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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CELEBRATION

OF THE

Semi-Centennial Anniversary

OF

Columbia H. Royal Arch Chapter,

No. 91.

SEPTEMBER 18th, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402.

CONSTITUTED SEPTEMBER 18th, A. D. 1822, A. I. 2352.

PHILADELPHIA:
CLAXTON, REMSEN & HAFFELFINGER,
624, 626, AND 628 MARKET STREET.
1873.



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COLLINS, PRINTER.

Proceedings.

At a stated meeting of Columbia H. R. Arch Chapter, No. 91, held on Wednesday evening, March 20, 1872, A. I., 2402, in the Masonic Temple, Chestnut Street—

Companion Edward Matthews, P. H. P., stated that the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the Chapter would occur on the stated meeting night in September next, and moved "that a committee of five be appointed to consider and report upon the propriety of celebrating the event in a proper manner." The motion was agreed to, and the M. E. H. P. was pleased to appoint Companions Edward Matthews, Thomas Jacobs, J. Alex. Simpson, John J. Heisler, and Arthur S. Simpson as the Committee.

On the 17th day of April, 1872, A. I. 2402, said Committee, through its chairman, Companion Matthews, reported "that the Committee agreed upon recommending to the Chapter that the occasion of the Semi-Centennial Anniversary be celebrated by a collation, a musical entertainment, and an address," which was concurred in by the Chapter, and, on motion, the same Committee were continued to make the arrangements for the celebration.

On the evening of September 18, 1872, A. I. 2402, by the kindness and courtesy of the W. M. and brethren of

Phœnix Lodge, No. 130, the Chapter assembled in the Grand Lodge room of the Temple.

After the regular business of the Chapter had been transacted, its session closed, and the Committee of Arrangements took charge of the ceremonies, which were participated in by the following-named members, to wit:—

P. G. H. P.'s Companions—
James Simpson,
George W. Wood.
M. E. G. K. Companion—
John Wilson, Jr.
P. H. P.'s Companions—
John Wilson,
John Thomson,
Robert Hutchinson,
George Thomson,
J. Alex. Simpson,
William Leach,
Oscar Thompson,
John Bolt,
Conrad B. Day,
Thomas Jacobs,
James C. Adams,
Edward Matthews,
George E. Wagner.
M. E. H. P. Companion—
John Hanold.
K. Companion—
Jacob Roberts, M.D.
S. Companion—
Thomas S. Woodbury.
Companions—
Gideon Sibley,
John J. Heisler,
Arthur S. Simpson,
George A. Schafer,
Lewis F. Hammell,
Charles H. Henderson,

Companions—
William Elder,
Joseph R. Clausen,
Amor S. Redstreake,
William P. Buzby,
Moritz Aal,
William R. Abbey,
Squire J. Allen,
Cornelius Baker,
Edward Barrowclough,
James Bleloch,
John Blinkhorn,
Hamilton Borden,
John Borden,
Joseph H. Boswell,
Lewis J. Bowman,
T. L. Buckingham,
Henry A. Burton,
Elmer W. Clark,
Thomas R. Davis,
Robert P. Dechert,
Charles A. Denwiddie,
William H. Dickson,
Robert Dyball,
James Eccles,
Charles H. Eldredge,
John A. Emerick,
Mordecai D. Evans,
John Fountain,
Joseph Frankish,
Amos Gartside,
James Gartside,

Companions—
ROBERT GILFRY,
JACOB GLASER,
AUGUSTUS HÆDRICH,
HOWARD L. HAINES,
GEORGE C. HALLER,
AMOS R. HANSELL,
JAMES G. HARDIE,
SAMUEL HARRISON,
ANDREW HAZLET,
HENRY R. HENRY,
HENRY HEY,
JOHN HEY,
JOSEPH HOLDZKOM,
HENRY C. HOWELL,
HARLAN INGRAM,
BUSHROD W. JAMES,
CHARLES T. JEFFRIES,
J. WILLIAM JONES,
ROBERT JONES,
THOMAS B. JONES,
WILLIAM H. KEYSER,
JOSEPH KINIKE,
GEORGE M. LAND,
JACOB LAUDENSLAGER,
FRANCIS D. LEIDY,
JAMES MCGINLEY,
Rev. GEO. W. MACLAUGHLIN,
CHARLES B. MILLER,
EDWARD C. MILLER,
JAMES MONTGOMERY,
J. BURR MOORE,
CHARLES W. MORGAN,
DAVID W. PERRY,
CHARLES PURVES,

Companions—
RAYNOR RAYNER,
WILLIAM RAYNER,
SAMUEL H. RITTER,
WILLIAM H. H. ROBERTS,
GEORGE ROBINSON,
CLARENCE SCHRACK,
JAMES SMART,
THOMAS H. SMART,
GREENWOOD SMITH,
HENRY J. SMITH,
HOWARD SMITH,
JAMES A. SMITH,
VALENTINE H. SMITH,
ANDREW SPROULL,
EDWARD T. STEEL,
SAMUEL H. STEVENSON,
WILLIAM C. STEVENSON,
AARON R. TAYLOR,
JOHN TETLOW,
ADOLPH THIERRY,
AUGUSTUS S. VOIGT,
CHARLES G. WALSTROM,
WILLIAM WARK,
CHARLES W. WARNICK,
J. FREDERICK WESSELS,
ELIAS WILDMAN,
MARK T. WILLIS,
WILLIAM L. WILSON,
ANTON WINTERS,
RICHARD B. WIZE,
JOHN C. YEAGER,
LEVIS N. YEARSLEY,
WILLIAM L. ZELNER, and
CHARLES SCHNIDER, Tyler.

And the following visiting Companions, to wit:—

M. E. G. H. P. Companion—
CHARLES EUGENE MEYER.
M. E. G. S. Companion—
ANDREW ROBENO, Jr.

P. G. H. P.'s Companions—
DANIEL THOMPSON,
JEREMIAH L. HUTCHINSON,
MICHAEL NISBET.

M. E. H. P.'s Companions—
Rev. Robert H. Pattison, of Chap. No. 3,
J. Milton Raab, of Chap. No. 169,
James Reynolds, of Chap. No. 175,
Joseph S. George, of Chap. No. 183,
Louis Wagner, of Chap. No. 208,
John Roberts, of Chap. No. 233,
Charles D. Freeman, of Chap. No. 240.

Companions—
A. R. Hall, S. of Chap. No. 3,
William H. Burkhart, K. of Chap. No. 52,
Hibbert P. John, S. of Chap. No. 169,
William A. Sinn, S.,
David S. Craven, of Chap. No. 175,
William T. Reynolds, S.,
William A. Briscoe,
William Foley, of Chap. No. 183,
William Davis, K. of Chap. No. 208,
Edward D. Williams, S. of Chap. No. 226,
Edward Masson, P. H. P.,
Edward S. Keeler, K.,
John M. Howland, S. of Chap. No. 232,
Sidney R. Morris, K.,
Griffith O. Storrie, S. of No. 233, and
Edward R. Worrell, K. of Chap. No. 240,
Bro. Harry E. Cochran.

Companion John Hanold, M. E. H. P., took the chair, and called the Companions to order.

An appropriate piece of music was sung by a quartette, composed of Companions A. R. Taylor, William Foley, William A. Briscoe, and Brother Harry C. Cochran.

Companion J. Alexander Simpson was then introduced, and delivered the following address:—

Companions:—

I have been selected by the Committee having charge of the arrangements for this interesting celebration to address you, and in complying with their request, I shall be compelled, not to draw upon my memory—for at the time of the organization of the Chapter I had not yet

come into existence—had not begun to breathe the free air of heaven; hence, in speaking of the early history of the Chapter, whatever I may have to say will have been extracted from the *record.*

The Chapter was organized on September 18, 1822, with 26 members, 22 of whom had been members of Concordia H. R. A. Chapter, No. 67, which had dissolved on the 5th of the same month.

Prior to the dissolution of Chapter No. 67, it had been working under the warrant of Concordia Lodge, No. 67, as Chapter No. 3 was working under the warrant of Lodge No. 3, and Chapter No. 52 was working under the warrant of Lodge No. 52; indeed, all the Chapters in this jurisdiction were at that time working under the warrants of Lodges, and of course took the names and members of the Lodges, respectively, under whose warrant they were held; and it was not until after the reorganization of the M. E. G. Chapter, in 1824, that warrants were granted to Chapters as independent bodies, and the right to confer the R. A. degree, previously claimed and exercised by Blue Lodges by virtue of the powers contained in their warrants, was, by the authority of the R. W. Grand Lodge, surrendered.

Let me read you the minutes of that first meeting.

"Masonic Hall,
"Philadelphia, Sept. 18, 1822.

"At a meeting of Royal Arch Masons, formerly members of late Chapter No. 67, and others, Companion Richard Perry was called to the chair, and Companion G. Russell appointed Secretary.

"The object of the meeting having been stated from the chair, and the petition for the use of the warrant of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, and the articles of formation having been read, they were unanimously adopted.

"Whereupon the following officers were nominated, and unanimously agreed to.

"Companion CHARLES STOUT, *High Priest.*
JOHN HORTON, *King.*
JOHN KENWORTHY, *Scribe.*
THOMAS S. MANNING, *Recorder.*
STEPHEN P. BARBIER, *Treasurer.*

"It was on motion *Resolved*, That the warrant of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, be accepted, and that the first Chief be a Committee to return the thanks of the meeting for the use of the same.

"On motion *Resolved*, That the By-Laws of late Chapter, No. 67, be altered so as to suit Columbia H. R. A. Chapter, No. 91, and that they be committed to the care of Companion Manning to make the necessary alterations, and to print the same.

"The minutes of this meeting were then read and adopted. The meeting was then dissolved.

"R. PERRY, *Chairman.*

"GEO. RUSSELL, *Secretary.*"

Thus it was that the bark was launched upon the broad sea of time, with strong faith that its voyage would be successful.

So far as known, not one of the original members of the Chapter is now living.

On the same evening—as above recorded—a meeting of the Chapter was held, and three petitions were presented, one from Brother JOSEPH J. BARGEBER, P. M. of Lodge No. 91, one from Brother JOHN WILSON, P. M. of Lodge No. 52, and the third from Brother JOSEPH CONOVER, P. M. of Lodge No. 127, praying for the degree of the Royal Arch, the first named as a Sojourner, and the two latter as members. After a favorable report, and a clear ballot on the application of Brother BARGEBER, he was introduced, and was exalted to the R. A. At the next stated meeting Brother JOHN WILSON was exalted to companionship as a member, and thus became the first-fruit of the new organization. That Companion is still one of us, and is here participating in these joyous festivities, and I doubt not but that the wish of every member, and of every visiting companion within the sound of my voice, is, that his life and his health may be long spared, that we may from time to time enjoy his society, and receive from him those lessons of wisdom that are only gathered by long experience.

Before proceeding further in the history of the Chapter, let me retrace my steps, to give you the cause, or, rather, the reason that existed for the organization of the Chapter; as we have seen, by the record, that 22 of the 26 members who participated in the organization had been members of Chapter No. 67, and that but thirteen days had elapsed between its dissolution and the birth of No. 91. There would seem to have been no cause for the dissolution of the former, and the substitution of the latter in its place.

Upon an examination of the minutes of Concordia H. R. A. Chapter, No. 67, it appears that they had amongst them one, at least, who had, in some way—how, does not appear—rendered himself obnoxious to the rest of his companions. The course taken to rid themselves of him appears on the minutes, as follows:—

"June 6, 1822. On motion, Companion STOUT was appointed to wait on Companion ——, and respectfully request him to withdraw from this Chapter."

"July 4, 1822. Companion STOUT, who had been appointed at the last stated meeting to wait on Companion ——, made report that he had attended to the duty assigned him, and that said Companion had positively refused to resign his membership in the Chapter."

He may have been obnoxious to them, but they were not so to him; contumaciously he refused to comply with their most reasonable request; his was no resigning mood. If the other members did not like companionship with him, he esteemed theirs most highly, and peremptorily declined to be separated from them.

A Committee was appointed to wait on the M. E. G. H. P. to inquire how the Chapter should proceed in the case.

On August 1st the last-named Committee made a long report, and concluded by offering the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That Concordia H. R. A. Chapter, No. 67, be now dissolved, and that the Most Excellent High Priest be requested to return the warrant, together with the thanks of the Chapter, to Concordia Lodge, No. 67, for the use of the same." It was then ordered that said resolution should lie upon the table until the next stated

meeting, and that the Recorder should notify every member of the same. At the next stated meeting, held September 5th, the resolution was called up, read, and, on motion, adopted; and the records of that Chapter conclude with, "The Chapter was then closed *sine die.*" Here ends its history.

As the pestilential rat could not be induced to leave the building, it was torn down, and the material taken away, leaving the rat the sole monument of the past.

A matter that may seem curious to many who have attained to the Royal Arch in these times is the fact that, from the time of the organization of the Chapter until March 16, 1825, the only degree conferred was the R. A.

On the last named date the minutes enlighten us as to the cause of this; let me read an extract from those minutes.

"A document was received from the Grand H. R. Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, purporting to be a WARRANT from said G. H. R. A. Chapter, empowering the Chapter to admit, make, and exalt *Mark Master Masons*, *Most Excellent Master Masons*, and *Holy Royal Arch Masons*, which warrant, after being read, was, on motion, accepted." No direct authority for doing the work in the Mark and M. E. degrees existed before that date, and hence it was not attempted.

The first time a M. E. Master's Lodge was held was on the 19th of October, 1825, and the first petitioner in the new life of the Chapter was from Brother ADAM CORNMAN; to the Chapter it was like entering upon a new

world; and, as *Adam* was the first man of whom we have any record upon the earth, in its early day—so far as the history of man is concerned—it was eminently proper that another Adam should be the first to step into the new world the Companions of this Chapter had opened unto them.

There are a number of matters of which I propose particularly to speak upon this occasion, and the first is, that the members of Chapter No. 91 seem to have been actuated by good honest principles. When Chapter No. 67 departed this life, as I have already narrated, it left behind it but a small estate—unless the debts which it owed might be considered an estate. Its assets consisted, in the main, of dues owing by its late membership, the payment of which, however, there was no means of enforcing. This Chapter, as the executor or administrator of the *decedent*, resolved that no man should suffer by the untimely end of the departed; they, therefore, appointed a committee to ascertain and report the amounts due by the defunct, and the names of its creditors, as well as the amounts which by its books appeared to be due by its late members, with authority to collect all that could be collected from them, to be used in liquidating such indebtedness; and it is gratifying to be able to say that every creditor of the late No. 67 was made happy by the receipt of his debt, even when the darkness of the grave seemed to have covered his claim as with a pall.

Meetings.

We are enabled to exhibit an unbroken record of the existence of this Chapter, through its minutes, from its first to its last meeting, as well as the whole record of its immediate predecessor, not one link in the chain either broken or missing.

From these records it appears that, during the whole of the half century, but on 17 occasions did the Chapter fail to hold its regular meetings, of which 1 was in 1823, 4 in 1825, 1 in 1828, 2 in 1829, 1 in 1832, 1 in 1834, 2 in 1835, and 5 in 1836, while the special or extra meetings were more than twice as numerous as the intermitted stated ones. True it was that often the number attending was but few; but the promise to Abraham was that the city should be spared, if there were but ten faithful ones found there.

Membership.

We have seen that the Chapter began with 26 members; and although it is somewhat difficult to ascertain the precise number of its members at any particular period, down to 1852, by reason of the failing memory of our former venerable and respected Secretary, and the omissions in the records occasioned thereby, yet we do know that the return for the year 1852, when corrected, found us with 65 members, more than double the number at its opening; and from that time to the present we have continued to grow almost constantly,

occasionally falling off a little, only to increase still more in the succeeding period, like the wave on the shore, receding one instant, only to advance farther the next, until the close of the last year; and now we have in fellowship with us 375 members, and stand as one of the largest Chapters in the jurisdiction.

Many very curious entries appear upon the minutes, but as they shed no light upon the subject now under consideration, it is not my purpose at this time to advert to them.

Finances.

On the 21st day of December, 1831, the Chapter undertook to lay the foundation of its permanent prosperity by investing some of its surplus funds, and adding the interest thereon to its ordinary income; the minutes say—

"The Committee to settle the Treasurer's and Secretary's books made report that the books were correct, there remaining in the Treasurer's hands $97 08, and recommending the investment of not exceeding $100 in stock, or in the Saving Fund, which was so ordered."

On the 15th of February, 1832, having learned, after the payment of the various bills and claims against the Chapter, that the balance in the hands of the Treasurer had been reduced to the sum of $34 59, and being unable to solve the rather difficult problem how $100 might be invested out of that sum, the project was for the time abandoned.

On May 20th, 1846, however, it was again revived; during all the intervening years it had only slumbered. Now the time of fruition had come, and the foundation-stone of the present financial edifice was firmly laid by the purchase of $100, of the then Masonic Loan, at par. On the 17th of March, 1847, $200 more were added. On the 18th of December, 1850, $50 were added to the investments by the purchase of 10 shares of stock in the Masonic Hall at Pittsburg; and on the 19th day of February, 1851, the Chapter ordered the sale of the $300 of the Masonic Loan, and the purchase of $500 of the 6 per cent. Loan of the City of Philadelphia. From this time forward investments were being made, now in City 6's, next in the stock of the Pennsylvania R. R., then in the 7-30 loans of the United States, which were afterwards converted into 5-20 loans, and, finally, as the Grand Lodge had need of funds in the erection of that magnificent temple which we hope within the next twelvemonth to occupy, these several investments were sold, or presented for redemption, and the proceeds invested in the loans of the Grand Lodge.

The interests of the Chapter have been faithfully watched over by those having control of its finances, and no opportunity has been allowed to pass, where it was entirely safe, without increasing the value of the investments, or of adding to them, until now the investments reach no less a sum than $11,500, all in the Masonic Loans of the Grand Lodge; and it may well be said to each and all of its financial officers, "Well done, good and faithful servants."

Work.

Every year of the existence of the Chapter some work has been done. True, in some years it was very slight, yet it was something. The terrible outcry against Freemasonry which raged through the land, particularly through this State, until even the Legislature—turning aside from its province of making laws—undertook to wage a crusade against the spread of the Craft, did not entirely stop the work. To a great extent it checked it, but that check was but temporary. The financial embarrassments which from time to time have swept like a whirlwind over our land, and buried in its ruins many a promising enterprise, and have laid their embargoes upon the industry of the country, have been more serious to the Chapter than even the outcries of our enemies, as will be seen by a reference to the work done, as follows:—

In 1822, 7 were exalted to the R. A., 3 of them as Sojouruers; in 1823, 13 were exalted, and 3 were admitted to membership; in 1824, 5 were exalted; all these while working under the warrant of Lodge No. 91—the warrant from the Grand Chapter authorizing the conferring of the degrees of Mark and M. E. Master. The following shows what has been done since:—

Year.	No. Mark.	No. M. E. M.	No. R. A.	No. Sojourners.	No. Admitted.
1825	1	7	5	4	—
1826	4	7	6	5	—
1827	2	18	18	8	1
1828	1	7	7	1	—
1829	1	6	6	1	—
1830	3	14	11	3	—

Year.	No. Mark.	No. M. E. M.	No. R. A.	No. Sojourners.	No. Admitted.
1831	4	13	11	1	—
1832	1	9	9	1	—
1833	1	10	11	6	—
1834	—	2	2	—	—
1835	—	1	1	—	—
1836	—	3	2	—	1
1837	—	4	5	1	—
1838	2	5	6	5	1
1839	3	13	13	2	—
1840	—	4	3	3	—
1841	1	4	3	3	—
1842	—	—	1	—	1
1843	2	4	4	2	—
1844	1	10	10	2	—
1845	—	15	14	1	1
1846	9	22	19	1	1
1847	—	8	10	—	—
1848	2	13	11	2	—
1849	—	9	10	1	—
1850	—	10	10	1	1
1851	—	7	7	1	—
1852	1	11	11	1	—
1853	3	25	22	1	2
1854	3	36	37	5	2
1855	—	34	29	6	8
1856	—	43	47	3	4
1857	—	21	22	2	1
1858	—	22	19	1	1
1859	—	14	18	—	—
1860	—	8	8	—	—
1861	—	8	8	—	—
1862	—	9	9	—	1
1863	—	16	16	—	3
1864	—	29	28	—	4
1865	—	39	40	—	1
1866	—	19	19	—	1
1867	—	44	43	—	1
1868	—	31	31	—	2
1869	—	31	31	—	3
1870	—	21	22	—	2
1871	—	22	22	—	—

To which, if we add the work done this year, 5 marked, 7 received the M. E. M., and 8 exalted, makes a grand total of 59 marked, of whom 1 was a Sojourner, 715 were received as M. E. M.'s, and 730 exalted to the R. A. degree, 82 of whom were Sojourners, 46 were admitted to membership, and 1 reinstated.

Not content with conferring the degrees mentioned in the warrant, on three occasions, to wit, May 16, 1827, Sept. 19, 1827, and February 16, 1842, the Chapter conferred the Royal Master's degree upon 14 applicants; on the first date, Companions L. Rebola, Samuel H. Perkins, John Green, J. B. Costa, and G. Cuesta, were the favored recipients. On the second occasion, Companion E. A. Atlee was alone. At the last date, Companions Michael Bouvier, John J. Krider, Joseph Myers, Harman Baugh, John Thomson, James Simpson, Alva Mason, and John H. Markland were made more royal than the Arch; and here that record ends. Of these 14 Companions, 5 are still in companionship with us. By what authority the Chapter undertook to do this work does not appear; whether it was considered inherent in them, the record does not disclose; all that does appear, is the fact that the work was done (and I have no doubt it was well done, for No. 91 does not, and has not permitted the work to be slighted), and the Chapter treasury was enriched by the fees received therefor.

Charities.

It is indeed most gratifying to be able to state that, from the organization of the Chapter down to the present hour, in no instance has a demand been made upon the charities of the Chapter, by a needy worthy applicant, without being promptly and liberally responded to; and these demands have been neither few nor far between.

There is another matter that has struck my mind in reading over these records. It appears that, on sundry occasions when no work required the attention of the Companions, their attention was turned in a literary direction.

The minutes of Wednesday, Aug. 20, 1828, state that "Companion ATLEE delivered a spiritualized lecture appertaining to the Holy Royal Arch degree, which met the universal approbation of every Companion present."

Again, Sept. 17, 1828, it is recorded "Dr. ATLEE delivered a lecture on the 6th and 7th verses of the 39th chapter of Exodus, which received the sanction of every Companion present."

Again, Nov. 19, 1828, we are informed that "Companion ATLEE delivered a third lecture on the spirituality contained in the verses from 8 to 21 of the 39th chapter of Exodus, which received the unanimous approbation of every Companion present."

It thus appears that lectures were the order of the day long before these times—before the "Star Course" was inaugurated, and it is very pleasant to be informed how

unanimous the Companions were who heard them; and this characteristic "unanimity" is not a new thing in this Chapter; it appears to have been born at its birth, grown with its growth, strengthened with its strength, until now, when it has become so strong that we cannot help being unanimous on every important question; we may differ slightly on things that are of little worth, but on the substantials we are now, as we ever have been, a unit, that no other number will measure or divide.

Another bright and pleasing characteristic of this Chapter is its *fraternity;* I refer now to fraternity in its narrower sense, as applied to families; if only one member of a family becomes associated with us, at once he becomes a missionary in his family—our ways are so fascinating, our paths so pleasant, that he wants all his brethren, sons, father, cousins, and all other classes of relations to enjoy their association with him, not on the principle that "misery loves company," but founded on that other maxim which lead many to seek life's partners, that by marriage "a man's joys are doubled and his sorrows divided;" hence we find upon our rolls now, 14 pairs of brothers, two triplets, and four pairs of fathers and sons. One pair of brothers, JOHN and GEORGE THOMSON, are P. H. P.'s, as also are JAMES and ROBERT HUTCHINSON, who, with their brother JOSEPH—now in the far West on the Pacific shore—form one of the triplets; one pair of fathers and sons, SAML. H. and SAML. C. PERKINS, are not only P. H. P.'s, but also P. G. H. P.'s, and in the near future will also be ranked as P. G. Masters, the for-

mer having attained that rank, and the latter being R. W. G. M.; another pair are P. H. P.'s, the father being also a P. G. H. P., JAMES SIMPSON; and still another pair are P. H. P.'s, JOHN WILSON and JOHN WILSON, Jr., the latter being also M. E. G. K. of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. Thus, we see that three of the four pairs of fathers and sons have had the highest honors this Chapter can bestow; and in proof that these honors were well deserved, is the fact that other Masonic bodies have seen their talents and their virtues, and have shown that they too appreciate them.

Companions, we have thus brought before us the records of the past half century; we can see what has been done, and how it has been performed. In view, then, of our present favorable condition, let us press forward in our noble work, keeping true to our *ancient landmarks*, responding to the wants of the distressed—when their cries reach our ears—being careful to guard our doors against the intrusion amongst the faithful of improper and discordant material, we need have no fear for our future, if we but deliver to our successors the ark of the covenant as we have received it from those who have preceded us, it will go forward and continue to go forward until the necessities for institutions such as ours shall have passed away. Let us be faithful to our trust, committing all our works into the hands of Him "who doeth all things well."

When the address was concluded, the quartette discoursed a most beautiful piece of music.

The Companions were then formed in proper order, and marched to the banqueting room, where a bounteous repast awaited them.

After the substantials had been well discussed, a Table Lodge was opened.

M. E. H. P., JOHN HANOLD, presiding, Companion JACOB ROBERT, K., as S. W., and Companion THOS. S. WOODBURY, S., as J. W.

The first regular toast was—

"The M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania."

Which was responded to by the M. E. G. H. P., Companion CHARLES E. MEYER.

Music by the Quartette.

The second regular toast was—

"The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging."

In response to which a letter was read from the R. W. Grand Master, Brother and Companion SAML. C. PERKINS, who was unfortunately absent from the city.

Music by the Quartette.

The third regular toast—

"Royal Arch Masonry—the summit and perfection of the ancient craftsmen"—

Was responded to by Companion ROBERT H. PATTISON, M. E. H. P. of Chapter No. 3.

Music by the Quartette.

The fourth regular toast was—

"The Officers and Past Officers of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania."

Companion MICHAEL NISBET, P. G. H. P., responded to this sentiment.

Music by the Quartette.

The fifth regular toast—

"Our sister Chapters—may their arches be as perfect as the blue arch above"—

Was responded to by Companion CHARLES D. FREEMAN, M. E. H. P. of Chapter No. 240.

Music by the Quartette.

The sixth regular toast—

"Our visiting Companions—we bid them a hearty welcome."

This was responded to by Companion LOUIS WAGNER, M. E. H. P. of Chapter No. 218.

Music by the Quartette.

The seventh regular toast—

"The day we celebrate—we begin the second half of the century stronger in numbers, stronger financially, and stronger in everything that can give promise of increased and increasing usefulness than we possessed 'fifty years ago.'"

Companion JOHN THOMSON, M. E. Grand Secretary, replied to this sentiment.

Music by the Quartette.

The eighth regular toast—

"Our deceased Companions—may the remembrance of their virtues ever be green in our memories, and may we be enabled to emulate them, until the summons shall come calling us from labor to reward."

This was received standing, and in silence.

The ninth regular toast was—

"Woman—her influence reaches beyond the confines of time."

Responded to by Companion JOHN WILSON, Jr., M. E. G. K. of the Grand Chapter.

Music by the Quartette.

After which, the clock admonishing us that the time had come when we ought to separate, the festivities of a day long to be remembered were appropriately brought to an end, and the Lodge closed in the usual manner.

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