every Brother if he conducts well, and will be shielded against want and protected against oppression, and he will feel in his own bosom the ecstatic joys of that heaven-born charity, which,

—decent, modest, easy, kind,  
Softens the high and rears the abject mind,  
Lays the rough path of peevish nature ev'n,  
And opens in each heart a little heav'n.

All doubts on the exalted principles and auspicious tendencies of Freemasonry must be dissipated, when we retrospect to Washington and Franklin. The former was the principal agent in establishing our independence, and securing to us the blessings of a national government. The latter was the great patron of the arts that administer to the happiness of individuals and the prosperity of States, and the head of the philosophy and useful knowledge of the country. Both were patriotic and virtuous men, and neither would have encouraged an institution hostile to morality, religion, good order, and the public welfare.

Washington became at an early period of his life a Free Mason, and publicly, as well as privately, he invariably evinced the utmost attachment to it. In answer to a complimentary address, when President of the United States, from the Master, Wardens, and brethren of King David's Lodge, in Rhode Island, he had no hesitation in saying, 'Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded, must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the society, and to be considered by them as a deserving Brother.' And in a reply to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, he explicitly declares that 'The milder virtues of the heart are highly respected by a society whose liberal principles are founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice. To enlarge,' continued he, 'the sphere of social happiness is worthy the benevolent design of a Masonic institution, and it is most fervently to be wished that the conduct of every member of the Fraternity, as well as those publications that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the great object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race.'

Freemasonry owes its introduction into Pennsylvania to Benjamin Franklin. On June 24, 1734, a Warrant was granted by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, for holding a Lodge in Philadelphia, and appointing him the first Master. He cultivated Masonry with great zeal, and his partiality suffered no diminution during his long and illustrious life.

Lafayette, the good Lafayette, the patriot of both hemispheres, was always the devoted friend of Freemasonry. He saw in it a constellation of virtues, and wherever he went he took every opportunity of demonstrating his attachment and of expressing his veneration. His countenance has done much good, and has imparted to it no inconsiderable portion of his immense and deserved popularity. Freemasonry, like all other institutions, has its days of prosperity and adversity—its seasons of revivals and depressions—and it is believed, that when Lafayette left this country it had never attained a greater altitude of usefulness and general regard.

After these illustrious witnesses in favor of our Fraternity, let not the dissensions which sometimes prevail, the vicious conduct of some of its members, and the perversions of the institution, be adduced as proofs of its intrinsic vices. Although it has received the countenance of the good and the wise of all ages, let it be understood that the character of an institution does not necessarily form the conduct of its members. Good societies may contain unworthy members, and bad societies may enroll good men among their members. Christianity is often degraded by profligate professors, and the heathen religion has had a Socrates, an Aristides, and a Cato.

It cannot be expected that in any society there will be a perfect accord and congeniality of minds, of tastes, and of morals. Hence, differences will sometimes arise, and if conducted with good temper and candor, will rarely expand into violent convulsions. Wolves will sometimes intrude into the flock, and bad men under the cloak of goodness will frequently insinuate themselves into the most excellent associations.

For neither man nor angel can discern  
 Hypocrisy, the only evil that walks  
 Invisible, except to God alone,  
 By His permissive will, through heaven and earth.  
 And oft though wisdom wake, suspicion sleeps,  
 At wisdom's gate, and to simplicity  
 Resigns her charge, while goodness thinks no ill  
 Where no ill seems. . . . .

In all associations of men there are perturbed and uneasy spirits who scatter discord and whom 'no command can rule nor counsel teach,' and who, like the fabled Enceladus, create disturbance and convulsion whenever they move. It is no easy task to withstand the arts of hypocrites and the acts of incendiaries. If our Society has suffered under such influences, it participates in the fate of all assemblies of men, and the feuds which sometimes distract its tranquillity are as often the offspring of well-meaning and overweening zeal, as of perverse and evil designs.

That Freemasonry is sometimes perverted and applied to the acquisition of political ascendancy, of unmerited charity, and to convivial excess, cannot be disputed; but this is not the fault of the institution, for it inculcates an entire exemption from political and religious controversy. It enforces the virtues of industry and temperance, and it proscribes all attempts to gratify ambition and cupidity, or to exceed the bounds of temperance and convivial enjoyments, under its shade or through its instrumentality. In lifting the mind above the dungeon of the body, it venerates the grateful odor of plain and modest virtue, and patronizes those endowments which elevate the human character and adapt it to the high enjoyments of another and a better world.

Freemasonry has flourished exceedingly in the United States, and especially in this State. In 1781 a Grand Lodge was established in the city of New York under a charter from the Grand Lodge of England. A few years afterward an independent Grand Lodge was instituted, and there are now in the State near five hundred Lodges, and more than one hundred Chapters. Owing to causes which I am unable to explain, and in which I have had no participation, two Grand Lodges have been in existence for a few years. And it will now require the utmost wisdom, moderation, and forbearance of the 'good men and true,' who adorn both establishments, to accomplish a reunion on just and reasonable terms. That there are faults, and great faults, involved in this schism, I am fearful, and that it is a lamentable commentary on our system of brotherly love, is

too obvious. In consequence of my public duties, I have for a considerable time withdrawn from any active concern in the affairs of our Fraternity, and I have had, of course, no personal knowledge of the causes of, and the actors in, the prevailing division. In censuring it, I have, therefore, no reference to particular individuals or Lodges, and I hope, most sincerely hope, that before the return of another anniversary, this stain may be removed from our Society. Perhaps a new arrangement of the supreme authorities might be advisable, by the creation of provincial or subordinate Grand Lodges under a controlling head, composed of Deputies selected by the different Grand Lodges. There have been two opposing Grand Lodges in England, and, I believe, in Scotland and Ireland, and also in South Carolina and Massachusetts, in consequence of the distinction of ancient and modern Masonry. Notwithstanding this serious controversy, the schism has been healed, and a most cordial and complete union has taken place in all these cases, so that we have no reason to apprehend a long duration of a separation which has probably originated from more trivial and evanescent causes.

**MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER ELECT:** Accept my cordial congratulations on your elevation to the highest honor in Masonry. You are now, in this region, the head of the most ancient, benevolent, and distinguished society in the world. And I am rejoiced to see such exalted authority deposited in such worthy hands; and I feel assured that no exertion will be omitted on your part to realize the anticipations of your usefulness and to justify the high confidence reposed in you.

I am persuaded that you will use every proper endeavor to reunite the great Masonic family under one government, to confirm and to extend the influence and reputation of Freemasonry, and to propagate those virtues which are identified with its character and essential to the cause of benevolence, charity, and philosophy.

Your duties are certainly arduous, but important and honorable stations always imply great labor, and require much

industry and exertion. You will be assisted in your labors by the enlightened officers associated with you, and every worthy brother will raise his voice and his hands in favor of your efforts and in support of your measures.

To preside merely over the forms of a public assembly requires no uncommon display of intellectual vigor; but the duties of a Grand Master involve higher topics and more momentous considerations. He must be employed in devising ways and means of doing good, in inculcating the virtues of our Fraternity, and in illustrating by practical demonstration the beauties of benevolence. His eyes must be vigilant in discerning any inroads on our ancient landmarks, and his arm must always be ready to protect the Institution against intestine convulsions and external hostilities.

Your life has hitherto been distinguished for its accordance with Masonic virtue. If you carry into your high office that benevolence which adorns your private character, and that experience as a member and Master which you acquired in a respectable Lodge in this city, you will unquestionably reflect back on the Fraternity the luster which you derive from it.

I shall now proceed to discharge a duty which has been required from me by the Grand Lodge, and I perform it with no common pleasure, as evidence of my personal esteem for you, of my high respect for that distinguished body, and of my sincere devotion to the cause of Freemasonry. I shall now invest you with the insignia of your office, and I most humbly supplicate the Supreme Architect of the heavens and of the earth to smile on the proceedings of this day, and to render them auxiliary to the holy cause of benevolence, morality, and religion, and subservient to the best interests of the human race."

The Most Worshipful Stephen Van Rensselaer then rose, and addressed the Grand Lodge as follows :

"I accept the distinguished honor conferred on me by the Grand Lodge of this State with emotions of profound respect and gratitude. To be selected by the members of this numer-

ous, ancient, and respectable Fraternity, to preside over its deliberations, to guide its councils, is a mark of confidence which I shall ever highly appreciate. And, although I cannot bring to the station the talents or the learning which in former years have adorned it, I still may venture to promise that, on my part, no exertions shall be wanting to reunite the brotherhood into one bond of union, to illustrate the virtues and to extend the influence of Masonry.

The lucid, judicious, and eloquent exposition, which the brethren have this day heard, of the nature of our association, the interesting narrative of its varied fortunes in foreign countries, and the striking eulogiums on the departed, as well as the living ornaments of our Craft among the Revolutionary patriots of our own nation, must leave a vivid impression on every mind.

Such a statement cannot fail to correct much of that misconception which has assailed our best endeavors, and to remove many of the prejudices which have affected the utility of Masonry.

Supported by such testimony, we may proceed with confidence in our efforts toward its extension, always keeping in our recollection that the virtues which are the object of cultivation in the Fraternity should appear and shine in the life of every one of its members.

In entering on the duties of the high office with which I have this day been invested, I rely with assured confidence on the cordial aid and co-operation of the officers associated with me. Residing in various parts of the State, they will be enabled to render all useful information as to the progress and welfare of the Craft. They should watch with great care that its honors be not tarnished, or its utility impaired; and, above all, they should enforce, with prudence and judgment, the discipline which all deviations from its institution and duties imperiously require at the present time.

It is not among the least gratifying circumstances attending this occasion, that the Grand Lodge have directed the present ceremony to be performed by one of its most distinguished members, who has filled its highest offices, and who,

amidst the duties and honors conferred on him by his country, has cheerfully appeared at this time as the friend and patron of the Order. The thanks of the Fraternity will be tendered, and I should indeed be insensible were I not to add my own, for the kindness and partiality thus evinced."

A further parade and its dismissal then followed. The imposing display, and the occurrences of the day, had a great tendency to hasten the desired union of the Grand Lodges.

1826.

In 1826, the sessions of Grand Lodge over which Most Worshipful Stephen Van Rensselaer presided, commenced at 9 o'clock, on the morning of June 7, and continued for a number of days, during which much routine business was transacted.

DEFALCATION OF PAST GRAND MASTER JOSEPH ENOS.

At Grand Lodge meeting, June 4, it was

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary demand and receive of M. W. Joseph Enos, all moneys in his hands belonging to the Grand Lodge, and pay the same to the Treasurer."

Shortly thereafter the Grand Lodge adjourned until 9 A.M., Monday, June 6.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted on June 9:

"*Whereas*, Brother Joseph Enos, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, during his continuance in office, received certain moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge; and

"*Whereas*, The said Joseph Enos, in a communication made at the last annual meeting of this Grand Lodge, stated that, for certain causes, he could not attend the meeting, and that he would attend the present Communication, and make a satisfactory settlement therefor; and

*Whereas*, Brother Enos has not appeared, nor complied

with the request of the Grand Lodge by paying over the said moneys ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary and Brother E. S. Cozier be authorized to demand from Brother Enos the moneys in his hands belonging to the Grand Lodge, or make such arrangements with them as to secure the same ; and, in case such arrangements cannot be made satisfactorily to the Grand Secretary and Brother Cozier, that Brother Joseph Enos be summoned to appear before this Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication, to show cause why he should not be expelled the same."

The Grand Officers installed in 1825 were re-elected in 1826.

A SECESSION REPORT SUPPRESSED.

The subject of city Lodges and country Lodges was continually before the Grand Lodge in different shapes ; at one period were presented the following resolutions :

" *Resolved*, That Brothers Asa Fitch, Jonathan Eights, Eliel T. Foote, Ezra S. Cozier, and Hiram Steele be a Committee to confer with a similar Committee from the Lodges in the city of New York, respecting the existing difficulties between this Grand Lodge and the said city Lodges, and that the Grand Secretary notify the city Lodges of the appointment of said Committee.

*Resolved*, That the distribution of the report of the Committee of the Grand Lodge, on the subject of the secession of the Lodges in the city of New York, be suppressed, and that the members who have received the reports be requested to return them to the Grand Secretary."

Subsequently, Brother Fitch reported that the Committee had not effected the object for which they were appointed ; and the Committee was accordingly discharged.

1827.

The sessions of 1827 commenced on the morning of June 6, at Tammany Hall. Credentials were examined, and an

adjournment had until next morning. When "all business was ordered to be suspended for the purpose of considering the subject of the differences between the Grand Lodge and the Lodges in the city of New York."

A statement was made by Brother John O. Cole that a Committee appointed by an assemblage of brethren from the country Lodges had met on Tuesday, June 5, a similar Committee, appointed by the city brethren, consisting of Brothers John W. Mulligan, Mordecai Myers, Henry Marsh, J. Sprague, and Harris Scoville. That they had unanimously agreed to recommend

#### A COMPACT

for adoption by the two Bodies of Masons in this State, each styling itself the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, and that the body called the City Grand Lodge had already adopted it. That a meeting had been held on the previous evening at St. John's Hall, and—anticipating that this Body would do the same—had adjourned, to meet again at the Lodge room at Tammany Hall, this Thursday evening, June 7, 1827, at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of carrying the same into effect, namely, of uniting the two Bodies, and electing Grand Officers under the propositions submitted, which were denominated a COMPACT.

The proposed agreement having been read (see p. 410, ante), the same was taken into consideration and the compact approved.

Brothers John O. Cole, Daniel Sherwood, George C. Sherman, Ebenezer Mack, and Freeman B. Hicks, were appointed a Committee to make arrangements for carrying the foregoing into effect.

An adjournment was then had until 7 P.M., when the Grand Lodge met at Tammany Hall, where also met the members of the Grand Lodge of the city of New York, and where was harmoniously and unanimously consummated the

## UNION OF THE TWO GRAND LODGES.

The Officers of the United Body were then duly elected and installed. (See ante, p. 412.)

The Grand Lodge as a unit in sentiment met on June 8, 1827, and resolved, that the Committee through whose agency the union had been accomplished should convene instanter to enter upon the duty of preparing a Constitution for this Grand Lodge and report to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock; that they should "take as their guide the resolutions upon which this happy union has been effected, the old Constitution, and the existing regulations of the Grand Lodge."

On the ninth day of June the Committee reported that they had made some progress, but required more time; they, however, submitted, to meet the present emergency:

"The 1st Chapter and the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th Sections of the 2d Chapter of the old Constitution for adoption.

In the place of Sections 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th of Chapter 2d, the following rules were proposed:

## SUBORDINATE LODGES.

1. A subordinate Lodge shall consist of a Master, a Senior and Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Senior and Junior Deacon, Tyler, and as many members as may be convenient.

2. No Brother shall be eligible to the office of Master of a Lodge unless he has been a Warden of some regularly constituted Lodge; except, in case of the formation of a new Lodge, no past or former Warden can be found among the members, or such Warden shall decline serving.

3. The Master of every Lodge shall be annually chosen by ballot at the regular meeting next preceding the festival of St. John the Evangelist. Each member in good standing shall have one vote; and when the number of votes happens to be equal, the Master shall have two votes.

4. When the election is closed the Secretary and Treasurer

shall carefully examine the ballots, and report the same to the Lodge, and the Brother having the majority of all the votes shall be duly elected.

5. The Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected at the same time, and in like manner as the Master; and all other officers shall be elected or appointed in such manner as may be prescribed in the By-Laws of each Lodge respectively.

6. The Master of a Lodge shall have the right of congregating the members of his Lodge upon any emergency which in his judgment may require a meeting.

7. Every motion for the removal of a Lodge shall be made at a stated meeting, and lie over until the next stated meeting. The Master or presiding officer shall, immediately upon the making of the said motion, order summonses to be issued to the members of the Lodge, in which shall be specified the business and time of meeting, which said summonses shall be served at least ten days previous thereto. And no Lodge shall be removed unless the motion for that purpose be decided in the affirmative by at least two-thirds of the members present.

8. The Senior Warden shall succeed to all the duties of the Master in his absence; and in the absence of both, the Junior Warden shall succeed to said duties.

9. The Secretary, under the direction of the presiding officer, shall record the proceedings of the Lodge, which shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and approved by the Lodge before it is closed; also receive all moneys paid into the Lodge, and pay the same to the Treasurer.

10. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, on or before the first Wednesday in June, to transmit to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge an annual return of all the members of the Lodge, agreeably to the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

11. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys paid into the Lodge from the hands of the Secretary; keep a just and regular account thereof, and pay them out by direction of the Master and consent of the brethren.

12. The Tyler shall be subject in all things relating to his official duties to the direction of the Master or presiding officer.

IN PLACE OF CHAPTER III.

*Of the Grand Lodge in General.*

1. The style of this Grand Lodge shall be "The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York."

2. It shall be composed of all the Grand Officers, the Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Senior Grand Wardens, Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Secretaries, Grand Treasurers, the Grand Stewards of Charity for the time being, and the Past Masters, Masters, and Wardens of all Lodges under its jurisdiction, and representatives appointed according to the rules herein prescribed.

3. The representatives of ten Lodges, convened on due notice, shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

4. The Grand Officers shall be elected annually, and be styled and take rank as follows :

		The Most Worshipful Grand Master.
The Right	"	Deputy Grand Master.
"	"	Senior Grand Warden.
"	"	Junior Grand Warden.
"	"	Grand Secretary.
"	"	" Treasurer.
"	"	" Chaplains.
"	"	" Marshal.
"	"	" Standard-Bearer.
"	"	" Sword-Bearer.
"	"	" Stewards.
"	"	Senior Grand Deacon.
"	"	Junior Grand Deacon.

Grand Pursuivant, and

" Tyler.

5. The Grand Lodge shall meet in the city of New York, annually, on the first Wednesday in June, at which Communication the Grand Officers shall be elected. And Quarterly

Communications shall be held on the first Wednesdays of September, December, and March. Special meetings may also be called by the Grand Master; but no regulation affecting the general interest of the Craft shall be changed or adopted, except at the meeting in June.

6. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Chaplains, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler shall be chosen by ballot, unless a special resolution shall be unanimously passed at the time to take the vote by show of hands. A majority of all the votes shall be necessary to make a choice, and in case of a tie, the ballot must continue until a choice be made. All other Grand Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master during his pleasure.

7. Each regular member of the Grand Lodge, as such, shall have one vote, and each proxy or representative shall have the number of votes to which he is entitled, on all questions.

#### *Grand Officers.*

1. The Grand Master has the right to convene any Lodge within the Jurisdiction, to preside therein, to inspect their proceedings, and require their conformity to the rules of the Fraternity. He may require the attendance of any one of the Grand Officers, and demand from him information respecting his office. He may make Masons at sight, and for this purpose may summon such Brethren as he may deem necessary to assist him. He may, by written dispensation, delegate this power to a private Lodge, on any emergency which, in his opinion, may render such measure proper. During the recess of the Grand Lodge he shall have full power to grant Dispensations for holding new Lodges, on proper application for that purpose.

2. In case of the death, absence, or inability of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, Senior or Junior Grand Warden will, in succession, assume his prerogatives and duties for all regular and necessary purposes.

3. The Grand Wardens are to assist in the affairs of the

Grand Lodge, and diligently to preserve the ancient landmarks throughout the Jurisdiction.

4. The Grand Secretary shall record the transactions of the Grand Lodge. He shall enter in a suitable register all Warrants, Dispensations, Certificates, and the name of every member of a Lodge under this jurisdiction, returned for registry. He shall, as soon as possible, furnish the first named person of every Committee with a copy of the records and papers which relate to the business of such Committee. He shall receive and duly file or record all petitions, applications, and appeals, and sign and certify all instruments in writing from the Grand Lodge. He is to receive, regularly credit, and record all moneys, of the Grand Lodge, and pay over the same without delay to the Grand Treasurer. He is charged with the correspondence of this Grand Lodge, under its general rules, the directions of its presiding officer, and the established usages of Masons. It shall be his duty to attend, with all necessary writings under his control, on all meetings of the Grand Lodge, or the requisition of the acting Grand Master. He shall receive such compensation for his services as the Grand Lodge shall from time to time direct.

5. The Grand Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds, property, securities, and vouchers of the Grand Lodge, and pay all orders duly drawn, under general regulations or special directions of the same. It shall be his duty to attend on the Grand Lodge or its presiding officer, when required, with the books and all necessary documents relating to his office, and also to meet with any Grand Committee whose general or special duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal concerns of the Grand Lodge. Upon going out of office he shall forthwith pay and deliver to his successor in office, or to such other person or persons as the Grand Lodge may appoint to receive the same, all moneys, securities, evidences of debt, books, writings, and property of the Grand Lodge, in his keeping, or under his control, with all proper assignments where the same shall be necessary. He shall receive such compensation for his services as the Grand Lodge shall from time to time direct.

6. It shall be the duty of the Grand Chaplains to attend the Grand Lodge, and to perform the religious solemnities.

7. The Grand Marshal is to proclaim the Grand Officers at their installation, and to conduct processions of the Grand Lodge.

8. The Grand Sword-Bearer shall carry the sword in processions, and perform such other duties as by ancient usage pertain to his office.

9. The Grand Stewards are to have the immediate superintendence in the provisions to be made for festivals.

10. The duty of the Grand Deacons is to assist within the body of the Grand Lodge.

11. The duty of the Grand Pursuivant is to communicate with the Grand Tyler, and announce all applicants for admission by their names, Masonic address, and connection; as also to take charge of the jewels and regalia.

12. The Grand Tyler must be a Master Mason, but shall have no vote during his continuance in office. It shall be his duty to guard the door of the Grand Lodge on the outside, to report all persons claiming admission, and to see that none enter but such as may be duly authorized. He shall summon the Grand Lodge when required, and attend to such other duties as may be required of him by the same. He, together with the Grand Pursuivant, shall receive such compensation as the Grand Lodge shall from time to time deem proper.

*Funds.*

1. The revenue of this Grand Lodge shall be derived from the following sources:

For every Warrant or Dispensation to form a new Lodge..	\$32 00
For every Dispensation to confer three degrees at one meeting.....	5 00
For every Grand Lodge Certificate.....	75
For every person initiated in a Lodge.....	1 00
For every Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft from without the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.....	1 00
Every Lodge shall pay annually for each of its members..	50
For every Master Mason joining a Lodge other than that in which he was initiated or had previously belonged to..	1 00

2. The management of the permanent funds shall be vested in a Board of Trustees, to be denominated the Trustees of the Permanent Fund. The Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden, the Junior Grand Warden, and the Grand Secretary for the time being, shall compose the said Board of Trustees. All the funds of the Grand Lodge shall be placed in the hands, and stand in the names, of the said Trustees, whose duty it shall be to take the best measures for its security and increase, and to invest from time to time, as a majority may decide upon, all money which shall come into the hands of the Grand Treasurer after paying representatives, salaries, and rents, and after leaving in his hands at the disposal of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, for charitable and contingent purposes, the sum of three thousand dollars annually. The said Trustees shall deposit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the securities and vouchers of the said invested funds, and shall not have the power to transfer, sell, dispose of, or appropriate any part of the said invested fund without a vote of the Grand Lodge at the annual June Communication.

3. The Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer shall each of them, previous to entering upon the duties of their offices, execute to the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master for the time being, a bond with two sufficient sureties, in such sum as the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master shall determine, not less than five thousand dollars each, conditioned for the faithful performance of their several duties.

The Grand Lodge holding its meetings in the city of New York for the convenience of transacting its business, and also for the purpose of having every portion of this Grand Body fairly and equally represented in its Grand Officers, it is deemed proper that the residence of certain officers shall be permanently located.

The Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master shall be chosen from the members residing in the city of New York, and one or the other of those officers shall be chosen from members residing in other parts of the State. The Senior Grand Warden and the Junior Grand Warden shall be

chosen from members residing in some other part of the State than the city of New York. The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer shall be chosen from the members residing in the city of New York.

Each subordinate Lodge shall be entitled to three votes in the Grand Lodge : a Master or a Warden may represent the Lodge of which he is a member ; a Master or Past Master may represent any number of Lodges, not exceeding three. One representative from each Lodge out of the city of New York, shall be entitled to receive from the funds of the Grand Lodge, one dollar and fifty cents for every thirty miles' travel going to and returning from the Grand Lodge at the annual meeting in June ; provided, that none shall be entitled to more travel than is actually and necessarily performed, nor for a greater distance than from the place of meeting of the Grand Lodge to the Lodge he represents ; and also one dollar and fifty cents per day for attendance ; and, notwithstanding he may represent three Lodges, he shall receive pay for only one, nor more than he pays for the dues of the Lodges he represents. Grand Officers, residing out of the city of New York, and not representing a Lodge, shall be entitled to the like compensation from the funds of the Grand Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN W. MULLIGAN, Chairman.

JOHN O. COLE, Secretary.

M. MYERS.

DANIEL SHERWOOD.

EBENEZER MACK.

GEORGE E. SHERMAN.

T. B. HICKS.

J. SPRAGUE.

H. MARSH.

HARRIS SCOVILLE."

Whereupon, it was

"*Resolved*, That the amendments to the Constitution proposed by the Committee appointed for that purpose be adopted by this Grand Lodge ; that the said Committee be

directed to collate and put in form the said amendments, and cause them to be printed and transmitted to the several subordinate Lodges for approval; and, if the same be approved by two-thirds of the said Lodges, the same shall be the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That all votes of expulsion and suspension, arising out of the late controversy existing in this Grand Lodge, be, and the same are hereby, rescinded."

GRAND LODGE OF MICHIGAN RECOGNIZED.

Brother J. A. Spencer, from the Committee on the subject of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, many of the Lodges of which were instituted by this Grand Lodge, made the following report, which was accepted, and the resolutions therein contained were unanimously adopted :

"The Committee to whom was referred the Communication addressed to the Grand Secretary by a Committee of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, bearing date September 11, 1826, report; that by the said Communication it appears that delegates from the several Lodges in the territory of Michigan met in convention at the city of Detroit, on June 24, 1826, and continued their meetings, by adjournments from day to day, until the 28th of the same month, at which time they agreed upon and signed a Constitution, and that, on the 31st day of July thereafter, the brethren contemplated by the Constitution met, agreeable to notice, and made choice of the following Grand Officers, viz. :

- M. W. Lewis Cass, Grand Master.
- R. W. Andrew G. Whitney, Deputy Grand Master.
- “ Seneca Allen, Senior Grand Warden.
- “ Leonard Weed, Junior Grand Warden.
- “ John L. Whiting, Grand Secretary.
- “ Henry J. Hunt, Grand Treasurer.
- Rev. Smith Weeks, Grand Chaplain.
- Bro. John E. Schwarz, Grand Pursuivant.
- “ Samuel Sheerwood, Grand Tyler.

The Committee request a recognition of the Grand Lodge of Michigan by this Grand Lodge, and that some qualified person may be authorized to install the officers of said Lodge.

The Committee also inform us, that the M. W. Bro. Cass is Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio, and therefore request that he may be authorized to perform this duty.

Your Committee are peculiarly happy to learn that the interest of our ancient Order has been committed to the presiding care and superintendence of our distinguished citizen and Most Worshipful Brother Lewis Cass, and they entertain the most joyful anticipations that, under him and his worthy associates, the privileges and benefits of the Craft will be made to penetrate the western wilds, convert the moral wilderness into fruitful fields, and cause brotherly love, relief, truth, and charity to bud and blossom as the rose.

In the opinion of your Committee, the M. W. Lewis Cass is, in virtue of his office of Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, fully authorized to install the officers elect of this new Grand Lodge, and that he is, in virtue of his former installation, qualified to take upon himself the discharge of the duties of the office to which he is elected, without another installation.

Your Committee, therefore, beg leave to submit, for the adoption of this Grand Lodge, the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Michigan be, and the same is, hereby recognized by this Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That the M. W. Lewis Cass is, in virtue of his office of Past Grand Master, fully authorized to install the officers elect of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, and that it be recommended to him to perform that duty.

*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge feel a lively interest in the prosperity of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, and promise it our fraternal aid, and invite the most friendly interchange of communication."

## CHARITY FOR THE COUNTRY.

The Junior Grand Warden was authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of one thousand dollars, to be distributed to such applicants for charity as may reside out of the city of New York.

The financial condition of the Country Grand Lodge, after all liabilities were discharged, appeared to be

A credit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.....	\$ 605.02
Grand Secretary .....	1,224.06

St. George's Lodge, No. 8, which was the last Lodge to surrender its Provincial Charter, sent a Communication through Brother Giles F. Yates, acknowledging neglect of duty, but presented no returns. The Lodge asked for grace and consideration. It was ordered to make full and complete returns to this Grand Lodge at the next annual session.

## CENSORSHIP ON MASONIC LECTURES.

“No subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall encourage, promote, or permit the delivery of any lecture, said to be Masonic, without authority from the Grand Lodge, or a Dispensation from the presiding officers thereof; and before such authority or Dispensation shall be granted, such lecture or course of Masonic instruction shall be delivered in the presence of the Grand Lodge, or of the officers thereof, with such other enlightened and intelligent Masons as may be invited or appointed for the purpose. And if any Lodge shall so encourage, promote, or permit such lecture, or course of Masonic instructions, to be delivered without such authority or Dispensation, such Lodge shall be suspended from their work or be deprived of their Warrant, as the Grand Lodge in their wisdom may think proper to direct; and any Free Mason so lecturing without the authority of the Grand Lodge, or the presiding officers as aforesaid, shall, on due proof thereof before the Grand Lodge, be expelled from the Masonic order, and his name and offense

transmitted to every Grand Lodge with whom a correspondence is interchanged."

#### THE PERMANENT FUND.

"*Resolved*, That the management of the Permanent Fund shall be vested in a Board of Trustees, to be denominated the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, and that the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden, the Junior Grand Warden, and the Grand Secretary, for the time being, compose the said Board of Trustees. All the funds of the Grand Lodge shall be placed in their hands, and stand in the name of said Trustees, whose duty it shall be to take the best measures for its security and increase, and to invest from time to time, as a majority may decide upon, all moneys which shall come in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, after paying representatives' salaries and rent, and after leaving in his hands, at the disposal of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, for charitable and contingent purposes, the sum of three thousand dollars, annually. The said Trustees shall deposit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the securities and vouchers of the said invested fund, and shall not have the power to transfer, sell, dispose of, or appropriate any part of the said invested fund, without a vote of the Grand Lodge at the annual June Communication."

Subsequent to further routine business the Grand Lodge closed its eventful Session of 1827.

#### THE GRAND LODGE (UNITED) OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

assembled in the new Hall October 30, 1827. Richard Hatfield, Deputy Grand Master, in the chair, and the representatives of forty-three Lodges and three proxies being present. Oliver M. Lowndes, Grand Secretary.

The Rev. Henry L. Feltus delivered a preliminary address of dedication of the

## NEW MASONIC HALL,

alluding to the building as an ornament to the city and an honor to the Fraternity. It was located on the east side of Broadway, between Duane and Pearl streets. The Grand Master dedicated the building. A procession was formed and conducted to the main hall, where the architect, Brother Renagle, in a brief address turned over the building to the Grand Lodge. The address was responded to by the Grand Master, and the consecrating prayer was pronounced. The building was rented by the Grand Lodge for two hundred dollars a year. The name of the building was changed to "Gothic Hall" during the anti-Masonic excitement, and the structure was torn down in 1856.

## THE DEATH OF BROTHER DE WITT CLINTON

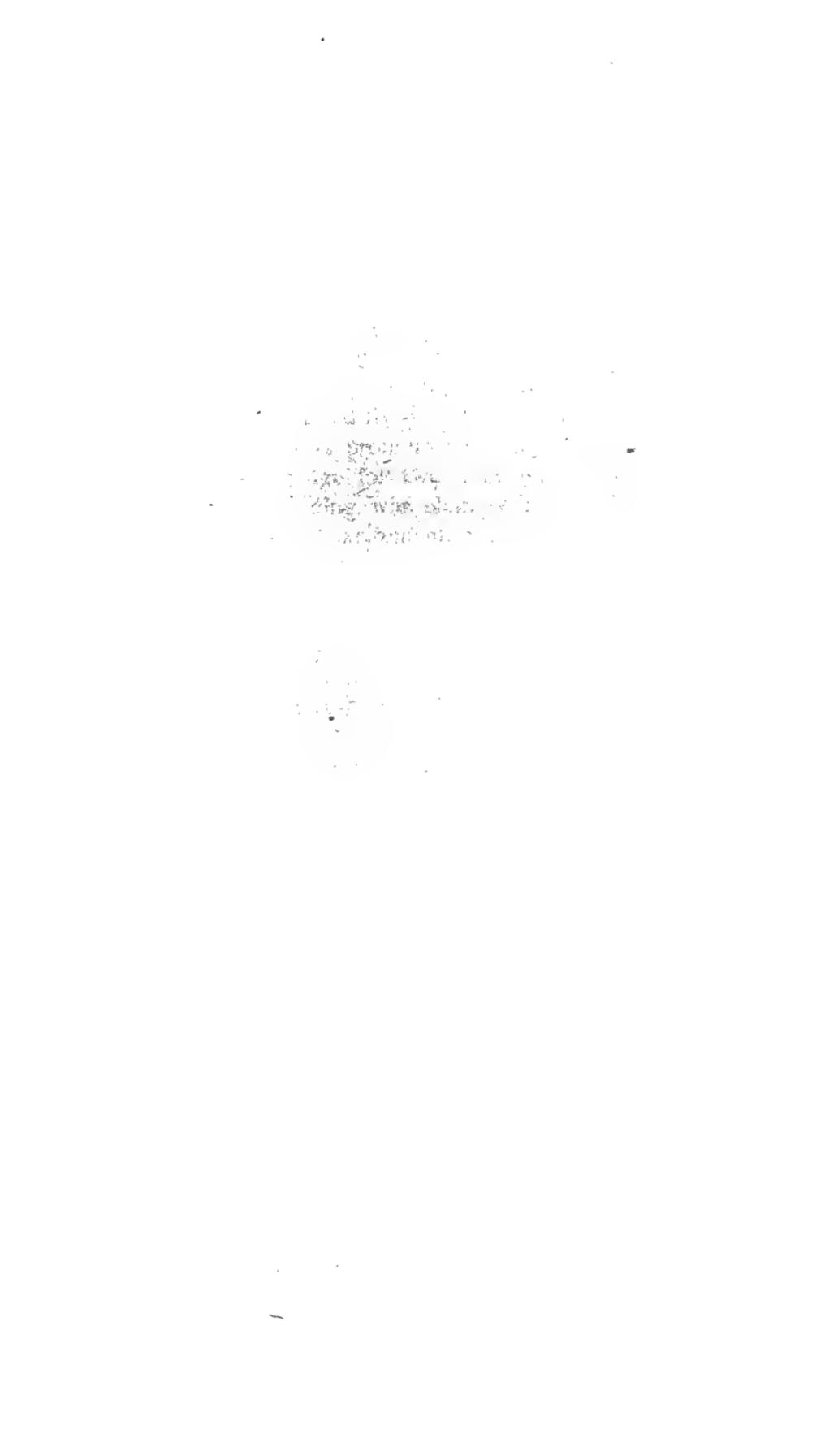
caused the Grand Lodge to be convened in Emergent Session March 4, 1828, when a consolatory letter was directed to be addressed to Mrs. C. Clinton. The funeral services were held at St. Stephen's Church: Right Worshipful Richard Hatfield, Deputy Grand Master, delivered the eulogy; the Rev. Henry L. Feltus conducted the services for the dead.

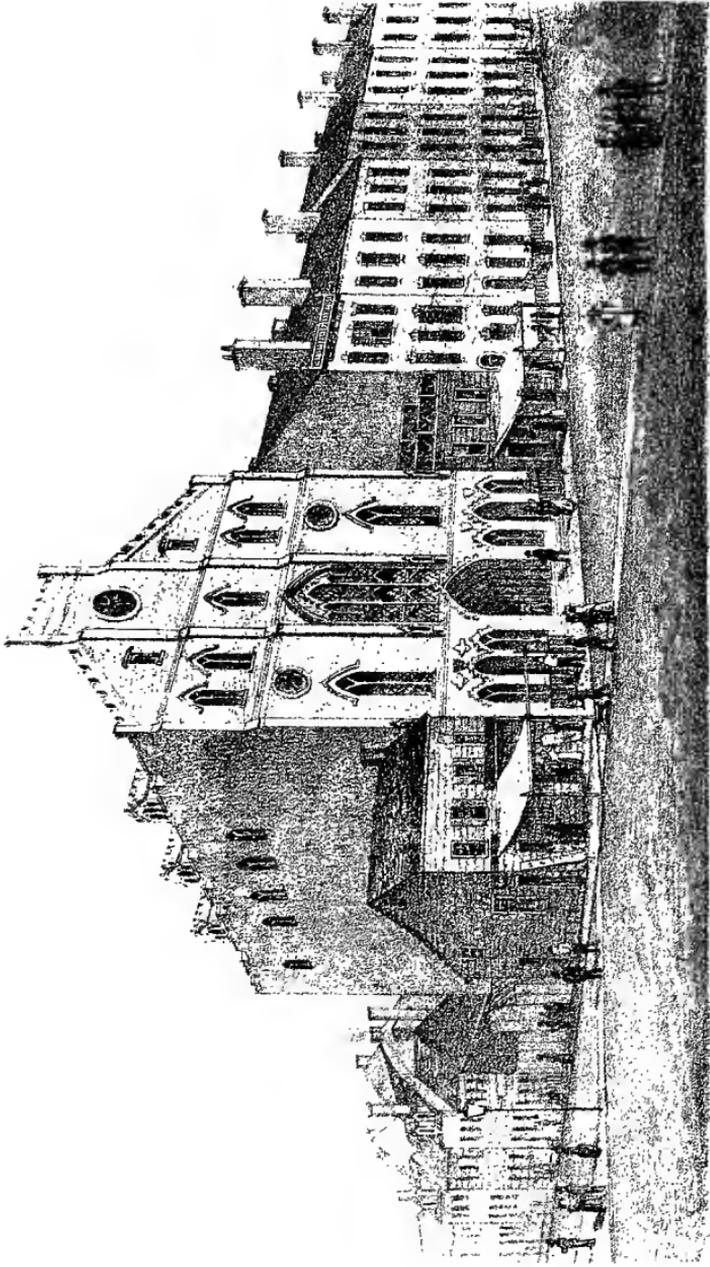
The Rev. Henry L. Feltus died on the following September. The Grand Lodge directed its members to wear mourning for six months, and the brethren of the Lodges generally for three months. The Rev. John M. Wainwright pronounced the eulogy.

## THE UPRISING AGAINST MASONRY.

In all ages there are times when society is more sensitive than at others, when the community seems to pant for an uprising, for an excitement, which, if the opportunity is presented, is grasped and the cause readily magnified. So, in the years 1826 and 1827 and those following, the people throughout the land appeared aroused and thoroughly pre-







NEW MASONIC HALL, BROADWAY, 1830.



pared to enlarge any emergency that would give satisfaction or gratification to their morbid and undefined expectancy. Masonry, like politics and religion, was in a very feverish state; in fact, there had been more or less dissatisfaction within the Fraternity about trivial or more important affairs, from the time the State Grand Lodge had assumed supremacy till now, the hour of proposed harmony between the country and the city Grand Lodges. Rivals in politics indirectly looked to Masonry for preference; sectarianism was watching for an opportunity to use its feather shafts and pierce some unguarded opening in the, to them, terrible secret organization that should attempt to preach God and humanity without doing so from the pulpit under their ordained ministry. Some sects were more given to this sensitiveness than others, and the ebullition of feeling finally cropped out among the Baptists, who could not longer contain their pent-up feelings toward what they asserted was their belief of the sacrileges performed and uttered by the Masonic Brotherhood.

The western part of New York State seemed to be gradually glowing with a fervor of hatred. A convention of the Saratoga Baptist Association was convened at Milton, September 12 and 13, 1827, at which were put forth fifteen reasons for their "disfellowshipping Freemasonry." The Association had met in June, and by vote determined to assemble at Milton, to confer as to certain grievances in reference to active Freemasonry, as intimated to the Association by the churches at Battenkill and Milton. There were represented sixteen churches, by fifty-five delegates of the Saratoga Association, and by invitation, six other churches were represented by five delegates.

The origin of the call was an expression, in 1826, in relation to Battenkill church, which was upheld by the Milton church, "that they utterly disclaimed any hostility to Masons, and condemned that proscription of them in general which had prevailed in some parts of the State; and that, as men holding property by the same tenure, and possessing similar unalienable rights with others, Masons were entitled to

respect, and fully qualified, when possessing integrity and talents, to hold all civil offices of power and trust."

This led to the anathematical resolution, with fifteen sections, which was read twice and adopted on September 13. The resolution declared "that we have no fellowship for or with the Institution of Freemasonry; and so declare because:

*First.* Freemasonry professes to have its origin in and from God.

*Second.* It professes to correspond with, and bears an affinity to, the ancient Egyptian philosophy.

*Third.* It adopts a novel and unscriptural manner of instructing men in the doctrines, promises, and consolations of the Gospel, and draws its lessons of morality from stone hammers, mallets, chisels, and other working tools.

*Fourth.* It publishes to the world songs, etc., of such a contrariety of character, as to serve the purposes of profanity, revelry, the worship of the true God, and heathen deities.

*Fifth.* It pretends that its religion and morality are the same as those taught in the Bible.

*Sixth.* That the ancient Egyptian philosophy, with its hieroglyphics and mysteries, and the religion of Christ cannot correspond or bear affinity to each other.

*Seventh.* It perverts and degrades the meaning of Scripture passages, and, by their use and application to Masonic ceremonies, dishonors God the Son.

*Eighth.* It unwarrantably and irreverently employs the name of Jehovah in the dedication of Masonic Halls.

*Ninth.* It dedicates Lodges, Chapters, etc., to St. John and Zerubbabel.

*Tenth.* It authorizes the practice of religious rites, ceremonies, and observances, not commanded or countenanced in the New Testament, such as observing St. John's days, wearing garments in imitation of those worn by the Jewish high-priests, making and carrying in procession a mimic representation of the ark of the covenant, making and wearing similar representations of the breast-plate, inscribing on miters, 'Holiness to the Lord,' and sundry other ceremonies and observances.

*Eleventh.* It imposes obligations of a moral and religious nature, which cannot be communicated to any other than Masons or candidates of the Order, not even to brethren of the church of Christ.

*Twelfth.* It affixes new names and appellations to both God the Father, and God the Son, and those which are immoral and irreligious to men.

*Thirteenth.* It amalgamates in its societies men of all religions professing to believe the existence of a Supreme Being of any description; thereby defeating all its pretensions to the morality and religion of the Bible, and sapping the foundation of Christian fellowship.

*Fourteenth.* It authorizes forms of prayer accommodated to the prejudices of the Jews; thus rejecting the only Mediator and way of access to the Father.

*Fifteenth.* It receives and adopts Orders of Knighthood from Popery."

Immediately succeeding the above was adopted a resolve, "That we do not fellowship our Baptist brethren, unless they completely abstain from Freemasonry."

In support of the assertions made in the above fifteen sections to the original resolution, quotations were made in each case from such works and authors as Calcott's "Disquisition," 1772; Town's "Speculative Masonry," 1818; "Bradley," Albany Edition, 1821; "Monitor," 1805; "Masonic Minstrel," 1816, and its "Appendix," by Veriton; "Masonic Chart," 1824; "Ahiman Rezon," New York, 1825.

Fourteen churches voted to accept the report. Eight waived expressing a decision, until they could consult their churches.

The proceedings and action were ordered published.

Much of the disturbance in the Baptist Church was instigated by the publication of

WILLIAM MORGAN'S BOOK,

a professed exposition of the esoteric and exoteric portions of Masonry. The work was entitled "Illustrations of

Masonry." Its proposed issue was the ready tocsin to arms against the Brotherhood; and the brethren were no less on the alert to defend themselves and their Institution against the calumnies that were as senseless as those quoted above by the Baptist Convention. What grew out of the proposed publication of this book was a tidal wave, that well-nigh swept the great Fraternity from the land. The comparatively puerile act, intended for gain, by William Morgan, compiler, and David Cade Miller, printer, at Batavia, in Genesee County, N. Y., rocked the country politically, morally, and religiously, affecting not only towns and States, but the nation. While political parties are essential to a republican form of government, there are ever those ready to seize even upon the most trivial occurrence to take self-advantage; hence an expression, hereinafter explained, that became a by-phrase for political purposes, "He is a good enough Morgan until after election."

The alleged deportation to Canada, the kidnapping, or the taking of the life of William Morgan is not a matter affecting the principles of the Fraternity—however great a disgrace to manhood such an act, done by misguided men, may be—as Freemasonry is an institution founded on the "Love of God and Love of Neighbor." Humanity and Freemasonry bow humbly, if so vile a deed was committed, but the blot upon manhood should not deter us from standing up for humanity and its consort Freemasonry. That which is and should be the highest and strongest arm of the Heavenly Father, the Church, is borne down with myriads of instances of inhuman acts, that were not excusable even on the ground of self-protection. Under the guise of religion, the Church has assumed to be inquisitor, judge, and executioner of Free Masons, while Freemasonry, the handmaid of religion, has not one proven instance of the blood of its fellow-man upon its escutcheon.

Charges against certain brethren were made, in the case of William Morgan, and a manly defense set up. But some mistaken men, believing they were serving the right and justice, acted fanatically.

The several committees of citizens of the counties of Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Monroe, and Niagara reported in 1829, producing numerous depositions and other documents and evidence, tending to prove the abduction of Morgan, if not his violent death, by the hands of fanatical Masons. Therein the committees reported, "that when the demon of fanaticism is at work, there is no knowing to what extent of mischief and turpitude he may lead his disciples." From time to time, ever since, innumerable queries have been made as to the facts in the complicated case, and as to the beliefs of prominent Masons in relation thereto, until Brother Rob. Morris, LL.D., issued a 400 page, 12mo, book, in 1883, entitled, "William Morgan; or, Political Anti-Masonry, its rise, growth, and decadence," by which it was endeavored to show the innocence of our Brotherhood, with a zeal almost as great as the fanatics of 1829 exercised to condemn the Institution for the acts of a few over-zealous, unworthy members of the great Brotherhood. The occurrences pertaining to so momentous a question were so important that they affected the Fraternity of the State for more than one decade, and deserve an unusual share of space in history; hence are herein quoted.

Several accounts agree that William Morgan was a native of the State of Virginia, born in Culpeper County, August 7, 1774, and by trade was a brick and stone mason. Subsequently he was a trader in Richmond. He married Lucinda Pendleton, the oldest daughter of Rev. Joseph Pendleton, a Methodist minister and whilom planter in Washington County, Va., in October, 1819. Morgan moved from Virginia in 1821, and his companion, David C. Miller, printer, of Batavia, swore, became a small brewer near York, Upper Canada. The brewery was destroyed by fire, and Morgan moved to Rochester, N. Y., with his wife and two children, and resumed the business of a stone-mason. Thence he went to Batavia, Genesee County, a town of 1,400 inhabitants, and shortly thereafter he strangely disappeared.

Morgan has been represented as an idle and very dissolute man. With that, in this connection, we have little to

do. He was continually placed within the jail limits, in consequence of debt. This is subject of proof, and was his misfortune. It, however, justified no wrong on the part of any man, or our Fraternity. Notwithstanding all allegation to the contrary, he must have possessed some ability, or what followed could not have occurred ; and, if he was known as so miserable a wretch, so much the less should any proposed exposure of the esoteric portions of Freemasonry have been feared, for he would not have had the confidence of the community.

Rumor became a certainty in 1826, that William Morgan, in conjunction with other persons, had nearly prepared for publication his book, that would expose the secrets and mysteries of Freemasonry, and that David C. Miller, a printer in Batavia, was putting the same to press. Rumor further had it that certain Free Masons had united to suppress the work, even had they to resort to violence.

Mr. Miller was the publisher of a newspaper called the *Republican Advocate*, established in 1811 ; and very many of his subscribers withdrew their patronage, in consequence of the rumor. Miller declared to his friends that he believed his personal safety was in danger, that an attack was contemplated upon his office, and he prepared to defend himself accordingly.

In what Lodge, if any, William Morgan received his degrees in Masonry is not known ; but he certainly was a visitor in Wells Lodge, No. 282, at Batavia, established in 1817. He received the Royal Arch Degree at Le Roy, N. Y., May 31, 1825.

It was openly asserted that two motives governed Morgan in his intention to publish his book of exposure : one was revenge, in consequence of his not being permitted by Blanchard Powers to be one of the petitioners of the revised application to obtain a charter for a Royal Arch Chapter, in 1826, to be located at Batavia ; and the other, an abnormal greed for money, which he anticipated he would obtain from the sale of the book which he was to write, but which was to be revised and printed by David C. Miller. It appears that

Miller never received any Masonic degree beyond that of Apprentice.

Before presenting numerous affidavits, procedures of societies, and acts and doings of the legislature and of public officers, it may be well to state that rumors were innumerable as to what became of William Morgan subsequent to his abduction—such as that he had been seen about Smyrna, in Asia Minor, interested in a mercantile way in the fruits of that country; that he had become an Indian chief in Arizona, dying about 1876; that he was hung in Havana about 1838, as a pirate; that he dwelt, under the name of Wana-maker, in a shanty near Albany, supported by Thurlow Weed and Governor W. H. Seward, until he rebelled, when they strangled him.

W. Morgan's signature is still visible, and attached to the by-laws of the Royal Arch Chapter in Batavia.

An advertisement appeared in a Canandaigua newspaper, on August 9, 1826, to the following effect :

“NOTICE AND CAUTION.

If a man calling himself William Morgan should intrude himself on the community, they should be on their guard, particularly the MASONIC FRATERNITY. Morgan was in this village in May last; and his conduct, while here and elsewhere, calls forth this notice. Any information in relation to Morgan can be obtained by calling at the MASONIC HALL, in this village. *Brethren* and *Companions* are particularly requested to *observe, mark, and govern* themselves accordingly.

☞ Morgan is considered a swindler and a dangerous man.

☞ There are people in this village who would be happy to see this Captain Morgan.

CANANDAIGUA, August 9, 1826.”

Several papers of that day quoted the advertisement, the *People's Press* and the *Spirit of the Times* being among the number.

The announcement of the publication of the "Illustrations," by William Morgan, still continued, when, about the middle of August, 1826, a man calling himself Daniel Johns, a fur trader, who afterwards was discovered to be a Knight Templar, appeared in Batavia, and offered D. C. Miller any amount of money needed for the publication of the book. His offer was accepted, and he thereby became acquainted with whatever manuscript had been prepared. Daniel Johns and others finally got possession of most of the manuscript, which they took to Rochester, and which was thence sent to the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, in session at New York City.

Prior to July, 1826, Morgan had been sued in the Supreme Court for a considerable sum due a Rochester gentleman, when Nahum Loring and Orange Allen became his bail. On July 25, of same year, Morgan was committed to the custody of the sheriff of Genesee County, at the suit of Nathan Follett, and gave bail for the jail limits. At this time Morgan and his family boarded at Mr. Stewart's in the midst of the village; but, for personal safety and to avoid interruption, Morgan personally spent most of his time in the upper room of John David's house, out of the business portion of the town, across the Tonawanda Creek. It is in testimony that, on August 19, Kelsey Stone, John Wilson, and Johnson Goodwill, with Daniel H. Dana, a constable from Pembroke, went to David's house. They inquired for David and the other house resident, Towsley, who were found not at home. The visitors proceeded to Morgan's room, arrested him, took his writings, upon which he was engaged, and conveyed him to jail, without granting him opportunity to obtain bail. As the day was Saturday, and the sheriff could not be found until after 12 P.M., Morgan could not be released until Monday, when he was bailed by Miller. The suit was at the instance of Thomas McCully. It appears that, as soon as Morgan was imprisoned, Goodwill, McCully, and the constable, Dana, repaired to the boarding-house of Mrs. Morgan, and stated to her that they had an execution against Morgan, and were looking for his property, of which

she declared he had none. Goodwill and Dana, however, made search, and finally seized a small trunk of papers. Mrs. Morgan was then informed of her husband's confinement in jail.

On the night of Sunday, September 10, the printing offices of D. C. Miller were discovered to be on fire, but the flames were soon extinguished. The cause of the fire was never satisfactorily explained.

The two following affidavits are of interest in connection with this incidental circumstance :

“ *Genesee County,* } JOHN MANN, of Buffalo, blacksmith by  
*ss.* } trade, deposes and saith that, in the latter part of August last, or early in September, and very shortly before he heard that an attempt had been made to burn the printing office of David C. Miller, at Batavia, he was riding with one Richard Howard, of Buffalo, a book-binder, who then worked with Mr. Haskins; and, in the course of the ride, he, said Howard, asked deponent to purchase or procure a keg of spirits of turpentine (as he thinks), saying he wanted to switch Miller's office with it, avowing at the same time his object to be to destroy the building, for the purpose of suppressing a publication, which he said Morgan and Miller were about making, relating to Freemasonry. This deponent declined to assist in the act, intimating to him (as he believes) that he had no money to do it with. After he heard that such attempt had been made on the office of Miller, said Howard told this deponent that he had, with others who aided and assisted him, attempted to burn said office—that he had called at a store west of Batavia and bought a broom or brush to spread the turpentine with, and with his dark lanthorn had set fire to it; that the fire was lighted up and he ran off; that some person ran after him, and he supposed was about to overtake him, when he turned and dashed his dark lanthorn into his face, which stopped the pursuit; that, upon reflection since, he concluded that it was a friend who ran after him, but had never found out. He believed then and still does

believe, that said Howard's object was to implicate him in the transaction.

JOHN MANN.

Sworn the twenty-first day of February, before me,  
WILLIAM H. TISDALE, First Judge of Genesee."

"*State of New York,* } THOMAS G. GREEN, late of the town  
*Genesee County ss.* } of Henrietta, in the county of Monroe,  
and State aforesaid, carpenter, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that, during the summer and until November in the fall of the year 1826, this deponent resided in the village of Buffalo. Sometime between the twentieth day of August and the seventh day of September last, he, this deponent, was requested by Richard Howard, of Buffalo, aforesaid, to attend the Lodge of Free Masons in that place; but Howard did not state to this deponent for what purpose the Lodge was requested to meet—said there would be but a few there. In the evening this deponent started to go to the Lodge, and on the way fell in with said Howard, and went to the Lodge with him. After the Lodge was organized and had proceeded to business, it was openly alleged that William Morgan and David C. Miller, of Batavia, were about to publish at that place a book purporting to be a disclosure of Masonic secrets. This deponent was in the chair, and presided for the time. Howard proposed that something should be done to prevent the publication of said book. B. Wilcox, of Buffalo, who was present, opposed the use of any rash or violent means for that purpose. Wilcox wished to know what measures it was intended should be adopted. Howard proposed that he and one other person, not now recollected by this deponent, should be a committee to attend to the business, and that they should be left to use such measures as they should think proper, so that the book should be suppressed. Wilcox proposed that they should be restricted from the use of any violent measures; and it was so concluded, at that time, that no rash or violent measures should be used to suppress the book.

A short time afterwards, Howard requested that this

deponent should go to the Lodge with him that evening—that a few were to meet there. In the evening this deponent started to go to the Lodge room, and on the way fell in with Howard, but did not go to the Lodge room. They walked together as far as the Franklin House, thence to the terrace back of the village, where Howard and this deponent had the following conversation. Howard asked this deponent if he was willing to aid him in suppressing the book above alluded to. This deponent said he was willing to assist as far as was reasonable and proper, or according to what was proposed by Wilcox. Howard said he wanted a decisive answer one way or the other; he wanted to know whether he, this deponent, was for them, the Masons, as this deponent supposed, or against them. This deponent said he was for them, and was willing to aid in suppressing the book, if it were to promote the interests of the Masonic Institution; and asked Howard what plan he intended to pursue. Howard said they intended to go to Batavia and get the papers, which this deponent understood to mean the manuscript papers of the book; and they were to get them peaceably, if they could, if not, by force; and, if they could not get them without, they would take Morgan and Miller, and carry them off too. This deponent finally consented to join the party and go to Batavia, for the purpose of getting the papers as aforesaid. The time for this expedition was not agreed upon at this time; but Howard afterwards informed this deponent that it was arranged to be in Batavia, for the above purpose, on the Friday evening following, being the eighth day of September last. This deponent does not recollect how many were going from Buffalo. This deponent accordingly got into the stage at Buffalo, on Thursday evening, the seventh of September, for Batavia, and arrived in Batavia on Friday morning. During the day, this deponent remained in and about Batavia, but conversed with none on the subject of his being at that place, except James B. Towsley, to whom he communicated the plan of attacking Miller's office. In the early part of the evening, this deponent was informed that Towsley had told George W. Harris of the

contemplated attack upon Miller's office, and that this deponent was the author of this information. This threw many obstructions in the way of the expedition, and was a principal cause of its total failure; and for which Howard blamed this deponent. In the evening, a number of men were assembled in the village of Batavia—how many this deponent cannot say. There might have been forty or fifty, and perhaps more; but they were mostly strangers to this deponent; nor did he know where they came from. This deponent understood from some of them that it was expected that there would have been twenty-five from Fort George and its vicinity; but, as he understood, they did not come. Eight or ten were put under the immediate direction of this deponent, and the remainder were in different parts of the village, and directed by different persons. The whole party did not get into the village till nearly two o'clock in the morning of Saturday; and they remained about two hours, and till the western stage came in, when the whole company dispersed in different directions. This was about four o'clock in the morning. During the time they were in the village, no attack was made upon Miller's office. It was understood that Miller and Morgan, in consequence of the information communicated to them by way of Towsley, had been alarmed, and were on the watch; which caused some consultation and consequent delay, until the stage came in. When the party dispersed, this deponent made his best way to Buffalo: went west to the brick tavern, about fourteen miles; thence south to what is called the South Pembroke Road, and pursued his way to Monroe's tavern, about five miles from Buffalo. At this place, this deponent saw Col. Joseph Shaw, who spoke to this deponent, and asked him what he was doing there. This deponent then took Shaw one side and requested that he would not call him, this deponent, by name again, or mention to any one that he had seen him at that place, for he, this deponent, had been in a bad scrape, and wished him not to speak of it. Shaw asked this deponent what it was; but this deponent refused to tell him; but said he would at some future time, and that Shaw would

hear about it. From this place, this deponent went to Buffalo, where he arrived the same evening. And this deponent further saith that he has never been personally concerned, otherwise than above stated, in any measures to suppress the publication of the book, or for the carrying away or disposing of Morgan. And further saith not.

THOMAS G. GREEN.

Subscribed and sworn to, this sixteenth day of July, 1827, before me,

C. CARPENTER,

One of the justices of the peace in and for Genesee Co."

On the morning of September 10th, Nicholas G. Chesebro, Master of the Lodge at Canandaigua, and one of the corners of Ontario County, obtained from Jeffrey Chipman, Justice of the Peace, a warrant against William Morgan, on a charge of stealing a shirt and cravat, in the previous May, from inn-keeper Kingsley. Chesebro, Henry Howard, Harris Seymour, Moses Roberts, and Joseph Scofield then hired a stage and started for Batavia, taking with them on their way Asa Nowlen, an inn-keeper at Avon, John Butterfield, and Ella G. Smith. When arrived at Stafford, on Sunday evening, Dr. S. S. Butler was sent to Batavia to inform Nathan Follett and William Seaver, Master of Batavia Lodge, that they were coming with a warrant for William Morgan. Being joined by James Ganson, the party started for Batavia, but meeting Dr. Butler returning, they separated on the way, a portion returning in the carriage and the others proceeding on foot to Batavia. The next morning Morgan was arrested and taken to the inn at Stafford. Notwithstanding D. C. Miller was on the bail that Morgan would not leave the jail limits, the driver was over-persuaded, and finally the party arrived at Le Roy. Morgan appears to have consented to go to Canandaigua, fifty miles from Batavia, saying he could convince Mr. Kingsley, the prosecutor, that he did not intend to steal the shirt and cravat. Morgan was examined by the magistrate, Loton Lawson appearing for him, and he was discharged.

Morgan was immediately rearrested on a claim against him for \$2.68, due Aaron Ackley, an inn-keeper. Morgan admitted the debt, confessed judgment, took off his coat, and told the constable to levy on that, or take it as security. This was refused and Morgan locked up.

This was on September 11, 1826. On the succeeding evening Morgan was released by a person claiming to be from Pennsylvania.

The two following affidavits, the first by William Morgan's wife and the other by the wife of the jailer at Canandaigua, tell much of the story and are interesting legal documents in the case :

“ *Genessee County,* } LUCINDA MORGAN, aged twenty-three,  
 ss: } the wife of William Morgan, of Batavia,  
 in said county, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith—that on Monday last, about, or a short time before sunrise, her said husband left his house, and went into the street of the village; that finding he did not come to his breakfast as usual, she made inquiries for him, and was told that he had been forcibly taken away by six men, and put into a carriage and taken to Canandaigua. That during the whole of Monday she remained in ignorance of which way he had been taken, or who had taken him, excepting by loose information, that an officer from Canandaigua had taken him. That on Tuesday morning soon after breakfast she sent for William R. Thompson, the sheriff, and requested to know of him if he knew on what pretext her husband had been taken away. Said Thompson told her he understood he had been taken under a charge of having stolen a shirt and cravat, and that he presumed it was merely a pretext to get him away, or carry him away; that thereupon this deponent asked him if he thought Mr. Morgan could be got back, or brought back, if she gave up to the Masons the papers she had in possession; said Thompson answered that he thought it was very likely that Mr. Morgan would be brought back if she would give them up; but he would not obligate himself, or undertake to say that he should be brought back.

That thereupon said Thompson proposed that this deponent should go to Canandaigua, and take the papers, and give them to Morgan, or to them, or give them up; and deponent agreed to go and take the papers accordingly. Thompson then asked this deponent if there was any person or friend whom she would like to have go with her. She mentioned Mr. Gibbs (meaning Horace Gibbs), and asked if it would do for him to go; said Thompson said it would not do for him to go, as he was not a Mason, and added, it would not do for any person to carry her there but a Mason. She asked him twice if Mr. Gibbs was not a Mason, and he said he was not, and then asked deponent if she was acquainted with Mr. Follett; deponent said she was not. Thompson said he was a nice man, and a gentleman with whom she could safely trust herself. Said Thompson departed, and soon returned, and told deponent that Mr. Follett was not willing to go, unless she would let him (Follett) and Mr. Ketchum see the papers; he did not want to go on a Tom-fool's errand. This deponent then objected to the papers being seen by them; Thompson then said it was useless; he should do no more, and he could not send her out there unless they could see the papers. Deponent then, with great reluctance, finally consented to let them see the papers, if they would take her to see her husband. This second visit lasted about twenty minutes, during which time Thompson urged the deponent to let the papers be seen. Deponent told him she was afraid they would take the papers away from her, if she let them see them. Thompson said they would not. She offered to let Mr. Thompson see the papers; he said that would not answer, they would not take his word. Thompson then told her he would go to Humphrey's and stay until she had got the papers, and she must then make a sign to him when she was ready. Accordingly, a short time afterwards she made a sign to Mr. Thompson, then standing on Humphrey's stoop, and immediately after he, with Mr. Follett, and Mr. Ketchum, came to her apartment, when Thompson introduced Follett and Ketchum, and said they had come to see the papers, which this deponent then handed to them. They all looked

at them a short time, and Thompson then asked her if she was ready to go, saying Mr. Follett was ready to take her. Follett then said he would go home with the papers, and look them over, and told Ketchum to stop for him at his gate. Accordingly, about four o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, deponent started with said Follett and Ketchum in a small wagon, and proceeded to Stafford, where they stopped at a house, where she was conducted into a back room, into which Follett and Ketchum came, and were joined by one Daniel Johns, and by James Ganson; all of whom immediately proceeded to examine the papers with much earnestness, and held much low conversation with themselves in under voices. Ganson appeared to speak the most. One of them then asked Johns if those were the papers that were in the office when he was there. Johns answered there was one degree back, and then took a piece of paper, and folding it up, said the papers that were back were folded so. They then held considerably more conversation in voices too low to be heard. Follett then turned to deponent, and told her he did not see that he could go with her; that Mr. Ketchum was going to Rochester, and would be willing to take her to Canandaigua to see Mr. Morgan; said he was not much acquainted with him (Ketchum), but took him to be a gentleman,—and Ketchum then said he called himself a gentleman, and she need not be afraid to trust herself with him. Ketchum then took the papers, and tied them up in his pocket-handkerchief, and took them with him into the wagon in which they rode. Johns then got into the wagon and rode to Le Roy, when he got out and bid Ketchum good-by, saying, 'I hope I shall see you day after to-morrow.' They then proceeded to Avon and stayed all night. The next day they again started for Canandaigua, when Ketchum put the papers into this deponent's trunk. They arrived at Canandaigua about twelve at noon, and stopped at a tavern at the corner of the main street. After being there some time, this deponent asked Ketchum if he had heard of Mr. Morgan. Ketchum said he had not; that the Masons could not talk to him; he could not see them; they seemed jealous of him: thought him a

friend of Mr. Morgan, and was afraid he had come to get him away from that place. Then asked her where the papers were; he took them and said he would go and make further inquiries for Mr. Morgan; and if he could find him, or where he was, or where they had taken him, he would let her know all he could find out. This was about dinner time. He returned again a short time before night, and told her he had heard Mr. Morgan had been there; had been tried for stealing a shirt, and cleared, had been then put in jail for a debt of two dollars; and that Tuesday night a man had come from Pennsylvania, who said he had a warrant against him for a debt he owed there; that he, the man, had paid the two dollars, and had taken him away in a private carriage on Tuesday night, and he had no doubt he was gone; and asked this deponent when she would go home again. The deponent then expressed her anxiety to return speedily on account of having left her child of two years old, and having with her a baby of two months old. Ketchum then went out, as he said, to take a passage in the stage, and returned after candle-light. This deponent was then walking the room in great distress and in tears. She asked him if he could hear nothing of Mr. Morgan. He then seemed to pity deponent, and told her not to be uneasy, and after looking at her a short time, told her to come and sit down by him, and asked her if she would feel any better if he told her what he knew. Being answered yes, he then said that Mr. Morgan would not be killed—that he would be kept concealed until they could get the rest of the papers. She asked him what papers were back. He said there were some sheets on the Mark Master's degree back; and they wanted also to get the printed sheets that Miller had printed on the three degrees. He then said he wanted to take the papers he had received from this deponent to Rochester, and he thought through the means of them he could find out where Mr. Morgan was; it was a secret where he was. Said he had paid her passage, and then gave her two dollars to bear her expenses home. He then wrote his name with a pencil on a scrap of paper, hereto annexed, as follows: 'George

Ketchum, Rochester,' and promised to write to her if he could hear of Mr. Morgan; he then told her if she would, by any means, get hold of the papers that Miller had, or find out where they were deposited, so that he could get hold of them, he would give her twenty-five dollars out of his own pocket, and he had no doubt the Lodge would give her one hundred if she could get what Miller had now. Deponent told him she would not try to get the papers that Miller had, and would take no money, and would not let him have the papers she had delivered to him, but on condition he would try and find out where Mr. Morgan was, and let her see him. He then repeated his promise to try and find out, and said he would write to her as soon as he got to Rochester, and urged her to write to him immediately on her return, and let him know about the papers, and what the people were doing generally in Batavia, and whether they were making a great rumpus about Mr. Morgan. Deponent then expressed her fears, that if she did give him any information about the papers, he would not keep his promise about letting her see him, but would keep him concealed until they got all the papers, and finally kill him. Ketchum then said, 'I promise before my God that I will not deceive you, but will do all I can to find out where he is, and let you see him. I have no doubt when I get back to Rochester I can find out more, and I think I can find out where he is.' He then again urged her to find out where the papers were, and let him know. In the course of his conversation he said, that if Mr. Morgan had managed rightly he could have made a million of dollars, if the work had been published. Ketchum then departed for Rochester, leaving this deponent at the tavern; she, the same day, started for Batavia. The papers taken away by the said Ketchum were numerous, and formed a very large bundle; they were written in the handwriting of her husband, excepting a few, which were written by a person who sometimes assisted her husband by copying, or taking down, as he dictated to him. The deponent further says she has no knowledge of the place where her husband now is, or what is his situation, and feels the most

anxious fears for his life ; that she was born in Virginia, and is a stranger, without any intimate friends and relations in this country, and is left with two infant children, without any money, except what is left of that given to her by said Ketchum, and has no property nor any means of supporting herself and her children, her constitution being very feeble, and her health being bad most of the time.

L. MORGAN.

Sworn the twenty-second day of September, 1826, before me,

DANIEL H. CHANDLER, J. P.”

“ *State of New York, Ontario } MARY W. HALL, of Canan-*  
*County, ss :* } daigua, in said county, being  
 duly sworn, deposeth and saith—that she is the wife of  
 Israel R. Hall, keeper of the common jail of said county ;  
 that she, this deponent, the said keeper, her husband, and  
 family, reside in the jail of said county ; that she, this depo-  
 nent, and her husband, had been absent, and returned home  
 on the twelfth of September instant, in the afternoon ; that  
 in the early part of the evening of the said twelfth day  
 of September, her husband went out from the jail ; that  
 soon after her husband left the jail, and about seven o'clock  
 in the evening, or a little past, a man, who afterwards and  
 during the same evening said his name was Lawson, called  
 at the jail and inquired for Mr. Hall, the keeper, and she,  
 this deponent, informed the said Lawson that Mr. Hall was  
 not at home, and that she did not know where he was ; that  
 the said Lawson then said that he wanted to see Morgan,  
 alluding, as this deponent supposed, to a man in prison by  
 the name of William Morgan ; that this deponent then went  
 to the door of the room in which the said Morgan was con-  
 fined ; that the said Lawson requested to go into the room  
 where Morgan was, but this deponent told him he could not,  
 for it was against the rules of the prison ; that the said Law-  
 son said he wished to have a few moments' private conversa-  
 tion with Morgan, but this deponent told Lawson he could  
 not say anything to Morgan but what this deponent should

hear; that the said Lawson then spoke to Morgan through the grates of the door, and said he wished to have some private conversation with him, the said Morgan, but this woman, alluding to this deponent, would not let him; that this deponent said to Lawson, 'Who be you? do you live in the village?' to which the said Lawson made no reply, but the said Morgan said, 'He is a neighbor;' that the said Lawson told Morgan he had come to pay the debt for which the said Morgan was committed; and Lawson asked Morgan if he would go home with him; to which Morgan answered, yes; that Lawson then said, when Mr. Hall, meaning the said keeper, came in, he (Lawson) would satisfy the execution, and take him, the said Morgan, out, and carry him home; that the said Morgan answered, it was no matter about it that night, he could wait till morning; that Lawson said no, he would rather take him, the said Morgan, out, and carry him home with him that night, for he had been running all day for him, and he was so tired he could hardly stand on his feet; that the said Lawson then went away, and said he would look for Mr. Hall, the said keeper; that in about half an hour the said Lawson returned, and said he had been to the hotel, conference room, and every other place in which he thought he should be likely to find Mr. Hall, but he could not find him; that the said Lawson then requested that this deponent should receive the amount of the execution on which Morgan was committed, and discharge him; but this deponent refused to do this, and told Lawson she did not know the amount; that Lawson told her it was a small sum, and he (Lawson) would leave five dollars, which he knew was more than sufficient; that this deponent then told Lawson that she, this deponent, had understood that Morgan was a rogue, and that she did not like to liberate a rogue; that she, this deponent, understood great pains had been taken to secure Morgan, and that the public or individuals were interested in having him kept secure; that what she (this deponent) should do would be considered the same as if it had been done by her husband, the said keeper; and if she (this deponent) should discharge

Morgan, she was afraid her husband would be blamed; that Lawson said no, Mr. Hall would not be blamed, and represented to this deponent that Mr. Hall understood it perfectly, and if he was at home would discharge Morgan; and further, he, Lawson, said he would pledge himself that Mr. Hall should not be injured or blamed; that he, Lawson, would pledge himself to the amount of fifty or an hundred dollars that Mr. Hall should not be injured if this deponent would discharge Morgan; but this deponent refused, and told Lawson she valued public opinion more than money; that Lawson then asked this deponent if she would discharge Morgan if Col. Sawyer (meaning, as this deponent supposes, one Edward Sawyer, of Canandaigua aforesaid) would say she could safely do it, and that it would be right, or if he would pledge himself that Mr. Hall should not be injured, or would run no risk in discharging Morgan; that she, this deponent, answered that she did not know Col. Sawyer any better than she did him (Lawson), and that Col. Sawyer was not plaintiff in the execution upon which Morgan was committed, and that he, Col. Sawyer, had nothing to do with it; that, however, Lawson then went away, and said he would go and see Col. Sawyer; that Lawson then went away, and was gone but a few minutes when he (Lawson) returned, and Col. Sawyer with him; that Col. Sawyer requested that this deponent would discharge Morgan, and said there could be no kind of risk in doing so; that Mr. Hall should not be injured; that Lawson would pay the debt, and there could be no harm in discharging the prisoner when that was done; that this deponent said she did not wish to keep a man in jail who ought to be let out, but she did not wish to liberate a rogue, as she understood Morgan was one; that nearly the same conversation again took place as had before passed between this deponent and Lawson; that Col. Sawyer and Lawson appeared to be offended that this deponent would not discharge Morgan; that Lawson said the debt for which Morgan was committed was assigned to Chesebro (meaning, as this deponent supposed, and afterwards learned, Nicholas G. Chesebro); that Lawson said to Sawyer, 'Let us go and

find Chesebro;’ that they both went to the door, and this deponent also, and saw two men a few rods from the jail coming towards it; that this deponent observed that, perhaps, one of them might be Mr. Hall, upon which Lawson went towards them, and directly one of the said men came to the door of the jail where this deponent and Col. Sawyer were standing; that this deponent asked if it was Mr. Chesebro, to which the man answered yes; and this deponent immediately recognized him to be the said Nicholas G. Chesebro; that this deponent said to Chesebro, ‘There is a man in jail that these men’ (meaning Lawson and Col. Sawyer) ‘want me to liberate, and they say you are interested, or that you have bought the debt;’ that Chesebro said, ‘Let him go; these men will pay the execution; I don’t want to see him; I have no demands upon him;’ that this deponent, in the early part of the evening, and before Mr. Hall left the jail, had observed Mr. Hall and Chesebro in low conversation, and supposed that probably it was understood between them; she, this deponent, then consented to receive the amount of the execution, and discharge Morgan; that during the evening a man had been to the jail with Lawson, whom Lawson called Foster, but unknown to this deponent; that Lawson, after this deponent consented to receive the amount of the execution, and discharge Morgan, paid to this deponent the said amount of execution, or laid it on the table; that then this deponent took the keys and was going to liberate Morgan; that Lawson spoke to this deponent and said, ‘Wait, and I will go with you;’ that Lawson then stepped to the door and whistled, and then followed this deponent; that when they came to the outer door of the prison, Lawson said to this deponent, ‘You need not fasten this door after us;’ but this deponent said she should, for there were other prisoners in the room; that this deponent and Lawson went into the hall adjoining the room where Morgan was, and Lawson spoke in a low voice to Morgan through the grates, ‘Get yourself ready to go with me—dress yourself quick;’ that Morgan was soon ready, and this deponent let him out, and Lawson took Morgan by the

arm and went out of the prison to the outer door; that while this deponent was fastening the prison door she heard, at or near the outer door of the jail, a most distressing cry of murder; that this deponent ran to the door, and saw Lawson and the man that he called Foster, one on each side of Morgan, having hold of Morgan's arms; that Morgan continued to scream or cry in the most distressing manner, at the same time struggling with all his strength, apparently, to get loose from Lawson and Foster; that the cry of Morgan continued till his voice appeared to be suppressed by something put over his mouth; that during the time that Morgan was struggling, and crying murder, the said Col. Sawyer, and the said Chesebro, were standing at a short distance from the jail door, near the well, and in full view and hearing of all that passed, but offered no assistance to Morgan, nor did they attempt to release him from Lawson and Foster; but one of them struck with a stick a violent blow upon the well-curb, or a tub, standing near; that soon after this deponent saw a carriage pass the jail in the direction that Lawson and Foster took Morgan; that the evening was quite light in consequence of its being about the full of the moon; that she, this deponent, could distinguish from the jail door the horses in the carriage which passed to be gray; that this deponent supposed the striking upon the well-curb, or tub, by Chesebro or Col. Sawyer, was a signal for the carriage to come, as it came immediately after; that when the carriage passed, Lawson and Foster could not have got but a few rods with Morgan; that immediately after the striking upon the well-curb, or tub, Col. Sawyer, and, as this deponent thinks, Chesebro also, passed the jail door in the direction that Lawson and Foster took Morgan, but not apparently to render Morgan any assistance towards being released from Lawson and Foster; but Col. Sawyer, however, picked up Morgan's hat, which had fallen off in the struggle; that when Morgan was taken from the jail it was about nine o'clock in the evening, or a little past; that this deponent has since been informed that Lawson lives about two or three miles from the jail; that this deponent has never seen Morgan since he

was taken from the jail as aforesaid, and knows nothing about where he was taken to, or where he now is, and further saith not.

MARY W. HALL.

Subscribed and sworn to, this twenty-third day of September, 1826, before me,

JEFFREY CHIPMAN, J. P."

Corroborative affidavits by the neighbors as to what they heard and saw were collected, and freely published throughout the western counties.

It is assumed from testimony subsequently taken before officers of the State, that Morgan was carried, willingly or otherwise, by relays of horses, through towns and villages designated Victor, Rochester, Clarkson, Gaines, Wright's Tavern, Molineux Tavern, Lewiston—a thickly populated country, within twenty-four hours, a distance of over a hundred miles, and securely lodged in the magazine of Fort Niagara.

About the time this was occurring, there was in Batavia a large street assemblage of excited citizens and strangers, when Constable Jesse French led the way to Col. David Cade Miller's printing-office, where French arrested Miller, who was subsequently placed in a wagon, accompanied by seven others, and driven to Stafford, a village about six miles from Batavia. He was there detained several hours in an upper Masonic Lodge room, guarded by the constable's assistants. Here Miller was visited by Daniel Johns, his financial partner, but with no friendly result. Towards evening the entire party proceeded four miles further, to Le Roy. Miller finally obtained access to the justice who had issued the warrant, but as neither constable, warrant, nor plaintiff appeared, Miller was granted his liberty. Daniel Johns appeared to have been the plaintiff, and he, with Constable French, finding their former prisoner released, attempted to make forcible seizure of him, but he escaped and returned to Batavia the same evening, September 12. The above act led to the indictment of James Ganson, Jesse French, Roswell Wilcox, and James Hurlburt, for riot, assault, and false imprisonment at the October Session of the County Court.

French received a sentence of one year in the county jail, Wilcox escaped with six months, and Hurlburt with three months, which sentences they served. Ganson was acquitted, but two other indictments were found against him, one for conspiracy with Daniel Johns and George Ketchum, to obtain Morgan's manuscripts; the other for conspiracy with sixteen others to destroy Miller's office.

The first part of Morgan's "Illustrations" was issued, greatly to the surprise of members of the Fraternity, who deemed that the manuscript they had obtained had suppressed the work, and that the abduction had defeated any attempt to replace it. George Ketchum had obtained from Mrs. Morgan the original manuscripts of the three degrees, which had been delivered to her by Miller, in order that she might thereby recover her husband, but Miller had not done this until he had a portion printed and secreted in an old straw bed, and the remainder duly copied.

The persons directly charged with the abduction of Morgan were Nicholas G. Chesebro, Col. Edward Sawyer, Loton Lawson, Eli Bruce, and John Sheldon, who were tried for kidnapping, whereat Burrage Smith and John Whitney, two witnesses, declined in part to answer questions, lest they might criminate themselves.

Upon the arrival of the party with William Morgan at Fort Niagara, that structure was found to be unoccupied, save by the keeper, Col. E. Jewett, and his wife. Near it was the ferry house, directly on the bank of the river, in charge of Edward Giddins. The magazine of the fort was a strong structure, secured by two doors—the inner one of white oak, iron faced. Near the roof were two small windows, about fifteen feet from the floor. In consequence of broken locks, doors, and other surroundings, it was not charged that the keeper was privy to the incarceration of Morgan; in fact, from the débris within, violence would seem to have come from the inside. It is clearly established that Morgan was subsequently taken to the British side of the river by four men, where it was alleged he was seen by

Mr. McBride, M. P., but this was denied by him in solemn manner. The Masons of Upper Canada in and about Fort George did not, at least then, enter into the spirit of the abduction, and the party recrossed to the fort with Morgan, where he was still known to be on September 17, 1826. The towns and villages were somewhat alive with rumors, and the strange proceedings that were occurring mainly after nightfall; and Niagara, Lewiston, Youngstown, and even Lockport gave evidence of unusual Masonic excitement. Eli Bruce, sheriff of Niagara County, and Samuel Barton, of Lewiston, Jeremiah Brown, Jared Darrow, Corydon Fox, Paul Mosher, David Hague, Col. William King, and William Molineux, all well-known residents of that section of the State, were continually in consultation and activity.

The exertions of the Governor of New York, and of the Governor of Upper Canada to trace Morgan beyond Fort Niagara proved unavailing; pecuniary rewards and the Governor's pardon failed to produce any information. Five citizens, more or less implicated, left the State; many witnesses disappeared; two witnesses before the Grand Jury of Monroe County at Rochester, Edward Doyle and Simon B. Jewet, refused to testify, on the ground that they would criminate themselves.

The following is the report of the trial of Eli Bruce and others, for conspiracy to kidnap William Morgan, and carry him from the county of Ontario :

ONTARIO GENERAL SESSIONS, AUGUST 20, 1828.

Present, Hon. Nathaniel W. Howell, Hon. Chester Loomis, Hon. John Price, and Hon. Samuel Rawson, judges of the county courts of Ontario County.

The indictment against Eli Bruce, Orsamus Turner, and Jared Darrow, for a conspiracy to kidnap and carry away William Morgan from the county of Ontario to parts unknown, was brought on for trial at the opening of the court in the afternoon.

Counsel for the people: Daniel Mosley, Esq., special commissioner; Bowen Whiting, district attorney of Ontario County; and Charles Butler, Esq.

Counsel for the defendants: Hon. Dudley Marvin and Mark H. Sibley, Esq., of Canandaigua; William H. Adams, Esq., of Lyons; and Vincent Matthews and Ebenezer Griffin, Esqrs., of Rochester.

The following persons were sworn as jurors: Hiram Anson, Nathau Cary, Jasper W. Peet, Levi Smith, Amasa Spencer, John Stults, Everet Green, Abraham Dodge, Henry Lincoln, Daniel Short, John Pennal, jun., and Samuel Reed.

Mr. Whiting having opened the case to the jury, on behalf of the people, the following testimony was introduced:

*Israel R. Hall*, sworn.—The witness was jailer of Ontario County in 1826. He knew William Morgan, who was committed to the jail of said county, on the tenth of September, in that year, and discharged on the twelfth of the same month, as this witness has been informed. Witness was absent from the jail at the time of Morgan's commitment and discharge.

*Jeffrey Chipman*, sworn.—Witness was a justice of the peace in Canandaigua, in September, 1826. On the morning of the tenth of that month, it being Sunday, Nicholas G. Chesebro came to the witness's house and requested him to go to his office. He did so. Chesebro came in soon, and, shortly after him, Ebenezer C. Kingsley, who made a complaint against William Morgan, for larceny. Chesebro stated that Morgan had come from Batavia, and was, at that time, about six miles west of Canandaigua. Witness issued a warrant against Morgan, directed to the sheriff or either of the constables of Ontario County, or to Nicholas G. Chesebro, one of the coroners thereof, by virtue of which he was apprehended, brought before witness on Monday evening, and by him discharged, for want of sufficient proof to convict him. Chesebro then requested of witness a warrant against Morgan, on a demand which he held against him as assignee of Aaron Ackley. A warrant was accordingly issued, Morgan arrested, judgment entered up against him by his consent,

execution thereon taken out and given to Holloway Hayward, then being a constable in Canandaigua.

*Holloway Hayward*, sworn.—The witness was a constable of the town of Canandaigua, in 1826. He received the warrant issued against Morgan on the charge of larceny; went to Batavia with five others, of whom Chesebro was one; arrested Morgan at that place; brought him before Mr. Chipman on Monday; was present during a part of his examination; received the execution against Morgan; arrested him by virtue of it; and committed him to the jail of Ontario County, between eight and nine o'clock in the evening of the eleventh of September.

*Mary W. Hall*, sworn.—She is the wife of the jailer. She was not at home when Morgan was committed; but came home on Tuesday, the twelfth of September, and found him in jail. Mr. Hall went out about dark on the evening of that day. A person came to the jail and inquired for Mr. Hall. She told him he had gone from home. The person then wished to go into Morgan's room, which she refused. He then asked permission to have a private conversation with Morgan, which was also refused. He then insisted on paying the debt for which he was imprisoned, and taking him away. This, too, was refused. The person then went in search of Mr. Hall, and soon returned without finding him, and again urged witness to permit him to pay the debt, and take Morgan away; to which she would not consent. He then asked her whether she would discharge him if Col. Sawyer would say it was right. Witness did not say she would or would not. The person went away, and soon came back with Col. Sawyer. Chesebro advised witness to let Morgan go. Lawson paid the amount for which Morgan was imprisoned, which was a little more than three dollars. Stranger went to the door and whistled. Witness unlocked the door of Morgan's room, and Lawson went in and led Morgan into the hall of the jail by the arm. After they went out of the door, and before it was shut, she heard the cry of "Murder!" She went to the door, and saw three men taking Morgan east. He was struggling; his hat fell

off, and one of them took it up. She saw no other person about the jail. An unknown person rapped on the well-curb, and a carriage soon passed by the jail from the west. It went east, and shortly returned, driven with great rapidity. This took place about nine in the evening of the twelfth of September. She has not seen Morgan since.

*Willis Turner*, sworn.—In September, 1826, witness lived with Mr. Freeman Atwater, in the street on which the jail is situated, a little west of it, and on the same side of the road. As he came out of Atwater's gate one evening, he met Chesebro and Sawyer going west. Saw Sawyer pick up a stick. They turned about and went to the west corner of the jail, and were there whispering together. Witness went to Mr. Hall's well, which is in the street, a little west of the jail, for water; and, as he was turning the water into his pail, he heard the cry of "Murder!" He saw three men coming down the jail steps with their arms locked. Heard the cry of "Murder!" once while they were coming down the steps, and twice after they had left them. Mrs. Hall was standing in the door. Some one, he believes Chesebro, stopped the mouth of the man who cried "Murder!" When they had gone a little distance from the steps, the middle man of the three appeared to hang back. His hat fell off, and a Mr. Osborn took it up and gave it to Sawyer. Asked Sawyer what the rumpus was, who replied that a man had been arrested for debt, and was unwilling to go. Saw Sawyer rap on the well-curb. Hubbard's carriage soon drove by rapidly to the east, with Hubbard driving. The horses were gray, and the curtains down. The carriage went a little beyond the pound, east of the jail, and turned about. A man was put in by four others, who then got in, and the carriage drove west and went around the corner of the tavern then kept by Mr. Kingsley. Witness followed the men as they went east, and was near the pound when they got into the carriage. It turned round before they got in. As the carriage was returning west, some one in it cried out, "Hubbard, why don't you drive faster? Damn you! why don't you drive faster?" Hubbard then cracked his

whip. He had seen Morgan, but did not know whether he was the man taken from the jail. Did not know those who came down the steps. The moon shone bright.

*Hiram Hubbard*, sworn.—In September, 1826, the witness kept a livery stable in Canandaigua. He was applied to by Mr. Chauncey H. Coe to take a party to Rochester on the twelfth of September, and was paid for it last summer or fall by Mr. Nicholas G. Chesebro. His was a yellow two-horse carriage. His horses were gray. They were at the barn near Mr. Kingsley's tavern, west of the jail. About the time he was ready, some person on the sidewalk, then and now unknown to the witness, told him to go on the Palmyra road when he was ready, for the party had gone on. This was the only direction he had as to setting out. He did not hear a rap on the well-curb. He started about nine o'clock in the evening. It was pleasant and the moon shone. No one was in the carriage when he left the barn. He went beyond the jail east fifty or sixty rods, and stopped opposite the long house. His party, supposed to be five in number, there opened the carriage and got in. He heard no noise. He presumed the people in the road were his party. He knew none of them then, nor where they came from, and has not known them since. He cannot say whether he saw them get into the carriage. He was not very particular in noticing them. After the party had got in, he turned round. On his way to Rochester, he first stopped at Brace's, six miles from Canandaigua, to water. The people had not gone to bed. Some of the company went in. He don't know but he saw them by candle-light. He don't know how many went in. He stopped again at Bacon's, in Victor, or at the house beyond. People had gone to bed. Stopped also at Mendon. Nobody was up. Did not feed his horses at either of these places. He stopped at Stone's, in Pittsford, long enough to water. The barkeeper was up, waiting the return of some young men belonging to the house. Don't remember whether any of his party got out beyond Brace's. He stopped in Rochester, at the large watering place in Main Street, ten or twelve minutes. It was just at

twilight. Some of the party got out here, but he don't know whether any went from the carriage. He saw no one of them that he knew, and has seen none since to recognize them. The party desired him to go on beyond Rochester. He consented to go. He took the Lewiston road. On arriving at Hanford's, which was then a tavern, one of the party got out. He called for feed for his horses, but got none. He went about eighty or one hundred rods beyond the house, and stopped near a piece of woods. It was not a usual stopping-place. The party got out before he turned his carriage. He thinks he must have seen them, but he saw no one that he knew, and has seen no one of them since. He don't know why he stopped at that place, but presumes his party told him to do so. Returning, he stopped at Hanford's and endeavored to get feed for his horses, but could not. He saw two or three carriages going out of Rochester when he did, which turned round and went back. One was a small carriage. Its color he cannot recollect. After he had turned round, he met a hack with two horses near the house. Thinks it was green. Did not see it stop, nor hear it hailed. Thinks it was not the hack he saw going out of Rochester. He heard nothing from his party about carriages coming from Rochester. Knows Mr. Platt, who kept a livery stable in Rochester, but not his carriages. No one returned in his carriage to Rochester, except two transient persons whom he took in on the road, neither of whom was known to him. An unknown man on horseback passed his carriage between Canandaigua and Rochester.

*Ezra Platt*, sworn.—In September, 1826, the witness kept a livery stable at Rochester. He is a Mason, and a member of a Chapter. A Lodge had previously been established at Lewiston. A Chapter was expected to be installed in that place, and the Rochester Chapter had been authorized to install it. It is usual for the Grand Chapter to issue to suitable persons a special commission for such a purpose. The first officers of a Chapter would be proper commissioners. After the fact of the Rochester Chapter having received a commission to install one at Lewiston had been for some time

known, and about ten days before the installation, the witness was asked if he could furnish carriages to take the commissioners to Lewiston ; and he said that he could, but advised that he should take the stage. He stated he could not go himself, by reason of ill health. About four or five o'clock in the morning of the day, or day but one, before the Lewiston installation, some person called at his front door, and said he wanted a carriage to go to Lewiston, and desired it might be sent to Ensworth's, where the company was. He then went away immediately. The witness called up his driver, whose name was Parker. The driver had been in witness's employ several months, but left him a month or two afterwards, on account of sore eyes. He don't know where he lives now. The carriage was sent soon after it was called for. The witness did not see it start. He had two carriages—one of a cinnamon color or yellow and the other green. He thinks the first was taken. The horses were black or of a brown bay color. They were gone several days. He supposed the carriage was for the commissioners, and had no intimation that Morgan was going in it. He did not see the person that called for the carriage, and has never been able to ascertain who he is. The only charge he made was on the paper in his wallet, in these words, "Grand Chapter pro tempore, to carriage to Lewiston." He supposed the carriage was for the Chapter, and expected some one, in its behalf, would pay him ; but he has never been paid, and has never asked any person to pay him. He has heard that some of the Chapter went in a steamboat to Lewiston. He knows Hiram Hubbard, but did not see him or a carriage with gray horses that day. He let to George Ketchum a carriage and horses to go to Batavia, the day before Morgan went to that place. If the installation was the fourteenth, his carriage must have gone the eleventh or twelfth. It was not engaged on Sunday evening, nor anything then said about it. Reuben Leonard kept tavern in Rochester at that time. Don't know that any persons were at Leonard's in relation to carriages to go to Lewiston. Was not there himself. He knows nothing of a carriage

and horses being employed, on the Friday evening previous, to go to Batavia.

*Harry Olmstead*, sworn.—He resided at Greece, near Hanford's Landing, in September, 1826. One morning of that month, just at daylight, he saw a carriage with a pair of gray horses in the road south of Hanford's. The horses were very sweaty, and appeared to be much fatigued. The curtains of the carriage were drawn. There were two men on the box. He did not know either of them. Does not know how far it went beyond Hanford's. About fifteen minutes afterwards he saw the carriage standing under Hanford's shed, opposite his house. About an hour after sunrise, he saw the same carriage come on the Ridge road, take the River road, and proceed towards Rochester. Its curtains were up, and five or six men in it. He was standing in the road. He saw no other carriage that morning coming from Rochester. The end of the Ridge road is a few rods from Hanford's house. A person passed on a brown mare, whom he has since ascertained to be Edward Doyle.

*Silas Walker*, sworn.—Witness lives on the River road, directly opposite the point where the Ridge road intersects it. On the morning of the twelfth of September, 1826, while talking with Mr. Olmstead, he saw a yellow carriage with gray horses pass by. When it returned, the curtains were up, and three, four, or five persons in it, one of whom he knew to be Burrage Smith. A person on Mr. Platt's brown mare was forward of the carriage. He saw no other carriage that morning, having been from home most of the time.

*Silas Walbridge*, sworn.—He lived, in 1826, in Clarkson, about fifteen miles from the River road. Near the time of the races, which commenced that year on the fourteenth day of September, he was applied to by a gentleman for a pair of horses to go before a hack, which he stated would arrive between eight and ten o'clock in the morning. The gentleman said he did not want a driver. Witness at first declined letting his horses go without a driver, but finally consented, harnessed his horses about eight o'clock, and tied them under his shed. The hack came along between eight

and nine o'clock; and, when it approached his house, the gentleman went along by the side of it and had some conversation with the driver, who soon drove on. He then said he did not want the horses. A person, since dead, told witness what was to take place, and, when the hack came in sight, pointed it out to him. The hack was of a dark color, and the horses, dark bay.

*Sarah Wilder*, sworn.—The witness lived, in September, 1826, with Capt. Isaac Allen, about five miles east from Clarkson. Allen does not keep tavern, and there are no houses near him. About the eleventh or twelfth of September, in that year, at ten or eleven o'clock in the forenoon, Mr. ——— came and inquired for Capt. Allen. Did not know where he was. Mr. ——— went hastily in pursuit of him, hallooed for him, soon found him, and returned after the hack. The hack came up before the house in about fifteen minutes. It was brown, and the horses were brown. The curtains were down and the day was very warm. Did not know the driver. Capt. Allen's horses were brought up, and Capt. Allen and Mr. ——— changed the horses. Those that came with the hack were put in Capt. Allen's barn. The hack went west, and Mr. ——— with it, and returned about an hour before sunset the next day. The curtains were up, and no one in it. Capt. Allen had gone to Clarkson, but had told witness where the horses that came with the hack the preceding day might be found. They were put to it again, and the hack returned to the east. Don't know who was with it when it returned.

*William Cooper*, sworn.—Witness lives in Clarkson. About the middle of September, 1826, coming from the west, he passed a carriage and two pair of horses, in the road about four miles west of Clarkson, and about one third of the distance from Capt. Allen's to Mr. Spencer's. It was between eleven and twelve o'clock in the forenoon. Does not recollect the day of the month, but it was near the time of the races that year. They were then training horses on the race grounds. He cannot say whether the horses were attached to the carriage or not; they appeared to be

changing them. A man on the box, whom he had never seen before, was holding the lines. One span of horses was Capt. Allen's; the other he did not know. The weather was very warm, and the curtains of the carriage were down. There were four or five men in a lot south of the Ridge road, conversing—two about fifteen rods from the carriage, the others nearer. Two of them were sitting, the others standing. Witness knew several of the men—Capt. Allen, Mr. Spencer, and Mr. ———. He afterwards thought that another's name was Augur, but is not positive of it. The carriage did not start while he saw it.

*Solomon C. Wright*, sworn.—He kept a public house in Niagara County in September, 1826. His house is on the north side of the Ridge road, at the point of its intersection by the Lockport road, six miles east of Col. Molineux's, and three and a half miles north of Lockport. In the month of September, in that year, on the day before the installation at Lewiston, just at night, a two-horse pleasure carriage or hack drove under his shed, and afterwards into his barn, which is a few rods farther from his house. The barn doors are usually shut. The feeding-troughs in the shed were broken down; and the carriage was driven into the barn, to feed the horses, and they ate from boxes placed before them on the floor where the carriage stood, in the farther end of the barn. Don't know whether they were taken from the carriage. The horses were not changed. Did not see those who came in the carriage get out or in. Don't know where they got out, nor how many there were. Did not know any of them or the driver. Has never seen the driver since. All who came in the carriage, including the driver, took supper at his house, and each paid his own bill to him. His bar-keeper was gone, and he tended bar. Was in the bar when they first came in, and saw them go through the bar-room to supper. The driver obtained food for the horses. Witness does not know that any persons came in the carriage. Did not see the door open. Don't know whether the curtains were down or not. Don't know that any one was in the carriage during supper. Saw no one go to the carriage dur-

ing supper, and did not go himself. He once went into the barn to find a servant while the carriage was there. Neither saw nor heard any person. Passed the shed in going to the barn. There were horses under it. It was dark when they finished supper. After supper, they proceeded west. Did not see them get into the carriage. His house, shed, and barn are on the same side of the road. The installation was talked of. Don't know how many went in the carriage. There were less in his house after the carriage had gone than before. Did not see it start. Nothing mysterious about it that attracted particular attention. There were persons at his house who did not come in the carriage. He did not know them or their business. Isaac Farewell came to witness's well to get water about the time the carriage came. Had no conversation with him. He has since moved to Canada. Witness knew Eli Bruce at that time. Did not see him at his house that evening. He knows Elisha Mather. Did not see him that night. He was at witness's house about that time. Thinks it was before. Saw him the next day, or next day but one. The next day a carriage passed his house from the west to the east. Don't know whether it stopped, nor whether it was the same that was at his house the preceding night. A hack stopped at his house the next day. It is usual for carriages to stop there.

*William Molineux*, sworn.—In September, 1826, witness lived in Fleming, Niagara County, on the Ridge road, at a point where it is intersected by the road from Lockport, a little more than twelve miles from Lewiston, six from Solomon C. Wright's, and six or seven from Lockport. On the night before, or the night after, the installation, about twelve o'clock, Eli Bruce, who then lived at Lockport, came to witness's house with two strangers. Bruce came upstairs where witness was in bed, and said some of his friends were going to Lewiston, and asked him for a change of horses. Bruce told witness that they should be used carefully. Witness called up his son, and, after consulting with him, concluded to let Bruce have his horses. Bruce and witness's son got up the horses. Does not know from what place the

carriage came, nor whether Bruce went on with it. One of Bruce's companions stayed over night at witness's house, and took care of the horses that were with the carriage, and helped change them when it returned. Does not know who drove. Bruce spoke of Brown as the driver. The horses returned the next morning a little before sunrise, in the charge of Brown. The carriage was large, and of a dark brown or black color. He saw no persons but Bruce and the two strangers that came with him. Can't say which road the carriage took in the morning, nor how many were in it. Did not see Bruce again till next winter. Brown said Bruce would pay for the horses. Witness has not been paid. Has an account with Bruce.

*Corydon Fox*, sworn.—In September, 1826, the witness lived at Lewiston with Mr. Barton, in the capacity of a stage driver. The night before, or night after, the installation, between ten and twelve o'clock, Mr. Barton called witness up, and told him to get his hack and horses ready to go to Youngstown. When he was ready, Bruce got on the box with him, and directed him to drive into a back street to a carriage which he found standing there, without any horses attached to it. He drove by the carriage in the back street. Some persons were standing near it. One or two got out of it, and, after they and Bruce had got in his hack, Bruce told him to drive to Col. King's, about six miles distant. He would have noticed violence, if there had been any, but he saw none. Saw nothing brought from the carriage in the road to his hack. On arriving at King's, he stopped, by direction of Bruce, who got out and called to King, who came down into the hall, where he and Bruce conversed together. While they were conversing, some one in the carriage asked for water, in a whining voice, to which Bruce answered, "You shall have some in a moment." King and Bruce then got in, and he drove to the burying-ground, about three-quarters of a mile from King's, and half a mile from the fort, where he stopped, by Bruce's direction. There were no houses near. The party, four in number, got out, and proceeded side by side towards the fort; and wit-

ness, by Bruce's orders, returned to Lewiston, where he arrived before daylight. The witness was often called up late at night, and frequently drove passengers whom he did not know ; but it is not usual to take up a party in the back street ; and he never before left a party at the burying-ground, which is not an ordinary stopping-place. The next day he saw Bruce at the Frontier House, in Lewiston. Knows not what became of the carriage in the road. Saw nothing unusual in the manner of getting in and out of his hack.

The witness was asked whether he was taken into the Lodge soon after this occurrence ; but the court said the question was improper, and it was not answered.

*Ebenezer Perry*, sworn.—Lives in Lewiston, on Back or Ridge Street. On the night following the thirteenth of September, 1826, after twelve o'clock, he saw a person harnessing a carriage at Barton's stable ; heard it start and went to the door. Saw a carriage coming, which went a little distance beyond another standing in the street without horses, and stopped. Two men were on the box. One of them he knew to be Corydon Fox, and the other he recognized at an examination at Lockport about two months afterwards, and ascertained to be Eli Bruce. Witness thought something strange was going on, and went into his garden near his house, where he had a view of what took place in the road. Saw a man go from the box of the carriage which had driven by, to the one standing in the street, and open the door. Some one got out backwards, by the assistance of two in the carriage. He had no hat, but a handkerchief, on his head, and appeared intoxicated and helpless. They went to Fox's carriage and got in. The man he supposed to be drunk was helped in. One went back and took something from the carriage they had left—he thinks a jug—returned, got in, they drove off, and he saw no more of them. Witness saw no person in the unharnessed carriage, the curtains being down. Said nothing about what he had seen for four or five months.

[The prosecution then called Edward Giddins, but the

defendants' counsel objected to his being sworn, because he had no religious belief whatever. After hearing the testimony respecting his religious opinions, and the arguments of counsel on both sides, the court unanimously decided that he was not a competent witness. The evidence in relation to Mr. Giddins is subjoined. It is not introduced in its order as given in court, because it has no direct bearing upon the main question.]

*Elisha Adams*, sworn.—He lived in Porter, Niagara County, in 1826, about two miles down the lake from the village of Youngstown. The troops left the fort in June, except one old soldier who died there soon after they had gone. About the middle of September, Giddins went to York. Was absent three or four days, and witness took charge of the ferry and his house during his absence. Giddins's house was on the flat below the fort, twenty or thirty rods distant from it. That part of the fort nearest to his house is the magazine, which forms part of the wall. There were ammunition, quartermaster's stores, etc., in the fort. He went away the day before Giddins came home. Was frequently at the fort in September. Giddins had charge of the fort and public property there. Don't know where the key of the magazine was while Giddins was absent. Supposed it was in the mess house, which is to the left of the magazine, as viewed from Giddins's house. Heard no one in the magazine while tending ferry. Don't know that any one was there. Heard, about the time of Giddins's return, of Morgan's having been brought there. Never heard so from either of the defendants. Don't know that food or drink was carried to the magazine while Giddins was absent. Was in it both before and since the troops left the fort. About the time the public property was sold, he was employed to put things in order at the fort. Witness went to Giddins's house, at his request, but at what time he cannot tell, and saw there Col. King. Dr. Maxwell and Obed Smith had nothing to do with them. Giddins said he had some work for him to do; showed it to him. Went home without doing it, having no tools with him.

*John Jackson*, sworn.—In the fall of 1826, he lived in Lockport. The night before the installation he stayed at Giddins's, his brother-in-law. Went to installation. Don't know whether Giddins went. Before going to the installation, he went with Giddins to the magazine. Twenty or thirty minutes previously to setting out, Giddins had a pistol. Requested witness to take it. He declined. Did not see Giddins lay it aside. Did not see it after they left the house. Giddins carried something with him. Don't know what. Witness approached within about two rods of the magazine. Giddins went up to the door. Don't know whether it was opened by Giddins or not. Something was said inside of the door. He heard a man's voice, not uncommonly loud, and supposed a man was in the magazine. Don't know what was said, nor whether he heard the voice before or after Giddins reached the door. Thought he had better be missing, and immediately retreated. Giddins soon followed him. Witness started in ten or twelve minutes for Lewiston. Giddins informed witness whose pistol it was that he showed him; but the defendants' counsel objected to his repeating what Giddins had told him. He never had any conversation with either of the defendants respecting their participation in the abduction of Morgan.

*William Hotchkiss*, sworn.—Three or four days after the installation, went to the fort to make inquiries respecting a man's being confined there. Found out nothing. Did not go to the magazine, nor did Giddins, while witness was there.

The testimony on the part of the people closed here.

Mr. Whiting stated that the bill against Turner and Darrow, two of the defendants, had been found on the testimony of Giddins alone, and that, he having been excluded, the prosecution had no evidence whatever against them.

Mr. Adams addressed the jury on behalf of Bruce, and Mr. Moseley for the people. The jury retired at nine o'clock on Friday evening, after receiving a charge from his honor Judge Howell; and, having been absent about three hours,

returned a verdict of guilty against Bruce, and not guilty in favor of Turner and Darrow.

The court suspended their judgment against Bruce, in order to take the advice of the Supreme Court on some important questions of law which were raised during the trial; but the decision and ruling by the Supreme Court were in Bruce's favor.

SHERIFF ELI BRUCE AND LOCKPORT LODGE, NO. 73.

Bruce was then sentenced. After his incarceration, Bruce returned, in 1831, to his home and family in Lockport, contented and happy, as he expressed himself. The brethren of Lockport placed the greatest reliance in the integrity of Sheriff Bruce. "Lockport Lodge, No. 73, continued its existence amidst all the opprobrium of the Anti-Masonic period. Here Sheriff Eli Bruce, 'the Masonic martyr,' and his deputy sheriff, H. B. Hopkins, the 'too-willing witness,' had their membership, with Solomon C. Wright, Turner, Darrow, Hogue, and others whose names appear in these pages. For the faith that was in them, the Masonic adherents, affiliated in No. 73, suffered much and cruel persecution. Established June 5, 1823, the Lodge was so popular that in the first two years ninety-two members were initiated, an average of four at each monthly meeting. William Morgan was more than once a visitor and assisted in the press of work. In laying the cap-stone of the celebrated canal locks at Lockport, Lodge No. 73 took the post of honor, as also in the reception in honor of Brother General Lafayette, in 1825. On January 13, 1860, a Council of Royal and Select Masters (Cryptic Masonry) was instituted at Lockport, under the title of Bruce Council, named, says the record, in honor and memory of the martyr, Eli Bruce, one of the victims of Anti-Masonry."

Eli Bruce, while in Canandaigua jail, studied medicine, and practiced it when he went back to Lockport, where he died in the afternoon of September 24, 1832, of cholera, under the effects of which he suffered for about two weeks.

## THE ONTARIO CASE.

The following are the affidavits and the address of Judge Throop, in the Ontario Oyer and Terminer, in the case of Nicholas G. Chesebro, Edward Sawyer, Loton Lawson, and John Sheldon *ads.* The People.

## ONTARIO OYER AND TERMINER.

NICHOLAS G. CHESEBRO, being duly sworn, deposes and saith, that, since the finding of the indictment in the above entitled cause, and in the course of last week, this deponent has been served with a *capias ad respondendum*, issued out of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, at the suit of William Morgan, for assault and battery and false imprisonment, to the damage to the said William Morgan of ten thousand dollars; and this deponent has been held to bail in virtue of said writ, and an allowance of bail thereon indorsed, for fifteen hundred dollars; that this deponent doth verily believe that the said *capias* was issued against this deponent, as the commencement of a suit by the said William Morgan against this deponent, for his private damages sustained by reason of the facts disclosed in the indictment in the above entitled cause; and this deponent further saith, that he saw the said William Morgan in the office of J. Chipman, Esq., a justice of the peace in the village of Canandaigua, on the evening of the eleventh of September last, during his examination before the said justice, and that he has not seen him since that time. This deponent knew that it was intended to release the said Morgan from jail; and was informed and verily believed that the said Morgan had consented to go away; and that the only object of this deponent in assisting to get said Morgan out of jail, was to keep him from falling into the hands, or under the influence of, one David C. Miller, of Batavia; that he, this deponent, had been informed, and believed, that said William Morgan was compiling a book on the subject of Masonry, at the instigation, or with the concurrence of, said Miller, who was to print the same,

with a view to pecuniary profit; in which book the said Morgan pretended to disclose secrets which he averred that he had most solemnly engaged never to reveal; that, deeming such publication calculated to degrade the institution of Masonry, and to bring disgrace on the members thereof, this deponent was desirous to remove the said Morgan to some place beyond the reach of said Miller, where his friends and acquaintance might endeavor to convince him of the impropriety of his conduct, and prevent the consequence before mentioned; that this deponent was not concerned, directly or indirectly, in using any force in the removal of the said Morgan from the said jail; that he has had no concern whatever in any transactions concerning the said Morgan since that time; that all he knows of said removal is, that he has been informed that the said Morgan was carried into the county of Monroe; and that this deponent does not know where said Morgan now is. And this deponent further saith, that he is somewhat in debt, has but little property, a family to provide for, and feels, in common with his fellow-citizens, the pressure of the times; and further saith not.

N. G. CHESEBRO.

Sworn this fifth day of January, 1827, before me,

RALPH LESTER, Clerk of Ontario County.

*Ontario County,* } EDWARD SAWYER, of Canandaigua, one  
*ss.* } of the above-named defendants, being  
 duly sworn, deposes and says, that he never to his knowledge saw William Morgan, mentioned in the indictment in this cause, until the evening of the eleventh day of September last past, when he saw him at the office of Jeffrey Chipman, Esq., in the village of Canandaigua, under examination on a complaint against him, as this deponent was informed, for larceny. And this deponent further says, that he had no knowledge or intimation, in any manner whatever, that any person or persons were to go for the said Morgan, or that they had gone for the said Morgan, to bring him to Canandaigua, until he was informed that he was at the office of the said Chipman on the said examination. And this

deponent further says, that he took no part, either directly or indirectly, in the said examination, or in any subsequent proceedings by which the said Morgan was committed, as this deponent has been informed, to the jail of Ontario County. And this deponent further says, that he had no knowledge or intimation of any design or intention to liberate or remove the said Morgan from the said jail in any manner whatever, until the evening of the twelfth day of September last, when Loton Lawson met this deponent in the street near the dwelling of this deponent, and informed this deponent that Morgan had agreed to go away with him, and that he was about to be discharged from the jail, and would voluntarily leave the place with the said Lawson. And some time after that, in the course of the same evening, the said Lawson called on this deponent and informed him that he had been to the jail, and that Mr. Hall, the jailer, was not at home; and that Mrs. Hall was not acquainted with him, Lawson, and was not willing to let Morgan go on his application; that he had asked her if she would discharge him provided this deponent would come to the jail and say it was proper; and that she said on that condition she would let him go. And the said Lawson requested this deponent to go to the jail for that purpose. And this deponent, believing the statement of the said Lawson to be true, did accompany him to the jail for the purpose above expressed, and for no other, and at the jail stated to Mrs. Hall that in his opinion there would be no harm in discharging Morgan, provided the debt for which he was committed was paid. And this deponent further says, that he verily believed that the said Morgan was voluntarily going away with Lawson. And this deponent had no knowledge or intimation of any design or intention on the part of any one to use any force or violence in carrying away Morgan; nor should this deponent have gone to the jail aforesaid except on the solicitation above mentioned. And this deponent further says, that when Morgan came to the outer door of the jail, and had descended the steps, to the great surprise of this deponent, he, Morgan, as appeared from his exclamations, made resistance, and was

taken down the street east from the jail; but what kind of resistance he made, or what force was used to compel him to go, this deponent does not know, for he was not near enough to Morgan at any time after he came out of the jail to see or know what was done to him. But this deponent, freely and without any reserve acknowledges that he was near enough to hear the noise, and might have interfered to endeavor to prevent any abuse of Morgan; and that he did follow at a distance of some rods behind Morgan and the persons with him, until the carriage came up, and he, Morgan, and the persons with him, got into the carriage. And this deponent then verily believed, and still does believe, that Morgan got into the carriage without any force whatever. And this deponent was at no time nearer than within several rods of Morgan on that evening, before he got into the carriage. And this deponent further says, that this omission to interfere and assist Morgan, was the first and only act or omission of this deponent in which he was conscious of having been guilty of any criminal or improper conduct, or participation in the matters contained in the indictment in this case. And this deponent says, that he was taken wholly by surprise, and had no time for reflection; that he did not expect, and had no reason to expect, any such occurrence; and he did sincerely and deeply regret that he had been guilty of any such improper conduct, as soon as he saw what had been done; and he still does with deep and unfeigned regret acknowledge and lament the part which he so took in said transaction. And this deponent further says, that at the time aforesaid he understood and believed that Morgan was voluntarily going away with Lawson to some place in this or the adjoining county, but to what place he did not know, for the purpose of being out of the reach and influence of David C. Miller, who, as this deponent was informed, was engaged with said Morgan in publishing a book, which, as this deponent considered, would be calculated to bring the institutions of Masonry into disrepute, by professing to reveal secrets which he was bound by solemn obligations not to disclose. And this deponent was desirous to prevent the publication of

such book, provided Morgan could be persuaded to keep out of the way of said Miller, and not to permit himself to be influenced by him or his friends; and it was with this view, and no other, that this deponent was desirous to have Morgan depart with Lawson. And this deponent further says, that he has never seen Morgan since he got into the carriage as aforesaid; nor does he know where he is at present; nor has he known anything of him since the time he so got into the carriage. And this deponent further says, that in going down the street, after Morgan and those with him had passed from the jail, he met a man who was, as he supposed, a Mr. Osborn, who asked this deponent what was the matter; to which this deponent replied, that a man had been released from jail, and he believed they had another *precept* for him, or words to that effect. And this deponent also picked up a hat which he found in the street there. And this deponent further says, that the foregoing is a true and impartial account of all the participation of this deponent in the matters contained in the said indictment and of the motives which influenced him in the same, according to the best of his knowledge and belief.

And this deponent further says, that an action of assault and battery and false imprisonment has been commenced in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, in the name of William Morgan, plaintiff, against this deponent. And this deponent has been arrested on a *capias* issued in the same, in which the damages are laid at ten thousand dollars, and on which this deponent is held to bail in the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, by order of Judge Birdsall.

And this deponent further says, that he has a family of four children, and is in moderate circumstances as to property; and the situation of his pecuniary affairs is such as to require his constant and unremitting attention to business to meet the engagements and responsibilities into which he has entered.

And this deponent further says, that he never knew, nor has he any reason to believe, that the said John Sheldon, the above-named defendant, had any part or concern what-

ever, either directly or indirectly, in any of the transactions above referred to. And this deponent has been well acquainted with the said John Sheldon for several years. And further this deponent says not.

EDWARD SAWYER.

Sworn and subscribed this sixth day of January, A. D. 1827, before me.

RALPH LESTER, Clerk of Ontario County.

*Ontario County,* } LOTON LAWSON, being duly sworn, says  
*ss.* } that he has no knowledge of any agency or participation by John Sheldon in the matter or acts charged in the foregoing entitled indictment; that he never had any conversation with him in relation thereto before the said Sheldon was arrested on the said charge; that he does not know, or believe, that said John Sheldon was at Batavia in the month of September last.

LOTON LAWSON.

Sworn this sixth day of January, 1827, before me.

JEFFREY CHIPMAN, Commissioner, etc.

#### THE SENTENCE.

The following is the address of Judge Throop, upon his sentencing the prisoners :

You have been convicted of a daring, wicked, and presumptuous crime—such an one as we did hope would not, in our day, have polluted this land. You have robbed the State of a citizen; a citizen of his liberty; a wife of her husband; and a family of helpless children of the endearments and protecting care of a parent. And whether the unfortunate victim of your rage has been immolated, or is in the land of the living, we are ignorant, and even you do not pretend to know. It is admitted in this case, and stands proved, that Morgan was, by a hypocritical pretense of friendship and charity—and that, too, in the imposing shape of pecuniary relief to a distressed and poverty bound prisoner—beguiled to intrust himself to one of your number, who seized him, as soon as a confederate arrived to his aid, almost at his prison door, and

in the night time hurried him into a carriage, and forcibly transported him out of the State. But, great as are the individual wrongs which you have inflicted on these helpless and wretched human beings, they are not the heaviest part of your crime. You have disturbed the public peace; you have dared to raise your parricidal arms against the laws and constitution of your government; you have assumed a power which is incompatible with a due subordination to the laws and public authority of your State. He was a citizen, under the protection of our laws; you were citizens and owed obedience to them. What hardihood and wickedness then prompted you to steel your hearts against the claims of humanity, and to dare set at defiance those laws to which you owed submission, and which cannot suffer a citizen's liberty to be restrained with impunity, without violating its duties of protection assured to every individual under the social compact? Will you plead ignorance? Some of you, at least, have had the advantage of education and moral instruction, and hold respectable and responsible stations in society; and all of you have learned what every schoolboy in this happy land, this free and intelligent community, knows: that the unrestrained enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, is guaranteed to every individual living obediently under our laws. Our constitution shows it; and the declaration of our independence declares, that the unmolested enjoyment of liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, are the unalienable rights of man. So sacred do we hold personal liberty, that even the impressment of a seaman from one of our ships has been considered a sufficient cause for national war; man here is not like man in other countries, a submissive vassal, but every citizen is a sovereign; and I am happy to say that here he possesses that intelligence and high sense of feeling which befit his elevated station. Our laws will resent such attacks as you have made upon their sovereignty. Your conduct has created, in the people of this section of the country, a strong feeling of virtuous indignation. The court rejoices to witness it—and to be made sure that a citizen's person cannot be invaded by lawless violence, without its

being felt by every individual in the community. It is a blessed spirit, and we do hope that it will not subside; that it will be accompanied by a ceaseless vigilance and untiring activity, until every actor in this profligate conspiracy is hunted from his hiding-place, and brought before the tribunals of the country to receive the punishment merited by his crime. We think that we see in this public sensation the spirit which brought us into existence as a nation, and a pledge that our rights and liberties are destined to endure. But this is not all: your offense was not the result of passion suddenly excited, nor the deed of one individual. It was preconcerted, deliberated upon, and carried into effect, by the dictates of the secret councils and conclave of many actors. It takes its deepest hues of guilt from a conspiracy—a crime most dreaded from the depravity of heart it evinces, the power for unlawful purposes which it combines, and from its ability to defy the power of the law, and ultimate danger to the public peace. Hence it is that the crime is considered full, when the wicked purpose is proved to have been formed; and the subsequent carrying into effect the object of the conspiracy, does not in the eye of the law elevate the degree of the crime.

The legislature have not seen fit, perhaps, from the supposed improbability that the crime would be attempted, to make your offense a felony. Its grade and punishment have been left to the provisions of the common law, which treats it as a misdemeanor, and punishes it with fine and imprisonment in the common jail. The court are of opinion that your liberty ought to be made to answer for the liberty of Morgan; his person was restrained by force; and the court, in the exercise of its lawful powers, ought not to be more tender of your liberty, than you, in the plenitude of lawless force, were of his.

With regard to you, *Lawson*—It appeared, in proof, that you were an active agent in this affair; you went forward and took this man from the jail, and delivered him over to those who stood waiting with a carriage to receive him. Whether you accompanied that carriage or not, is not in proof. But in

your excusatory affidavit you say nothing about it, leaving it to fair inference that you did accompany him in that carriage. There is nothing, either in your affidavit, or your proof to the court, which does much to mitigate your offense, except so far as they show that your poverty has not been accompanied by idleness, and your character has not been stained by other transgressions. Under all the circumstances of your case, the court feel it their duty to sentence you to two years imprisonment in the common jail of this county.

As to you, *Chesebro*—It appears, by your affidavit, that you did not lay your hands upon this man, to carry into effect the conspiracy; and it appears by unquestionable proof that you did not leave this village with the carriage. But you admit, at least tacitly, in your affidavit, that you were one of the conspirators; and your language to the jailer, when he called upon you the next day to account for your conduct, and warned you that the public would demand an explanation, showed an unsubdued spirit. It has been satisfactorily proved to us that you are a thriving mechanic—that you have a respectable standing in the community; and up to the period of this transaction, your character for industry, honesty, quiet and moral deportment, was without reproach. Under the circumstances of your case, the court sentence you to one year imprisonment in the common jail of this county.

As to you, *Sawyer*—Your affidavit, which, from the uniform good character you have proved, we fully believe to be true, states that you had no knowledge of this conspiracy, and took no active part in it. But your accompanying Lawson, at his request, to the jail, to inform the jailer's wife that she would be safe in receiving the amount of Morgan's debt from Lawson and letting him go, with the other circumstances, were sufficient to have convicted you, if you had stood trial; and you acted wisely in pleading guilty. You state that you had no idea that he was under restraint, until you saw him enter the carriage, a short distance from you, and you did not suspect that he was forced into it, until, in the progress of your walk, you picked up his hat; that you

were then surprised and confounded, and did not therefore give the alarm; but you spent the rest of the evening at a public house, and gave no intimation of what you had seen. This, then, was your offense: You should have given the alarm; you should have raised the hue and cry, and endeavored to effect a rescue. You, however, expressed in your affidavit, and have always evinced, a feeling of remorse. The court, therefore, sentence you to one month imprisonment in the common jail of this county.

As to you, *Sheldon*—You denied any participation in the conspiracy, and put yourself upon trial. As to all the acts proved against you, there was mystery; and I doubt whether you were the man. You were at the time confined on the limits of the jail—you were most strongly identified in an appearance at Batavia; and although your proof of an *alibi* was not complete, there was much in it to shake our faith in the fact that you were the mysterious stranger whom the witness saw. Your confessions of guilt, however, were clear and indisputable, and fully warranted the verdict; and the only explanation of them you offered was the ungracious one, that your confessions were the vain-glorious boastings of a drunkard and a liar. Taking all things into consideration, the court have adjudged you to three months imprisonment in the common jail of the county.

## DESCRIPTION OF FORT NIAGARA.

An affidavit of Edward Giddins in relation to the condition of Fort Niagara in September, 1826, is worthy of preservation; as well as the solemn denial of Sir Edward McBride that he was in any wise connected with the Morgan excitement.

*Niagara County,* } EDWARD GIDDINS, of the county afore-  
*ss.* } said, being duly sworn, saith, that he has  
 resided at Fort Niagara from the year eighteen hundred  
 and fifteen till the present time, with the exception of about  
 eight months. That from the year sixteen to the year

twenty, this deponent had charge of the building, called the magazine, the greater part of the time. That when the United States troops left the fort in the month of May last, this deponent again took charge of the building, and continued so in charge until about the first of August, when he gave up the keys to Col. E. Jewett, who yet retains the care of it. This building stands on the southerly side of the fort—is built of stone, about the height of a common two-story building, and measures about fifty by thirty feet on the ground—is arched over—the side and end walls are about four feet thick—the wall over the top is about eight feet thick, and is considered bomb proof—covered with a shingle roof. There is but one door, around which there is a small entry, to which there is a door also. There are no windows or apertures in the walls, except a small ventilator for the admission of air, and one small window in each end about ten feet from the ground—they are usually kept closed, and locked on the outside with a padlock—these shutters are made of plank, covered with sheet-iron—the floor is laid with plank, pinned to the sleepers with wooden pins. That at the time certain persons were at the fort in January last, Col. Jewett being unwell, this deponent was requested to visit the magazine, which they wished to examine. That on entering and examining the said building, one of the floor planks, supposed to be one and a half inches thick, was observed by some of the committee to have been newly broken, directly on one of the sleepers, and about six feet from one end; and this deponent was inquired of by some of the committee how that plank became broken. This deponent told them he did not know: farther, he has now no recollection of its being broken when he gave up the keys, and believes it was not. This deponent has also been inquired of whether a loose door, which the committee saw in the building belonged there, or was there, when he gave up possession; to which this deponent answered that it did not belong to the building, nor did he recollect of its being there at the time he surrendered the key. Farther, whether it has been usual to admit any liquid within the building; to

which this deponent answered that he never admitted any while he had charge, nor was it usual, so far as his knowledge extends; and he should suppose it one of the last things to be admitted to such a place. The chief aim ought to be to keep it dry; the utmost care has always been taken, and the key of the building only intrusted with particular persons. On entering the building it has been usual to remove or leave the shoes at the door, or else draw on woolen socks over them. There is, nearly in the middle of the floor, frame pieces upon which to lay fixed ammunition. The usual arrangement of the boxes, kegs, etc., containing powder, is to place them round the building on the floor, so far distant from the wall as to prevent them contracting dampness, say from one to two feet, unless empty, when they are set next the wall.

EDWARD GIDDINS.

Subscribed and sworn to, at Porter, in the county of Niagara, the nineteenth day of March, 1827, before me.

A. G. HINMAN.

SIR EDWARD M'BRIDE'S DENIAL.

NIAGARA, U. C., March 3, 1827.

GENTLEMEN: On my return from my parliamentary duties at York, I observed in the *Albany Observer* a letter dated "Lewiston, N. Y., January 12, 1827," in which I perceived some indirect allusions to the name of "M\*\*\*\*\*, a member of Parliament," to whose house, it is stated, a William Morgan, of Batavia, was brought, "blindfolded and tied."

Now, gentlemen, I beg leave to declare through the medium of your paper, to your readers, and to the world at large, that no such occurrence ever took place—that neither on the night of the fourteenth of September, 1826, nor at any other time, was Morgan in my house to my knowledge. And I further declare the said Morgan is to me an utter stranger, except as to report; and I never exchanged a word with the man in my life, and would not know him from the greatest stranger in existence.

In justice to my own reputation, as well as to that of my family and friends, I hereby most solemnly assert the whole statement to be utterly false and unfounded. And further, that I never conversed with the brother of S\*\*\*\*\* (Stocking), of Buffalo, on the affair of Morgan, as to his abduction, till after the appearance of the letters alluded to in that paper, when I called on him for that purpose; and he then most explicitly declared that he had never given me as his author to Dr. \*\*\*\*\*, and admitted that I never had the slightest conversation with him on the subject previous. I could add to the foregoing declarations and assertions, my own affidavit, if necessary, as well as that of my family, consisting of three persons, and a worthy and respectable gentleman and lady who slept that night at my house. I cannot refrain from expressing my belief, before I close this letter, that *malice, envy, and foul revenge*, are at the bottom of the heart of him, whoever he may be, that would thus villainously attempt to assassinate the character of any man in society. I mean to cast no reflection on the characters of the gentlemen who formed the committee of vigilance, but on him to whom it justly belongs. *And from declarations made even on the BED OF DEATH, that he, the Dr. \*\*\*\*\*, would be revenged of me, for assisting to destroy a den of rogues and coiners, with whom he was implicated, has been his only inducement thus to do.*

As, gentlemen, I am the only member of Parliament residing in Niagara whose name commences with the letter M, I have come to the conclusion that I am particularly referred to; and beg you will insert in your paper this refutation of the infamous and foul charges.

I am, with respect, your obedient servant,

EDW. McBRIDE, M. P. P.

De Witt Clinton, the Governor of the State and Past Grand Master of Masons, issued three proclamations in reference to the disappearance of William Morgan, promising both pardon and considerable money to those who would

successfully produce Morgan or give positive information as to his whereabouts.

## FIRST PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR.

.....  
 L. S.      DE WITT CLINTON, Governor of the State of  
 .....  
 New York, to State officers and ministers of  
 justice in the said State, and particularly in  
 the county of Genesee and the neighboring  
 counties: *Greeting.*

WHEREAS information, under oath, has been transmitted to me by Theodore F. Talbot, Esq., and other citizens of the county of Genesee, acting as a committee in behalf of the people of that county, representing that divers outrages and oppressions have been committed on the rights of persons residing in the village of Batavia; and that disturbances have ensued which are injurious, and may prove destructive to peace and good order in that quarter:—Now, therefore, I enjoin it upon you, and each of you, to pursue all proper and efficient measures for the apprehension of the offenders and the prevention of future outrages. And I do also request the good citizens of this State to co-operate with the civil authorities in maintaining the ascendancy of law and good order.

## SECOND PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR.

WHEREAS, it has been represented to me that *William Morgan*, who was unlawfully conveyed from the jail of the county of Ontario some time in the month of September last, has not been found; and that it might have a beneficial effect in restoring him to his family, and in promoting the detection and punishment of the perpetrators of this violent outrage, if, in addition to the proceedings heretofore adopted by me, a proclamation was issued offering a specific reward for these purposes:—*Now, therefore*, in order that the offenders may be brought to condign punishment, and the violated majesty of the laws thereby effectually vindicated, I do hereby offer, in addition to the assurances of compensation

heretofore given, a reward of *three hundred dollars* for the discovery of the offenders, and a reward of *one hundred dollars* for the discovery of any and every one of them—to be paid on conviction; and also a further reward of *two hundred dollars* for authentic information of the place where the said William Morgan has been conveyed. And I do enjoin it upon all sheriffs, magistrates, and other officers and ministers of justice to be vigilant and active in the discharge of their duties on this occasion.

.....  
 L. S.        In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my  
 ..... hand and the privy seal, at the city of Albany,  
 ..... this 26th day of October, Anno Domini 1826.  
 DE WITT CLINTON.

#### THIRD PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR.

WHEREAS, the measures adopted for the discovery of *William Morgan*, after his unlawful abduction from Canandaigua in September last, have not been attended with success; and whereas many of the good citizens of this State are under an impression, from the lapse of time and other circumstances, that he has been murdered:—*Now, therefore*, to the end that, if living, he may be restored to his family; and if murdered, that the perpetrators may be brought to condign punishment, I have thought fit to issue this proclamation, promising a reward of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS for the discovery of the said William Morgan, if alive; and, if murdered, a reward of TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS for the discovery of the offender or offenders; to be paid on conviction, and on the certificate of the attorney-general, or officer prosecuting on the part of the State, that the person or persons claiming the said last mentioned reward is or are justly entitled to the same, under this proclamation. And I further promise a free pardon, so far as I am authorized under the constitution of this State, to any accomplice or co-operator who shall make a full discovery of the offender or offenders. And I do enjoin it upon all officers and ministers of justice, and all other persons, to be vigilant and active in bringing to justice

the perpetrators of a crime so abhorrent to humanity, and so derogatory to the ascendancy of law and good order.

.....  
 L. S.  
 .....

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the privy seal, at the city of Albany, this 19th day of March, Anno Domini 1827.

DE WIRT CLINTON.

Two works of considerable volume were the outcome of the Anti-Masonic war: one, the "Letters and Addresses on Freemasonry," by John Quincy Adams, 1831-33. The letters being addressed to Edward Ingersoll, Richard Rush, Levi Lincoln, William H. Seward, and William L. Stone, pp. 385. The other, "Letters on Masonry and Anti-Masonry," addressed to the Hon. John Quincy Adams, by William L. Stone, 1832, pp. 566.

#### A POLITICAL PHASE.

Nineteen Anti-Masonic Conventions met in New York State; the most important of which were held, January 13, at Seneca; January 25, at Lewiston; February 19, March 6, July 4, at Le Roy; August 4, at Utica, in the year 1827.

The highest Anti-Masonic vote was polled in 1830, and amounted to 106,081. Although, in 1833, it was announced that a poll of 340,800 votes could be cast in the United States. William Slade was elected Governor of Vermont as an Anti-Mason. In the Electoral College of that State, in 1832, the Anti-Masonic nominees for President and Vice-President, viz., Wirt and Ellmaker, received the votes of Vermont. Politically the State stood alone, "a beacon of darkness."

#### A ROMANTIC LIFE.

Miss Lucinda Pendleton was born about 1803, and at the early age of sixteen her marriage to William Morgan, by a runaway match, so displeased her reverend father that he never forgave her, and in all her bitterness in life, never offered her comfort or sympathy. What finally became of her two children, the one born in 1824, and the other in

1826, has passed from the general knowledge of men. Some time after the disappearance of her husband, that is to say, November 23, 1830, Mr. George W. Harris was married to the widow by the Hon. Simeon Cummings, in Batavia. Mr. Harris was a Mason. Twenty-six years thereafter the couple went West. A publication in the *Bugle* of Council Bluffs, Iowa, March 12, 1856, informs the public, that in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of Pottawattomie County, of that State, there was on file, the petition of George W. Harris claiming a divorce, and charging willful desertion by his wife for more than three years, and that if no answer should be made by April 7, 1856, the matter contained in the complaint would then be taken as confessed and divorce demanded.

In time Mrs. Harris joined the Sisters of Charity, and when the civil struggle for disunion of 1861-5 commenced, she acted in that capacity in the hospitals at Memphis, Tennessee. Further, her history is not public.

“THE SHOT THAT WAS TO BE HEARD AROUND THE WORLD.”

The denunciations of the Fraternity by the press and the people resulted in the withdrawal of large numbers from the Masonic Brotherhood, who became known as “Seceding Masons.” It also became popular for the time being, in the western section of the State, to be known in that capacity. About eighteen months after the abduction of William Morgan, conventions of these Seceding Masons were held at the town of Le Roy. The first prominent one assembled on February 19, 1827; it was called a

CONVENTION OF FREE MASONS OPPOSED TO SECRET SOCIETIES.

It was organized at one o'clock in the afternoon, and was largely under the control of Baptists. Elder David Bernard, of Warsaw, offered prayer; Leonard B. Rose, of Castile, presided; the Rev. James Cochrane, of Batavia, delivered an address. The object of the meeting having been stated, it

was agreed that the principles and obligations of Freemasonry be freely discussed. Messrs. S. D. Green of Batavia, H. A. Read of Le Roy, and J. Haskall, Esq., attacked the Fraternity as being in no wise ancient, moral, or benevolent, and as opposed to Christianity; and furthermore that the obligations were subversive of good government and of the principles of justice and order.

“ Wednesday, Feb. 20, 1827.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

In the absence of Rose and Bernard, Solomon Southwick, of Albany, was unanimously chosen chairman. Mr. Richard Hollister was appointed secretary.

The chairman addressed the meeting thus :

GENTLEMEN : I make a proposition, which is demanded by what we owe to the character of our country, and the cause in which we are engaged. If it be true, as has been stated, that William Morgan was incarcerated in the magazine of the fortress of Niagara, it was a prostitution of that bulwark of our freedom and independence unparalleled in the history of our country, or in that of any other country pretending to the possession of civil liberty. If done, it must have been done by or through the tacit permission or direct agency of the person or persons having charge of that fortress, as servants of the people of these United States; and hence both the government and people owe it to their own dignity of character and the cause of civil liberty, to discharge the guilty from their service, if true; or to wipe off, both from the accused and themselves, the foul stain, if the report be false. For myself I know nothing of the facts; but I have seen them stated under sanction of such names as command my full confidence. I allude to what is called the Lewiston Convention; authors of which, though greatly abused, I believe to have been actuated by the purest of motives, and to deserve the gratitude of their country. They have made the report on testimony satisfactory to themselves; and it is now due to the character of our country and its government,

that the charge be investigated by those whose (if not exclusive) province it was in the first place.

The chairman then moved the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to draft a memorial to Congress, on the subject of the prostitution of the fortress of Niagara to the incarceration of William Morgan, a free citizen of the United States, by persons calling themselves Free Masons, and without any legal authority for such a violence and coercion.

*Resolved*, That Solomon Southwick, James Ballard, John Haskall, Herbert A. Read, Anthony Cooley, W. W. Phelps, and Edward Badger, compose said committee; and that they sign the memorial in behalf of this convention. On motion,

*Resolved*, That a committee of fifteen be appointed to prepare the degrees of Freemasonry above that of Master, for publication; and Elder David Bernard, Elder John G. Stearns, Solomon Southwick, Rev. Reuben Sanborn, David C. Miller, John Haskall, Herbert A. Read, Richard Hollister, Samuel D. Green, Oliver Forward, Edward Giddins, Judge Himman (of Pike, Alleghany County), William Perry, and W. W. Phelps (of the State of Vermont), compose the said committee. On motion,

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to draft a circular invitation to all Free Masons who are opposed to the institution of Masonry, and to secret associations in general in the United States, to meet at this place on the 4th of July next; that they prepare an address to be delivered on the occasion; and that Solomon Southwick, John Haskall, John Tomlinson, Herbert A. Read, David C. Miller, W. W. Phelps, and A. P. Haskall, compose said committee.

*Resolved*, That the editors of the following papers be, and they are hereby requested to publish the proceedings of this convention, to wit—*Republican Advocate*, *Western Advertiser*, *Buffalo Patriot*, *Jamestown Journal*, *Western Star*, *Le Roy Gazette*, *Livingston Register*, *Anti-Masonic Inquirer*,

Seneca *Farmer*, *Lake Light*, *Cazenovia Monitor*, *National Observer*, *Sandy Hill Sun*, *Palladium of Liberty*, *New Jersey Union Telegraph*, *Indiana and Jefferson Whig*, *National Intelligencer*, and *Georgetown Columbian*, and all others who are willing to give the public information upon this subject.

S. SOUTHWICK, Chairman.

RICHARD HOLLISTER, Secretary."

ANTI-MASONIC CONVENTION OF THE TWELVE WESTERN COUNTIES  
OF N. Y., HELD AT LE ROY, MARCH 6TH AND 7TH, 1827.  
1828

At a convention of delegates from twelve counties, at the village of Le Roy, on the 6th of March, General William Wadsworth, of the county of Livingston, was appointed president, and Dr. Matthew Brown, jr., of the county of Monroe, and the Hon. Robert Fleming, of the county of Niagara, appointed secretaries.

The president took the chair, and the following delegates presented credentials and took their seats:

*From the county of Chautauqua*.—Joseph White, jr., Abner Hazeltine.

*Erie*.—Thomas C. Love, H. Rutgers Stagg, Millard Filmore, Henry E. Davies, Calvin Bishop, Benjamin O. Bivens, Aaron Parker.

*Niagara*.—George H. Boughton, Bates Cook, Robert Fleming, Asher Saxton, Asher Freeman.

*Genesee*.—Samuel Warner, Amos Tyrell, Calvin P. Bayley, Timothy Fitch, Andrew Dibble, David C. Miller, Edmund Barnes, Luther A. Baker, John Haskall, Shubael Dunham, Daniel Woodward, Chauncey P. Smith, Martin C. Coe, George W. Lay, Moses Taggart, Harvey Putnam, James Lathrop, Leverett Seward, Amos W. Muzzy.

*Orleans*.—Benjamin W. Van Dyke, Chauncey Robinson.

*Monroe*.—Matthew Brown, jr., William Groves, John G. Crandall, Zolved Stephens, William B. Brown, Simeon M. Coe, Joseph Randall, William Garbutt, Joshua Howell, Thomas Bingham, Milton Sheldon, Frederick Whittlesey, James K. Livingston, Thurlow Weed.

*Livingston.*—William Wadsworth, Andrew Arnold, Halloway Long, Tabor Ward, S. M. Smith, Levi Sadler.

*Wayne.*—Israel J. Richardson, Robert Luze, Henry S. Gilbert, William P. Richardson, Loammi Beadle, Charles S. Williams.

*Ontario.*—James Watson, J. Mason, Elisha Peck, Isaac Lapham, Oliver Heartwell, John Crandal.

*Yates.*—Alexander Parkman.

*Seneca.*—William Child, Aaron Davis, William Thompson, Charles Starret, Allyn Boardman, Elnathan Winans, Jacob B. Farr, John Goltry.

*Tompkins.*—H. Jerome, Jonathan Owen.

The objects of the meeting being explained by T. Fitch, it was, on motion of a Mr. Love, of Buffalo, resolved that a committee of one from each county represented, be appointed to digest and report to the convention proper questions for its deliberations; and the following persons were appointed said committee:—Messrs. Hazeltine, Love, Cook, Fitch, Van Dyke, Whittlesey, Ward, W. P. Richardson, Heartwell, Parkman, Child, and Jerome.

The committee appointed to report the subjects that ought to claim the consideration of this convention, reported:

That it is expedient to present an address from this convention to the people of the State of New York, expressive of the views of this convention upon the subject of Freemasonry; and that a committee of five be appointed to draft the same.

That it is expedient that resolutions be adopted by this convention, expressive of their views; and that a committee of five be appointed to draft the same.

That it is expedient to present a memorial to Congress upon the subject of the incarceration of a citizen in a fortress of the United States, praying for an inquiry into the same.

That it is expedient to appoint a General Central Committee.

That it is expedient to raise means for the publication and dissemination of light and truth, relating to the character and principles of Freemasonry.

That it is expedient that this convention recommend a State Convention to be held at a suitable time and place, for the purpose of adopting more general and efficient means for the destruction of the Masonic institution.

The report was accepted, and the following committees appointed to carry its recommendations into effect :

*Committee to draft an Address to the People of this State.*—Bates Cook, Thurlow Weed, William Thompson, Timothy Fitch, Horace Jerome.

*To draft Resolutions.*—Frederick Whittlesey, George W. Lay, A. Hazeltine, I. J. Richardson, Jonathan Mason.

*To draft a Memorial to the Legislature.*—Thomas C. Love, B. W. Van Dyke, John Haskall, Oliver Heartwell.

*To draft a Memorial to Congress.*—James K. Livingston, William Groves, Joseph White, jr., Edmund Barnes.

Mr. Whittlesey, from the committee to draft resolutions, reported the following, which were unanimously adopted :

#### THE ANTI-MASONIC RESOLUTIONS.

*Resolved*, That it is a peculiar feature of our free government, that all measures should be open and amenable to public opinion : and that the existence of any society in this country, whose objects, principles, and measures are secret and concealed, is not merely useless, but hostile to the spirit of our free institutions.

*Resolved*, That the bare existence of secret societies in these United States, justifies fears, jealousies, and suspicions as to their objects in the breasts of the uninitiated, which have a tendency to distract society and sow ill-will and dissensions in the community.

*Resolved*, That the disclosures which have been made of the principles and obligations of speculative Freemasonry, prove it to be an institution of dangerous tendency, liable to be used by the ambitious and designing as an engine for exalting unworthy men and effecting improper measures, placing the citizen in a situation in which his duty to his country must in many instances conflict with his obligations

to the Fraternity ; and weakening the sanctions of morality and religion by the multiplication of profane oaths and an irreverent familiarity with religious forms and sacred things.

*Resolved*, That we discover in the ceremonies and obligations of the higher degrees of Masonry, principles which deluged France in blood, and which tend directly to the subversion of all religion and government.

*Resolved*, That the obligation in one of the degrees of Freemasonry to protect a brother, 'right or wrong,' and to preserve his secrets inviolate, even in cases of murder and treason, has a tendency to unnerve the arm of justice, and to afford protection to the vicious and profligate from the punishment due to their crimes.

*Resolved*, That the tendency of such obligations is to weaken the sanction of virtue in the minds of the recipients, by making bad men bold and unblushing to trust the history of their crimes to the ears of a brother, and thus making them familiar with iniquity, to the destruction of all correct moral principles.

*Resolved*, That we view the impious personification of the Deity and the irreverent introduction of the name of our blessed Saviour and the Holy Trinity in Masonic meetings and ceremonies, with mingled pain and abhorrence ; and that we regard the unhallowed substitution of the profane orgies of Freemasonry for the Christian religion as fraught with more danger to the peace of society and the truths of revelation than open Deism or avowed infidelity.

*Resolved*, That the outrages upon the liberty of one citizen, and upon the liberty and life of another, committed by Masons in these western counties, afford horrible proof of the sanguinary nature of Masonic oaths.

*Resolved*, That the widespread conspiracies of numerous Masons to plot these outrages, their attempts to stifle investigation after they had been committed, and to screen the actual offenders from the justice due their crimes, sufficiently identifies the institution with these enormities, and justifies us in holding it and its supporters responsible for the same.

*Resolved*, That an institution whose rites are impious,

whose obligations are blasphemous, and, if observed in the spirit of their horrid import, must necessarily lead to perjury and murder ; an institution, in one instance, at least, stained with the blood of one of its members, by a crime which has in an unequivocal manner received the sanction of the order—is unworthy to exist in a free government ; and that we pledge ourselves to each other and to the world, that we will use all lawful and constitutional means to banish entirely from our country that bloody relic of barbarism.

*Resolved*, That those Masons who have disclosed the horrid obligations which bind the Fraternity together deserve the warmest gratitude of their fellow-citizens ; and that we will do everything in our power to sustain them against those persecutions which the nature of those obligations and the vindictive character of the institution teach us to fear will be their lot.

*Resolved*, That this convention is satisfied, from the evidence adduced before it, of the substantial truths of the Masonic obligations recently published ; and that the same be published to the world in connection with the proceedings of this convention.

*Resolved*, That we regard the public press as the sentinel of freedom, and cannot but lament its entire subjugation throughout the Union to the control of Freemasonry.

*Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend to the citizens of the several counties of this State to procure the establishment of free presses, whose editors will fearlessly vindicate the rights of its citizens and laws of the land.

*Resolved*, That a State convention, to be composed of delegates from the several counties of the State of New York, equal to double the number of their representatives in the Assembly, be called to meet at the village of Utica, on the fourth day of August next, to take measures for the destruction of the Masonic institution ; for sustaining the liberty of the press, and asserting the supremacy of the laws ; for protecting the rights and privileges of the citizens against the vindictive persecutions of members of the Masonic society ; and to take into consideration such other business

as the said convention shall deem expedient, in furtherance of such objects ; and that it be, and is hereby, recommended to the different counties in this State to send delegates to the same.

*Resolved,* That a General Central Committee, consisting of five members, be appointed by this convention ; and that it be, and is hereby, recommended to the different counties to appoint Committees of Correspondence, and report their names to the General Central Committee at Rochester.

*Resolved,* That the several towns in the county that have not already done so, be requested to appoint town Committees of Correspondence, and forward their names to the Central Corresponding Committee.

*Resolved,* That it be, and is hereby, recommended to the several counties to raise funds for defraying the expenses of publishing the proceedings of this convention and such other publications as the General Central Committee may think proper to make, and to defray the expenses heretofore incurred by the different committees in the investigation of the late outrages ; and that such funds be transmitted to the General Central Committee.

*Resolved,* That the proceedings of this convention be signed by the chairman and secretaries ; and that five thousand copies be published in pamphlet form for distribution, under the direction of a General Central Committee.

*Resolved,* That Samuel Works, Harvey Ely, Frederick F. Backus, Frederick Whittlesey, and Thurlow Weed, of the village of Rochester, be appointed a General Central Committee of Correspondence and Publication.”

Mr. Davies, from the Committee to whom was referred the subject of the charges made by Masons against the Morgan Committee, made the following report, which was adopted :

“ *Whereas,* Reports of the most malignant and scandalous nature have been circulated by the Masonic Fraternity, in relation to the members of the several committees commonly denominated the Lewiston Committee, charging them

with having misrepresented facts in their possession, and with having, from sinister views, created an unjust excitement ;

And *whereas*, This convention has had adduced to them the most satisfactory and conclusive evidence that the said Committee has fairly and impartially conducted all its inquiries ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Lewiston Committee is entitled to the thanks of this convention for its patriotic and praiseworthy exertions in exposing to the world the extensive Masonic conspiracy formed in this country, which seemed to threaten the civil liberty of this nation ; and that it merits, and we trust will receive, the countenance and gratitude of every well-wisher to the perpetuity of our free institutions.

*Resolved*, That all the newspapers in the Union, friendly to the cause of civil liberty, be requested to publish these proceedings.”

The Committee to draft a memorial to the Legislature on the subject of unlawful oaths made a report, which was read and adopted by the convention.

The Committee appointed to draft a memorial to Congress reported the same, which was read and adopted.

The Committee appointed for that purpose reported an address to the people of the State, which was read and adopted.

#### THE ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

was remarkable, and is said to have been written by General William Wadsworth. The long address closed with statements and sentiments that surprised the Fraternity, and are herein recited to show to what extent zeal may lead even the best of minds :

“ It may be safely said that secret societies, in their best shape, are useless in a free government ; calculated to excite jealousies and suspicions in the breasts of the uninitiated, which may lay the foundation of dissensions and ill-will. If

their objects are honest and praiseworthy, there is no need of secrecy: honesty needs no cloak, and deeds of charity seek not the cover of darkness. Secrecy and concealment ever afford grounds of suspicion. If, however, Masonry is only what it has ever been professed to be, perhaps it might be safely left to the amusement of full-grown children; perhaps they might be safely left to the enjoyment of their mock dignities—their muslin robes—their pasteboard crowns—and their gilded miters. But when the obligations which bind them *'to vote for a brother before any other person of equal qualifications'*—to always support his *'military fame and political preferment in opposition to another'*—to aid and assist a brother in difficulty, so far as to extricate him from the same, *'whether he be right or wrong'*—to keep his secrets in all cases inviolably, *'murder and treason not excepted,'* and these under no less penalties than a torturing and ignominious death—then it becomes a question of serious import, whether such an institution can be tolerated in our free government. By the force of these obligations a member can claim the vote of a brother for any elective office, in derogation of that equality guaranteed to us by our Constitution; and the brethren thus elected, gradually obtaining the control of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the government, can, and must, dispense their patronage in strict consonance with the obligations of this mysterious fraternal tie: so that soon the government, in all its branches, must be controlled by the members of the order. What guarantee is there for the impartial discharge of official duties, when the officer is shackled by such obligations? What hold have we upon the conscience, the integrity, or justice of such a man? Is it his oath to support the Constitutions of this State and the United States? Is it his oath to faithfully discharge the duties of the office which he fills? He has taken a previous oath of more horrid import, and of paramount obligation, to which all other oaths, all other ties, all other duties, must yield. He is not a free man. He stands shackled and bound by invisible and mysterious chains. He cannot do his duty to his country if he

would—he has a duty to perform to the Fraternity, under the severest penalties of Masonic vengeance. What guarantee have we for the impartial administration of justice? A felon communicates the mystic sign to a brother on the grand inquest—the juror's oath to screen no man from fear, favor, or affection, must yield to the obligation to extricate a brother, '*whether he be right or wrong.*' If he escapes not here, there is the same facility of communication with the jurors who are to try him—and strange would it be if some of the brethren who have found means to insinuate themselves into every station, should not be found upon the panel, and in a panel where one stout and persevering negative prevents his conviction—or the judge who tries him may receive the '*grand hailing sign,*' and the purity of the ermine may be sullied by the contamination of Masonic iniquity. If all this is not sufficient, the mystic signal may avail with the executive, and the avenging sword of the law may be turned aside from the execution of justice. Where is the security for justice between man and man? Can a Masonic judge or Masonic jurors hold the scales even between adverse parties, when one can appeal for assistance through the medium of mysterious signals? This is not all. Witnesses who solemnly appeal to God to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, in what they shall be called upon to relate, may be bound under obligations more awful, and under penalties more severe, not to disclose the secrets of a brother. No! though it extend to the *murder* of a fellow being, or to *treason* to the State. Is there then, fellow-citizens, any safety in trusting those persons who have taken such obligations and believe in their binding sanction, with any office in our government? Is there any safety in committing our lives, our liberty, our property, or our reputation to them as judges or jurors? Is any confidence to be placed in witnesses who have bound themselves under such awful obligations to keep the secrets of a brother? These obligations strike at the very existence of our government—at the very foundation of our rights—and at the impartial administration of our laws.

This institution threatens not only danger to government and the cause of justice, but strikes at the basis of all morality and religion. The obligation not to disclose the secrets of a brother, even in cases of murder and treason, has a tendency to invite the confidence of a brother Mason. Under the sanction of this oath, a bold bad man will not fear to disclose the history of his crimes to the ears of the virtuous, to the ears of even a minister of the holy Gospel, and, secure against detection, make an impudent boast of his iniquities. This will make virtuous men familiar with the detail of crimes, and confidants in criminal secrets—and vice is of a character so contagious, that one cannot even listen to its history, or be familiar with its secrets, without some danger of contamination—and that nice, delicate moral sense, which characterizes a virtuous man, must be gradually effaced, and his principles of virtue must be in a great measure rendered unsettled. Is Freemasonry the handmaid of religion? That institution in whose rites and ceremonies the most touching portions of that Holy Book, which holds out to us the promise of eternal life, are introduced in solemn mockery, and represented in the shape of a miserable theatrical farce!—where a weak sinful mortal undertakes to personify the Almighty God!—where the name of our blessed Saviour and the Holy Trinity are introduced in a vain and irreverent manner!—where the belief of the immortality of the soul is pledged in a libation from the skull of a Masonic traitor!—where the life eternal in the heavens is represented only as one great lodge, and the Almighty is blasphemously typified as Grand Master thereof! Is such an institution the handmaid of religion? We think we are safe in saying that the frequent use of profane oaths, the irreverent familiarity with religious forms and sacred things, the blasphemous mockery of the name of the Triune God, in the recesses of the Lodge room, are more dangerous to the cause of the benign religion of Jesus than open and avowed infidelity. It is to be feared that many substitute and rely on the religion of Masonry instead of the religion of Him who died to atone for our sins; or if not, they come to the

belief that all religion is only the farce which their impious ceremonies represent it to be. It is time these delusions were dispelled. Masonry now stands before us in its naked deformity, stripped of its tinsel ornaments and solemn mummery. It behooves us to take warning from the past, and receive instruction from the school of experience. We see in these disclosures the same principles which deluged France in blood, and were the cause of the dark crimes which stained that distracted country during the period of her sanguinary revolution. We see the same principles which governed Illuminism in the last century, and lighted her path in that foul plot which would have substituted anarchy for government and civil rule, and Atheism for the religion of the Cross. It is from the bosom of Freemasonry that this dark conspiracy originated. To the bosom of Freemasonry, every revolution and conspiracy which has agitated Europe for the last fifty years may be distinctly traced, and the secret workings of this all-pervading order can be clearly seen. The governments of the world are beginning to be awake to the danger. Russia has suppressed the order in her own dominions; Spain has suppressed it; and our sister republic of Mexico is exerting herself to crush one of its hydra heads. Shall we alone look tamely on, and use no endeavors to check the spread of its contaminating principles? You ask how it is to be suppressed in this free government. They confidently boast that it is not in the power of man to suppress it—that even this *government itself*, with all its power, cannot do it. This may be true. But there is a power in this free land, superior even to our government, and which guides, controls, and directs it; and that power is *public opinion*. The laws we have found too weak. Government may be too weak; but there is a moral force in *public opinion* which must in this free country crush everything, however powerful, which is arrayed against it. This opinion speaks in our public meetings—it speaks from the sacred desk—it speaks through the organ of the press—it speaks through the ballot boxes, when Masons appeal to you in this manner for support and countenance. This

power, fellow-citizens, you have under your control. It is the only legitimate and proper force that can be put in operation in this emergency and in this country. This is a power for you to wield—and in its exercise remember the warning voice of the Father of his country to ‘*beware of all secret societies.*’”

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,  
MARCH 19TH, 1828.

IN SENATE.—A message from his honor the Lieutenant Governor was received and read as follows :

“ *To the Senate : —*

GENTLEMEN : Among the duties devolved by the Constitution upon the person administering the government, that of ‘taking care that the laws are faithfully executed,’ is perhaps the most important. A large portion of the inhabitants of the State has been for more than a year highly excited by the alleged forcible and clandestine removal of a citizen, and by the uncertainty of his fate. It is believed by many that he has been murdered, and it is certain that if alive, he is held in captivity. The outrage upon our laws has justly alarmed our fellow-citizens in that part of the State, and has produced exertions such as might have been expected from freemen conscious of their rights, and determined to maintain them, to develop the mysterious transaction, and to bring the offenders to justice. As yet their efforts have failed. The rewards and inducements heretofore proffered for a discovery have been unavailing. The trials and convictions that have taken place, have rather increased the mystery of the transaction. The efforts of individual citizens, stimulated by a patriotic zeal, have not always been guided by discretion ; and there is reason to fear that they have sometimes tended rather to prevent than to promote a judicial development of the truth. It is publicly stated that a witness, while on his way to attend the trial of some of the persons charged with a participation in the original

outrage, has suddenly and unaccountably disappeared, and advertisements offering rewards for his discovery have been extensively circulated. If there be any foundation for this suggestion, it affords a strong reason for the adoption of proper measures to quiet the alarms of our fellow-citizens. Under these circumstances, it has appeared to me important that such constitutional measures as may be within the power of the legislature, should be adopted, in order to facilitate the discovery and punishment of the offenders. It is equally due to the violated majesty of the laws, to the apprehension of our fellow-citizens, which never can or ought to be satisfied until justice is obtained, and to those who have been or may be included in the general and vague suspicions which are always produced by such transactions. It is an imperative duty to the innocent, that those really guilty should be detected and punished.

Without intending to encroach upon the particular duties of the Legislature, I respectfully recommend, in accordance with these views, that a law be passed authorizing the appointment of a competent person for the special purpose of investigating the alleged criminal transactions in relation to the removal of William Morgan, and all the incidents connected therewith; that the power of district attorneys be also vested in him; that it be made his duty to repair to the places where the offenses were committed; to examine witnesses; to enter complaints; to cause witnesses and parties implicated to be bound over to appear; to conduct all criminal prosecutions which may be instituted; and to perform all other acts and duties which shall be necessary to a full and fair judicial investigation and determination of the alleged offenses.

That our government is adequate to the punishment of crimes, and the protection of innocence, is the belief of all who are best acquainted with its principles. Hitherto, justice has been administered without any arbitrary stretch of power, or any violation of constitutional principles, by the constitutional authorities, and without the interference of any private citizens not clothed with public authority. By

exerting the power of the government in a constitutional manner, we can show that the present instance need not form an exception to the general course of justice. All experience teaches us, that designing men will be found ready always to avail themselves of a strong and honest public feeling to pervert it to their own selfish purposes. Any such attempts will be most effectually prevented by the interposition of the government; because it will then be perceived that all individual interference will be unnecessary—then the public mind will be preserved from unnecessary agitation and prejudice; fair and impartial trials will be secured to those who may be accused; and the course of justice will be uniform, steady, and effectual. Calm inquiry will succeed feverish conjecture; deliberate decision will take the place of impatient prejudice; and the impartial, unbiased judgment of independent juries will vindicate the law, and establish the vigor and efficacy of our institutions.

NATHANIEL PITCHER."

*March 21.*—Mr. Spencer, from the committee on the judiciary to whom was referred the message from the Lieutenant Governor recommending the adoption of legislative measures to insure the detection and punishment of persons concerned in the forcible removal of William Morgan, reported:

"That, from the facts and circumstances stated in the message, referred to the committee, and from general information, it appears that the transactions connected with the abduction of William Morgan took place in several different counties. The testimony in relation to it must therefore necessarily be scattered over those different counties, and over an extensive region of country. Under such circumstances it is obvious that the district attorney of any one county, from the limited scope of his authority, would be incapable of connecting the various ramifications of the offense, and of collecting the scattered and disjointed testimony, so as to bring it to bear in any one case. The necessity of the employment of some competent person, whose authority would

extend over all the counties which formed the scene of the alleged offenses ; whose whole time and attention would be devoted to the investigation ; and who would concentrate the necessary information, seems manifest. The very circumstance that hitherto no judicial development of the facts has taken place, affords strong reasons to believe that it has arisen from the want of united and connected efforts. The committee concur with the Lieutenant Governor in the opinion expressed by him, that it is due 'to the violated majesty of the laws, and to the apprehensions of our fellow-citizens,' that all proper measures within the constitutional power of the legislature should be adopted to secure a full investigation of the high-handed offense committed on the person of William Morgan ; a fair and impartial trial of the persons implicated ; the detection and punishment of the guilty ; and the acquittal and exoneration of the innocent—and they know of no means so effectual as those recommended by him. The employment of the Attorney General for this purpose would be wholly incompatible with the duties of that officer at the seat of government, and with that attention which is requisite to the civil business of the State. The committee have accordingly prepared a bill providing for the temporary employment of competent counsel ; according to the recommendation of the Lieutenant Governor, which is herewith reported.

*AN ACT to provide for the Employment of Counsel for the Purposes therein mentioned.*

The people of the State of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :

SEC. 1. The person administering the government of this State is hereby authorized to employ and appoint a competent person of the degree of counsel in the Supreme Court, whose special duty it shall be,

1. To institute inquiries concerning the abduction of William Morgan, and his fate subsequently, and all the incidents connected therewith.

2. To ascertain the witnesses whose testimony can establish the commission of any crime against the laws of this State, in and of the said transactions.

3. To cause such witnesses to be examined before the proper magistrates, and to be bound over to appear before the proper courts, in order to testify.

4. To cause the necessary process to be issued for the apprehension of the persons implicated.

5. To assist in preparing any indictments that may be found against such persons, and to prepare for the trial thereof.

6. To attend the trials of persons indicted at any court of Oyer and Terminer or General Sessions of the Peace; and to superintend and conduct such trials, with the like authority and in the same manner as the Attorney General of this State; and

7. To perform all other acts and duties which shall be necessary to a full and fair judicial investigation and determination of the offenses alleged to have been committed by the persons so indicted.

SEC. 2. The person so appointed is hereby vested with powers and authority of District Attorneys, in the several counties in which any such accusations shall be made; and shall be authorized to attend any grand jury for the purpose of examining witnesses before them, but not to be present at their deliberations; he shall have authority to issue subpoenas signed by himself, to compel the attendance of any witness at any court of Oyer and Terminer, or court of General Sessions of the Peace; which subpoenas shall have the same force and effect as if issued by the clerks of such courts respectively, under the seal thereof.

SEC. 3. The expenses attending the execution of the duties hereby imposed, shall be paid out of the treasury, on the order of the person administering the government of this State, after being audited by the comptroller.

SEC. 4. This act shall be in force until the first of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, and no longer."

*March 25.*—A part of the day was spent in committee of

the whole, on the bill for the employment of counsel to investigate the facts in relation to the abduction and supposed murder of William Morgan. The bill was opposed by Messrs. Livingston and Crary, and supported by Messrs. Spencer, Viele, Wilkeson, and Allen; and was passed by the committee. On the question of agreeing to the report, Mr. Crary offered an amendment, which was previously lost in committee of the whole: that all the expenses heretofore incurred by any person to effect the objects contemplated by this bill, shall be paid out of the treasury. Lost, ayes 3, noes 23. The ayes were Messrs. Crary, M'Martin, and Porter.

The report of the committee was then agreed to, ayes 23, noes 3, as follows:

Ayes.—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Dayan, Elsworth, Enos, Hager, Hart, Lake, M'Carty, M'Martin, Oliver, Porter, Schenk, Spencer, Stebbins, Todd, Throop, Tyson, Viele, Warron, Wheeler, Wilkeson, and Woodward: 23.

Noes.—Messrs. Crary, Livingston, M'Michael: 3. Adjourned.

*March 26.*—Bill read the third time and passed: for the employment of counsel to investigate the facts relative to the abduction and supposed murder of William Morgan, ayes 24, noes 3. (The noes were Messrs. Crary, Livingston, and M'Michael.)

#### THE REPORT AND DEBATE IN THE ASSEMBLY.

IN ASSEMBLY, *March 19.*—Mr. Childs presented a memorial from delegates from several western counties, assembled in convention at Le Roy to take into consideration the effects, etc., of Freemasonry. They say the oaths of that society are impious and profane, etc. They pray that a law may be passed, declaring that oaths administered by other than public officers under the laws, are illegal; and that their administration may be forbid under a penalty. After the memorial was read, it was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Childs, Granger, and Wardwell.

*April 2.*—Mr. Childs, from the select committee to which was referred the memorial of the delegates from twelve of the western counties of the State, on the subject of *Freemasonry*, reported and asked leave to bring in a bill to prevent the administration of extra judicial oaths. Leave was granted and a bill brought in accordingly, subjecting every person taking or administering an extra judicial oath to fine and imprisonment—fine not to exceed \$200, and imprisonment not to exceed six months. [The following is the report of this committee:]

“The select committee to which was referred the memorial of the counties of Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Yates, Seneca, and Tompkins, on the subject of extra judicial and Masonic oaths,

Report—That they have devoted to the subject of the memorial that diligent examination which was demanded by its intrinsic importance, magnified as it is by acts set forth in the memorial. In deliberating upon this subject, your committee have directed their attention to the general character and consequences of all oaths unsanctioned by the laws, as well as the particular nature and policy of those set forth in the papers referred to in the memorial. Under every form and character which human government has at any time assumed, the principle of responsibility to higher power, however modified or perverted, has been appealed to as furnishing the foundation of the highest obligations which could be imposed upon human nature. Most civilized governments have approved the wisdom of resorting to an oath as a security for the faithful discharge of official duty; and all have deemed it indispensable in the administration of justice. The most sacred rights of society and individuals are subjected to its disposal, and no vice could be regarded as more alarming than a practice which in any degree should have the effect to weaken the obligation, or impair the confidence, which, not less by the law than the authority of the human heart, is reposed in an oath. The right to exact it

belongs to the sovereign power of the State ; and, in most instances, its efficacy is attempted to be increased by inflicting the severest penalties upon its violations. The duties it imposes must be the same, whatever may be the form of its administration ; but it is entirely obvious that reverence to the Being whose attention is invoked, not less than a regard to its influence upon the mind, demand that the occasion should be important, and the ceremony solemn. The unfrequent, unauthorized, and irreverent administration of oaths has a powerful influence, in the judgment of your committee, to destroy that religious sensibility to their nature, and that scrupulous and conscientious regard to all their requirements, which alone entitle them to confidence. Great and enlightened men have, with one accord, condemned the multiplication of oaths, with or without the sanction of law, as immoral and impolitic.

If these very general considerations were not entirely satisfactory to your committee, the most unanswerable reasons for abolishing extra judicial oaths, would be found in the character and consequences of a certain description of oaths as stated and set forth in the memorial. The memorial has called the attention of the legislature specifically to the abuse of the practice of administering oaths, as it is alleged to exist in Masonic societies ; and subjoined the forms of obligations, as they are said to be administered in the different stages of advancement in that society. When it is recollected that these oaths have been communicated to the public by members of that society highly elevated, and maintaining a fair character and respectable standing in community, it is not perhaps unjust to believe those annexed to the memorial are substantially correct. They exhibit a perversion of the appropriate office of an oath, which strongly recommends the policy of a law prohibiting the administration of any extra judicial oath. These oaths could, by no possibility, enjoin the practice of a virtue not already commanded by religion and morality ; and a literal observance of them would bind the sworn individual, under the severest penalties, to the performance of acts forbidden by both. The

efficacy of these oaths is illustrated by the petitioners, by ascribing to their injunctions the outrage committed within a recent period upon two of our citizens, followed by what is now generally admitted to be the murder of one.

Whether the oaths referred to would authorize the commission of the crime, when rightly understood, is deemed by your committee altogether immaterial. The petitioners represent, that persons upon whom these oaths have been imposed, acting under a belief of their controlling power, have committed violence upon the liberty of one citizen, and upon the life of another; and that no doubt can exist upon that subject in the mind of any person who has attentively examined and weighed the testimony disclosed upon the trial of the several indictments which have grown out of the abduction of William Morgan, an unoffending citizen of this State. If there is reasonable ground for this belief—and the circumstances which have been developed leave little doubt—it is the duty of government to adopt such measures as may be best calculated to prevent the recurrence of an outrage so flagrant as that to which the petitioners have referred, and which so anxiously and painfully occupies the public mind.

The possibility that the obligations imposed by an extra judicial oath may conflict with the duty which a citizen may be called upon to discharge, is conclusive in the minds of your committee, in favor of granting the prayer of the memorialists. Although the law would pronounce an extra judicial oath, and all its obligations, nugatory, when in collision with a legally administered oath; yet, having done so, it is apparent that the individual must judge for himself of the relative power of conflicting obligations. There is danger, then, that justice may be perverted, and truth falsified, in courts created to develop truth and administer justice. The suspicion that such may be the consequence is sufficient, in the judgment of your committee, to induce the legislature to remove the possibility of it by a statute prohibiting all oaths not authorized by law. The committee have, therefore, directed their chairman to ask leave to introduce a bill. T. CHILDS, Chairman."

*April 4.*—The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill from the Senate for the appointment of a commissioner to investigate the transactions relative to the abduction of William Morgan—Mr. Ruggles in the chair.

Mr. Gross moved to strike out the first section, or, in other words, to reject the bill. He avowed himself a Mason; but warned the House against partaking of the excitement which was felt on this subject in the western part of the State, and under its influence to pass a law which would hereafter, when the passions of men become cool, subject the legislature to contempt. The powers with which it was proposed to clothe this officer to be appointed by the executive, were enormous; it would, in fact, be establishing an inquisition in our State which would violate the principles of our institutions, and involve the innocent with the guilty in one common ruin. He believed Morgan was murdered, and murdered by Masons; but he would consider the conferring of this inquisitorial power an infinitely greater evil, and more to be deprecated than even the murder of Morgan by deluded and wicked men. He was not disposed to condemn the excitement which existed on this subject in the western part of the State; on the contrary, he was proud of it, for the honor of human nature; for a deed of the darkest dye had been perpetrated, and that by Masons, by members of a numerous fraternity; and it was honorable to the character of our citizens that they should deeply interest themselves on the occasion; but it became the legislature of the state of New York to act with caution and deliberation—to free themselves from the contagion of this excitement—boldly to stem the current of popular feeling—and to save unimpaired the principles of liberty, by refusing to violate the principles of sound jurisprudence, and refraining from setting a precedent of the most dangerous character.

Mr. Skinner hoped the motion to strike out would not prevail. He urged that two years had now elapsed since the perpetration of this horrid crime, and all the ordinary means to bring to justice the actors of this dark scene had proved unavailing. He contended that this bill did not

propose to erect a new tribunal unknown to our laws, but simply provided the means of investigation which do not now exist. Nor was the precedent of sending a public officer to attend to those duties novel; as the Attorney General was frequently required to attend in particular counties the prosecution of criminal offenses, either at the requisition of the executive or one of the judges of the Supreme Court. He thought this an occasion which demanded extraordinary efforts for the detection and punishment of offenders, to which the ordinary course of judicial proceedings was totally inadequate.

The speaker, Root, addressed the House in support of the motion to reject the bill. He alluded to various instances in the history of England, to show the effect of popular excitement and the injurious effect flowing from it. Admitting that Morgan was murdered, he asked whether it was right to change our course of judicial proceedings on that account. If our laws were defective, they should be amended, but when amended they should be made to bear upon all offenders alike. He asked whether Morgan, though murdered by Free Masons, was entitled to more commiseration than if he had been destroyed by a highwayman.

Mr. Granger said that the excitement in the western section of the State on this subject was as much, if not more, attributable to Free Masons, than to those who were charged with carrying on a crusade against Freemasonry. If Free Masons, and those, too, distinguished men, had done their duty, this excitement might have been checked. As to the delusion which is supposed to prevail on this subject, he could say that amongst those who felt a deep interest on this question, there were men second to none in the United States, as the list of the names of the delegation who attended the convention from whom emanated the memorial to the legislature would show. He could not perceive the evil which was apprehended from sending a public agent to investigate this affair, to collect testimony, and drag offenders to justice. He was not conscious how such a proceeding encroached upon the fundamental principles of government. The comp-

troller had been vested with similar powers to investigate frauds upon the canal. He regretted that the proposition made last winter to send a special commissioner of the legislature into the section of the State where the outrage had been committed had not been adopted. If much good might not result from this measure, it would have a tendency to produce something like quiet and harmony, when the people saw that the legislature did not turn a deaf ear to their prayers. The people at the west were not exactly crazy; but there is abroad in the community a feeling, a deep-toned feeling, which is not to be trifled with—it is not to be scouted or laughed at, but must be soothed and not aggravated.

Mr. Brinckerhoof said he had hoped that the bill would have passed without debate. Whatever excitement existed elsewhere, it ought not to be brought into action here; and to prevent everything like feeling in the House, he called for the question.

Mr. Emmet said he was a Mason, and as yet he had no cause to regret it. He was decidedly in favor of the bill. If a crime had been committed, whether by Masons or others, and the ordinary process of the law is not sufficient to bring the offenders to punishment, it was the duty of the legislature to afford every facility to accomplish the end. He was inclined to believe that this measure would have a tendency to allay excitement. As a Mason, he could not perceive any objection to the bill; on the contrary, the very principles of Freemasonry bound him to do all in his power to bring the perpetrators of the crime to punishment.

Mr. Wardwell also acknowledged himself a Mason, and said, when he first heard of this tragedy he was disposed to laugh at the stories which were told, deeming them unworthy of notice, and believing that there was not a Mason in this country so deluded and wicked as to commit so great a crime. He, however, had changed his opinion, and now believed that Morgan had been murdered, and murdered by Free Masons; and could he believe that all Masons could act under similar delusions, he would not only abolish all extra judicial oaths, as proposed by a bill brought in on this

subject, but he would abolish all Freemasonry, by making it penal to attend a lodge. This was not an ordinary case of murder. It was perpetrated by members of a numerous fraternity; and it is said and believed that many Masons were engaged in the transaction, and that several in different counties combined and acted together in bringing about the destruction of the individual. If men under a mistaken sense of duty had committed the crime, others under a similar delusion might be guilty of similar offenses. A high degree of excited feeling existed on this subject in the western part of this State: he therefore thought that a public officer should be sent to make the necessary inquiries on the spot, to elicit all the evidence that could be obtained, and to bring the offenders to public punishment. The commission of the crime was without excuse or palliation. There were no principles of Freemasonry which require a man to act contrary to the dictates of morality and religion, and to run counter to the principles of good order.

The question was taken on striking out the first section, and lost, only seven rising in favor of it.

Mr. Williams, after adverting to the forms which the bill proposed to confer on this special Attorney General, observed that he was not prepared to give the bill his assent; he wished time to examine it; and with that view moved that the committee rise and report, which motion prevailed, ayes 49, noes 21. Then the House adjourned.

*April 9.*—Mr. Childs made the same motion as to the bill to appoint a commissioner to make inquiries in relation to the abduction of Morgan, and the bill to prevent extra judicial oaths. Carried, ayes 36, noes 35.

The House then went into the committee of the whole, Mr. Ruggles in the chair, on the said bills. The first section of the former bill passed, when Mr. Gross moved an amendment directing the payment of all expenses heretofore incurred by individuals in investigating this business.

Mr. Childs said the people of the West had not called for this bill—it was the offspring of the Lieutenant Governor; but the people wanted further investigation.

Mr. Bryan said no one asked for compensation ; wait till the people who have endeavored to ferret out this business ask for pay, before it is offered to them.

Mr. Sackett spoke against the bill. If the law was insufficient, let it be altered, but he was opposed to making a provision for a particular case. The almost inquisitorial powers given to this commissioner he disapproved of.

Mr. Chever spoke in favor of the bill.

Mr. Speaker asked, Wherefore was this disposition to change the whole course of law? Is it because Free Masons have killed Morgan (that is, admitting that he is killed, which is not certain, though conjectures fasten strongly on the belief that he is), and because by persecuting them it is hoped to get into power? He spoke of the jury of inquest which determined that the body found at Oak Orchard Creek was that of Morgan. When fanaticism, whether political or religious, rages, we often find men of private worth hurried away by it, and doing acts of which in moments of reflection they would be ashamed. He did not wish to derogate from the respectability of the western people, but they could be led away by fanaticism as well as others. The times of 1817, 1824, and 1825, sufficiently elucidate the truth of this. He alluded to the cry raised against secret societies in Europe, about the time of the French Revolution, when so much feeling was excited without cause. He adverted to the inquisition in Spain, where all Free Masons were considered as devils, and were put to the torture and made to confess that they were guilty of crime whether they were or not—where a trial was made of the mathematical question: strength of nerve and sensibility of muscle given, required to know what degree of torture is necessary to make man confess himself guilty of crime. He said that this tirading about secret societies and extra judicial oaths did not become sensible men ; and they would not pursue it, unless they were driven by political fanaticism. He did not care whether Masonry were put down by legislative enactment or not ; but if it were put up or down by such enactment, it would be acting foolishly. All this cry is to get

power or to retain it. Some of the members were elected on the Anti-Masonic ticket; and they came here and were compelled to cry, *Morganize Masons! Morganize Masons! Away with him! Crucify him! Crucify him!* The excitement has been got up and fostered and fanned to get into power. We did not make so much fuss in Delaware County, a few years ago, when an Irishman killed two Scotchmen; we caught him, and hanged him.

This is made a political question. It is said that one of the presidential candidates is a Mason, and that the other is not, and therefore the excitement must be kept up; that is all there is to harp on. One of the political parties—and I don't know how many political parties there are in the State—but one of the parties desires to keep up the excitement, in order to induce votes in favor of the candidate who is said not to be a Free Mason. And how do they work it on the other side, in the party to which I belong, but which party sometimes acts a little too silly? Why, they show themselves eager to hunt down Free Masons, in the hopes that they will get votes by it. They cry, *We don't approve of Masons murdering Morgan; we are as eager to find them as the other party. They mean to be first in the chase; and I don't know but they will be first in at the death. Why should we perform such a foolish, silly act, to get votes next November, when many of us do not much care which side we go on?*

The amendment was lost.

The whole bill then passed, 82 to 17.

The Committee of the Whole then took up the bill to prevent extra judicial oaths.

Mr. Bucklin declared, this bill was a part of the crusade against Freemasonry. But they were ignorant of the institution who supposed it would touch it; it would touch a more important portion of society; it would interfere with a long-established practice of Christian churches; and if gentlemen were willing to go on with it they might. Adjourned.

*April 12.*—The bill authorizing the employment of counsel

for the investigation of facts relative to the abduction of William Morgan, and the incidents connected with that transaction, was read a third time. The bill was passed by a vote of 66 to 44.

THE CONVENTION OF JULY 4, 1828.

The time and the anticipated events then to occur were rapidly approaching; the long-heralded new Declaration of Independence from all secret societies, and more particularly that of Freemasonry, was to be pronounced on the fourth day of July, 1828, and Le Roy, Genesee County, was to be the place of declaration.

The Adjourned Convention of Seceding Masons retained Solomon Southwick as president and David Bernard as its clerk. Members of the Fraternity who tenaciously adhered to their vows, were not silent nor overawed; they stood by Mr. Child, the editor of the Albany *Masonic Record*, and averred that the Convention was stirred by political motives, personal advantage, and egotism, and set forth a mock imitation of the national Declaration of Independence. Among those composing the Convention were three judges of county courts, seven ministers of the Gospel, three attorneys-at-law, two physicians, four editors of newspapers, and several justices of the peace and postmasters.

The fourth day of July came, the Convention met at Le Roy, and the following was

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

“When men attempt to dissolve a system which has influenced and governed a part of the community, and by its pretensions to antiquity, usefulness, and virtue, would demand the respect of all, it is proper to submit to the consideration of a candid and impartial world the causes which impel them to such a course. We, seceders from the Masonic institution, availing ourselves of our natural and unalienable rights, and the privileges guaranteed to us by our Constitution freely to discuss the principles of our government and laws, and to

expose whatever may endanger the one or impede the due administration of the other, do offer the following reasons for endeavoring to abolish the order of Freemasonry, and destroy its influence in our government.

In all arbitrary governments free inquiry has been restricted as fatal to the principles upon which they were based. In all ages of the world tyrants have found it necessary to shackle the minds of their subjects, to enable them to control their actions; for experience ever taught that the free mind ever exerts a moral power that resists all attempts to enslave it. However forms of government heretofore have varied, the right to act and speak without a controlling power has never been permitted. Our ancestors, who imbibed principles of civil and religious liberty, fled to America to escape persecution; and when Britain attempted to encroach upon the free exercise of those principles, our fathers hesitated not to dissolve their oaths of allegiance to the mother country, and declare themselves free and independent; and exulting millions of freemen yet bless their memories for the deed. A new theory of government was reduced to practice in the formation of the American republic. It involved in its structure principles of equal rights and equal privileges, and was based on the eternal foundation of public good. It protects the weak, restrains the powerful, and extends its honors and emoluments to the meritorious of every condition. It should have been the pride of every citizen to preserve this noble structure in all its beautiful symmetry and proportions. But the principle of self-aggrandizement, the desire to control the destinies of others, and luxuriate in their spoils, unhappily still inhabits the human breast. Many attempts have already been made to impair the freedom of our institutions and subvert our government. But they have been met by the irresistible power of public opinion and indignation, and crushed. In the meantime, the Masonic society has been silently growing among us, whose principles and operations are calculated to subvert and destroy the great and important principles of the commonwealth. Before and during the Revolutionary struggle, Masonry was but little known and practiced in this

country. It was lost amid the changes and confusion of the conflicting nations, and was reserved for a time of profound peace, to wind and insinuate itself into every department of government, and influence the result of almost every proceeding. Like many other attempts to overturn government and destroy the liberties of the people, it has chosen a time when the suspicions of men were asleep; and with a noiseless tread, in the darkness and silence of the night, has increased its strength and extended its power. Not yet content with its original powers and influence, it has of late received the aid of foreign and more arbitrary systems. With this accumulation of strength, it arrived at that formidable crisis when it bid open defiance to the laws of our country in the abduction and murder of an unoffending citizen of the republic. So wicked was this transaction, so extensive its preparation, and so openly justified, that it aroused the energies of an insulted people, whose exertions have opened the hidden recesses of this abode of darkness and mystery; and mankind may now view its power, its wickedness, and folly.

That it is opposed to the genius and design of this government, the spirit and precepts of our holy religion, and the welfare of society generally, will appear from the following considerations:

It exercises jurisdiction over the persons and lives of citizens of the republic.

It arrogates to itself the right of punishing its members for offenses unknown to the laws of this or any other nation.

It requires the concealment of crime and protects the guilty from punishment.

It encourages the commission of crime, by affording to the guilty facilities of escape.

It affords opportunities for the corrupt and designing to form plans against the government, and the lives and characters of individuals.

It assumes titles and dignities incompatible with a republican form of government, and enjoins an obedience to them derogatory to republican principles.

It destroys all principles of equality, by bestowing favors

on its own members to the exclusion of others equally meritorious and deserving.

It creates odious aristocracies by its obligations to support the interests of its members, in preference to others of equal qualifications.

It blasphemes the name, and attempts a personification of, the Great Jehovah.

It prostitutes the Sacred Scriptures to unholy purposes, to subserve its own secular and trifling concerns.

It weakens the sanctions of morality and religion by the multiplication of profane oaths and an immoral familiarity with religious forms and ceremonies.

It discovers in its ceremonies an unholy commingling of divine truth with impious human inventions.

It destroys a veneration for religion and religious ordinances by the profane use of religious forms.

It substitutes the self-righteousness and ceremonies of Masonry for the vital religion and ordinances of the Gospel.

It promotes habits of idleness and intemperance by its members neglecting their business to attend its meetings and drink its libations.

It accumulates funds at the expense of indigent persons and to the distress of their families, too often to be dissipated in rioting and pleasure and its senseless ceremonies and exhibitions.

It contracts the sympathies of the human heart for all the unfortunate by confining its charities to its own members, and promotes the interests of a few at the expense of the many.

An institution thus fraught with so many and great evils is dangerous to our government and the safety of our citizens, and is unfit to exist among a free people. We, therefore, believing it a duty we owe to God, our country, and to posterity, resolve to expose its mystery, wickedness, and tendency to public view; and we exhort all citizens who have a love of country and a veneration for its laws, a spirit of our holy religion, and a regard for the welfare of mankind, to aid us in the cause which we have espoused; and,

appealing to Almighty God for the rectitude of our motives, we solemnly absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the Masonic institution, and declare ourselves free and independent; and, in support of these resolutions, our government and laws, and the safety of individuals, against the usurpations of all secret societies and open force, and against the 'vengeance' of the Masonic institution, 'with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.'

July 4, 1828."

SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE FROM THE  
MASONIC INSTITUTION, ADOPTED AT LE ROY, JULY 4, 1828.

Names.	Residence.	No. of Degrees.
Solomon Southwick,	Albany,	Four.
David Bernard,	Warsaw,	Intimate Secretary.
W. W. Phelps,	Canandaigua,	Three.
Isaac B. Barnum,	Perrington,	Four.
Cephas A. Smith,	Le Roy,	Twenty-one or Order of the Cross.
J. Van Valkenburgh,	Prattsburgh,	Three.
Platt S. Beach,	Stafford,	One.
Elam Badger,	Cazenovia,	Three.
Joseph Hart,	Albion,	Four.
Kneeland Townsend, jr.,	Lewiston,	Three.
Anthony Cooley,	Le Roy,	Order of the Cross.
John G. Stearns,	Paris,	Three.
Reuben Winchell,	Lockport,	Three.
Augustus P. Haskall,	Le Roy,	Order of the Cross.
Noble D. Strong,	Auburn,	Seven.
John Haskall,	Le Roy,	Order of the Cross.
Robert Earl, jr.,	Attica,	One.
James Ballard,	Le Roy,	Order of the Cross.
Leonard B. Rose,	Castile,	Three.
Timothy C. Strong,	Albion,	Four.
William Waggoner,	Lebanon,	Three.
John Aumock,	Le Roy,	Four.
Herbert A. Read,	Le Roy,	Order of the Cross.
W. Robinson,	Springwater,	Three.
Jesse Badcock,	Springwater,	Two.
Lemuel Cook,	Lewiston,	Three.
James Gray,	Le Roy,	Three.

Names.	Residence.	No. of Degrees.
Elijah Gray,	Le Roy,	Four.
William Howe,	Gorham,	Seven.
Samuel Pierce,	Ridgeway,	Three.
Adam Richmond,	Le Roy,	Seven.
George W. Harris,	Batavia,	Three.
Benjamin Cooley,	Stafford,	Three.
John Joslen,	Wheatland,	Three.
A. F. Albright,	Wheatland,	Three.
Fayette Cross,	Wheatland,	Three.
Elias Cooley,	Le Roy,	Three.
Olney F. Rice,	Gorham,	Three.
Warren Kneeland,	Sempronius,	Three.
Jabez A. Beebe,	Hinsdale,	Three regular and three honorary.
Burroughs Holmes,	Clarendon,	Seven.
Noah B. Denton,	Covington,	Three.
Truman J. Wield,	Covington,	Four.
Edward Giddins,	Rochester,	Seven.
Abram Cherry,	Rochester,	Six.
Richard Hollister,	Le Roy,	Fourteen.
Amos E. Hutchins,	Le Roy,	Three.
Henry Conkling,	Covington,	Three.
Pascall D. Webb,	Le Roy,	Three.
Daniel Rowley,		Six.
Jonathan K. Barlow,	Bethany,	Seven.
Mills Averill,	Bethany,	Three.
Noah Ingersoll,	Albion,	Three.
Chapman Hawley,	Niagara Co.,	
Auren Dabell,	Prattsburgh,	Ten.
Frederick C. Farnam,	Attica,	Three.
Joel Bradner,	Barre,	Three.
Robert Shadders,	Barre,	Two.
Jonathan K. Foster,	Batavia,	Three.
Seth M. Gates,	Le Roy,	Three.
David Reed,	Hopewell,	Three.
Willard Smith,	Adams, Jefferson Co.,	Twelve.
Solomon Barker,	Gates,	Three.
Orson Nichoson,	Albion, Orleans Co.,	Three.
J. K. Brown,	Barre,	Seven.
Enos Bachelder,	Le Roy,	Three.
Stephen Robinson,	Springwater,	Three.
Robert McKely,	Clarence,	Two.
John Law,	Le Roy,	Four.
Isaac S. Fitch,	Jamestown.	
Hiram Cornell,	Jamestown, Chautauqua Co.	
Asa Turner,	Jamestown, Chautauqua Co.	

Names.	Residence.	No. of Degrees.
Samuel Ledyard,	Pultneyville,	Three.
John Smith,	Prattsburgh,	Three.
Benjamin F. Welles,	Pultney,	Three.
Anson Hinman,	Pike, Allegany Co.,	Three.
Samuel D. Green,	Batavia,	Three.
Chester Coe,	Bennington,	Three.
Theodore Hooker,	Dutchess Co.,	Ten.
Elijah Northup,	Pine Plains, Dutchess Co.,	Five.
Reuben Sanborn,	Painted Post,	Seven.
Jarvis Swift,	Auburn,	Three.
David Snow,	Covington,	Three.
John Tomlinson,	Stafford,	Three.
Nathan M. Mann,	Wales, Erie Co.,	Seven.
Nathan Townsend,	Batavia,	Seven.
Andrew Couse,	Cazenovia,	Three.
Russell Waters,	Cazenovia.	
Phlegmoncy Horton,	Cazenovia.	
W. J. Edson,	Batavia,	Two.
David C. Miller,	Batavia,	One.
James Rolfe,	Elba,	Three.
George W. Blodgett,	Le Roy,	Two.
Uriah Slayton,	Le Roy,	Three.
Martin Flint,	Vermont.	
Darius Sprague,	Vermont.	
Joseph Cochran,	Vermont.	
Orcutt Hyde,	Vermont.	
William Hyde,	Vermont.	
Phineas Smith,	Vermont.	
Lund Tarbox,	Vermont.	
Hollis Platt,	Le Roy,	Order of the Cross.
Norman Bently,	Guilford,	Seven.

The Convention then adjourned until four o'clock P.M., to meet at the Presbyterian meeting-house.

There Solomon Southwick delivered an address.

The Convention then adjourned, to meet at the same place on the next morning at eight o'clock, at which time and place the Convention was opened by prayer.

A number of communications was received by the Convention from persons residing in different parts of this State, and also in the States of Vermont, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland, stating that it was inconvenient attending at this season of the year and from so

great a distance, and requesting copies of the new Declaration of Independence and other proceedings forwarded to them for their sanction. Delegates from ten counties in this State attended the Convention and signed the declaration. The number of persons attending the Convention was about eight thousand.

It was then

*“Resolved, That the Committee of Fifteen, appointed at the last sitting of the Convention to prepare the upper degrees of Masonry, be requested to report.”*

The Committee reported the degrees from the Master's to and including the Royal Arch, which were read. Whereupon it was resolved by the Masons present who had received these several degrees, that they are substantially correct. It was then resolved by the Convention, that the report of the Committee be accepted, and the said degrees published to the world.

The Convention then adjourned for one hour, and then received the further report of the Committee of Fifteen, as to the following: The degrees of Knighthood, to wit, Knight of the Red Cross, Knight Templar, Knight of Malta, Knight of the Christian Mark and Guard of the Conclave, Knight of the Holy Sepulcher, and the Order of Illustrious, Most Illustrious, and Thrice Illustrious Council of the Knights of the Holy Cross. They were then read and resolved by the Knights present, numbers of whom had received these several degrees, to be substantially correct. Whereupon,

*“Resolved, by the Convention, That the degrees be published to the world.*

*Resolved, That Solomon Southwick, David Bernard, Richard Hollister, Willard Smith, Herbert A. Read, John Haskall, and Samuel D. Green, be a Committee to prepare a preface to, and superintend the publication of, the degrees as adopted by this convention.”*

Miles B. Lampson, Seth M. Gates, and A. P. Haskall were then appointed a Committee to draft resolutions expressive

of the sentiments of this Convention, when Mr. Gates, from said Committee, reported :

*Resolved*, That, however beneficial secret societies may have been considered in the dark ages of the world as bonds of union and shields of protection to the members against the violence of the times, yet in this enlightened age and country, where the private rights and the civil liberty of our citizens are guaranteed by a free constitution and an impartial administration of justice, they become not only useless to their members, but dangerous to the government.

*Resolved*, That the order of Freemasonry is a system of slavish despotism, calculated to break down the pride and spirit of freemen, and thus render them fit subjects of despotic power.

*Resolved*, That whatever may be our predilections for the prominent candidates for the Presidency, and whatever part we as individuals may see fit to take in national politics, we consider the overthrow and destruction of the Masonic institution as wholly disconnected therewith, and of vastly paramount importance ; that this Convention would view with the most undissembled feelings of regret, any attempt to render the honest indignation existing against the institution subservient to the views of any of the political parties of the day ; that we unhesitatingly disclaim all intention of promoting party views or political purposes.

*Resolved*, That the Masonic obligations, especially those of the Knight of the Christian Mark and Guard of the Conclave, and the Knight of the Holy Sepulcher, are of the most blasphemous nature ; and we cannot but deliver our sentiments in unqualified terms against them."

The Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANTI-MASONIC NEW YORK PRELIMINARY  
STATE CONVENTION, HELD AT UTICA, AUGUST 4TH, 5TH, AND  
6TH, 1828.

At a Convention of Anti-Masonic delegates from the different counties of the State, held at the Baptist church in the

village of Utica, on the 4th of August, 1828, prayer by Deacon Jonathan Olmstead, the following proceedings were had: The Hon. James Hawkes, of the county of Otsego, was chosen president, and Thomas C. Green, of Saratoga County, and Seth Abbey, of Jefferson County, were chosen secretaries.

The resolutions adopted by the Le Roy Convention in March last were then read. The following resolutions were adopted :

“1. *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting in relation to Freemasonry. .

2. *Resolved*, That a committee of one from each county represented be appointed to report what measures ought to be adopted to counteract the influence, and destroy the existence of Masonic societies.

3. *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare an address to the people of this State.”

On the first resolution the following persons were appointed: Theodore F. Talbot, T. Fitch, J. C. Morris, Alexander Sheldon, James Dean.

On the second resolution the following persons were appointed: Samuel Humphrey, Henry Parsoll, jr., Laban Hazeltine, Russell Waters, Thomas C. Love, H. A. Read, Alfred Guthrie, James Percival, Thomas Beekman, Timothy Childs, George Davis, Bates Cook, A. McAllister, Calvin Peck, Nathan Pierce, Gideon Hard, William Hawks, William Utter, Thomas C. Green, Ansel Bascom, Thomas Lewis, Israel J. Richardson, Morris F. Sheppard.

On the third resolution the following persons were appointed: Timothy Childs, John C. Morris, Herbert A. Read, Frederick Whittlesey, Bates Cook.

The following preamble and resolution were then adopted :

“*Whereas*, The title and prospectus of a book entitled ‘*Light on Masonry*, etc., etc.’ compiled by David Bernard, has been read to this Convention ; and entertaining the fullest confidence in the integrity, zeal, and ability of the compiler ; and

being deeply impressed with the importance of the proposed publication to the cause of truth and justice, therefore,

*Resolved*, That we recommend the compiler to proceed without delay in the publication of his work ; and we recommend it to the attention and patronage of all the friends of truth, and the cause of civil liberty, throughout the world."

The Convention adjourned till nine o'clock the next day.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

The reading of the Royal Arch degree being called for, it was requested that Mr. H. A. Read perform that duty, which was done by him in a plain, clear, and distinct manner ; also the Knights of the Christian Mark and Guards of the Conclave.

Mr. Love, as chairman for the second resolution, reported as follows, which report was adopted by the Convention :

The committee appointed to consider and report what measures ought to be adopted to counteract the influence and destroy the existence of Masonic societies, in addition to the measures already adopted, report,

1. That it is expedient to recommend to the people of the several counties of this State to establish free presses in their respective counties, and to place the same under the control of discreet and competent persons who will fearlessly publish the whole truth, in violation to the principles, obligations, and tendency of speculative Masonry.

2. That it is expedient to appoint an Anti-Masonic General Committee for the State of New York, to whom the Anti-Masonic Central Committees for the several counties may report themselves.

3. That it is expedient to recommend to the people of the several counties of this State, who have not already appointed a Central Committee, to appoint such and report themselves to the General Committee.

4. That it is expedient to recommend to the people of the several towns of this State to raise money by contribution, and transmit the same through their respective county committees to the General Committee, for the purpose of defray-

ing the expense that has already been incurred, and that it may become necessary to expend in the publication and distribution of facts and documents exposing the outrages and iniquities of the Masonic institution.

5. That it is expedient to petition the legislature of this State to prohibit the use or administration of extra judicial oaths.

6. That it is expedient for this Convention, in pursuit of the good objects to be accomplished, wholly to disregard the two great political parties that at this time distract this State of the Union, in the choice of candidates for office; and to nominate Anti-Masonic candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

7. That it is expedient to publish in a pamphlet form the proceedings of this convention, together with such disclosures of the secret ceremonies and blasphemous rites of the Masonic institution as have been made to this Convention.

*Resolved*, That the following persons compose the General Central Committee of the State of New York: Samuel Works, Harvey Ely, Frederick F. Backus, Frederick Whitteley, Thurlow Weed.

*Resolved*, That the address this day delivered by T. F. Talbot, Esq., be published.

Adjourned until August 5, at eight o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

“*Resolved*, That this Convention nominate Francis Granger, of Ontario, as candidate for the office of Governor of this State; and John Crary, of the county of Washington, for the office of Lieutenant Governor of this State.

*Resolved*, That the General Central Committee shall have authority to notify the meeting of a State Anti-Masonic Convention, to meet hereafter at such time and place as the Committee in the exercise of a sound discretion shall designate.

*Resolved*, That this Convention recommend the publication and circulation of a book entitled ‘Freemasonry, by a Master Mason,’ etc.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention be presented to the Second Baptist Church and Society of Utica, for the kind and generous offer of their house of public worship for the purpose of this Convention.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the President, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this Convention.

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this Convention be signed by the President and Secretaries, and published under the direction of the General Central Committee."

RESOLUTIONS AND ADDRESS ADOPTED BY THE ANTI-MASONIC PRELIMINARY STATE CONVENTION, HELD AT UTICA THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH OF AUGUST, 1828.

*Resolved*, That in a republican government the existence of an institution exercising a secret and irresistible control over public opinion, is dangerous to the rights, and may be fatal to the liberties of the people.

*Resolved*, That it is the right and the duty of the citizens of these United States to use all lawful means to annihilate an institution which has shown itself capable of contriving, effecting, and in a great degree concealing the crimes of kidnapping and murder.

*Resolved*, That we will not give our suffrages to any member of the Masonic Fraternity who adheres to the institution, or acknowledges the binding force of their wicked and blasphemous obligations; nor in any manner directly or indirectly promote their election to any office or place of public trust.

*Resolved*, That those members of the institution who have courageously broken the shackles of Masonry, and thus restored themselves to the full enjoyment of the rights of freemen, have set an example highly worthy of imitation, and have entitled themselves to the approbation of their fellow-citizens.

*Resolved*, That this Convention feel a deep sense of the

gratitude due to those resolute men who have torn the covering from Freemasonry, and exposed her deformity and vileness.

*Resolved*, That the control which Freemasonry has heretofore exerted, and still does exert, over the liberty of the press, is conclusive proof that her existence and influence are irreconcilable with the full possession and enjoyment of our civil rights.

*Resolved*, That the power which for nearly two years past has baffled every effort to discover and bring to justice the perpetrators of outrage and murder, is fearfully and alarmingly great; it cannot be suffered to exist without the utmost danger to the personal safety of every citizen; and must be destroyed, or it will destroy the government."

Mr. Whittlesey, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported an address, which was read and unanimously adopted.

The final outgrowth of the Morgan excitement was an

#### ANTI-MASONIC STATE CONVENTION,

the delegates to which were opponents of Freemasonry, coming from various counties and assembled at Albany, in the Capitol, on February 19, 1829, who continued the session for three days. The cause of the Convention is stated in the following call :

"In pursuance of a resolution passed by the Anti-Masonic State Convention which met at Utica on the 4th day of August last, authorizing the General Corresponding Committee to call future conventions, when, in their judgment, the cause required it, notice is hereby given that a State Convention of delegates opposed to the Institution of Freemasonry will be holden at the city of Albany on the 19th day of February next, to deliberate upon and adopt such measures as may be deemed best calculated to vindicate the laws of the land from Masonic violence, and to redeem the principles of civil and political liberty from Masonic encroachments. The

citizens of the several counties in the State are requested to appoint a number of delegates corresponding with their respective representations in the House of Assembly, to attend this Convention.

SAMUEL WORKS, HARVEY ELY, F. F. BACKUS, FR'K WHITTLESEY, THURLOW WEED,	}	General Central Committee.
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ROCHESTER, Dec. 30, 1828."

STATE CONVENTION, 1829.

The delegates met in the Assembly Chamber of the Capitol at the city of Albany, on the 19th day of February, 1829, at four o'clock P.M., and were called to order by Samuel M. Hopkins, delegate from Albany County, and on his motion, William Finn, of Orange County, was chosen President of the Convention—and James Hawkes, of Otsego, and Alexander Sheldon, of Montgomery, were chosen Vice-Presidents. Nicholas Devereaux, of Oneida, and Frederick Whittlesey, of Monroe, were duly appointed Secretaries.

After an address from Mr. Southwick, delegates from the following counties answered to their names :

*Albany.* — Solomon Southwick, Samuel M. Hopkins, Albany ; Thomas Helmes, Guilderland.

*Cataraugus.*—Russell Hubbard, Farmersville P. O.

*Cayuga.*—William Bruce, Auburn ; John A. Taylor, Mentz ; Aaron Watson, North Scipio ; William H. Seward, Auburn ; Samuel Phelps, Ira.

*Chautauqua.* — Abner Hazeltine, Jamestown ; Nathan Nixon, Forestville.

*Chenango.* — John Hendrix, Coventry ; Jethro Hatch, Otselic ; James Thompson, Sherburne.

*Columbia.*—David Wager, Ghent ; Isaac B. Bassett, Hudson ; John Hoes, Stuyvesant.

*Cortland.* — Alanson Carley, Harrison ; Eli Carpenter, Homer.

*Delaware.*—Ebenezer Penfield, Harpersfield Center; Joel Parks, Delhi.

*Dutchess.*—Cornelius Husted, Rolend Hoag, Pine Plains; Thomas H. Rickey, Fishkill; Abraham Van Keezer, Rhinebeck-Flats.

*Erie.*—Thaddeus Joy, Albert H. Tracy, Buffalo; Israel P. Trimbel [removed to Derby, Penn.].

*Essex.*—Franklin Stone, Jay.

*Greene.*—Joseph Carman, Cairo; Knight Bennett, Freehold.

*Genesee.*—Timothy Fitch, George W. Lay, Batavia; Augustus P. Haskall, Le Roy.

*Herkimer.*—Abraham Randall, jr., German Flats; Hiram Nolton, Fairfield.

*Jefferson.*—A. W. Stow, Sackett's Harbor; S. M. Sweet, Adams; Albert Guthrie, Hounsfield.

*Livingston.*—James Percival, Geneseo; Halloway Long, York.

*Madison.*—John F. Fairchild, Cazenovia; Francis Whitmore, Lebanon; Thomas Beekman, Peterborough.

*Monroe.*—Brooks Mason, Penfield; William Groves, Clarkson; Frederick Whittlesey, Thurlow Weed, delegate from Central Committee, Rochester.

*Montgomery.*—John Merrill, Glen; Tiffany Brockway, Broadalban; Alexander Sheldon, Charleston.

*New York.*—Henry Dana Ward, S. B. Griswald, B. J. Seward.

*Niagara.*—Bates Cook, Lewiston; John Phillips, Lockport.

*Oneida.*—Thomas R. Palmer, New Hartford; William Williams, Richard R. Lansing, Nicholas Devereaux, Satterlee Clark, Utica.

*Onondaga.*—Parley Howlett, Onondaga West Hill P. O.; John Myres, Fabius, Delphi P. O.; Parson G. Shipman, Pompey, Delphi P. O.

*Ontario.*—Ralph Wilcox, East Bloomfield; Irving Metcalf, Gorham; Francis Granger, Canandaigua.

*Orange.*—William Finn, Walkill, P. O. Phillipsburgh.

*Oswego.*—Arvin Rice, Hannibal.

*Otsego.*—Erastus Crafts, Laurens; James Hawkes, Richfield; Richard P. Marvin, Cherry Valley; John C. Morris, Butternuts.

*Putnam.*—Harrison Hopkins, Patterson, Mill Town Post Office.

*Rensselaer.*—Welcome Whittaker, Troy; Ambrose Mosley, Hoosick Falls; Lewis Buffit, David Green, Jonathan Nichols, Holden Sweet, Berlin.

*Saratoga.*—Caleb Greene, Mechanicsville; James Mott, Saratoga; David Garnsey, Clifton.

*Schenectady.*—Solomon Kelly, Schenectady.

*Schoharie.*—J. W. Throop, Schoharie Court House; Jacob H. Hagar, Blenheim P. O.

*Seneca.*—Enoch Chamberlain, Waterloo; David Scott, Ovid.

*Steuben.*—Henry A. Townsend, Urbana.

*Tioga.*—Stephen L. Pert, Spencer.

*Tompkins.*—Hiram Cobb, Groton; Robert Swartwout, Hector; John Haxton, Ulysses.

*Ulster.*—Jonathan Dubois, Newport; Jesse P. Conklin, Milton.

*Washington.*—John Crary, Salem; Chauncey Whitney, White Creek, Cambridge P. O.; Benjamin Ferris, Sandy Hill.

*Wayne.*—Myron Holley, Lyons.

*Yates.*—Morris F. Sheppard, Penn Yan.

At the instance of Mr. Whittlesey, it was

“*Resolved*, That Thurlow Weed be admitted to a seat in this Convention, as a delegate from the General Central Anti-Masonic Committee.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Maynard of the Senate and Mr. Williams of the House be admitted members of this Convention.

*Resolved*, That Martin Flint, of Vermont, Mr. Pratt, of Connecticut, and Mr. Merrick, of Massachusetts, be admitted honorary members of this Convention.”

## THE ANTI-MASONIC REPORT.

Mr. Weed, the delegate from the Central Committee of the State, in after years known far and wide as "King of the Lobby" of the Legislature of the State of New York—and of his power exercised in that capacity, many can speak knowingly—submitted the following report of the Committee, on the progress and present state of the Anti-Masonic cause :

"The General Central Corresponding Committee embrace what they deem a proper occasion to make a brief report upon the progress and condition of the Anti-Masonic cause.

In rendering our grateful acknowledgments to the Dispenser of all good, and congratulating our fellow-citizens upon the '*signs of the times,*' which indicate a great moral and political revolution, in the coming overthrow of Freemasonry, it may not be unprofitable to glance backwards over the relationship which that Institution bore to the people and the country, at the period when the overt acts were committed, which are leading the American Republic to re-assert and confirm its independence.

The Masonic Society, by its arrogation of all the science, wisdom, patriotism, and virtues which illumine the age, endow and sustain the Institutions of the country, and adorn the human character, had conciliated the esteem and won the confidence of public opinion. It had grown under these genial influences, unsuspected of other motives than those which it professed, into enormous wealth and gigantic power. Professing strict obedience to the laws, and a wedded affinity to the religion of the country, it had implanted its roots, extended its arms, and established its laws all over the land. The suspicions and apprehensions that had watched and overcome all other secret associations, by the soothing pretensions and specious bearing of Freemasonry, were quieted and disarmed.

At this crisis of popular credulity, the Masonic conspiracies and outrages which have aroused the moral energies of this

State, and promise to interest the whole nation, were matured and perpetrated. Voluntary investigations were speedily undertaken, but the people were slow to entertain evil thoughts of an ancient and honorable Institution. The great, the wise, and the good, of every age and country, were claimed to be among its votaries and patrons. Investigations, embarrassed and crippled by the influence and stratagems of the fraternity, proceeded with slow and uncertain steps. The laws were relaxed and the ministers of justice lingered in their course. The constitutional reliances of the people for protection and safety, were soon found too weak to discharge their functions. And the public press, which, on all other occasions of existing evil or approaching danger, had asserted its high prerogative, was now awed into silence.

A general alarm spread through the western counties. The people met and appointed committees of investigation. It was soon discovered that the outrages had not been unadvisedly perpetrated by irresponsible members of the Fraternity, but were authorized by the Institution and impelled by its principles. The conspiracy, from its origin to its conclusion, embraced a period of more than four months, and the knowledge of it extended from the immediate actors in it to the highest authorities pertaining to the Order.

The results of the first six months' investigation were embodied in a narrative and published by the Lewiston Committee. The facts and developments therein set forth have withstood the '*test of truth and the scrutiny of time.*' With a view to possess the people of information which so deeply concerned their individual rights and the public safety, the committee caused five thousand copies of this narrative to be gratuitously circulated through this and the adjoining States.

Finding the ordinary tribunals of justice, in some instances, disinclined to discharge their duties, and, in all cases, too feeble to resist the mysteriously powerful influence of Freemasonry, the people memorialized their Representatives for relief. Their petition, respectfully detailing the alarming facts now so well known to all, and earnestly praying that

the arm of the law might be strengthened, scarcely received the decent forms of legislative interment. The same irresistible power which had misruled our public officers, sealed the lips of witnesses, tampered with the consciences of jurors, and suspended the sword of justice, now closed the Halls of Legislature upon the people.

Turned out of court and repulsed by their Representatives, the people of the western counties appealed, not to the 'weapons which God and nature had put into their hands,' as would have been the case in a less enlightened country, but to public opinion, lawfully and understandingly expressed through the ballot boxes, for protection and redress. Every other avenue was closed. This was the only *constitutional* last resort. Truly auspicious results and salutary influences are vindicating the wisdom of this appeal, and all coming experience will sanction its justice.

Meantime, the public eye, and the committees more especially, turned inquiringly from individual offenders, towards the Institution itself. A keen desire was manifest to know the real character of Freemasonry, and the true tendency of its principles. Morgan had made a full revelation of the three first degrees, the truth of which was attested by his abduction, and sealed with his blood. Masonry, however, professed to be a '*progressive science*,' and further developments were necessary to the formation of a correct estimate of its character. These were not long withheld. An Encampment of Knights Templars at Le Roy, after a violent and protracted struggle with that portion of their companions which approved of the outrages, resolved to restore themselves to society and their country, by renouncing the principles and exposing the secrets of the Institution. This solemn duty was discharged, in convention, at Le Roy, on the 19th of February, 1828. The horrid oaths, unearthly penalties, profane orgies, and blasphemous rites of the higher degrees, were there made public. Freemasonry, stripped of her seeming vestal garments and gorgeous attire, now stood bald and naked, exposed to the scorn and abhorrence of a long-deluded but finally disabused people.

The Committee continued their investigations, and were in constant attendance upon the several courts where indictments were pending, vainly endeavoring to accelerate the tardy and fettered footsteps of justice.

Near the close of the winter session of 1828, the executive and legislative departments of the government became suddenly impressed with the propriety and necessity of according the relief which was so promptly denied the preceding session. An act was passed, authorizing the appointment of special counsel to prosecute the investigation of the Masonic outrages. The then acting governor appointed Daniel Moseley, Esq., to discharge this responsible duty. That gentleman entered immediately into the investigation, which he continued to prosecute diligently, until he was called from the discharge of those duties to a seat upon the Bench, in the 7th Judicial District.

Mr. Moseley has collected and arranged an important mass of complicated testimony, evidencing a widespread conspiracy, and an accumulation of crime fearfully dark and atrocious. This fulfilling measure of guilt grows out of the necessity, from which the Institution cannot escape, of protecting those who, in obeying its mandates, violated the laws of the land. The Masonic conspirators acted under the advice of their Chapters, the principles of which, in letter and spirit, cover the whole ground. Even the murderers of Morgan can open their 'Free Mason's Monitor' and demand the reward for executing the traitor!

If anything were wanting to prove that these outrages were the natural offspring of Masonic principles, we would refer to the fact that the persons notoriously concerned in them, not merely stand fair with their Lodges and Chapters, but have been elevated to their highest honors and offices! Those, too, who fled from justice have been protected and supported by the Fraternity. And we have strong reasons to believe, though unsupported by positive testimony, that moneys have been furnished by the Grand Chapter for the relief and defense of the conspirators, who are distinguished by the mystic Brotherhood as the '*Western sufferers.*'

The time and manner of Morgan's murder have been ascertained by those who were immediately connected with the investigations. Most, if not all, of the persons by whom the foul deed was perpetrated are satisfactorily known; but when, and by whose agency, their guilt will be judicially established, remains with the Great Disposer of all human events.

Edward Giddins, whose testimony would go very far in developing the *finale* of this extended conspiracy, and foul murder, has been rejected as a witness in the Ontario Court of Common Pleas, by a rule, in relation to the soundness of which the most distinguished jurists entertain conflicting opinions. Had the objection gone to Mr. Giddins's *credibility*, he would have been fully sustained, for few men have passed through life with a more blameless reputation.

Elisha Adams, into whose charge Morgan passed from Mr. Giddins, and who continued to feed and guard him until the night of the murder, was sent by the confederates to Vermont, whence he was demanded as a fugitive from justice. Adams was a reluctant agent of the conspirators, and, during his seclusion, had determined, if brought to the bar as a witness, as he himself repeatedly averred, to '*make a clean breast of it*,' by telling the truth. He continued in this wholesome frame of mind, until he found himself surrounded by his guilty Royal Arch companions, who soon succeeded in re-establishing their mysterious influence over his conscience, and subjecting him to that obligation of their peculiar code, which, under the most fearful penalties, enjoins the keeping of a companion's secret in all cases, '*murder and treason not excepted.*' William King, who professed to have returned to Niagara County for the purpose of confronting his accusers, swore off his trial, and has retraced his steps to Arkansas. Howard, of Buffalo, who applied the torch to Miller's office, fled to Europe, and has not since been heard of. John Whitney, of Rochester, who, following the counsels of more wary conspirators, went fearful lengths, after hiding in distant States for nearly two years, has returned and awaits his trial. Loton Lawson, who pleaded guilty to the conspiracy indictments, to prevent

the production of testimony that would inculpate him for a higher offense, has completed his two years' imprisonment, and has taken up his abode in the State of Pennsylvania. It is known that a Masonic friend of Lawson's preceded him, on his route from Canandaigua to his destined residence, summoning the Chapters to meet ; but for what purpose we are left to conjecture.

The case of Eli Bruce, late sheriff of Niagara County, who was convicted in Ontario of receiving and confining Morgan in Fort Niagara, was referred, on a question of form, to the Supreme Court, and it has been decided in his favor. Eighteen other persons, concerned in the outrages, have been indicted ; but the public prosecutor has not been able to bring on their trials.

Nothing but the intelligence and virtue of a great proportion of its members has so long restrained Freemasonry from open misrule and violence. Its signs, grips, and obligations afford every facility for the protection and escape of Masonic offenders. And these facilities are far from having been unimproved. Depredations to a greater amount, and conspiracies of a more formidable character, have been committed and concealed under the ripening influences of Freemasonry, than the public, aided by recent developments, would be willing to believe. The Institution exerts a mysterious and pernicious influence over all the relations of life. The obligation which binds Masons to warn their brethren of all approaching danger, and to keep inviolable their guilty secrets, is a direct bribe to the vicious propensities of our nature. And that obligation which compels a Mason to assist a mystic brother out of difficulty, 'right or wrong,' furnishes the widest latitude to crime.

It is not unknown to those who have given the subject their attention, that the numerous gangs of counterfeiters who have so frequently flooded the State with spurious notes and base coin, were almost wholly composed of Free Masons. With this knowledge, it is no longer a mystery how they so frequently eluded the ministers of justice, or escaped through the meshes of the law.

But there is an evil of a more alarming nature, to which we feel constrained to draw the public attention. Freemasonry has cast her broadest mantle over legislative corruption and bribery. The attempt of John Anderson to bribe the Hon. Lewis Williams, chairman of the Committee of Claims in the House of Representatives, has led to a brief examination of transactions of a similar character in our State Legislature. Col. Anderson attempted to bribe Mr. Williams as a '*man and a Mason*,' but being no Mason, Mr. W. was at liberty not only to reject the bribe, but to expose the culprit. This incident is full of instruction. Had Mr. Williams been a Mason, though promptly rejecting the bribe, he was not at liberty to expose a mystic brother to shame and punishment. A Free Mason approaches his legislative brother with the wages of iniquity in his hand, in the full assurance that, if his bribe is rejected, his guilty secret will be inviolably kept. This reasoning is fortified by an extended train of facts. The history of all the known corruptions practiced in our Legislature, from the briberies committed with the Merchants' Bank in 1804, to those of the Fulton and Chemical Charters in 1824, is pregnant with testimony against Freemasonry. The fact, that almost every man known to have been disreputably concerned in those transactions, was a Free Mason, admonishes the people to guard these avenues against the corrupting influence of that Institution. And that ancient, if not honorable fraternity, the Lobby, which still infests the seat of government, and beleaguers the capital, stands conspicuous in the lists of Freemasonry. Of all the horde of mercenaries who hang year after year upon the Legislature, let even one be named who is not a bright Free Mason. These assertions are not brought upon slight or insufficient testimony. The evidence of their entire truth may be obtained by all who make proper inquiries.

But the Institution puts forth on all occasions, as a shield and defense against the accusations brought against her, the names of eminently virtuous men, who in their youth, misled by her false pretensions to science and wisdom, '*took her*

*for better or for worse.* The sainted name of WASHINGTON, though his recorded admonitions to '*beware of all secret, self-created associations, under what specious garb soever they appeared,*' forbid the profanation, is impudently used to patch up the tattered vestments with which a detected impostor still seeks to cover her deformities. The stainless reputation of a contemporary, whose boundless charities have engraven his name upon the hearts of thousands, and whose munificence is even now unfolding the treasures of knowledge to the humblest citizen, and extending the boundaries of science to the remotest sections of the State, is daily pressed into the service of Freemasonry, to give false luster to its character, and posthumous currency to its principles. It is due to this distinguished gentleman to state, that although the swelling titles and empty honors of the Fraternity have been continuously lavished upon him, he never could be pressed beyond the third degree of speculative Freemasonry. And a confiding hope is entertained, based upon our knowledge of his virtues and patriotism, that ere long he will feel constrained to inhibit the use of his bright name in beguiling the footsteps of our youth into the dark and devious recesses of the Lodge Room. More than four hundred initiates within our own State, including Members of every Degree, from an Entered Apprentice to the Thrice Illustrious Knights of the Holy Trinity, have publicly renounced the Institution. Thousands have silently withdrawn, and it cannot be presumed that any good man, who received it upon trust, will continue his connection with the Fraternity after he has thoroughly examined the tendency of its principles.

Freemasonry is deeply anxious to conceal the truth in relation to herself and her fast votaries. It will require much zeal and labor to expose and dissipate the falsehoods and delusions which the Fraternity have so industriously spread abroad. Time and truth, however, will ultimately encompass these ends. All there is of Freemasonry, pertaining to the Lodges, Chapters, and Encampments, may be gathered from Morgan's Illustrations and the Le Roy Revelations.

But the inquirer for real Freemasonry, divested of its gaudy trappings, and its traditionary fables, must seek out other sources of information. The work of the Abbé Barruel and Professor Robison's 'Proofs of a Conspiracy to overthrow all Religion and Government,' present faithful and alarming pictures of Freemasonry, and commend themselves to the deliberate consideration of the American people. Of the various writers who are now developing, with fearless pens and surpassing powers, the legitimate tendency and aims of Freemasonry, Henry Dana Ward, of New York, and Elder John Stearns, of Oneida County, have attained a proud eminence, from which they are dispensing floods of light and knowledge. These gifted and enlightened men were members of the Masonic Fraternity. They had, however, sifted its pretensions and eschewed its principles, previous to the murder of Morgan. The writings of these gentlemen ought to be speedily procured and extensively circulated through every town in the State. We hazard nothing in saying that no intelligent man or Mason can read Mr. Ward's volume entitled 'Freemasonry,' without being convinced that the Institution is a rank imposture and dangerous cheat.

Perhaps we cannot convey a bolder or more comprehensive view, out of fancied power and unchastened ambition of Freemasonry, than is found in the Oration of the late W. F. Brainard, at New London, Ct., before the Union Lodge, June 24, 1825, on the recurrence of one of her fabulous anniversaries. Mr. Brainard says :

'What is Masonry now? IT IS POWERFUL. It comprises men of RANK, wealth, office, and talent, in power and out of power, and that in almost every place where POWER IS OF ANY IMPORTANCE; and it comprises, among other CLASSES of the community, to the lowest, in large numbers, active men, united together, *and capable of being directed by the efforts of others*, so as to have the FORCE OF CONCERT *throughout the civilized world!* They are distributed too, with the means of knowing one another, and the means of keeping secret, and the means of co-operating, in the DESK—in the LEGISLATIVE

HALL—on the BENCH—in every GATHERING OF BUSINESS—in every PARTY OF PLEASURE—IN EVERY ENTERPRISE OF GOVERNMENT—in every DOMESTIC CIRCLE—in PEACE and in WAR—among ENEMIES and FRIENDS—in ONE PLACE as well as in ANOTHER! So POWERFUL, indeed, is it at this time, [June 24th, 1825] that it fears nothing from VIOLENCE, either PUBLIC OR PRIVATE; FOR IT HAS EVERY MEANS TO LEARN IT IN SEASON TO COUNTERACT, DEFEAT, AND PUNISH IT!

Such were the views and aims entertained and cherished by distinguished Free Masons, of the extent and power of their institution. The issue of the moral conflict in which we are engaged must determine how well or ill these extravagant opinions were founded.

At the period when the Masonic outrages were perpetrated, only three papers [the *Republican Advocate*, the *Cazenovia Monitor*, and *National Observer*] had the moral courage to raise their voice against those high-handed infractions of the laws. Their contemporaries either maintained a studied silence, labored to quiet the apprehensions and misdirect the investigations of the people, or treated the whole subject with ridicule and levity. Soon, however, a Press, avowedly Anti-Masonic, was established at Rochester. Simultaneously, the *Livingston Register*, *Le Roy Gazette*, *Seneca Farmer*, *Trumansburgh Lake Light*, and *Sangersfield Intelligencer*, devoted their columns to the cause of civil and political liberty.—Other papers in defiance of the wealth and influence of ‘All-powerful Freemasonry,’ soon followed in the path of duty, and Free Presses are now established in the counties of Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, Genesee, Orleans, Monroe, Livingston, Ontario, Wayne, Seneca, Yates, Cayuga, Oswego, Madison, Oneida, Jefferson, Tompkins, and Ulster, and in the cities of Albany and New York. Hopes, which we confidently believe will not be disappointed, are entertained, that faithful, public sentinels will soon be stationed in all or nearly all the other counties.

Free Presses constitute the means upon which the country must rely to uproot and overthrow Freemasonry. They

enlighten and stimulate public opinion. All the counties in this and the neighboring States, in which Free Presses have been established, are now contributing their best efforts to exterminate the Institution. They are multiplying with considerable alacrity, and the Committee deem the continued augmentation of their numbers an object of primary and paramount importance.

The Presidential election seriously embarrassed our cause during its pendency. That question settled, the people are giving their attention to a subject of immensely greater moment than the success or defeat of any mere political party. The citizens of Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island are deeply imbued with our sentiments.

The counties of Indiana, Lancaster, and Union, in the State of Pennsylvania, and the county of Morris, in the State of New Jersey, have shorn Freemasonry of her strength. The inhabitants of Michigan are laboring with praiseworthy firmness to drive the monster from their flourishing territory. Ohio is shaking off the incubus, and an earnest spirit of inquiry is rapidly spreading all over the Union.

Entirely erroneous opinions have been propagated, far and wide, in relation to the views and conduct of Anti-Masons. We are represented as persecuting and oppressing all the members of the Masonic society, thereby confounding the innocent with the guilty. Nothing but Freemasonry itself is more fallacious than this accusation. Free Masons have violated the laws of the State, and taken the life of an unoffending citizen. The influence of the Fraternity has impeded, and continues to impede, the course of justice, and the offenders stalk abroad in the community, cherished and supported by the Institution, unmolested and unpunished. The secrets and principles of the Institution, which have been fully exposed, are positively and undeniably bad and dangerous. We therefore ask Free Masons to renounce them. If they refuse to accede to a request so reasonable, are we made obnoxious to the charge of persecution for withholding our support from them? How are the people to redeem

their Halls of Legislation, to purify their temples of justice, or to re-establish the ascendancy of their laws, if the supporters of Freemasonry are not dispossessed of place and power?

The progress of truth and the developments of time have refuted many of the fictions, and turned back some of the calumnies, with which the Fraternity so long held public opinion in suspense. It is no longer gravely asserted that Morgan is selling his books, that he has retired beyond the Rocky Mountains, or that he has joined the standard of the false prophet at Smyrna. All who do not egregiously undervalue the intelligence of the people are constrained to admit that this citizen, blameless of all offense to the laws of the land, after five days' confinement, was deliberately murdered at Fort Niagara, and cast into Lake Ontario. The idle calumny which represented the just indignation of freemen as an excitement, got up for the temporary purpose of aiding a particular party, has spent its impotent malice, and passes, with the mass of falsehoods which that fruitful occasion for private and public defamation provoked. The deep sensibility and awakened interest which ten free States are manifesting, by unequivocal demonstrations of hostility, to the Masonic Institution, repels the accusation of the Fraternity, which confined their belligerents to an infected district of madmen and fanatics in the western part of the State of New York.

But we turn from the past to contemplate the future—where hope is unfolding her bright visions to the eye of patriotism, and promising her treasured rewards to the aspirations of piety. The quiet but resistless power of public opinion is accomplishing a great moral and political revolution. This work, which moved forward with cautious and faltering steps, through its incipient stages, is now rapidly spreading all over this and the neighboring States. We cannot yet fix its boundaries, or estimate the time that it will require to accomplish its high purposes. But one thing is certain—the fire will burn while the fuel lasts; and the disenthraling spirit which has gone abroad will not return

until the Republic is effectually redeemed from the unhal-  
lowed grasp of Speculative Freemasonry.

SAMUEL WORKS,  
HARVEY ELY,  
F. F. BACKUS,  
FR'K WHITTLESEY,  
THURLOW WEED.

ROCHESTER, February 15, 1829."

Mr. J. C. Morris addressed the Convention, and submitted the following resolution, which, on his motion, was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That a Committee of one from each Senatorial District be appointed to prepare and submit to this Convention the subjects proper to be taken into consideration by this Convention."

Mr. Fitch addressed the Convention, and submitted the following resolutions, which, on his motion, were adopted :

"*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to draft an address to the people of this State, on the subject of the late Masonic outrages committed in this State, and the principles of Masonry and Anti-Masonry.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the views and feelings of this Convention, in reference to the principles of the Masonic Society, and their effect upon the civil and religious institutions of our country.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire whether the ceremonials, obligations, and secrets of the Masonic order, as disclosed by the late William Morgan before his abduction and murder, and the Convention of Seceding Masons at Le Roy, on the 4th and 5th of July last, are substantially correct and true.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire whether there exists in this State any private or public act or acts of the Legislature, in reference to the order of Freemasonry, and if so, the nature, objects, and effects of such

acts, and whether it is expedient to memorialize the Legislature for a modification or repeal of the same.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire whether it is expedient to memorialize the Legislature on the subject of extra judicial oaths, and more particularly when administered in secret, the object, nature, and tendency of which are concealed from the government and the community at large.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire whether it is expedient for this Convention to recommend a convention of delegates from the several United States, to be held at some future time and suitable place, to deliberate on the subject which has called this Convention together, and if so, whether it is expedient for this Convention to designate the time and place, and also the suitable number of delegates from each State.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire whether Mrs. Lucinda Morgan, widow of the late Capt. William Morgan, is provided with the pecuniary means for supporting herself and her orphan childreu, and if not, whether it is expedient and proper for this Convention to adopt any measures for her relief."

On motion of Mr. Sweet,

"*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the expediency of erecting some honorable and durable monument to the memory of Wm. Morgan."

#### THE MONUMENT TO WILLIAM MORGAN,

erected at Batavia, and dedicated September 11, 1882, is columnar, surmounted by a colossal statue, and contains on its base the following: "Sacred to the memory of William Morgan, a native of Virginia, a Captain of the War of 1812, a respectable citizen of Batavia, and a martyr to writing, printing, and speaking the Truth. He was abducted from near this spot, in the year 1826, by Free Masons, and murdered for revealing the secrets of their Order."

The Convention adjourned to meet at the Mayor's Court-room on the following morning.

*Friday, Feb. 20th.*—The Convention appointed the following committees :

*Legislative Acts in relation to Freemasonry.*—Messrs. Beekman, Long, Penfield, Nolton, and Crafts.

*Memorial relative to Extra Judicial Oaths.*—Messrs. Crary, Stow, Howlett, Moseley, Townsend.

*National Convention.*—Messrs. Granger, Seward, Robinson, Lay, Green.

*Relative to Mrs. Morgan.*—Messrs. Fitch, Thompson, Rice, Nolton, Shipman.

*Monument to Wm. Morgan.*—Messrs. Sweet, Southwick, Throop, Hopkins of Putnam, and Rickey.

On motion of Mr. William Seward, of New York, it was

“*Resolved*, That the members of the Senate and Assembly, elected on Anti-Masonic principles, be invited to take seats in this Convention as honorary members.”

Mr. Granger, chairman of the committee on the subject of calling a

#### NATIONAL ANTI-MASONIC CONVENTION,

submitted the following report and resolution, which, after the Convention was addressed by Messrs. Granger, Seward, Green, and Cook, were adopted.

“The committee appointed to inquire into the propriety of recommending a National Convention to deliberate upon the dangerous tendency of Masonic Institutions, and devise such means as may be necessary to secure our people from their encroachment upon their freedom,

#### REPORT :

That, in considering this question, your committee have naturally been led to inquire what are the feelings of our sister States upon this subject, and whether it is probable that the lights which have been shed from this State upon other sections of our confederacy, have been such as to have

roused to action any considerable portion of their citizens. In pursuing this inquiry, they have been gratified to learn that, although but comparatively few States have as yet taken prominent measures to arrest the progress, and to eradicate the existence of the evils of which we complain, there is a spirit abroad in the land which gives sure promise of future action and the strongest hopes of ultimate success.

From public journals, from a free correspondence with men of intelligence, and from information furnished by gentlemen now with us, and whose moral worth and character is a sure guarantee for their assertions, we learn that in Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, measures are already concerted, and operations are already commenced, which will submit this question to the decision of the descendants of those who lit the first torch of liberty upon their hills, and through whose valleys was sounded the first alarm for freedom. To this decision your committee look with unwavering confidence, not only as to its result upon the States already mentioned, but as to its moral effect upon the neighboring States of New Hampshire and Maine.

From Pennsylvania the intelligence is of a character that leaves no doubt of final victory, and that her tried democracy will be found in the ranks of the conflict. Ohio early took part in this contest, and although intelligence on this subject has not there spread with the rapidity which marked its progress among our people, there is ample proof that the flame so early kindled, though slowly, is safely and surely extending throughout the whole State. From the States of New Jersey, Alabama, and Kentucky, and from the Territory of Michigan, we learn that meetings have been held and measures taken to produce a general diffusion of knowledge upon this subject.

Your committee have thus briefly stated, for the information of the Convention, what they believe to be the true condition of Anti-Masonry throughout the several States, so far as the same has been developed through public channels. Private letters would carry the belief that in several other States investigations are about commencing, which, though

they may be smothered for a time, will ere long break forth with a resistless force. The spirit of inquiry so natural to freemen, and the indulgence of which is secured by the intelligence of our citizens, will soon fix the public attention in every State in the Union, and no reflecting man can doubt the result of a free inquiry.

Upon a full examination of this subject, your committee are unanimously of the opinion, that the period has arrived when measures should be taken to form a general national Convention, for the purposes for which we have assembled.

Although your committee are well aware, that the right of our people to assemble in their representative capacity, in any manner that may be deemed most advisable, is amply secured by the Constitution and laws of our country, yet a view of the past cannot leave a doubt, that there will be those ready to sound the alarm, and to endeavor to create the belief, that the call for such a Convention must proceed from men of wicked design, and can be the result only of arrogance and presumption. Should such objections arise, your committee would remark, that it is their intention to constitute not a secret, but an open organization, co-extensive with the evils which they would correct. Your committee recommended the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That in order to concentrate public opinion, correct error, and diffuse more general information as to the true character and nature of the Institution of Speculative Freemasonry, and the principles for which we are contending, we recommend to the citizens of these United States, to meet in Convention at the City of Philadelphia, on the 11th day of September, 1830, by delegates from each State, equal in number to their respective representatives in the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress, and to be elected in such manner as the several States shall deem most advisable. The objects of which Convention, when assembled, shall be to adopt such measures as to them, in their deliberate wisdom, shall appear to be most effectual to annihilate the Masonic Institution, and all other secret

societies which claim to be paramount to our Laws, and are hostile to the genius and spirit of the Constitution.”

Mr. Stow, from the Committee on the subject of memorializing the Legislature in relation to

EXTRA JUDICIAL OATHS,

submitted the following report and resolution, which, after the Convention had been addressed by Messrs. Fitch, Wittlesey, and Ward, were adopted.

“The Committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of memorializing the Legislature on the subject of extra judicial oaths,

REPORT :

That the Institution of Speculative Freemasonry, as it exists in this country, is, in the opinion of the Committee, an embarrassment to the administration of justice and the government. That its principles are at variance with the doctrines of democracy and morality, and its practices hostile to the safety and welfare of the community.

Whatever may have been the merits of this Institution at its inception, it cannot be rationally supposed that a secret combination, originating under a monarchical government, can be adapted, for any virtuous purpose, to a country of intelligence and liberty. The only utility pretended in this Institution by its most zealous votaries, is that of its being charitable. Even this claim the committee are not disposed to allow. In their opinion it is totally unfounded, and a mere pretense devised by designing men for the purpose of deceiving the public, and literally ‘covering a multitude of sins.’ So far from charity being its characteristic, it is directly the reverse—like all corporations it is a body without a soul—selfish and monopolizing, and directs all its views to its own aggrandizement. Though it be admitted that in some instances it may extend a helping hand to a distressed member, we ask, what benefit this can be to the great body of the community? And is not the civilization of

the age and the doctrines of Christianity a sufficient guarantee of the exercise of all rational benevolence, without the aid of Masonic obligations ?

But the great objection to Freemasonry is not the negative one of its being useless. Were this the case, this Convention would never have been assembled. There are objections of a more positive nature, and such as every member of society is interested in exposing. It is a fact, which it is folly for its votaries longer to attempt to disguise, that its practices are pernicious and its doctrines at war with Christianity and the laws of the country.

Its practices are pernicious in withdrawing a certain portion of the community from the great body of society, thereby weakening the social compact in rendering a part independent of the whole ; and in the administration of extra judicial and blasphemous oaths, whose inevitable tendency is to demoralize society, and bring into contempt and disrepute the solemnity of judicial proceedings. Though the recipients of these oaths should not, in many instances, believe them to be obligatory, still they have a pernicious effect in familiarizing the mind to blasphemy and falsehood ; but when believed by those who have received them to be obligatory, the evil becomes insufferable—the government and judiciary become corrupted, and the great bulwark of liberty and the rights of the citizen, the trial by jury, is prostituted to the basest purposes. That such is the effect of oaths thus administered every man can bear witness who is familiar with our courts of justice ; he must often have observed how little importance men accustomed to the foolery of an extra judicial attach to the sanctity of a judicial oath.

The doctrines of Freemasonry are at war with Christianity and the laws, in inculcating a spirit of revenge, in imposing a duty on its members of shielding each other in the perpetration of crimes, and in assuming the right of punishing, even with death, the commission of imaginary offenses. These evils are not merely ideal ; the murder of William Morgan (and his murder the committee feel author-

ized to assume as a fact) shows that the right of punishing for pretended offenses is not only claimed by the Institution, but exercised with demoniac vengeance; and the ineffectual attempts which have hitherto been made to expose and bring to justice his murderers, alarmingly demonstrate how weak are the obligations of morality, religion, and law, when brought in competition with Masonic ties and terrors.

To abate these evils as they now exist, and to prevent their extension, is, in the opinion of the committee, a duty which the Legislature owes to the State. The most effectual means of accomplishing this great purpose will be, in the opinion of the committee, the enactment of a law rendering penal the administration and reception of all extra judicial oaths, and declaring all such oaths totally void and in no respect obligatory upon the recipients. With regard to the latter suggestion, the committee beg leave to remark, that, although extra judicial oaths are not recognized by the common law, and are well known by professional men to be entirely nugatory, yet many persons suppose them obligatory, and the committee believe that a declaratory law, such as they have suggested, will have a happy effect in disabusing the minds of many well-meaning men of error, and be attended with the most salutary consequences.

Such being the views of the committee, they beg leave to introduce the accompanying resolution :

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to prepare and present to the Legislature of this State a memorial in behalf of this Convention, praying legislative enactment against the administering, or receiving, any Masonic oath or obligation, or any oath or obligation imposed by any other secret society whatever.

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire whether there exists, in this State, any private or public act or acts of the Legislature in reference to the order of Freemasonry, and if so, the nature, object, and effect of such acts, and whether it is expedient to memorialize the Legislature for a modification or revival of the same."

Members of the above committee—Messrs. Beekman, Long, Penfield, Nolton, and Crafts.

LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENTS.

Mr. Beekman, chairman of the committee to ascertain what legislative acts have been passed in this State, in relation to Freemasonry, submitted the following report and resolution, which were adopted :

“The committee, to whom the foregoing resolution was referred, have the honor to report to the Convention that they have given all the attention to the subject which the short period allotted to them has enabled them to bestow ; and they would preliminarily remark, that the subject of the resolution was entirely new to them, and had not, previously to its submission, occupied any portion of their attention, and it will not, therefore, be expected that your committee have, in the course of a few hours, been enabled to give the subject so minute an examination as its importance certainly requires.

In examining the statute book, your committee have ascertained that there exist two public acts of the Legislature on the subject—The first, entitled ‘An act to incorporate the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, passed 31st March, 1818 ;’ and the other is entitled ‘An act to enable Masonic Lodges to take and hold real estate, for certain purposes therein mentioned, passed April 16, 1825,’ both of which are extraordinary in their nature, and could have been procured by no less powerful an influence than that which the institution it incorporates has long possessed, and it is believed, exercises, as well in our legislative halls as in our courts of justice.

The preamble to the act of 1818 contains this extraordinary recital : ‘Whereas it is represented to the Legislature, by the Grand Chapter of Free Masons of the State of New York, that they experience great difficulties in vesting and securing their funds, which are chiefly intended for charitable purposes.’ Your committee are at some loss to under-

stand this language, unless they are to infer, that the funds of this Grand Chapter had accumulated upon their hands to such an amount that there were not objects of benevolence, sufficient in number and importance, upon which to expend such a portion of this fund, as to reduce it to a sum which might be invested profitably in the ordinary mode resorted to for a fair investment of capital. That their load had become so great, and their moneyed operations so extensive and complicated, that no one man was competent to its proper management, but it required that congregated wisdom of a body of men to reduce it to order, and explain and ascertain a new and profitable mode in which to dispose of it, for the future use of this society. If such is the truth (and of this perhaps there is no doubt), can it be reconciled with the further declaration, that the funds of this institution were chiefly intended for charitable purposes? Is it indeed true that we have reached that state of prosperity, that there does not exist among us a sufficient number of objects, upon which we may properly expend our charities, and is there any difficulty in disposing of that small portion of his estate which the heart of selfish man prompts him to set apart for that purpose? The daily experience of every man teaches him the contrary, and the mind will, therefore, be compelled to adopt the conclusion, that it is the selfish and contracted charity of Freemasonry only that is here intended—that which says to the imploring voice of want and poverty, ‘depart in peace, be ye warmed, and be ye filled,’ rather than that which, with open hand and heart, giveth liberally, and withholdeth not from the naked and destitute.

Some of the avowed objects of this act are to create the said chapter a body politic and corporate, to enable them to hold and convey real estate to the value of \$50,000, and to grant to it all the privileges and immunities severally conferred on corporate bodies—but for what end is not declared. In other incorporations created by acts of our Legislature, the distinct objects for which they receive their charters are enumerated, and their powers clearly specified, and when they transcend them, or are directed from their

legitimate objects, the remedy is at hand, and is quickly applied to stop them or impede their course. Not so with this incorporation; its purposes and ends being a profound secret to the world, who can charge it with a violation of its charter? Its immense resources may be applied to the affecting the most pernicious and dangerous consequences to individuals, and the very government which created it, without fear of detection. It is true, that the power of the trustees, who are to be created, according to the provisions of this act, for the purposes of managing the affairs of this institution, so far as concerns its personal estate only, are declared to be confined to the 'vesting and securing their funds, and the transfer and distribution thereof, for the ordinary and usual purposes of the said Chapter.' But who can tell what are the ordinary and usual purposes of the said Chapter? They are not declared by the Legislature, the public do not know them, and the initiated dare not reveal them.

The act of April, 1825, is an extension of the principle of the act of 1818, and the remarks upon the latter apply with equal force to the former. It confers on Lodges, throughout the State, powers very similar to those granted to the Grand Chapter, and the objections to the one apply with equal force to the other. They are irresponsible bodies, controlled only by their own interest, and in effect answerable to no tribunal—their objects not ascertained, and their powers not enumerated.

Of the effects of these acts your committee are at no loss to express an opinion; it is natural to man to abuse the powers that are intrusted to him, and to make encroachments on the rights of others. It is the knowledge of the existence of this principle which has produced the codes of laws, which all nations have found it necessary to enact, distinctly defining the rights and duties of man to his brother, and to such tribunals where the weak may be protected against the strong. If this is true of individuals under such circumstances, how much more strongly does the remark apply to a collection of men, incorporated for objects known only to themselves, and which none, until lately, dared to reveal.

The effect has been, as it always will be in such cases—that the power has created the disposition to do wrong, and inflict injury upon all whom it deems hostile to its interests; and we have at least one instance upon record, where the blood of the victim has been required by it, as an atonement for his offense.

As to the expediency of memorializing the Legislature, for a modification or repeal of these acts, at present, your committee are in some doubt. That they ought to be repealed, so far as constitutionally they may be, this we do not hesitate to say; but they believe that this cannot be now effected.

That the axe, instead of being applied to the root, would be either entirely withheld or only used to cut off some small branches, deemed superfluous by the institution itself, and of small consequence in extirpating the evil—and they would prefer to await the period, which cannot be far distant, when this whole people will rise in their strength, and imperiously demand of their servants that this abomination shall no longer defile our statute books. All which is respectfully submitted.

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Convention, it is inexpedient at this time to memorialize the Legislature to repeal or modify the charters, incorporating the Masonic Institutions of this State.”

#### MONUMENT TO WILLIAM MORGAN.

Mr. Sweet, chairman of the Committee on the erection of a monument to the memory of William Morgan, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

“The committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of erecting some honorable and durable monument to the memory of Capt. William Morgan, would respectfully

#### REPORT :

That, in the opinion of your committee, Capt. William Morgan is entitled to eulogy and monument, arising from

the consideration that he fell a martyr to the liberties of his country.

He was a son of Virginia, a citizen of this State, the defender of liberty, who met the invaders of his country at New Orleans. The revealer of Masonic secrets, for which he was torn from his family at Batavia, incarcerated in the fortress of Fort Niagara, and finally murdered by Masons in pursuance of their penalties, and buried at midnight in the bosom of the cataract.

We are the more indignant at this outrage, because it is sought to be concealed in the disguise of liberty. When the imagination dwells at Fort Niagara, on the forlorn husband and the weeping father, the feelings which agitated the breast, and the tears which flowed down his cheeks, while he mourned alone in the darkened cell, under the chilling fear of insecurity and death ; when we remember that the cold-blooded assassins led him forth like a lamb to the slaughter, and all to sustain their system of self-interest, impiety, and blasphemy ; what ought to be the feeling of the country at so gross and unparalleled a violation of its laws and liberties ? It ought undoubtedly to be in unison with the design to erect a monument to the memory of the man who has thus suffered, thus fallen, in a virtuous attempt to preserve those laws and liberties unsullied and unimpaired. But your committee nevertheless believe that the time has not yet arrived, when such a mark of distinction can be conferred upon his memory with any probability of its remaining undisturbed.

It would, no doubt, be mutilated, if not destroyed, by those who have sworn, that ' no trace or memorial of such an apostate, as they term William Morgan, shall remain among men.' In the meantime, the memory of the man, and the patriot, must, and will, live in the affectionate remembrance of all faithful Americans.

He perished, as we hope and trust, to rise in a brighter and better world, and to be numbered among the army of the martyrs. The committee, however, believe that we cannot in any better manner, at present, evince our respect for his name, and gratitude for his services, than by making

some effectual provision for the maintenance of his widow, and the education of his orphan children.”

Mr. Fitch, Chairman of the Committee on the subject of providing for the

SUPPORT OF MRS. LUCINDA MORGAN,

submitted the following report and resolutions, which were adopted :

“The Committee ‘appointed to inquire whether Mrs. Lucinda Morgan, widow of the late Capt. William Morgan, is provided with the necessary means of supporting herself and her orphan children, and, if not, whether it is expedient and proper for this Convention to adopt any measures for her relief,’ beg leave to

REPORT :

That Mrs. Morgan is the daughter of Joseph Pendleton, a respectable Methodist clergyman residing in the county of Richmond, in the State of Virginia; she is now about twenty-seven years old, and was married to Capt. Morgan in 1819. He was at that time a man of respectable character and standing in society and worth considerable property. He soon after removed to York, in the province of Upper Canada, where he established himself in business with a fair prospect of success, which, however, was soon blasted. His whole establishment, and all his property to the amount of several thousand dollars, was destroyed by fire, and he was reduced to absolute poverty, and compelled to resort to manual labor for the support of his wife and children. He then removed to the State of New York, and soon after took up his residence in Batavia, Genesee County, where, by honest industry, he was enabled to procure a comfortable support for his family. He continued to reside at that place till September, 1826, when he was kidnapped and murdered, through the instrumentality and in obedience to the laws and principles of the Order of Freemasonry. By this bold

and unparalleled outrage upon the public laws of the land and the private rights of the citizen, Mrs. Morgan was deprived of the protecting care of a tender husband, and left with two small children, one about two years and the other only two months old, totally destitute of all means necessary for procuring the actual necessaries of life, and dependent upon private charity alone, which is still her only resource. Your committee, however, do not wish it to be understood as saying that Mrs. Morgan, widow of the late Capt. William Morgan, who was immolated upon the altar of Masonic vengeance—sacrificed as a martyr to his country's liberty, among a generous and hospitable people—in a land of plenty and even abundance, is permitted to want the common necessaries and comforts of life. No—the conduct of such base ingratitude lies not at the door of our western brethren. A grateful people have promptly extended a liberal hand for her relief; but still this source of sustenance is humiliating and painful to the recipient, precarious in its nature, and unjust in its operation.

Mrs. Morgan is a woman of feeble constitution, and consequently unable by her personal exertions to procure the means of support, and if the sources of private charity should be dried up, or their channels be diverted or obstructed, she must become the tenant of a poorhouse. Until the breath of Masonic calumny assailed her character, it was fair and unblemished, and, for aught that she has done to tarnish it, is still fair. Immediately after the abduction and murder of her husband, the authors and abettors of that atrocious outrage, without the slightest foundation in truth, assailed her character with every species of calumny; whether from motives of revenge on her husband, whose blood was still reeking upon their hands, or with a view to divert public sympathy from her relief, your committee will not undertake to say; but certain it is that a system of persevering and cruel slander has, in some instances, withheld the hand of charity and chilled the heart of benevolence. Your committee, therefore, think it due to Mrs. Morgan, as well as to the cause of Anti-Masonry and the character of those who

sustain it, that this Convention adopt the most efficient measures for her relief, and to produce so desirable a result, they beg leave to recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolutions :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the State Central Committee to appoint five suitable persons of the village of Utica, as trustees, whose duty it shall be to receive, in trust, all donations and contributions which may be made for the future support of Mrs. Morgan, and the support and education of her two children, Lucinda and Thomas, and to vest all such moneys in such manner as in their judgment will be most productive, and to receive and pay over the income thereof, for the foregoing objects.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the central committees of each county, already appointed, or hereafter to be appointed, throughout this State, to appoint in each county a suitable person to receive, in trust, all donations and contributions, which may be made in such county, for the foregoing objects, whose duty it shall be to pay over the same to the trustees above mentioned.

*Resolved*, That the central committees of each county, also appoint three persons in each town of their respective counties, whose duty it shall be to appoint one suitable person in each school district, in their respective towns, and in the wards of the several cities and villages, to collect and receive moneys therein.

*Resolved*, That the persons thus appointed in the respective school districts, shall circulate therein subscription papers, and collect and receive such sums of money as the people will voluntarily contribute for the foregoing objects, and pay the same over to the county receiver.

*Resolved*, That the State Central Committee draw up a subscription paper, with a suitable appeal to the people of this State, and cause a sufficient number thereof to be printed, and forwarded to the central committees of their respective counties, as occasion may require to be, by the said committees, distributed in the several towns of their respective counties, to be circulated as aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That all such moneys, when collected and vested as aforesaid, shall remain unimpaired, and the income thereof only shall be appropriated for the support of Mrs. Morgan and her children, until her youngest child shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years, when it shall be divided into three equal parts, the one part to be paid to Mrs. Morgan, and one part to each of her children.

*Resolved*, That in case of the death of Mrs. Morgan or either of her children, before the youngest shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years, then the said moneys so collected and vested as aforesaid, shall be equally divided among the survivors or paid to the survivor as the case may be.

*Resolved*, That in case of the death of Mrs. Morgan and both her children before the youngest shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years, that then and in said case, the moneys so collected and vested as aforesaid, shall be appropriated, under the directions of the trustees aforesaid, to the erection of a suitable monument, commemorative of the events connected with the abduction and murder of Capt. William Morgan."

At a meeting of the State Central Committee, held at Rochester, March 15, 1829, Nicholas Devereaux, Apollas Cooper, William Williams, Thomas F. Field, and Charles Morriss, were appointed, pursuant to a resolution of the State Convention, trustees of the fund for the relief of Mrs. Lucinda Morgan and her infant children.

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THE STATE ANTI-MASONIC CONVENTION CLAIMED TO HAVE  
ESTABLISHED THE FOLLOWING FACTS :

In the summer of 1826, a peaceable citizen was lawfully engaged in preparing for publication a pamphlet, in which he discloses the secrets of the first degrees of Freemasonry.

It was known to many Free Masons that this publication was preparing, and numerous meetings of Free Masons were held, at different places and times, to consider the subject of

this publication. At these meetings it was resolved, with the universal approbation of those present, to destroy the intended publication, against the known will, and the lawful rights, of its author.

In pursuance of this resolve,

On August 19, 1826, the private papers of the author were unlawfully seized, by Free Masons.

On September 8 next following, formidable preparations were made, by Free Masons, to assault the private lodgings of a peaceful citizen engaged in printing the said publication.

On the 10th of the same month, a felonious attempt was made, by Free Masons, to burn the printing-office, where the said publication was supposed to be, and the dwelling house of the printer.

On the 11th of the same month, the dwelling house of a fellow-citizen was maliciously invaded, by Free Masons, he seized under the forms of law, forced from his family, transported to a foreign county, and there confined in jail.

On the 12th of the same month, another fellow-citizen was maliciously seized, in his domestic residence, by Free Masons, under the forms of law, and transported against his will to a Lodge room, where he was forcibly and unlawfully detained a prisoner.

On the night of the day last mentioned, a fellow-citizen, under false pretenses, was unlawfully seized by Free Masons, who bound, gagged, and blindfolded him, and thereafter transported him, against his will, more than one hundred miles to the borders of our national territory, and there confined him for several days.

On motion of Mr. Weed, it was

“*Resolved*, That the delegates from each county be called to state whether the sheriffs of their respective counties were Masons in the year 1826—the time of Morgan’s abduction.”

The result of the information thus obtained was, that of 43 counties, concerning which information was submitted to the Convention, the sheriffs of 33 counties were known to be Masons in 1826—the sheriffs of 7 counties were known not to

be Masons, and from three counties the information received was not positive.

#### MASONRY AND CIVIL POLITICS.

As may be seen from the proceedings of the Convention, the then coming elections were to be influenced by Anti-Masonry, and no member of the Fraternity was to be allowed a vote for office. This opportunity was not to be neglected, and Mr. Thurlow Weed was credited with availing himself of the proffered chance. Many believed that William Morgan's body had found a watery grave not far from Fort Niagara, on or about September 19, 1826. A little over a year thereafter a body was found in Oak Orchard Harbor, about forty miles to the east of Fort Niagara. Two inquests were held on the body, and it was pronounced to be that of Morgan. Mr. Thurlow Weed hurried to examine the body. He was asked by Henry O'Reilly, editor of a Rochester newspaper, if he had found the body of Morgan, when Mr. Weed replied, "It is a good enough Morgan until the election is over." At a third inquest which was held, it was discovered that the body was three inches greater in length than was William Morgan, and further, that the body was doubtless that of Timothy Monro, who was drowned September 26, 1827.

Finally was issued the famous book entitled the

#### "ILLUSTRATIONS OF MASONRY,

by one of the Fraternity, who has devoted thirty years to the subject. God said 'Let there be Light, and there was Light!' Printed for the proprietor (December), 1826, at Batavia." The book sold at first for one dollar, and gradually came down in price to twelve and one-half cents. David C. Miller declared that David Johns had contributed only twenty-five dollars toward issuing the book, which was termed "*that shot which was heard around the world.*"

Le Roy Lodge, No. 260, concluded to dissolve on September 14, 1826. Non-Masons were now termed "*Mason's Jacks.*"

The term "jail limits," herein used, was a territory embracing a square mile, the court-house and jail being in the center.

In June, 1829, indictments were found against Sheriff William R. Thompson, Nathan Follett, Blanchard Powers, and William Seaver, jr., for a conspiracy to kidnap William Morgan and carry him from Batavia to parts unknown. William Seaver was a resident of Batavia. His record, socially and in a business capacity, stood very high. It was found that a jury could not be obtained to convict the indicted brethren.

#### THE OPINION OF THE FRATERNITY.

It was believed by many Masons that the "worthless illiterate" William Morgan was successfully approached by John Whitney, with the connivance of Col. William King, Burrage Smith, Loton Lawson, and Eli Bruce, and deported from Batavia with his own consent, carried to Canada, and handsomely paid to disappear. Thus, that the debts which confined him within the jail limits were paid for him, that he was furnished with fifty dollars cash for clothing and immediate necessities, and, when he had arrived at a certain point in Upper Canada, was further paid five hundred dollars.

Yet the ever-recurring question has been asked, "What became of William Morgan?" After the testimony herein produced, the reader must answer for himself. Was it a terrible wrong for the brethren to pay his debts, to give him fifty dollars for the supply of immediate necessities and comforts, to escort him beyond the State limits, to present him with five hundred dollars, and to promise him his family should be cared for and, at such time as he so signified, they should be forwarded to him? The Governor, it is alleged, originated, or was cognizant of, the above disposition of William Morgan. Could this have been so? And yet, at a later date, we find he offered immunity from punishment and the reward of a thousand dollars for the production of Morgan, or information that would lead to his restoration to his family and the State. Why did not some one of many, who

must have been cognizant of the facts, if there was no crime, vindicate the Fraternity from base aspersions, when it was so simple an act to do? If but a minor crime had been committed, when immunity from punishment was assured and the possession of a thousand dollars of the money of the State guaranteed to the informer, why was not the Governor's request complied with?

OPINION OF JAMES HERRING AS TO THE MORGAN ABDUCTION.

About ten years thereafter, we find the active, experienced, devoted, and esteemed James Herring publicly giving his opinion on the Morgan abduction. On June 7, 1837, he delivered a eulogy on Past Grand Masters Jacob Morton and Elisha W. King, in St. Matthew's Church, in Walker Street, New York City. It was the first public Masonic address since the Anti-Masonic movement commenced. At the close of his remarks, he thus alluded to Morgan's abduction:

"In the autumn of the year 1826, Masonry received a most tremendous and unexpected shock. Three persons in Batavia, two of whom were said to be Masons, agreed to publish a book on Freemasonry, and bound themselves by oath to each other to keep their speculation secret until it should be published. But the third party, concluding that a still-born book would be likely to cost more than it would return, betrayed the secret to the Masons of his acquaintance, and urged them by all means to prevent its publication. Without knowing more about the embryo volume than he chose to communicate, they fell into the snare and attempted violence to destroy the manuscript and the printing-office together.

They then devised a plan to remove the reputed author out of the influence of his associates, and he accordingly passed from place to place to the Niagara frontier, where all trace of him is lost, and the general belief is that there he perished by violence. That such an outrage on the liberty and life of a citizen should be followed up by public indigna-

tion was natural and right; and the guilty in this case, so far as could be discovered, were punished. But an extraordinary excitement prevailed through all parts of the community. Great numbers were believed to have been concerned in the abduction and catastrophe, who were shielded and protected by Masonic influence in high places. The whole Masonic Fraternity were charged with guilt; the Institution and its members were denounced as dangerous; churches, families, and friends were divided; and the whole social system was for a long time uprooted and dismembered. Every man of eminence in the State, known to be a Mason, was called upon to renounce his connection with the society, or stand branded as a traitor to the laws of his country. The Grand Lodge was charged with the crime of aiding the guilty to escape from justice by the use of its funds, and no means were neglected to bring the Order to disgrace and ruin, right or wrong.

The fears of the timid and ignorant attributed the crime of the guilty to a necessary consequence of Masonic obligation; the political intrigant reveled in the prospect of the overthrow of a prosperous rival; the myrmidons of society breathed vengeance; and the crafty political Jesuits labored in their vocation at the polls. Now all this excitement against Masonry was founded upon false premises. No Masonic duty interferes with the duty of a man to his country. The abductors of Morgan were as much without excuse as though they had not been Masons, and their crime was never palliated nor defended by the Fraternity in general, nor by the Grand Lodge in particular, nor was there ever a dollar of the funds appropriated, knowingly, to aid or shield the guilty."

Speaking of the Anti-Masonic excitement of the day, Brother Rob. Morris, with emphasis, gave expression as follows:

"Hundreds of thousands of men became Anti-Masons, and touched elbows in the assault; and for ten years our good, old, silent, dignified Order endured a trial that no other

society could endure and live. At times, it trembled to the center, like a strong cliff against which the ocean thunders. It trembled, and crumbled at the edges; but, sound at heart, and anchored in the affection of men, it stood, it stands; yea! and it will stand until the pillars of time shall fail! And when the tempest blew out, and the newspapers went into bankruptcy, and the Anti-Masonic party into disgrace, the world saw, with admiration, the Temple of Masonry, with all its pillars and buttresses standing firm, and the protecting hand of the Almighty Presence stretching out from shore to shore."

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1828.

(AFRICAN) BOYER LODGE, NO. 1.

Minor matters only, of a routine nature, were transacted in June, 1828. The Grand Lodge held several sessions, to wit, on July 9, September 3, December 3, and an Emergent Session on December 31, whereat the Deputy Grand Master stated he had been informed as to the assembling of clandestine Masons within the city, and desired that a Committee be appointed to inquire if they had Warrants, and where from, and what intercourse was being had between them and the legitimate brethren under the jurisdiction of the New York State Grand Lodge.

1829.

Brothers Elias Hicks, William H. Bunn, and Edward Seaman were appointed, who duly reported March 4, 1829, and the report was adopted. As it narrated facts of interest, if not of ultimate Masonic importance, it is herein quoted:

"The undersigned Committee, appointed to inquire whether any and what number of clandestine Lodges are held within the city and county of New York; whether they have any Warrants, and, if they have, from what authority they are

derived ; and whether any and what intercourse has taken place between them and the members of the Fraternity under this jurisdiction, beg leave to

Report : that, in discharging the duty assigned to them, they have not been able to discover that there is any body of clandestine Masons assembling in the city of New York, excepting an association of negroes, or people of color, holding their meetings in the attic story of a blacksmith's shop, situated upon the south corner of Chapel and Leonard streets, in the fifth ward of the said city, under the denomination of Boyer Lodge, No. 1.

From sundry documents which have been placed in the hands of your Committee, some of which it is understood were derived from the aforesaid body, it would appear that, some time in the year 1783, several free blacks, residing in Boston, in the State of Massachusetts, after an unsuccessful application to the Grand Lodge of that State (then Province), for a Warrant to hold a Lodge in the said town, preferred a Memorial to the same effect to the Grand Lodge of Modern Masons of England, of which His Royal Highness, Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, brother to George the Third, was then Grand Master, and the Earl of Effingham his acting proxy ; that the prayer of that Memorial was finally granted, a Warrant numbered 459 on the Registry of that Grand Lodge subsequently issued, and the Lodge thereby constituted, distinguished by the title of the ' African Lodge of Boston.'

What degree of credit is to be attached to this representation, or under what circumstance, or upon what principle such an interference with the rights of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was usurped by the Grand Lodge of England, your Committee have not the means of determining : equally are they at a loss to discover what measures have ever been adopted by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for resisting this encroachment upon its rights, or for controlling or regulating the operations of the said African Lodge ; but, from the circumstance of nearly half a century having elapsed since the organization of the Lodge without the Grand

Lodge of Massachusetts having received it within the pale of its protection, it is to be concluded that it was at the outset, and has never been otherwise considered by the Grand Lodge than as a spurious and clandestine Body.

From this Body Boyer Lodge derives its authority to work. Whether the individuals of which it was composed at its formation received their Masonic acquirements within the walls of the African Lodge of Boston, or were initiated, as some of them have alleged, in Lodges of white persons in Europe, your Committee have not thought it material to inquire; for, whatever of regularity may have attended their induction into the Order, this open violation of those ordinances and regulations, acknowledged and respected by genuine Masons in all parts of the world, even had their authority to act been derived from a Body competent to grant warrants, would of itself incur a forfeiture of their legitimacy; and even if it be true that some of the members of Boyer Lodge were initiated into the mysteries of the Order in European Lodges of regular Masons, it but increases the astonishment with which the erection of that body in this city must be viewed, and uniting therewith the conduct of its parent Body, the African Lodge of Boston, bespeaks the total unfitness for the enjoyment of the privileges of Masonry, of men who refuse to be controlled by the salutary restraints which the wisdom of its founders have imposed.

The instrument from which Boyer Lodge derives its authority to act purports to have been issued by the Grand African Lodge, No. 459, to John Plet, Peter W. Marrenner, Mark I. Jorden, Henry Drayton, Solomon Molleston, Dr. Le Mavois, and their associates, and although not expressed in the peculiar terms of an ancient warrant, yet it confers all the powers usually contained therein.

By what species of legerdemain the African Lodge of Boston, a Lodge originally subordinate to the Grand Lodge of England, became transmuted into a Supreme Body, and invested with the powers exclusively belonging to a Grand Lodge formed by delegates representing the several subordinate Lodges operating within any prescribed jurisdiction or

territory, your Committee cannot comprehend ; but it is with mingled astonishment and disgust that they observe that, in the exercise of the functions with which that Body, by its new assumption of character, has deemed itself to be clothed (that is, if no more respect be shown by it to the jurisdictional rights of the Grand Lodge than has been in the case under consideration to the Grand Lodge of New York), a pretension is set up to authority, and to a right of territorial jurisdiction, that embraces not merely the circumscribed limits of this western continent, but is co-extensive with the globe itself.

That a Lodge emanating from such authority should, by Masons of the slightest experience, be for an instant mistaken for a regularly constituted Body, will probably excite the surprise and perplex the credulity of this Grand Lodge ; but a still greater exertion of its faith will be required to give credit to the assertion that, among the number of those who have inconsiderately lent themselves dupes to the deception, are to be found Brethren, who have at different times been clothed with the dignified and responsible office of Master of the Lodge to which they respectively belong. Nevertheless, that such is the fact, your Committee are necessitated to declare, and that too upon the authority of some of the erring individuals themselves, who have voluntarily confessed that they, and sundry other members of Lodges owing allegiance to this Grand Lodge, have, from time to time, within the last two years, visited the said Boyer Lodge, and that one Lodge in this city has permitted one or more of the members of the said Boyer Lodge to enter its portals and remain within its walls during its hours of labor.

But while making this representation, your Committee derives considerable gratification from being enabled to add that such of the individuals as they have had an opportunity of conversing with, seem to be deeply penetrated with a just sense of the gross impropriety of which they have been guilty, and, in common with all the others implicated herein, sincerely and heartily regret that they should have allowed themselves to be so seduced and misled.

The acknowledgment of error being the first step toward amendment, the Committee trust that they will not have misjudged the benign temper and parental unity of this Grand Lodge, in believing it to be unnecessary for them to do more than to recommend that a due publicity be forthwith given to the foregoing facts, whereby the Fraternity may be reminded that no Lodge of Free Masons, however regular shall have been the admission of the whole or a portion of its members into the mystic band, can assemble for the purposes of Masonic labor, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, without deriving therefrom its authority so to do; and that the Body styled Boyer Lodge, No. 1, must undoubtedly be held and considered as a clandestine Lodge, and shunned and discountenanced accordingly." (See ante, October 7, 1818.)

In addition to the approval of the above recommendation, a resolution was adopted to the effect that it be recommended by this Grand Lodge to all the subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction that they discontinue the practice of receiving visitors unless vouched for as Master Masons by a member of the Lodge to which the visit shall be made.

The Deputy Grand Master, Mordecai Myers, June 3, 1829, presented the resignation of Brother Oliver Lowndes, dated November 19, 1828, as the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, to which office Brother James Herring succeeded. The following is a

SKETCH OF JAMES HERRING,

*Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge from 1828 to 1859.*

Brother Herring was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, Past High Priest, Past General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of New York, Past General Grand Generalissimo of the General Grand Encampment of the United States, and Past Grand Representative of the Grand Orients of Brazil and France near the Grand Lodge of New York. He was born

in London, England, on January 12, 1794, and was educated under the watchful eye of his father, after whom he was named, and who instilled into him the feeling of interest for the American Republic, then just called into existence, which he himself felt for her institutions. At the home of his father, in London, lived for some time John G. Eitchom, well known as an antiquarian and critical writer on the Bible, and it was he who first called the attention of the son to the Masonic Fraternity, of which he himself was an active member.

In 1805, the family emigrated to New York, and the subject of this sketch finished his education at an academy in Flatbush, Long Island. In 1816, he was initiated in Solomon's Lodge, Somerville, N. J.; and, once a member of the Fraternity, he soon made his influence felt. He removed to New York in 1822, and was soon actively engaged as an officer in the several bodies comprising the various branches of the Society.

He was Master of Clinton Lodge, No. 143, in 1827, '28, '32, and '34, a period when the Anti-Masonic spirit was rampant. Afterward he was a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and Strict Observance, No. 94.

In the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, he was, on September 3, 1828, appointed Assistant Grand Secretary, and June 3, 1829, elected Grand Secretary, which office he retained until 1846. On June 5, 1849, the Grand Lodge became divided, in consequence of the attempt made by the Lodges from the rural districts to deprive Past Masters of their prerogative as members of the Grand Lodge. Right Worshipful Brother Herring was on that evening elected Secretary of what was subsequently known as the "Phillips" or "Herring" Grand Lodge, and was annually re-elected until 1858.

During the agitation of this question, commencing after the Annual Communication of June, 1848, Brother Herring was one of the leaders, adhering firmly to what he believed to be the letter of the law.

Of his polemic writings, the following merits particular

attention: "Historical narrative, explanation, and vindication of the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of New York, in relation to the un-Masonic and unconstitutional attempt of a portion of their body to revolutionize the organization thereof." It was published and forwarded to Sister Grand Lodges by his Grand Lodge. The unhappy schism terminated by the union of the two Grand Lodges in June, 1858, after which time, to the period of his departure for Paris, France (where he died at his daughter's residence, October 8, 1867), he had mainly retired from active Masonic life, though on several occasions he gave the benefit of his ripe experience to his brethren in Grand Lodge, which was always listened to with respect, even if his wise and conservative views were not, as they might with advantage have been, adopted.

During the period of his service as Grand Secretary, several events of importance occurred. In 1826, the Anti-Masonic excitement broke out, and brought forth in full force all the mental energy of Brother Herring. He stood firm as a rock, while the hurricane of destruction leveled the greater number of the Lodges in the State; and the Lodges in the city, as well as the Grand Lodge itself, are indebted to him for their salvation during that stormy period. In spite of threats and dangers, he managed to induce the Lodges not to cease their regular meetings. He encouraged the subordinate Lodges, keeping alive the connection with other Grand Lodges, that were more particularly exposed to persecution, while he bravely combated the most ferocious attacks of the press.

The troubles within the Grand Lodge in 1837, which were the cause of the creation of St. John's Grand Lodge, found Brother Herring the Grand Secretary of the former body, and as such he played an important part during the eventful period, a part which caused him many enemies. It was about this time that he re-organized that extended system of correspondence with foreign Grand Lodges, in particular with those of Scotland, Hamburg, Frankfort-on-the-Maine, Saxony, Switzerland, France, the Netherlands, Prussia, etc., and which has since become of so much benefit and impor-

tance, its usefulness being almost universally acknowledged. His reports form an important part of the printed transactions of the Grand Lodge, and are read with instruction. In 1838 he, with the approbation of Grand Master Morgan Lewis, re-established the system of an interchange of Representatives from one Grand Lodge to the other. In appreciation of his merits the Grand Orients of France and Brazil named him as their Representative near the Grand Lodge of New York. He was also honored with Honorary Membership in numerous Lodges and Grand Lodges. A little later, 1842, he originated the system of Grand Lodge Registry, which was long in force in New York. He was the delegate of the Grand Lodge to the Convention of Grand Lodges held in the city of Washington, March 7, 1842. Brother Herring delivered many public addresses. In 1821 he delivered an oration at Flemington, N. J., taking as his text the Bible verse 1 John iii. 13, which drew down on him the attacks of the more orthodox portion of the Fraternity, who took offense at his having drawn the Holy Writ into a Masonic discourse.

On the 24th of June, 1840, Brother Herring pronounced the oration on the festival of St. John the Baptist before Apollo Lodge, No. 13, Troy.

On the 25th of August, 1847, St. John's Lodge, No. 1, N. Y., held a Lodge of Sorrow in grateful honor of the following deceased members of the Lodge: Most Worshipful Grand Masters Morgan Lewis and Alexander H. Robertson, Worshipful Past Masters Gerrit Lansing and Sylvester Spencer, and Brothers Cyrus Conent and Temart Maverich. It was the first Trauer Logen held by an American Lodge in the English language, and Brother Herring delivered the eulogies in a masterly manner. His exertion gave evidence of deep research, and was a highly classical production. Ten years later he officiated on a similar occasion, in memory of the deceased Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Saxony, G. T. Winkler.

In Capitular Masonry, Companion Herring was advanced and exalted in Jerusalem Chapter, No. 8, N. Y. He

received the Mark and Past Master degrees July 24, 1816, the Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch, January 5, 1817. He was elected High Priest in December, 1837, and re-elected in 1838. In the Grand Chapter of this State he represented his Chapter in 1841. In the General Grand Chapter of the United States, he was elected General Grand Secretary in 1832.

In the Knightly Order, Sir Knight Herring was created and dubbed a Knight Templar in Columbian Encampment No. 1 of N. Y.

In the Grand Encampment of the State he was Deputy Grand Master 1829 to 1832; Grand Master, 1834; Grand Prelate, 1836 to 1839.

He was General Grand Recorder of the General Grand Encampment of the United States from 1829 to 1835, and General Grand Generalissimo from 1835 to 1841. The later year that exalted body met in New York City, and at the celebration which then took place, he officiated as Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge.

The crowning act of Brother Herring's life, as a Free Mason, was the practical conception of the building of a Hall to be devoted to the purposes of Masonry. In 1842 he originated a plan to collect funds for the object, in connection with the founding of an asylum for indigent Masons, or their widows or orphans, to which he made financial pledgement of an amount equal to any other gift within the year. It was then that Worshipful Brother Greenfield Pote made a contribution of a dollar.

A portrait painter by profession, Brother Herring published "The National Portrait Gallery of Distinguished Americans," in 1832. The portraits and part of the biographies were by himself. In 1842 he commenced a work, "An Introduction to the Study of Masonic Jurisprudence," but having imparted, as he supposed in confidence, his intentions, and exhibited his manuscript to the New York delegates to the Convention of Grand Lecturers held at Baltimore, Md., in May, 1843, his plans were made known and appropriated by others.

Brother Herring died in France, and his remains were for-

warded home, October 10, 1867. The religious funeral ceremonies took place Sunday, October 27, following, at St. Stephen's Church, New York City, in the presence of an immense congregation. The Masonic ceremonies were performed at Greenwood Cemetery, by his Lodge, which was accompanied by several New York and Brooklyn Lodges, making unitedly an imposing procession.

"Peaceful he sleeps, with all our rites adorned,  
Forever honored and forever mourned."

In 1829, the Grand Lodge held Communications on March 4, April 1, and May 27, but transacted essential routine business only.

The election in June resulted in the re-election of Stephen Van Rensselaer as Grand Master. Brothers Mordecai Myers as Deputy Grand Master, James Van Benschoten as Grand Treasurer, and James Herring as Grand Secretary, appear for the first time as elective Grand Officers, all of whom were destined to mark in their respective capacities important rôles as pertaining to the destinies of the Grand Body. Ezra S. Cozier and Welcome Esleeck were re-elected as Senior and Junior Grand Wardens.

1830.

In the following year, the Annual Communication was opened in the Grand Lodge room, June 2, by Mordecai Myers as Grand Master and Welcome Esleeck as Deputy; Alexander H. Robertson and William Willis as Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, James Herring, Grand Secretary, and James Van Benschoten, Grand Treasurer.

Fifty-eight Lodges were present by their representative officers, and nineteen by proxies.

The following resolution pertaining to

PAST MASTERS

was ordered to be entered on the minutes; but in 1831 the same was rejected.

*Resolved*, That each and every Past Master in good standing, who now is, or has been, a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of membership, on the payment of Grand Lodge dues to the Secretary of this Grand Lodge."

The Lodge practice, after prompt opening, was to allow one hour or less for the transaction of such business as was necessary for a well-regulated Lodge. The door was then closed against all comers, pending the Work, which consumed possibly one-half hour or more, for Lectures were not then known, and the brethren proceeded to refreshment, under closed doors, and at some convenient room where the supplies necessary were to be had. The Stewards generally performing their full duty.

The Most Worshipful Stephen Van Rensselaer, who, against his will, had served as Grand Master during 1829, declined further service in 1830.

The receipts of the preceding year had been \$2,376.76.

The expenses of the Grand Lodge, as anticipated during the year, were as follows :

For rent in Masonic Hall .....	\$150.00
" Grand Secretary, salary .....	500.00
" Grand Treasurer, salary.....	75.00
" Grand Pursuivant, salary.....	75.00
" Assistant Grand Pursuivant, salary.....	100.00
" Grand Tyler, salary.....	125.00
" Printing .....	50.00

#### INDIGENT LODGES.

As it had been represented that many Lodges were in destitute circumstances, and, although willing, were incapacitated for paying their dues to the Grand Lodge, the following resolutions were presented and adopted :

*Resolved*, That all Lodges which are in arrears for dues more than eighteen months, and who may represent their inability to pay such dues, shall be, and are hereby, discharged from the same, on payment of the amount of their

return for the first year of their delinquency, provided such payment shall have been made previous to the Quarterly Meeting in December next, and in default thereof that they surrender their Warrants, jewels, etc., in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution.

*Resolved*, That a Visitor be appointed in each county, whose duty it shall be to call on the several Lodges within his District, to examine into their situations, to receive the amount of their returns, or a surrender of their Warrants, jewels, etc., which Visitor shall not receive any compensation beyond his actual expenses, nor in any case exceeding fifty per cent. of the amount collected, after he shall have visited and made returns to the Grand Lodge of all the Lodges in his county."

#### INTERCHANGE OF THE SIGNATURES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

An interchange of the signatures of officers of Grand Lodges was recommended, and the Grand Secretary instructed to facilitate such action.

A Committee of seven was appointed to nominate two or more suitable candidates for the office of Grand Master.

This Committee reported in favor of Morgan Lewis and Mordecai Myers ; but, as the latter withdrew his candidacy, Morgan Lewis was elected with but one dissenting vote.

Right Worshipful Brother Mordecai Myers was then re-elected Deputy Grand Master, which he accepted. The remaining officers were severally re-elected.

At the special session of the Grand Lodge, held June 24, 1830, Past Grand Master Elisha W. King, when installing the newly elected Grand Master, General Morgan Lewis, made the following allusion to him in his address :

"Freemasonry can now enroll on her list of patrons another soldier of the Revolution ; and, whilst the most important offices in this Institution shall thus continue to be filled by men enjoying the affections and confidence of an intelligent community, we may reasonably hope that the apprehension

and prejudices which have been recently excited by the misguided conduct of a few obscure and wicked individuals belonging to the Order, will, ere long, be dissipated, and the benign influence of Freemasonry again be exercised without interruption."

SENTIMENTS OF A MASONIC GENERAL.

To this the Grand Master elect, Morgan Lewis, made reply:

"The circumstance alluded to by the very respectable Brother who has kindly officiated at this inauguration, is one to be contemplated more in pity than in anger, except, perhaps, as it regards those who certainly had the power, and whose duty it was rather to stifle than to fan the embers of discord, until they had blown them into a flame of persecution, better adapted to the darkness of the middle ages than to the enlightened period of the present day. When we behold these men connecting the excitement, which, if they did not create, they have certainly cherished and increased, with political party views, the conclusion is irresistible that they have been actuated by sinister and selfish, not by virtuous and laudable, motives.

The crime must, in candor, be allowed to have been of an aggravated nature, and, as far as the immediate perpetrators of the offense are concerned, merits the most exemplary punishment. But to visit the sins of a few worthless individuals on the whole body of an Institution founded in benevolence, charity, and the purest philanthropy, which has subsisted for ages with unblemished reputation, enrolling within its pale countless numbers of the best of patriots, statesmen, sages, and divines, must meet the reprobation of the virtuous and disinterested. If Masonry, a human Institution, is to be anathematized for having furnished a few, a very few, enthusiasts and fanatics, what shall we say to those deemed of Divine origin? Has not every religion which history records been obnoxious to similar objections? And among them, none, perhaps, has shed more blood than that which we profess. Shall we, therefore, discard it? Shall we

deprive suffering humanity of its best, its surest consolation under the chastening afflictions of Divine dispensations? I say, God forbid!

But we have been told, as falsely as insidiously, that Masonry has a certain aptitude to demoralization. Might not the same be said with equal justice of the sacred writings? Has not the religious fanatic, as well under the Jewish as Christian dispensations, invariably justified his lawless shedding of blood by those revealed, but misconceived, Truths we hold divine?

But we have our mysteries. So has our holy religion. The writings of our patron saint are full of them. We shall not, therefore, I trust, discard the one or the other.

Our forms have also been made the subject of ridicule. A sufficient answer to this is that forms are essential to the existence of all societies. As they are arbitrary, they will sometimes give scope to the carpings of the too fastidious; but they never can with justice be held to derogate from the fundamental principles of any Institution. I have been a member of this useful and honorable Fraternity for more than half a century, and have never till now heard the calumny uttered, that its obligations, under any circumstances, impugned the ordinances of civil or religious society. On the contrary, we hold ourselves bound to render unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and unto God the things which are God's; and I can with truth affirm that I never knew a man who became a Mason, and whose practice conformed to the precepts it inculcates, who did not become a better man than he had been theretofore."

MORGAN LEWIS,

*Grand Master of Masons, State of New York, from 1830-1843.*

(Extracts from the Address of Brother James Herring, delivered before the Lodge of Sorrow, February 25, 1847, held by St. John's Lodge, No. 1.)

Morgan Lewis was born in the city of New York, on the 16th of October, 1754. He was the son of Francis Lewis,

one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. His classical education was commenced at Elizabethtown, under the instruction of Colonel Barber, and was finished at Princeton College, where he graduated in 1773, and where he received the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Arts. At college Mr. Lewis fixed his mind upon the Ministry of the Gospel for his future career of life, and his private studies were directed toward the object of his choice.

Through the influence of Governor Livingston and other intimate friends of his father's family great opposition was made to the course he had projected for himself, and he submitted to the wishes of his father, and became a student of law in the office of Chief Justice Jay.

In 1774 Mr. Lewis united with a number of young men in the formation of a military company, and was strictly disciplined by an American gentleman who had served five years in the Prussian service. This company afterward furnished upwards of fifty officers to the army of the Revolution. In June, 1775, he joined the army before Boston, as a volunteer rifleman; but on being elected captain by his former associates, he returned to New York in the following August. He was afterward appointed Major of the 2d Regiment of New York Militia; Mr. Jay was the Colonel, but as he never joined the regiment, Major Lewis held the command until June, 1776, when he accompanied General Gates, commander of the army in Canada, as chief of his staff, with the rank of Colonel. It was at this period Colonel Lewis became a Mason in Union Lodge, at Albany, which still continues its existence under the name of Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 3. During the campaign he was appointed by Congress Quartermaster-General for the Northern Department, and he remained with General St. Clair at Ticonderoga until the opening of the campaign of 1777, when the little garrison of two thousand men retired in the face of the enemy of quadruple force, securing the *attirail*, provisions, and munitions of the dependent posts, which were conveyed to Van Schaick's Island, opposite Troy. He accompanied the army on its advance to take possession of

the position selected on Bemus Heights, by our Brother Kosciusko, and was actively engaged, not only in the duties of his particular department, but in the field, until the surrender of General Burgoyne and his army. After the Convention at Saratoga, the rank and file of the British army were received by Colonel Lewis on the banks of the Hudson, where they stacked their arms, and were conducted to the rear of the encampment through a double line of American troops. He commanded the advance on an expedition in 1778, under General Clinton, against Sir John Johnson, formerly Provincial Grand Master of the Province of New York, and the Indian chief, Joseph Brandt, who were laying waste the Mohawk Valley. He attacked the enemy in the night, near Stone Arabia, and routed them, capturing their baggage and a small field-piece. At the close of the war, Colonel Lewis was appointed commandant of a regiment of volunteers in New York City, and had the honor of escorting General Washington at his first inauguration as President of the United States.

Having returned to his profession at the close of the war, he was soon after elected a member of Assembly from the city of New York, and in the following year was elected to the same situation from Dutchess County, to which he had removed. He was then appointed one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, and, in December, 1791, Attorney-General of the State; the next year he was raised to the Bench of the Supreme Court, and in the following year to the important office of Chief Justice.

In 1804 he was elected Governor, in which capacity he pressed upon the Legislature, in his first address to that body, the importance of providing a permanent fund for the support of common schools.

As Commander-in-chief, he personally reviewed and inspected the whole military force of the State, and introduced the use of horse artillery, as an important arm of defence, which, although subjected to no other test than ridicule for some time, established itself in favor in the course of the war of 1812, and is now regarded as indis-

pensable. In 1810, Governor Lewis was elected to the Senate from the middle district of New York State.

In 1812, President Madison nominated him Quartermaster-General of the armies of the United States, with the rank of Brigadier-General. The appointment was confirmed by the Senate, without his having been consulted on the subject. On receiving information of his appointment, he immediately repaired to Washington with the intention of declining the office, in consequence of the laws in force at that time, holding the Quartermaster-General responsible for the conduct of the Assistant Quartermasters, without the right of appointing them himself. On explaining the objection, a new law was immediately framed to suit his views, and was the next day reported to Congress and adopted.

In March, 1813, his connection with the Quartermaster's Department ceased, he being promoted to the rank of Major-General. He repaired to the Niagara frontier and took command of his division on the 17th of April. The Commander-in-chief, General Dearborn, with the forces which had been employed in the capture of York, arrived about the 2d of May, and a few days afterward Colonel Scott's regiment, Chandler's brigade, Macomb's artillery, and some other forces were concentrated at the same point, preparatory to a descent on the British side of the Niagara River. The command of the expedition was intrusted to General Lewis, who made every preparation in concert with Commodore Chauncey, who had command of the squadron which was to cover the landing of the troops. General Dearborn had been for some time in very bad health, but on the morning of the 27th of May, while the troops were embarking, he appeared on the shore, and was conveyed on board of the Madison ship of war, where he remained during the action which ensued. General Lewis landed at the head of his division near Fort George, immediately after the advance guard had attacked the enemy, who disputed their debarkation, and he was brought for the first time during the campaign under the enemy's fire. The conflict was

severe, but the British troops were compelled to retire toward the town of Newark and the fort, where they set fire to their stores and magazines, and then retreated, part by the river and part by the Black Swamp roads.

General Lewis continued in active service on the northern frontier until 1814, when he was intrusted with the command of the defenses of New York City, toward which it was believed the most vigorous efforts of the enemy would be directed, after the fall of Napoleon, but they chose New Orleans for their winter operations.

In the spring of 1779, General Lewis was married to Gertrude, the daughter of Robert Livingston, and sister of Robert R. and Edward Livingston, both distinguished in the annals of American jurisprudence, and of the Grand Lodge of this State.

In 1834 his venerable consort departed at the age of seventy-six, after a union of fifty-five years.

On the 3d of June, 1830, General Lewis was unanimously elected Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York, and as he had not been consulted on the subject, a committee waited upon him at his residence in Dutchess County, who were equally gratified by their hospitable reception and the cheerful acquiescence of the venerable patriot to give the weight of his name and influence in favor of our Fraternity. General Lewis was continued in office as Grand Master by the unanimous wish of the Fraternity, until the end of his life.

General Lewis when elected Grand Master was not a member of any Lodge, and it was not until the attention of the Grand Lodge was directed to the necessity and equity of drawing a distinct line between *nominal* Masons and the *bona fide supporters of the Institution*, that he attached himself as a member to a subordinate Lodge; but the propriety of his doing so impressed him at once, and as there was no Lodge near his residence in Dutchess County, he became an affiliated member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, on the 23d of June, 1842, when in the eighty-seventh year of his age.

His spirit returned to God on Sunday the 7th of April,

1844. Information of his decease was made known by the Deputy Grand Master to the Grand Lodge on the following day. The Deputy Grand Master superintended the preparations for the funeral, which were left entirely under his direction by the family. At the time appointed for the funeral, the Officers of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Military of this State, the Society of the Cincinnati, the Clergy, the Judiciary, the Corporation of the city of New York, the Grand Lodge, and a numerous concourse of citizens, accompanied the remains of our venerable Grand Master to St. Paul's Church, where the service for the burial of the dead was performed according to the ritual of the church; after which, upon a signal from the acting Grand Master, the Fraternity moved in procession around the bier, deposited the emblem of immortality, and united in the last silent supplication to the Almighty Father of the faithful. The corpse was removed by the family on the following day, to Staatsburgh, in compliance with the request of the deceased that he might be buried by the side of his wife.

When the election of Grand Officers for 1830 was completed, it was found that Ezra S. Cozier, of Utica, had been elected Senior Grand Warden; Welcome Esleeck, of Albany, Junior Grand Warden; James Herring and James Van Benschoten, of New York City, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, respectively.















