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CONSTITUTIONS

AND

General Regulations

OF THE

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite.

SOVEREIGN GRAND CONSISTORY



AND

SUPREME COUNCIL, 1807.

FOR THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

ITS

Territories and Dependencies,

AS REVISED AND APPROVED

JUNE 24th and 25th,

1886, 1887 and 1889.

1889.

Supreme Council,

THIRTY-THIRD AND LAST DEGREE

OF THE

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Masonry,

AS ORGANIZED BY

T.·. I.·. JOSEPH CERNEAU, M.·. P.·. S.·. G.·. C.·.,

October 27, 1807,

FOR THE

United States of America, Its Territories and Dependencies.

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS FERDINAND J. S. GORGAS, M. D., 33°,
Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, Baltimore, Md.

VERY ILLUSTRIOUS ALEXANDER B. MOTT, M. D., 33°,
Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander, New York, N. Y.

VERY ILLUSTRIOUS GEORGE DAVIS, 33°,
Grand Orator and Minister of State, Charleston, W. Va.

VERY ILLUSTRIOUS PHILIP F. D. HIBBS, 33°,
Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., Brooklyn, N. Y.

VERY ILLUSTRIOUS JOHN H. RUSSELL, 33°,
Grand Treasurer General H. . E.·., New York, N. Y.

VERY ILLUSTRIOUS WILLIAM MARSHALL, 33°,
Grand Marshal General, Wilmington, Del.

VERY ILLUSTRIOUS JAMES M. SAFFELL, 33°,
Grand Master General of Ceremonies, Frankfort, Ky.

VERY ILLUSTRIOUS ALFRED G. HASTINGS, 33°,
Grand Standard Bearer, Lincoln, Neb.

VERY ILLUSTRIOUS J. THOMPSON BROWN, 33°,
Grand Captain of the Guard, Richmond, Va.

Deus Meumque Jus.

The Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third and Last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, being assembled with the Supreme Council, convened at its Council Chamber, Orient of New York; A Sacred Asylum, where reign Union, Contentment, and Wisdom. Under the Celestial Vault; on the twenty-fourth day of June, 1886, V.·. E.·., and on the twenty-first day of the Hebrew month Sivan, 5646, A.·. M.·., in due obedience to the mandate of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, the M.·. Ill.·. Wm. H. Peckham, 33°, and the Supreme Council, and after regular citation to all the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, and of the Consistories under the obedience to our said Supreme Council, emphatically assert that they neither have, nor claim power or authority over Symbolic, Capitular, Cryptic, or Templar Masonry; but do solemly reiterate the declaration, that the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, by virtue of the power in them vested, through their legal and direct descent from the Supreme Council and Sovereign Grand Consistory, established by the Ill.·. Joseph Cerneau, 33°, in the City of New York, in the year 1807, Constitutionally claim exclusive Masonic jurisdiction throughout the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, over the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, to-wit:

FOURTH DEGREE—Secret Master.
FIFTH DEGREE—Perfect Master.
SIXTH DEGREE—Intimate Secretary.
SEVENTH DEGREE—Provost and Judge.
EIGHTH DEGREE—Intendant of the Building.
NINTH DEGREE—Elect of Nine.
TENTH DEGREE—Knight Elect of Fifteen.
ELEVENTH DEGREE—Sublime Knight Elected.
TWELFTH DEGREE—Grand Master Architect.
THIRTEENTH DEGREE—King Solomon's Royal Arch.
FOURTEENTH DEGREE—Grand, Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason.
FIFTEENTH DEGREE—Knight of the East or Sword.
SIXTEENTH DEGREE—Prince of Jerusalem.

SEVENTEENTH DEGREE—Knight of the East and West.
EIGHTEENTH DEGREE—Sovereign Prince of the Rose Croix.
NINETEENTH DEGREE—Grand Pontiff.
TWENTIETH DEGREE—Master Ad-Vitum.
TWENTY-FIRST DEGREE—Patriarch Noachite.
TWENTY-SECOND DEGREE—Prince of Libanus.
TWENTY-THIRD DEGREE—Chief of the Tabernacle.
TWENTY-FOURTH DEGREE—Prince of the Tabernacle.
TWENTY-FIFTH DEGREE—Knight of the Brazen Serpent.
TWENTY-SIXTH DEGREE—Prince of Mercy.
TWENTY-SEVENTH DEGREE—Commander of the Temple.
TWENTY-EIGHTH DEGREE—Knight of the Sun.
TWENTY-NINTH DEGREE—Patriarch of the Crusades.
THIRTIETH DEGREE—Grand Elect K——H ; or Knight of the White and Black Eagle.
THIRTY-FIRST DEGREE—Grand Inspector Inquisitor Commander.
THIRTY-SECOND DEGREE—Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret.
THIRTY-THIRD AND LAST DEGREE (OFFICIAL)—Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

Being pledged to preserve these degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, pure and inviolate, and from all unlawful and spurious intermixture, or associations, we feel constrained, most unequivocally, to renew former declarations, and solemnly denounce as unlawful and unconstitutional, and protest against the acts and pretensions of all other bodies under whatever name or title they may exist, claiming to exercise or control authority over the above-named degrees within the limits of the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies; we further declare that the Sovereign Grand Consistory and its Supreme Council, and the various bodies under their authority, require no other qualification in candidates for the degrees of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, except that they "Be good men and true," and have been regularly initiated in the first three degrees of Symbolic Masonry, and are Master Masons in good and regular standing.

We also, recognizing the fact that our Ancient and Sublime Order has always sustained itself in honor and credit, by the wisdom and prudence of its Constitutions; duly considering the progress of the races, and the advance of Toleration and Civilization, and being mindful of the great principles contained in the Constitutions of 1762, 1862 and 1883, deem it advisable, in connection therewith, to make such reformatory alterations as are suitable and fitting to the times in which we live.

Therefore, after mature deliberation, we hereby ordain, establish and decree the following as

THE

Grand Constitutions

AND

GENERAL REGULATIONS

FOR THE

Government and Control of all the Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Thirty-third and Last Degree, and of those Subordinate Thereto in the United States of America, Its Territories and Dependencies, and that the Same Shall Be Promulgated to All and Everybody Under Our Obedience.

Most Ill.·. Wm. H. PECKHAM,

M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander.

ATTEST:

Very Ill.·. JAMES S. FRASER, 33°,

Grand Sec.·. Gen.·. H.·. E.·. and K.·. O.·. S.·. & A. .

CONSTITUTION.

TITLE I.

ARTICLE I.

The government of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, is vested in the Sovereign Grand Consistory and its Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

ARTICLE II.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory is composed of its Officers, members Emeriti, and representatives from each Grand and Subordinate Consistory under its jurisdiction, each of whom is entitled to vote therein; also, of its honorary members, who have no vote, but are entitled to privileges, as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE III.

The Supreme Council is composed of the nine elective officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE IV.

The members Emeriti of the Sovereign Grand Consistory are: First—All Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third Degree, who have heretofore been declared members Emeriti of the Supreme Council. Second—All members of the Supreme Council, who, having faithfully performed their duties as such, during the term for which they were elected, and shall by a two-thirds vote of the Sovereign Grand Consistory be declared entitled to that honor.

ARTICLE V.

A Grand Consistory is composed of its officers and the representatives of three or more Subordinate Consistories; also, all Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third Degree, who are members in good standing of Consistories under its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE VI.

A Subordinate Consistory is composed of twenty-seven or more Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, congregating and working in pursuance and by virtue of a Charter held under the authority of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

TITLE II.

SOVEREIGN GRAND CONSISTORY.

ARTICLE I.

The powers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory are: executive, legislative, and judicial. The exercise of these powers is defined in the constitution and general regulations, which it has the right to frame and adopt at its own convenience, and to alter, amend, add to or repeal, at its pleasure, under the limitations therein imposed; and are final and conclusive upon all parties concerned, until altered or reversed by the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE II.

The officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be styled and take rank as follows:

1. The Most Illustrious Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander.
2. The Very Illustrious Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander.
3. The Very Illustrious Grand Orator and Minister of State.
4. The Very Illustrious Grand Chancellor, Grand Secretary General of the Holy Empire, and Keeper of the Seals and Archives.
5. The Very Illustrious Grand Treasurer General of the Holy Empire.

6. The Very Illustrious Grand Marshal General.
7. The Very Illustrious Grand Master General of Ceremonies.
8. The Very Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer.
9. The Very Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard.
10. The Illustrious Grand Seneschal.
11. The Illustrious Grand Sentinel.

ARTICLE III.

The first nine officers shall be elected by ballot for a term of three years, as follows:

The Grand Marshal General, Grand Standard Bearer and Grand Captain of the Guard, at the annual Rendezvous in 1887.

The Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander, Grand Orator and Minister of State, and Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., at the annual rendezvous in 1888.

The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, Grand Treasurer General H.·. E.·., and Grand Master General of Ceremonies, at the annual rendezvous in 1889.

At each subsequent annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, there shall be elected by ballot three officers for a term of three years, in place of those whose terms of office expire at such date.

ARTICLE IV.

The Grand Seneschal and Grand Sentinel shall be appointed by the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander at the time of his installation, to serve during his will and pleasure.

ARTICLE V.

The legislative powers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory extend to every case of legislation not delegated or reserved to subordinate bodies.

ARTICLE VI.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory shall hold a stated rendezvous annually. In case of great emergency the Supreme Council, by the affirmative vote of five of its members, may order a special rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, but no business shall be transacted at such special rendezvous

except that for which it was called, and every member shall receive at least fifteen days' notice of the same.

Article VII.

The annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory may be held in any city within the United States which may have been selected at the previous rendezvous.

Article VIII.

Every Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, being a member in good standing of a Subordinate Consistory under this jurisdiction, is an honorary member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and shall be so declared at his making; is entitled to be present at every rendezvous, and eligible to be elected or appointed to any office therein, with the exception of that of Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, who must be a member of the Supreme Council, or a member Emeritus of the Sovereign Grand Consistory at the time of his election.

Article IX.

No one can be a member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory unless he shall have attained the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, and is a member in good standing of a subordinate Consistory under this jurisdiction.

Article X.

The Board of Trustees of the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be composed of five members, the first three of whom shall be the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, the Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander and the Grand Orator and Minister of State; the other two shall be members of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, who hold no other official position therein, and who shall be elected by ballot annually. All surplus funds belonging to the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be placed in the custody of this Board of Trustees, and by them, under the direction of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, securely invested. At each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory there shall also be placed in the custody

of the Board of Trustees a duplicate copy of the registry, records and proceedings of the Sovereign Grand Consistory and its Supreme Council, appertaining to the transactions of the preceding year. The Board of Trustees shall also have in custody all books, documents, etc., belonging to the Sovereign Grand Consistory and its Supreme Council, and not needed by the officers in the daily routine of business. It shall be the duty of the Board, under direction of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, to cause all books, documents, registry, records and proceedings as above referred to, to be safely deposited in the vault or vaults of some safe deposit company, and the same shall be so deposited that they cannot be removed except in the presence of a majority of the Board of Trustees.

Article XI.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory has original jurisdiction over all controversies which may arise between Grand Consistories, or individual members of different Grand Consistories, and subordinate Consistories not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, or individual members of different subordinate Consistories not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory; it also has original jurisdiction over all controversies between Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third Degree; also unaffiliated Scottish Rite Masons residing in States or Territories where there are no Grand Consistories. The appellate judicial powers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory embrace all matters of controversy and discipline over which it has or has not original jurisdiction. In all cases of controversy or discipline the party aggrieved, at the decision of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, is entitled to a final appeal to the Supreme Council.

Article XII.

A Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, can be tried only by his peers, and all charges against him for unmasonic conduct must be preferred to the Sovereign Grand Consistory or its Supreme Council. If such charges are preferred within sixty days prior to an annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, said charges shall be preferred at

such rendezvous, otherwise the charges must be preferred to the Supreme Council. In either case the mode of procedure thereafter shall be as prescribed in Title Eleven of the general regulations.

TITLE III.

SUPREME COUNCIL.

ARTICLE I.

The powers of the Supreme Council are executive and judicial.

ARTICLE II.

All the executive powers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, when not in session, are reposed in the Supreme Council.

ARTICLE III.

The Supreme Council has full power to institute and charter subordinate bodies, to confer all of the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, subject to the restrictions hereinafter mentioned, upon such Master Masons as may be deemed worthy in foreign countries, where no Supreme Council or Sovereign Grand Consistory exists, or in States and Territories of the United States where there are no Grand Consistories; to enter into Fraternal relations with such other Masonic bodies as it may deem necessary for the benefit of the Rite, and to draw upon the funds of the Sovereign Grand Consistory for all necessary expenses of the Supreme Council.

ARTICLE IV.

The Supreme Council may delegate the power of conferring degrees to any member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE V.

It is the duty of the Supreme Council to see that the constitution, edicts and general regulations are faithfully complied

with; that the ancient landmarks and usages of the Fraternity are not infringed, and that the best exertions are put forth for the advancement of the interests of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

Article VI.

The Supreme Council is the final court of Appeal in all controversies which may arise between Grand Consistories, Subordinate Consistories, or individual members of Consistories.

Article VII.

The Supreme Council shall meet at least once in every three months.

Article VIII.

Five members of the Supreme Council, the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, the Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander, or the Illustrious Grand Orator and Minister of State, being one of the number, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article IX.

The Sovereign Grand Commander may call special meetings of the Supreme Council whenever he deems it necessary, and shall do so upon the written request of five members of the Supreme Council.

Article X.

At the first meeting of the Supreme Council after each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander shall select three members of the Supreme Council to act as a finance committee, whose duty shall be to audit all bills, accounts, etc., presented to the Supreme Council, and no bill shall be paid unless endorsed by a majority of the members of said committee.

Article XI.

Every member of the Supreme Council shall receive at least ten days' notice of every regular meeting.

ARTICLE XII.

All official correspondence relative to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite must be through the Supreme Council under the direction of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, and by the Grand Secretary General.

ARTICLE XIII.

In the deliberations of the Supreme Council each member has one vote only.

ARTICLE XIV.

All matters which shall come before the Supreme Council shall be decided by a majority vote, with the exception, as hereinafter provided for in Article I. of Title IV., and also, that when an aggrieved party appeals from the decision of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, such decision can be revoked only by the unanimous consent of the nine members of the Supreme Council. Such reversal shall not be valid unless it is made in writing, signed by each individual member of the Supreme Council, with the proper seals attached, and deposited in the archives of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and a copy of the same duly entered in the book of records of the Supreme Council.

ARTICLE XV.

All decisions made by the Supreme Council are binding upon the subordinates of this jurisdiction, until the same shall be reversed by the Sovereign Grand Consistory in annual rendezvous assembled.

ARTICLE XVI.

It shall be the duty of the Supreme Council to attend to the organization of all Grand Consistories, and also of all subordinate bodies in such States and Territories where no Grand Consistory exists, and to see that their several jurisdictions are properly arranged.

ARTICLE XVII.

Should a vacancy occur in the Supreme Council by reason of death, removal beyond this jurisdiction, or from other causes, the Sovereign Grand Commander shall appoint a

member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory to fill such vacancy until the next annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, when an election shall be held to fill the office for the balance of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE XVIII.

The Grand Orient of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, shall be at the vertical point of the Z.·. beneath the C.·. C.·. answering to 40 deg. 43 min. N.·. L.·. and 74 deg. W.·. of the Meridian at Greenwich; the same being within the limits of the City of New York, from which all balustres, decrees and official documents shall bear date, and in which city all regular meetings of the Supreme Council shall be held.

ARTICLE XIX.

A Sovereign Grand Inspector General, having been duly elected and installed a member of the Supreme Council, shall not thereafter be elected to any other official position in the Rite during his term of office, save in the Supreme Council or that of Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

TITLE IV.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

ARTICLE I.

Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander.

The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander is the Supreme Chief of the Rite within the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council and Sovereign Grand Consistory. He shall preside over all their regular and special sessions. He may also preside over all Masonic assemblies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite which, in his official capacity, he may favor with his presence. He may grant special dispensations, not in violation of the constitution, upon a written demand either according to a resolution adopted by a subordinate body

of this jurisdiction or in case of urgency by a Grand Commander-in-Chief of a Grand Consistory. Such demand shall be deposited in the archives. All decisions made by the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, when the Supreme Council is not in session, are binding upon the subordinates of this jurisdiction until the same shall be reversed by the Supreme Council or Sovereign Grand Consistory.

He shall report to the Supreme Council at each meeting all of the business transacted by him during its recess, and submit the same for its approval.

He shall have power to appoint from the members of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, Active Sovereign Grand Inspectors General to represent him and the Supreme Council in States and Territories of the United States. It shall also be his duty by and with the approval of the Supreme Council, to appoint suitable Brethren to represent this jurisdiction in such bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, located in foreign countries, with whom the Supreme Council shall decide to exchange Fraternal relations.

Should any member of the Supreme Council refuse or neglect to perform the duties of his office, it shall be the duty of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander to prefer charges to the Supreme Council against such officer; and, if the charges be sustained by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Supreme Council, each member having been served with a copy of the charges, and the delinquent member having been afforded ample opportunity to defend himself, the Sovereign Grand Commander shall suspend such member of the Supreme Council from the further performance of his duties, and appoint a member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory to act in his stead, until the next annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, when the charges shall be preferred to the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and, if sustained by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote, such officer shall be declared impeached, his office vacant, and the vacancy filled by election. Should the Sovereign Grand Commander neglect or refuse to perform his duties, charges may be preferred against him to the Supreme Council, by any Sovereign Grand Inspector General,

Thirty-third Degree, and should such charges be sustained by the unanimous vote of the balance of the members of the Supreme Council, each member having been served with a copy of the charges and the Sovereign Grand Commander afforded ample opportunity to defend himself, he shall be suspended from the further performance of his duties and the Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander shall assume the duties and prerogatives of the Sovereign Grand Commander, until the next annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory; when the charges shall be preferred to the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and, if sustained by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote, he shall be declared impeached, his office vacant, and the vacancy filled by election.

Charges for un-Masonic conduct having been preferred against a Grand Commander-in-Chief, or Acting Grand Commander-in-Chief of a Grand Consistory, or the Commander-in-Chief or Acting Commander-in-Chief of a Subordinate Consistory, not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, it shall be the duty of the Sovereign Grand Commander to suspend such officer from the further performance of his duties until said charges shall have been disposed of.

ARTICLE II.

Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander.

In the absence of the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander enjoys and may exercise his rights and prerogatives.

In case of the death of the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander shall act as Sovereign Grand Commander until the next annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, when an election shall be held to elect a Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander for the balance of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE III.

Grand Orator and Minister of State.

It shall be the duty of the Illustrious Grand Orator and Minister of State to see that the constitution, general rules and

regulations of the Supreme Council and Sovereign Grand Consistory are faithfully observed by all subordinate bodies, and his opinion in writing shall be obtained on all subjects pertaining thereto, and presented to the Supreme Council before final action is taken. He shall preside at meetings of the Supreme Council in absence of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander and the Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander, and in the event of the disability of both Commanders, shall succeed to and perform the duties of Sovereign Grand Commander until the next annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

Article IV.

Grand Chancellor Grand Secretary General.

The Illustrious Grand Chancellor Grand Secretary General shall keep the archives of the Supreme Council and of the Sovereign Grand Consistory; also a register of all the works, deliberations, and transactions of each body. It shall be his duty faithfully to transcribe the same in books kept for that purpose.

He shall keep a faithful copy of all letters and communications emanating from the Supreme Council, and attest and seal, as the case may be, every order, mandate, or act of each body.

Every diploma, brief, or letters patent, lawfully petitioned by any member of this jurisdiction, shall be signed by him, and sealed with his private seal.

He shall collect all the revenues due the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and within a reasonable time, pay the same to the Illustrious Grand Treasurer General, taking his receipt therefor.

It is also the duty of the Grand Secretary General, in the name and by the order of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and under the direction of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, to issue all duly authorized edicts or mandates, and to officially correspond with all Masonic bodies, either of this or of any other jurisdiction.

All Masonic documents, packages, pamphlets, or letters, directed to the Supreme Council, must be addressed to the

Grand Secretary General, through the post-office, or delivered to him personally.

He shall, at each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, submit in writing a detailed report of all the proceedings and transactions of the Supreme Council during the year; also an account of the proceedings of the Sovereign Grand Consistory at the preceding annual rendezvous.

He shall enter in a book, provided for the purpose, which shall be termed the "Black Book," the names of all who have been suspended or expelled for un-Masonic conduct, either by the Sovereign Grand Consistory or bodies subordinate to its jurisdiction; he shall duly notify each Grand Consistory, and Subordinate Consistories not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, of such suspensions or expulsions, immediately after the official decision has been rendered. He shall keep a correct registry of the membership of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, each Grand Consistory, and Subordinate Consistories not under the jurisdiction of Grand Consistories, specifying the name of each member, name and number of the Subordinate Consistory from which he hails, date of initiation and oath of fealty, of advancement to membership, place of birth, age, when elected, name and number of the Lodge of Ancient Craft Masonry from which he hails, and where located, rank in different Masonic bodies, residence and occupation. He shall make a duplicate copy of the registry, records, and proceedings of the Sovereign Grand Consistory and its Supreme Council, and at each Annual Rendezvous, deliver to the Sovereign Grand Consistory the duplicate copy appertaining to the preceding year's business. He shall duly transmit to his successor in office all books, records, documents, etc., in his possession, belonging to the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

He shall duly notify each member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, of every rendezvous, at least fifteen days prior thereto.

ARTICLE V.

Grand Treasurer General.

The Illustrious Grand Treasurer General shall receive from the Grand Secretary General, all moneys belonging to the

Sovereign Grand Consistory, giving his receipt for the same; and shall not expend or pay out any sums without the authority of the Supreme Council or the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and on warrants signed by the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander and the Grand Secretary General. He shall submit in writing at each annual rendezvous a general and detailed account of all receipts and expenditures.

ARTICLE VI.

Grand Marshal General.

The Illustrious Grand Marshal General shall have charge of the Supreme Council in all processions of the Order.

With the assistance of the Grand Captain of the Guard, and by mandate of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, he shall conduct the officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory to their stations of dignity and service, and perform such special duties, in connection with his office, as may be directed by the Grand Commander.

ARTICLE VII.

Grand Master General of Ceremonies.

The Illustrious Grand Master General of Ceremonies shall assist the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander in the ceremonial of the degrees, and accompany the initiate in his mystic travels.

He should be well versed in the rituals of the Order, and shall, upon the application of the proper authorities within this jurisdiction, give to any officer, body or bodies therein such instructions as may be required to render perfect and uniform the exemplification of the different degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

ARTICLE VIII.

Grand Standard Bearer.

The Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer shall be entrusted with the standard of the Order.

Article IX.

Grand Captain of the Guard.

The Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard shall keep a faithful watch both within and without the Grand Chambers, and see that the portals are duly guarded. He shall report to the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander all messages from without, and transmit the answers. He shall also see that the Grand Chambers are properly prepared and in order for work or for the deliberations of the Supreme Council, and also for the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

Article X.

The duties of the Grand Seneschal and Grand Sentinel shall be to guard the inner and the outer doors of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and to perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Sovereign Grand Consistory may require of them.

Article XI.

Section 1.—The number of active Sovereign Grand Inspectors General shall be limited to one for each State or Territory, who shall be appointed as provided for in Article I. of this Title, except that in a State or Territory in which there is located a Grand Consistory, its Grand Commander-in-Chief shall, by virtue of his office, becomes the Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General of such State or Territory, and also in case of a member of the Supreme Council residing outside of the Grand Orient in a State or Territory wherein there is no Grand Consistory, he shall by virtue of his office become the Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General of his State or Territory.

Section 2.—Every Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall exercise a proper supervision over all the bodies of the Rite in his jurisdiction; shall grant dispensation for acts not within the control of Grand or Subordinate Consistories, or where such do not exist; shall have power to confer degrees for the purpose of instituting new Consistories, and also to institute new Consistories in jurisdictions where no Grand Con-

sistory exists; the fees for the degrees thus conferred and for charters of the Bodies thus organized, belonging to the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

Section 3.—Every Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General, whose term of office is not otherwise constitutionally provided for, shall continue in office for the term of one year from the date of his appointment; every Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall be responsible to the Supreme Council for the proper and discreet exercise of all his powers; and shall keep a register of all his acts, and report the same in writing at each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

TITLE V.

Representation in the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE I.

A Grand Consistory shall be represented in the Sovereign Grand Consistory as follows:

First—By its Grand Commander-in-Chief and First and Second Lieutenant Grand Commanders.

Second—By the Commander-in-Chief of each Subordinate Consistory under its jurisdiction, composed of fifty members or less.

Third—By one representative for each fifty members in good standing in excess of the first fifty in every such Consistory under its jurisdiction; such representatives to be elected by a majority vote of the representatives of a Subordinate Consistory entitled to such representation, and at an annual rendezvous of the Grand Consistory.

Fourth—When the aggregate of the fractional excess of one or more fifties of members exceeding the first fifty in the Consistories under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory shall equal one or more fifties, such Grand Consistory, in annual rendezvous assembled, shall be entitled to elect by a majority vote of the Grand Consistory, one representative to the Sovereign Grand Consistory for each of such fifty members.

ARTICLE II.

Each Subordinate Consistory not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, shall be represented in the Sovereign Grand Consistory by its Commander-in-Chief, and by one

additional representative for each fifty members, or major part of fifty members, exceeding the first fifty.

Article III.

The number of representatives to which a Grand or Subordinate Consistory shall be entitled, must be based on the number of names appearing upon the rolls of such bodies at the annual rendezvous next preceding an annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and each body shall pay its per capita tax to the Sovereign Grand Consistory, according to the basis of such representation.

Article IV.

Representatives to the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be elected for a term of three years.

Article V.

Election for representatives to the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be held only at an annual rendezvous; but should a vacancy occur by the death of a representative, or otherwise, the Commander of the body shall have power to fill such vacancy by appointment until the next annual rendezvous, when an election shall be held to fill the office for the balance of the unexpired term.

Article VI.

Entitled to Vote.

The representatives to the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall not be entitled to vote or take part in the proceedings at an annual rendezvous, unless all moneys due the Sovereign Grand Consistory by the bodies which they represent shall have been paid.

Article VII.

The representatives from a Grand Consistory to the Sovereign Grand Consistory, as provided for in paragraphs 1 and 4, of Article I. of this Title, shall be known as "Representatives-at-Large."

ARTICLE VIII.

Should either of the representatives-at-large of a Grand Consistory be unable to attend a rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, he may appoint one of the other representatives-at-large of his own Grand Consistory as his proxy.

ARTICLE IX.

Should either of the representatives of a Grand Consistory, as provided for in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article I. of this Title, or of a Subordinate Consistory not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, as provided for in Article II. of this Title, be unable to attend a rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, he may appoint one of the other representatives or some other Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, as his proxy. In all such cases, however, the proxy must be a member of a Consistory located in the same State or Territory as the Consistory which he is to represent.

ARTICLE X.

Appointments of proxies must be made in writing, signed by the representative making the appointment, countersigned by the Commander of the body to be represented by the proxy, and attested by the Grand Secretary of such body with its seal attached, and placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., before the opening of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

TITLE VI.

REVENUE.

ARTICLE I.

The revenue of the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be derived from the charges for letters patent of the Thirty-second and Thirty-third Degrees, from a per capita tax on all Subordinate Consistories under this jurisdiction and for all degrees conferred by its subordinates, and from the charge for charters for all subordinate bodies.

ARTICLE II.

Letters Patent.

The charges for letters patent of the Thirty-second and Thirty-third Degrees, and for the per capita tax, shall be as hereinafter provided in the general regulations.

ARTICLE III.

Price of Warrants.

The price for a warrant or charter for a Grand Consistory shall be fifty dollars, and for a Subordinate Consistory, two hundred and seventy dollars; except that in the case of the organization of a Subordinate Consistory, the major part of whose charter members hail from a Consistory previously established, the Supreme Council may in its discretion grant a charter for a less sum.

ARTICLE IV.

Each Subordinate Consistory under this jurisdiction shall be taxed five dollars for each Brother upon whom it shall confer any of the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and three dollars for a patent to be presented to each Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, made under its authority; each Subordinate Consistory shall also pay a per capita tax for each member whose name shall appear on its roll at the annual rendezvous immediately preceding each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory. Each Grand Consistory under this jurisdiction shall collect from each of its Subordinate Consistories, the taxes herein imposed, retain one-fourth of the amount, and pay the balance to the Sovereign Grand Consistory. A Consistory not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory shall make its returns direct to the Grand Secretary General of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

TITLE VII.

GRAND CONSISTORY.

ARTICLE I.

The officers of a Grand Consistory shall be styled and take rank as follows:

1. Illustrious Grand Commander-in-Chief.
2. Illustrious First Lieutenant Grand Commander.
3. Illustrious Second Lieutenant Grand Commander.
4. Illustrious Minister of State and Grand Orator.
5. Illustrious Grand Secretary and Keeper of the Seals and Archives.
6. Illustrious Grand Treasurer.
7. Illustrious Grand Master of Ceremonies.
8. Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard.
9. Illustrious Grand Hospitaler.
10. Illustrious Grand Sentinel.

All of whom, with the exception of the Grand Sentinel, shall be elected by ballot for a term of three years; but it shall be so arranged, at the first election after the adoption of this constitution, that the terms of office of three of the above elective officers shall expire at each annual rendezvous of each Grand Consistory.

The Illustrious Grand Sentinel shall be appointed by the Grand Commander-in-Chief, at the time of his installation.

ARTICLE II.

A Subordinate Consistory shall be represented in its Grand Consistory as follows:

First—By its Commander-in-Chief and First and Second Lieutenant Commanders; also by the Masters of the Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Princes of Jerusalem, and Lodge of Perfection under its authority.

Second—By a representative who shall be elected at an annual rendezvous and for a term of two years.

Third—By one additional representative for each fifty members exceeding the first fifty, whose names shall appear upon its roll at the annual rendezvous next preceding each annual rendezvous of its Grand Consistory,

who shall also be elected at an annual rendezvous and for a term of two years.

Fourth—By all of its Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third Degree, while they remain members in good standing of the Consistory.

Article III.

Should a vacancy occur in the office of a representative, as provided for in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the preceding Article, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint a Brother to serve as representative in his place until the next annual rendezvous of the Consistory, when the vacancy shall be filled by election.

Article IV.

Each Grand Consistory under this jurisdiction shall hold a stated rendezvous annually, at least sixty days prior to the annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

Article V.

As soon as there shall exist in any one State or Territory of the United States, three or more Consistories of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, the Supreme Council, upon the receipt of a petition to that effect, duly signed by the Commanders-in-Chief of all the Consistories in such State or Territory, shall at once organize the proper representatives of such Consistories into a Grand Consistory.

Article VI.

The proper representatives of three or more Consistories, located in different States or Territories of the United States, by mutual agreement upon the part of such Consistories, and upon the presentation of a petition to that effect, may, if the Supreme Council approve, be organized into a Grand Consistory.

Article VII.

A subordinate Consistory, having consented to unite with other Subordinate Consistories located in different States or Territories for the formation of a Grand Consistory, shall not be permitted to withdraw from the jurisdiction of such Grand Consistory, if by so doing there shall remain less than three Consistories under the jurisdiction of such Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE VIII.

Whenever a Grand Consistory shall cease to have under its jurisdiction three Subordinate Consistories in good working order, such Grand Consistory shall surrender its charter, rituals (whether in manuscript or print), statutes, documents, records, property, and all papers appertaining to the body, to the Supreme Council. All funds which may be in possession of such Grand Consistory shall be distributed pro-rata among the Consistories which were under its jurisdiction and still remain in good working order.

ARTICLE IX.

Every Grand Consistory under this jurisdiction shall have power to make rules and regulations for its government not inconsistent with the constitution and general regulations. All such rules and regulations must be approved by the Supreme Council before taking effect.

ARTICLE X.

Every Grand Consistory shall regulate the jurisdiction of its subordinate Consistories.

ARTICLE XI.

A Grand Consistory, having three of its Subordinate Consistories located in one State or Territory, shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the conferring of the Degrees, from the Fourth to the Thirty-second, in such State or Territory; all petitions for the organization of new Consistories in such State or Territory shall be first presented to the Grand Consistory; if the same shall meet its approval, the Grand Consistory shall then refer the petition to the Supreme Council for final action. If the petition be granted and the Consistory instituted, the Grand Consistory shall be entitled to one-half the amount received for the charter.

ARTICLE XII.

It shall be the duty of each Grand Consistory to inaugurate and maintain a system of correspondence and representation with other Grand Consistories under this jurisdiction, but they

shall not correspond with foreign bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, except through the Supreme Council, which will transmit all such communications, if approved.

ARTICLE XIII.

No one shall be eligible to hold the office of Grand Commander-in-Chief, First and Second Lieutenant Grand Commanders of a Grand Consistory, unless he has attained the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree.

ARTICLE XIV.

The Grand Commander-in-Chief, First and Second Lieutenant Grand Commanders of a Grand Consistory, must hail from different Subordinate Consistories.

ARTICLE XV.

The Grand Secretary and Keeper of the Seals and Archives of each Grand Consistory shall keep a correct registry of the membership and of each initiate in every Consistory under its jurisdiction, specifying date of initiation and oath of fealty, of advancement to membership, place of birth, age, when elected, name and number of the Lodge of Ancient Craft Masonry from which he hails, and where located, rank in different Masonic bodies, residence and occupation; also the names of those who have been admitted into the different Subordinate Consistories by affiliation, or who have dimitted, been dropped from the rolls of membership, or who have died. He shall enter in a book provided for the purpose, which shall be termed the "Black Book," the names of those who have been suspended or expelled for un-Masonic conduct, either by the Sovereign Grand Consistory or by a subordinate body under its jurisdiction. He shall report to the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. the names of all who may be suspended or expelled for un-Masonic conduct, either by his Grand Consistory or by a Subordinate Consistory under its jurisdiction; he shall also notify each Consistory under his authority of all suspensions or expulsions which may occur, either under the jurisdiction of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or one of its subordinate bodies; said report and notifications to be made immediately after the

official decision has been rendered. He shall once in every three months, report to the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., the number of Brethren who have been initiated in the Rite, together with the names and date of advancement of all who have been exalted to the grade of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, in each Consistory under his authority, said report to be accompanied with the amount due the Sovereign Grand Consistory for tax on initiations, and for Thirty-second Degree Patents. He shall annually report to the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., the number of members whose names shall appear upon the roll of each Consistory under his authority, at the annual rendezvous next preceding each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, said report to be accompanied with the amount due the Sovereign Grand Consistory for per capita tax. This annual report shall be forwarded at least thirty days prior to each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory. It shall also be the duty of the Grand Secretary of each Grand Consistory to report to the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., immediately after each election, the names and rank of the officers of his Grand Consistory, and of each Subordinate Consistory and appendant body under its jurisdiction, together with the date of their installation, and by whom installed. He shall also report the names and addresses of the representatives to the Sovereign Grand Consistory immediately after each election.

Article XVI.

A Grand Consistory has original jurisdiction over all controversies which may arise between Consistories or individual members of different Consistories under its jurisdiction; also over all unaffiliated Scottish Rite Masons residing within the territory of its jurisdiction.

Article XVII.

A member aggrieved at the decision of a Grand Consistory may appeal to the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

Article XVIII.

There shall exist within each Grand Consistory a Council of Administration, which shall be composed of its first nine officers

and as many additional members as each Grand Consistory may provide.

ARTICLE XIX.

When a Grand Consistory is not in session, all its executive powers are reposed in the Council of Administration. It shall also be the duty of each Council of Administration to use all lawful methods to advance the interests of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and increase its membership within the territory of the Grand Consistory from which it hails.

ARTICLE XX.

A Council of Administration shall meet at least once in every three months, but the Grand Commander-in-Chief may call special meetings whenever he deems it necessary; and shall do so upon the written request of a majority of the members of the Council of Administration.

ARTICLE XXI.

A Council of Administration shall keep a correct account of all its transactions, and render a detailed report of the same at each annual rendezvous of the Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE XXII.

All mandates, edicts, or communications, issued either by the Sovereign Grand Commander, or other officer of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, to a Subordinate Consistory under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, must be through the proper officers or the Grand Consistory from which such Subordinate Consistory hails.

ARTICLE XXIII.

Charges for un-Masonic conduct having been preferred against a Commander-in-Chief or acting Commander-in-Chief of a Subordinate Consistory, under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, it shall be the duty of the Grand Commander-in-Chief of such Grand Consistory to suspend such officer from the further performance of his duties, until said charges shall have been disposed of.

TITLE VIII.

Subordinate Consistory and its Appendant Bodies.

ARTICLE I.

A Consistory of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, shall consist of, and take rank as follows:

1. The Illustrious Commander-in-Chief.
2. The Illustrious First Lieutenant Commander.
3. The Illustrious Second Lieutenant Commander.
4. The Illustrious Minister of State and Grand Orator.
5. The Illustrious Grand Chancellor.
6. The Illustrious Grand Secretary and Keeper of the Seals & Archives.
7. The Illustrious Grand Treasurer.
8. The Illustrious Grand Master of Ceremonies.
9. The Illustrious Grand Engineer and Architect.
10. The Illustrious Grand Hospitaler.
11. The Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard.
12. The Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer.
13. The Illustrious Grand Sentiuel,

and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working in pursuance and by virtue of a charter held under the authority of the Supreme Council.

ARTICLE II.

The Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, the Illustrious First and Second Lieutenant Commanders, the Illustrious Grand Orator, the Illustrious Grand Secretary, and the Illustrious Grand Treasurer shall be elected by ballot bienuially in the month of January.

The other officers may be appointed by the Commander-in-Chief, such appointments to be made on or before the night of installation.

ARTICLE III.

There shall exist within each Consistory of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, a Chapter of Rose Croix, a Council of Princes of Jerusalem, and a Lodge of Perfection.

A Consistory being thus constituted shall have full right and authority in its jurisdiction, over the following degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, viz.:

Lodge of Perfection.—Ineffable Degrees.

4. Secret Master.
5. Perfect Master.
6. Intimate Secretary.
7. Provost and Judge.
8. Intendant of the Building.
9. Elect of Nine.
10. Knight Elect of Fifteen.
11. Sublime Knight Elected.
12. Grand Master Architect.
13. King Solomon's Royal Arch.
14. Grand, Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason.

Council of Princes of Jerusalem.—Historical Degrees.

15. Knight of the East or Sword.
16. Prince of Jerusalem.

Rose Croix Chapter.—Philosophical Degrees.

17. Knight of the East and West.
18. Sovereign Prince of the Rose Croix.

CONSISTORY.

Historical, Philosophical, and Chivalric Degrees.

19. Grand Pontiff.
20. Master *ad vitam.*
21. Patriarch Noachite.
22. Prince of Libanus.
23. Chief of the Tabernacle.
24. Prince of the Tabernacle.
25. Knight of the Brazen Serpent.
26. Prince of Mercy.
27. Commander of the Temple.
28. Knight of the Sun.
29. Patriarch of the Crusades.
30. Grand Elect Knight K——h; or, Knight of the White and Black Eagle.
31. Grand Inspector Inquisitor Commander.
32. Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret.

Article IV.

The officers of a Chapter of Rose Croix shall be styled and take rank as follows:

1. Most Wise and Perfect Master.
2. Most Excellent and Perfect Knight Senior Warden.
3. Most Excellent and Perfect Knight Junior Warden.
4. Most Excellent and Perfect Knight Grand Orator.
5. Respectable and Perfect Knight Grand Treasurer.
6. Respectable and Perfect Knight Grand Secretary.
7. Respectable and Perfect Knight Hospitaler.
8. Respectable and Perfect Knight Grand Master of Ceremonies.
9. Respectable and Perfect Knight Grand Guard of the Tower.
10. Respectable Knight Sentinel.

The Most Wise and Perfect Master, and Perfect Knights Senior and Junior Wardens, shall be elected by ballot biennially on the last meeting previous to Holy Thursday. The other officers may be appointed by the Most Wise and Perfect Master, such appointments to be made on or before the night of his installation. The officers of a Chapter of Rose Croix, by the authority of the Consistory to which it is attached, and under the direction of its Commander-in-Chief, shall have power to confer the Degrees of Knight of the East and West, Seventeenth Degree, and Sovereign Prince of Rose Croix, Eighteenth Degree.

Article V.

The officers of a Council of Princes of Jerusalem shall be styled and take rank as follows:

1. The Most Equitable Sovereign Prince Grand Master.
2. The Grand High Priest, Substitute Deputy.
3. The Most Enlightened Senior Grand Warden.
4. The Most Enlightened Junior Grand Warden.
5. The Valorous Grand Secretary, Keeper of the Seals and Archives.
6. The Valorous Grand Treasurer.
7. The Valorous Grand Master of Ceremonies.
8. The Valorous Grand Master of Entrances.
9. The Grand Tyler.

The Most Equitable Sovereign Prince Grand Master, the Grand High Priest, Substitute Deputy, the Most Enlightened Senior Grand Warden, and the Most Enlightened Junior Grand Warden, shall be elected by ballot biennially in the

month of Tebet, and as near to the twentieth day of the month as circumstances will permit. The other officers may be appointed by the Most Equitable Sovereign Prince Grand Master, such appointments to be made on or before the night of his installation. The officers of a Council of Princes of Jerusalem, by the authority of the Consistory to which it is attached, and under the direction of its Commander-in-Chief, shall have power to confer the Degrees of Knight of the East or Sword, Fifteenth Degree, and Prince of Jerusalem, Sixteenth Degree.

ARTICLE VI.

The officers of a Lodge of Perfection shall be styled and take rank as follows:

1. Thrice Potent Grand Master.
2. Hiram of Tyre, Deputy Grand Master.
3. Venerable Senior Grand Warden.
4. Venerable Junior Grand Warden.
5. Grand Orator.
6. Grand Treasurer.
7. Grand Secretary, Keeper of the Seals and Archives.
8. Grand Master of Ceremonies.
9. Grand Captain of the Guard.
10. Grand Hospitable Brother.
11. Grand Tyler.

The Thrice Potent Grand Master, Hiram of Tyre, Deputy Grand Master, the Venerable Senior Grand Warden, and the Venerable Junior Grand Warden, shall be elected by ballot biennially in the month of Adar, and as near to the third day of the month as circumstances will permit. The other officers may be appointed by the Thrice Potent Grand Master. Such appointments must be made on or before the night of his installation.

The officers of a Lodge of Perfection, by the authority of the Consistory to which it is attached, and under the direction of its Commander-in-Chief, shall have power to confer the Degrees of

4 Secret Master.
5. Perfect Master.
6. Intimate Secretary.
7. Provost and Judge.
8. Intendant of the Building.

9. Elect of Nine.
10. Knight Elect of Fifteen.
11. Sublime Knight Elected.
12. Grand Master Architect.
13. Knights of King Solomon's Royal Arch.
14. Grand, Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason.

Article VII.

A subordinate Consistory shall have power to make rules and regulations for its own government, not inconsistent with the constitutions, laws, general regulations and edicts of the Supreme Council, the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or its Grand Consistory.

All such rules and regulations must be approved either by its Grand Consistory or by the Supreme Council before taking effect.

Article VIII.

The Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, from the Fourth to the Thirty-second inclusive, shall not be conferred upon any person for a less sum than twenty dollars, except in the organization of a new Consistory, when the charter members may be initiated for a less sum.

Article IX.

Every subordinate Consistory under this jurisdiction shall rendezvous at least four times in each year; one of which shall be in the month of January.

Article X.

Commander-in-Chief.—His Duties.

It shall be the duty of the Illustrious Commander-in-Chief to preside at all meetings of the Consistory, appoint all committees, and be, *ex officio*, a member of the same. He shall discharge all the duties which are prescribed by the constitution, laws and regulations, rituals and usages of the Order.

Article XI.

Special Meetings.

Special meetings may be called by the Illustrious Commander-in-Chief at any time he may deem necessary.

ARTICLE XII.

In the absence of the Commander-in-Chief, the First Lieutenant Commander shall assume the duties of Commander-in-Chief, and, in the absence of both the Commander-in-Chief and the First Lieutenant Commander, the duties of the office devolve upon the Second Lieutenant Commander.

ARTICLE XIII.

All officers of a Consistory, and its appendant bodies, shall be installed on or before the first rendezvous after the election.

ARTICLE XIV.

Officers Who Cannot Resign.

The Commander-in-Chief, the First and Second Lieutenant Commanders of a Consistory, having been duly elected and installed, cannot resign from such office during the term for which they have been elected.

ARTICLE XV.

Vacancies.—How Filled.

Should a vacancy occur in either of the aforementioned offices by reason of death, expulsion, suspension, permanent removal beyond the jurisdiction, or otherwise, the next highest officer shall perform the duties of the officer whose power has thus been arrested, until the next annual rendezvous of the Consistory, when the vacancy shall be filled by election.

ARTICLE XVI.

Should a vacancy occur in any other elective office of a Consistory, or of its appendant bodies, an election to fill such vacancy shall be held at the first stated rendezvous thereafter, provided that each member shall be notified at least ten days previous to such election.

ARTICLE XVII.

Thirty-second Degree Members entitled to a Patent.

Every Brother, after being advanced to the Grade of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, shall

be presented with a Thirty-second Degree patent, duly signed and sealed, the price of which shall be included in the initiation fee.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Patent.—How Signed.

Every patent of the Thirty-second Degree shall be signed by the members of the Supreme Council, and bear the Seals of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander and of the Grand Secretary General.

ARTICLE XIX.

Quorum.

Nine members of a Consistory shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, the Commander-in-Chief or one of the Lieutenant Commanders being one of the number.

ARTICLE XX.

A Subordinate Consistory shall have full power to hear and determine all matters of difference between its members; to punish by reprimand, suspension or expulsion, with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present, at a stated rendezvous, every member having been notified of the nature of the business to be brought before it.

ARTICLE XXI.

Appeal.—How, and to whom Made.

Any Sublime Prince, having been reprimanded, suspended or expelled by his Consistory, and being aggrieved at such action, may appeal to the Grand Consistory from which he hails, or if his Consistory be not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, the appeal may be made to the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE XXII.

Money Returns.

Each Subordinate Consistory shall make returns of all moneys, except the per capita tax, due its Grand Consistory or the Sovereign Grand Consistory, once in every three months;

the per capita tax shall be paid annually before the rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

Article XXIII.

The Grand Secretary and Keeper of the Seals and Archives of each Subordinate Consistory under this jurisdiction shall keep a correct registry of its membership and of each initiate, specifying date of initiation and oath of fealty, of advancement to membership, place of birth, age, when elected, name and number of the Lodge of Ancient Craft Masonry from which he hails, and where located, rank in different Masonic bodies, residence and occupation; also the names of those who have been admitted by affiliation, or who have dimitted, or been dropped from the roll, suspended or expelled, or who have died; he shall make a full and complete report of the same, together with the number of members whose names shall appear upon the roll of his Consistory at each annual rendezvous; he shall also once in every three months report the number of Brethren who have been initiated in the Rite, and the names and date of advancement of all who have been exalted to the grade of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, in his Consistory, during the preceding three months. If the Consistory be under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, he shall forward the reports to the Grand Secretary of his Grand Consistory; the annual report to be forwarded at least thirty days prior to each annual rendezvous of his Grand Consistory. If the Consistory is not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory the reports shall be forwarded direct to the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., the annual report to be forwarded at least thirty days prior to each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory. In either case the quarterly reports must be accompanied with the amount of tax due for initiations and for Thirty-second Degree Patents and forwarded immediately after the expiration of each three months. The annual report shall be accompanied with the amount due for per capita tax. The Grand Secretary shall enter in a book provided for the purpose, which shall be termed the "Black Book," the names of all who have been suspended or expelled for un-Masonic conduct, either by his own Consistory, a Grand Consis-

tory, or by the Sovereign Grand Consistory, as soon as he receives official notice of the same. It shall also be his duty to report to the Grand Secretary of his Grand Consistory (if the Consistory be under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory; if not, to the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·.), the names of all who may be suspended or expelled for un-Masonic conduct, as soon as the official decision has been rendered.

TITLE IX.

AMENDMENTS.

ARTICLE I.

Any portion of this Constitution may be amended; but such amendment must be offered in writing by a member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, who shall furnish a copy thereof to the Grand Secretary General, at least ninety days prior to an annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory. The Grand Secretary General shall embody the same in his notice of the annual rendezvous; if the proposed amendment receive the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote, it shall then be referred to the Supreme Council for its approval.

ARTICLE II.

On the receipt of a proposed amendment from the Sovereign Grand Consistory, the most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander shall, as soon as possible, call a meeting of the Supreme Council, when, if the proposed amendment meet with the approval of five members of that body, it shall be declared adopted, and the Sovereign Grand Commander shall cause the same to be promulgated to all bodies under this jurisdiction.

Should such proposed amendment fail to meet with the approval of five members of the Supreme Council, the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. shall notify each member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory at least thirty days prior to its next annual rendezvous; such notification shall be accompa-

nied with a copy of the objections to the proposed amendment, offered by the Supreme Council. The rejected proposed amendment shall again be presented for consideration, to the Sovereign Grand Consistory at such annual rendezvous, and if it again receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote, it shall, notwithstanding the disapproval of the Supreme Council, be declared adopted, and the Sovereign Grand Commander shall cause the same to be promulgated to all bodies under the jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III.

Decision, when Rendered.

The decision of the Supreme Council upon a proposed amendment to the constitution shall be rendered within ninety days after its adoption by the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE IV.

Amendments of the General Regulations.

The general regulations may be amended at any annual rendezvouz of the Sovereign Grand Consistory by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote.

TITLE X.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

Thirty-third Degree.

ARTICLE I.

The grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, shall not be conferred except in presence of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander or some other member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, duly commissioned by the Supreme Council or Sovereign Grand Commander to take charge of the work.

ARTICLE II.

The fee for the Thirty-third Degree shall be fifty dollars.

ARTICLE III.

Section 1.—Every Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret who has been elected to and installed in the office of Commander-in-Chief of a Consistory, shall be entitled to be exalted to the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, and without fee.

Section 2.—The Supreme Council has power to confer the Thirty-third Degree upon the Commander-in-Chief and one other Sublime Prince in each new Consistory when instituted.

ARTICLE IV.

The Supreme Council shall have power, by the unanimous consent of its members, given in writing over their own signatures, to confer upon one or more Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, provided however that such applicant shall pay the necessary fee and shall not have previously made application to a subordinate body for the grade.

ARTICLE V.

Each Subordinate Consistory under this jurisdiction, at each annual rendezvous, shall be entitled to select, by a majority vote, one of its members for each twenty-five Brethren advanced to the grade of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, during the preceding year, whom it shall recommend to the Sovereign Grand Consistory to be exalted to the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree. Should a Consistory fail to exalt the necessary number, or exalt in excess of the required twenty-five, in any one year, the number exalted in the former case, and the fractional excess in the latter shall be accounted for in the succeeding year.

Each Consistory under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory shall send the list of names to the Grand Consistory for its endorsement, and, if confirmed by a majority vote of the

Grand Consistory, the Grand Secretary shall forward the list of names so approved to the Sovereign Grand Consistory for its action.

ARTICLE VI.

Each Grand Consistory under this jurisdiction shall be entitled to select, by a majority vote, at each annual rendezvous, one Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, a member in good standing of one of the Consistories under its jurisdiction, whom it shall recommend to the Sovereign Grand Consistory to be exalted to the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree; provided, however, that a Brother so recommended shall not have previously applied for the grade in a subordinate body.

ARTICLE VII.

Each applicant for the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, recommended either by a Grand or Subordinate Consistory, shall be balloted for at an annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, and if the application be approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present, the application shall be referred to the Supreme Council for final action; when, if confirmed by five members of the Supreme Council, the applicant shall be declared elected, and shall be invested with the rank of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree.

ARTICLE VIII.

All recommendations, endorsements, or elections for the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, either by a Subordinate or Grand Consistory, or by the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or its Supreme Council, must be by secret ballot.

TITLE XI.

TRIALS AND APPEALS.

ARTICLE I.

In all matters of controversy which may arise between Grand Consistories, Subordinate Consistories, or individual members of Grand or Subordinate Consistories, and charges having been preferred either to the Sovereign Grand Consistory or to a Grand Consistory, the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander in the former case, and the Grand Commander-in-Chief, in the latter case, shall appoint a commission of not more than five or less than three disinterested Brethren, hailing from at least three different Consistories, to hear and determine the same.

ARTICLE II.

After service of the charges against the accused, the commission shall appoint a time and place convenient to the parties and summon them and such witnesses as either party may request.

ARTICLE III.

When the trial has been concluded, the commissioners shall, as soon as possible, make their report of the facts found by them, and their determination upon the matter, and give notice thereof to each of the parties concerned; they shall also file a report, together with all the papers, etc., connected with the case, with the Grand Secretary General; or, if the trial be under the authority of a Grand Consistory, the report, papers, etc., must be filed with the Grand Secretary of such Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE IV.

In all cases of Masonic trial under the authority of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or of a Grand Consistory, a majority of the Commissioners having concurred in the judg-

ment of the Commission, their decision shall be final unless an appeal be taken therefrom within six months after the decision has been rendered. A brother having preferred charges against another for un-Masonic conduct, or the brother against whom such charges have been preferred being aggrieved at the decision thereon, either by a subordinate Consistory, by a Commission appointed under the authority of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or a Grand Consistory, or at the decision of the Sovereign Grand Consistory or a Grand Consistory, and in either case desiring to appeal therefrom, must within thirty days after receiving official notice of such decision give due notice in writing to the Grand Secretary of the body to whom he appeals, as well as to the presiding Officer and Secretary of the body from whose decision the appeal is made. He shall then, within the time prescribed in the first clause of this Article, duly serve the Grand Secretary of the body to whom he appeals with a copy of his appeal, stating therein in full his grounds therefor. The Grand Secretary of the body to whom the appeal is made after the body has decided upon the time and place for the discussion, shall duly notify the appellant as well as the parties appealed from, giving each at least thirty days' notice. On the trial of the appeal the discussion shall be confined exclusively to the merits of the case, as shown by the official documents previously presented in the original trial. In all cases of Masonic trials or appeals, both the accused and the accuser in the former, and the appellant and party appealed from in the latter instance, shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, who must be a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite not lower in rank, as to degrees, than the accused or appellant.

ARTICLE V.

When charges are preferred in a Subordinate Consistory the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint a commission, consisting of not less than three or more than five disinterested members of the Consistory, to take testimony in the case and report the same to the Consistory for its judgment. The decision of the Consistory shall be final, unless an appeal be taken therefrom to its Grand Consistory, or to the Sovereign Grand Consistory, in the same manner as laid down in Article IV.

ARTICLE VI.

Trials, by Whom Conducted.

In all cases of Masonic trials in a Subordinate Consistory the prosecution shall be in charge of the Grand Chancellor, unless he be an interested party; in such case, the Commander-in-Chief shall appoint a Brother to act in his stead. The accused shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, but such counsel must be a Scottish Rite Mason not lower in rank than the Thirty-second Degree.

ARTICLE VII.

Expense of Trial.

The strictly necessary expenses of commissions for the trial of cases referred to them shall be paid by the Consistory, or one or all the parties litigant, as the commissioners may determine, and, in the case of individuals, be charged and collected as dues.

TITLE XII.

Members of the Supreme Council Cannot Receive Salaries—Assistant Grand Officers.

ARTICLE I.

A member of the Supreme Council shall not be allowed to receive a salary from the funds of the Sovereign Grand Consistory for the performance of the duties of his office.

ARTICLE II.

At each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory the Supreme Council shall elect, by a majority vote, an Assistant Grand Secretary and a Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies.

ARTICLE III.

It shall be the duty of the Assistant Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., to attend

to all of the clerical labors appertaining to his office. It shall also be his duty to be present at the office of the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. during office hours.

Article IV.

When the Grand Master General of Ceremonies finds it inconvenient to attend to duties requiring his presence at points distant from his home, it shall be the duty of the Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies, under the direction of the M.·. P.·. Sovereign Grand Commander, to attend to such duties. It shall also be his duty, when not otherwise engaged in the service of the Rite, to be present at the office of the Grand Secretary General during office hours.

Article V.

For the faithful performance of their duties, the Assistant Grand Secretary and Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies shall receive such compensation as may be determined upon by the Supreme Council.

Article VI.

Should the Assistant Grand Secretary or Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies refuse or neglect to perform their several duties, charges may be preferred against them to the Supreme Council by any member of the Rite. After a careful and impartial hearing, the accused being duly notified and having had ample opportunity to defend himself, and each member of the Supreme Council having been made fully acquainted with all the facts in the case; the Supreme Council, by the affirmative vote of six of its members, may declare the office of the accused vacant, and elect another to serve during the balance of the term.

Article VII.

No one shall be eligible to fill the office of Assistant Grand Secretary or Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies, except he is a member of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE VIII.

The office of the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. shall be opened daily, Sundays and legal holidays excepted, during such hours as may be determined upon by the Supreme Council.

TITLE XIII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ARTICLE I.

Rendezvous, when Held.

The annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be convened on the 24th day of June, except when the same shall fall upon Saturday or Sunday, in which case it shall be convened on the following Monday.

ARTICLE II.

Charge for Patents.

The charge for letters patent shall be five dollars for the Thirty-third Degree and three dollars for the Thirty-second Degree.

ARTICLE III.

Per Capita Tax.

The per capita tax shall be fifty cents for each member whose name shall appear upon the rolls of Consistories under this jurisdiction, at each annual rendezvous.

ARTICLE IV.

Signature to Oath of Fealty.

The Commander-in-Chief of every Consistory under this jurisdiction shall require of each candidate, as soon as he shall have received one of the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, an oath of fealty to this jurisdiction, and to which he shall attach his signature, in a book provided especially for the purpose.

Article V.

Application Must Lie Over.

Every candidate for degrees in bodies under this jurisdiction must be proposed at a stated rendezvous, and the petition referred to a committee for investigation, who shall report at a subsequent rendezvous, when the candidate shall be balloted for. A committee of investigation on the petition of a candidate shall not be allowed to report favorably until they can properly avouch for him as being a Master Mason in good standing.

Article VI.

Rituals.

All rituals of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite used by any one under this jurisdiction shall emanate from the Supreme Council, attested by the seal thereof, with the certificate of the Illustrious Grand Secretary General.

Article VII.

Subordinate Bodies, How Opened.

Every subordinate body under this jurisdiction shall open and close its works according to the following formula: "To the Glory of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, in the name and under the authority of the Sovereign Grand Consistory and its Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, as organized by the Ill.·. Bro.·. Joseph Cerneau in the City of New York, in the year 1807, for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, and now presided over by the Most Illustrious ———(here use the name of the Sov.·. Gd.·. Com.·.) as Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, I declare (here mention the name of the body) opened (or closed as the case may be) (if the body be under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, add after the word 'Commander'), and under the auspices of the Grand Consistory of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second Degree, of the State of ———."

ARTICLE VIII.

The initiation of candidates in the several degrees under the authority of a subordinate consistory, or admission to membership therein, shall be by unanimous consent expressed by secret ballot.

ARTICLE IX.

Every Chapter of Rose Croix is recommended to meet on Holy Thursday (the Paschal Feast), Easter Sunday, Pentecost Day, All Saints' Day, and the two feasts of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist.

ARTICLE X.

If any subordinate Consistory be temporarily interdicted or dissolved, the Commander-in-Chief shall forthwith deposit its charter, rituals (whether in manuscript or print), statutes, documents, records, rules, regulations, property and all papers appertaining to the Body, with the Inspector of the District, if there be one, or with the Supreme Council; and the same shall be safely deposited in the archives thereof. If the Consistory be under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory the Grand Commander-in-Chief shall attend to the enforcement of this rule.

ARTICLE XI.

The Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. shall duly notify each Grand Consistory and subordinate Consistories not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, of the Organization of each new Grand or subordinate Consistory, giving the name and number of the Consistory, where located, place and time of meeting, names of the officers and the post-office address of the Commander and Grand Secretary. He shall also notify each newly organized Consistory and furnish it with similar information relative to all Grand and Subordinate Consistories under this jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XII.

The Sovereign Grand Commander, at least thirty days prior to each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, shall appoint a committee of three members of the Sov-

ereign Grand Consistory, who shall carefully examine the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer Generals H.·. E.·. and report thereon in writing at the annual rendezvous.

Article XIII.

A member of a Subordinate Consistory having signed a petition for the organization of a new Consistory, the same having been granted and the new Consistory duly instituted, such Brother's membership in the older Consistory shall cease as soon as he shall have paid all his indebtedness thereto and duly notified the older Consistory in writing, over his own signature, through its Grand Secretary, of his action. In all cases of this kind the amount of indebtedness of the Brother proposing to affiliate with the new Consistory, shall be computed to the date of the institution of such new Consistory. The Grand Secretary of the older Consistory having received a notice of this kind, shall read the same to his Consistory at its first regular rendezvous thereafter; whereupon the Commander-in-Chief, having definitely ascertained that the Brother has fully complied with all of the requirements of the Constitution and General Regulations, shall immediately declare a dimit granted and order the Grand Secretary to forward the same to the new Consistory.

Article XIV.

A Brother desiring to dimit from a Subordinate Consistory must pay all of his indebtedness thereto and make due application in writing, over his own signature, at a regular rendezvous of his Consistory. The Grand Secretary on receipt of such application shall read the same to the Consistory, whereupon the Commander-in-Chief, having definitely ascertained that the Brother has fully complied with all of the requirements of the Constitution and General Regulations, shall immediately declare the dimit granted and order the Grand Secretary to forward the same to the applicant.

Article XV.

Section 1.—Authority for obtaining names for the organization of a new Consistory, to be located in a State or Territory where there is no Grand Consistory, shall be issued only by the

Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., and then only by the authority of a written order from the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall forward to the Grand Secretary General the name, address, and Masonic rank of the Brother to whom authority is to be given, also by whom recommended, together with all the evidence he may have as to the responsibility and character of the applicant for said authority. The Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., before issuing such authority, shall duly record, in a book especially provided for the purpose, all of the above facts, together with the date under which the authority is issued.

Section 2.—Authority for obtaining names for the organization of a new Consistory to be located within the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, shall be under the same regulations as above, except that the authority must come from the Grand Commander-in-Chief and through the Grand Secretary of such Grand Consistory, the latter of whom shall keep a correct record of all such matters as in the case of the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·.

Section 3.—In each instance when authority, as above referred to, has been issued, the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., or the Grand Secretary of a Grand Consistory, as the case may be, shall duly notify the Subordinate Consistory, located in the same State or Territory, nearest to the proposed location of the new Consistory.

ARTICLE XVI.

A Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, upon visiting any of the bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and being clothed with the insignia of his high Grade, shall be invited by the presiding officer to a seat in the Orient.

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ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS

OF THE

SOVEREIGN GRAND CONSISTORY

OF

Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General, Thirty-Third Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite,

FOR THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

ITS

TERRITORIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

JUNE 24 and 25, 1889.

NEW YORK:
OFFICE OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL,
132 West Twenty-third Street.
—
1889.

SUPREME COUNCIL

AND

OFFICERS OF THE SOVEREIGN GRAND CONSISTORY

OF

SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS GENERAL,

THIRTY-THIRD AND LAST DEGREE,

OF THE

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Masonry,

AS ORGANIZED BY

T.·. I.·. JOSEPH CERNEAU, M.·. P.·. S.·. G.·. C.·.,

OCTOBER 27, 1807,

FOR THE

United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies.

Most Illustrious Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas, M. D., 33°, Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, Baltimore, Md.

Very Illustrious Alexander B. Mott, M. D., 33°, Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander, New York, N. Y.

Very Illustrious George Davis, 33°, Grand Orator and Minister of State, Charleston, W. Va.

Very Illustrious Philip F. D. Hibbs, 33°, Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Very Illustrious John H. Russell, 33°, Grand Treasurer General H.·. E.·., New York, N. Y.

Very Illustrious William Marshall, 33°, Grand Marshal General, Wilmington, Del.

Very Illustrious James M. Saffell, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, Frankfort, Ky.

Very Illustrious Alfred G. Hastings, 33°, Grand Standard Bearer, Lincoln, Neb.

Very Illustrious J. Thompson Brown, 33°, Grand Captain of the Guard, Richmond, Va.

Illustrious Alexander McLean, 33°, Grand Seneschal, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Illustrious Alexander W. Murray, 33°, Grand Sentinel, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Illustrious John A. Kelley, 33°, Grand Chorister, New York, N. Y.

TRUSTEES.

M.·. Ill.·. F. J. S. Gorgas, M. D., 33°. V.·. Ill.·. Alexander B. Mott, M.D., 33°.

M.·. Ill.·. Wm. H. Peckham, 33°. V.·. Ill.·. George Davis, 33°.

Ill.·. Edward F. Barnes, 33°.

ASSISTANT GRAND OFFICERS.

V.·. Ill.·. James S. Fraser, 33°, Assistant Grand Secretary, New York, N. Y.

V.·. Ill.·. James McGrath, 33°, Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies, Jersey City, N. J.

ACTIVE SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS GENERAL.

V.·. Ill.·. WILLIAM MARSHALL, 33°, for the State of Delaware.
V.·. Ill.·. JAMES MCGRATH, 33°, " " " " New Jersey.
Ill. . HIRAM R. HOWARD, 33°, " " " " West Virginia.
Ill.·. ANDREW J. PROVOST, 33°, " " " " New York.
Ill. . W. H. H. LYNN, 33°, " " " " Virginia.
Ill.·. JAMES L. WATSON, 33°, " " " " Kentucky.
Ill.·. H. H. INGERSOLL, 33°, " " " " Tennessee.
Ill.·. JOHN H. DUSENBURY, 33°, " " " " Pennsylvania.
Ill. . WILLIAM E. HILL, 33°, " " " " Nebraska.
Ill.·. WILLIAM F. KRULL, 33°, " " " " Missouri.
Ill.·. H. D. F. YOUNG, 33°, for the States of New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont.

MEMBERS EMERITI.

M.·. Ill.· WM. H. PECKHAM, 33°.
V.·. Ill.·. BENJ. C. LEVERIDGE, 33°.
V.·. Ill.·. CYRUS O. HUBBELL, 33°.
V. . Ill.·. JAMES MCGRATH, 33°.
V.·. Ill.·. JOHN H. RUSSELL, 33°.
M.·. Ill.·. FERD. J. S. GORGAS, M.D., 33°.
V.·. Ill.·. ALEX. B. MOTT, M. D., 33°.
V.·. Ill.·. JAMES S. FRASER, 33°.
V.·. Ill.·. PHILIP F. D. HIBBS, 33°.
V.·. Ill.·. WILLIAM MARSHALL, 33°.
V.·. Ill.·. GEORGE DAVIS, 33°

1889—1890

SUBORDINATE BODIES.

GRAND CONSISTORY OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA.
GRAND CONSISTORY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.
GRAND CONSISTORY OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.
GRAND CONSISTORY OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY.

SUBORDINATE CONSISTORIES.

To each of which is attached a Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Princes of Jerusalem, and Lodge of Perfection.

CERNEAU,	No. 1,	New York, N. Y.
UTICA,	" 2,	Utica, N. Y.
PENSACOLA,	" 3,	Pensacola, Fla.
TEMPLE,	" 4,	Albany, N. Y.
BOSTON,	" 5,	Boston, Mass.
RICHMOND,	" 6,	Richmond, Va.
WASHINGTON,	" 7,	Washington, D. C.
FREDERICKSBURGH,	" 8,	Fredericksburgh, Va.
BALTIMORE,	" 9,	Baltimore, Md.
KNOXVILLE,	" 10,	Knoxville, Tenn.
DE WITT CLINTON,	" 11,	Midd'etown, N. Y.
LAKE ONTARIO,	" 12,	Oswego, N. Y.
WILMINGTON,	" 13,	Wilmington, Del.
KANAWHA,	" 14,	Charleston, W. Va.
MONROE,	" 15,	Hinton, W. Va.
WHEELING,	" 16,	Wheeling, W. Va.
GRAFTON,	" 17,	Grafton, W. Va.
CUMBERLAND,	" 18,	Cumberland, Md.
LA FAYETTE,	" 19,	Point Pleasant, W. Va.
FREDERICK,	" 20,	Frederick, Md.
BERKLEY,	" 21,	Martinsburg, W. Va.
HUNTINGTON,	" 22,	Huntington, W. Va.
BINGHAMTON,	" 23,	Binghamton. N. Y.
BROOKLYN,	" 24,	Brooklyn, N. Y.
ALLEGHANY,	" 25,	Clifton Forge, Va.
SHENANDOAH,	" 26,	Staunton, Va.
VERITAS,	" 27,	Louisville, Ky.
GUSTAV BROWN,	" 28,	Charlestown, W. Va.
NEW RIVER,	" 29,	Fayetteville, W. Va.
KENTON,	" 30,	Covington, Ky.
CHENANGO,	" 31,	Norwich, N. Y.
GREAT BEND,	" 32,	Great Bend, Pa.
SCRANTON,	" 33,	Scranton, Pa.
DUNKIRK,	" 34,	Dunkirk, N. Y.
FRANKFORT,	" 35,	Frankfort, Ky.
ORIENTAL,	" 36,	Kansas City, Mo.
HUTCHINSON,	" 37,	Hutchinson, Kans.
LEXINGTON,	" 38,	Lexington, Ky.
NEWPORT NEWS,	" 39,	Newport News, Va.
HORNELL,	" 40,	Hornellsville, N. Y.
ANNAPOLIS,	" 41,	Annapolis, Md.
BLUESTONE,	" 42,	Brsmwell, W. Va.
ST. ANDREW,	" 43,	Goodson, Va.
TAZEWELL,	" 44,	Pocahontas, Va.
HANOVER,	" 45,	Hanover, Pa.
ALLENTOWN,	" 46,	Allentown, Pa.
WILLIAMSPORT,	" 47,	Williamsport, Pa.
NEWARK,	" 48,	Newark, N. J.
PALESTINE,	" 49,	Johnson City, Tenn
ALPHA,	" 50,	Nebraska City, Neb.
JERSEY CITY,	" 51,	Jersey City, N. J.
MARYLAND,	" 52,	Easton, Md.
SUSQUEHANNA	" 53,	Unadilla, N. Y.
LINCOLN,	" 54,	Lincoln, Neb.
NORTH STAR,	" 55,	Lancaster, N. H.

ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS

OF THE

SOVEREIGN GRAND CONSISTORY

OF

SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS GENERAL, 33°,

A.·. A.·. SCOTTISH RITE,

June 24th and 25th, 1889.

LOUISVILLE, KY., Monday, June 24, 1889.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory assembled in annual rendezvous in the Consistorial Chambers, of Veritas Consistory, No. 27, in the City of Louisville, Ky., on the 25th day of the Hebrew month Sivan, 5649 A.·. M.·., corresponding to the 24th day of June, 1889, V.·. E.·.

The annual rendezvous was duly opened at 10 o'clock A. M., with the usual impressive ceremonies, by the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, M.·. Ill.·. Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas, M. D., 33°, assisted by the members of the Supreme Council.

The Grand Master General of Ceremonies, V.·. Ill.·. James McGrath, 33°, introduced M.·. Ill.·. Wm. H. Peckham, 33°, Past M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, who was received with the Grand Honors, conducted to the Orient, and seated at the right of the Throne.

The M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander then announced the appointment of the following committee on Credentials:

Ill.·. C. V. S. Levy, 33°.
Ill.·. J. Harris Balston, 33°.
Ill.·. Alexander Smythe, 33°.

The committee reported the following Brethren as present, either in person or by proxy, and entitled to membership in the Sovereign Grand Consistory:

Supreme Council and Officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

M.·. Ill.·. Ferd. J. S. Gorgas, M. D., 33°, M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Gr.·. Commander.
Ill.·. George C. Gill, 33°, Acting P.·. L.·. Gr.·. Commander.
V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, 33°, Gr.·. Orator and Minister of State.
V.·. Ill.·. James S. Fraser, 33°, Gr.·. Sec.·. General H.·. E.·.
V.·. Ill.·. John H. Russell, 33°, Gr.·. Treas.·. General H.·. E.·.
V.·. Ill.·. George Davis, 33°, Gr.·. Marshal General.
V.·. Ill.·. James McGrath, 33°, Gr.·. Master General of Ceremonies.
V.·. Ill.·. William Marshall, 33°, Gr.·. Standard Bearer.
Ill.·. John S. Hopkins, 33°, Acting Gr.·. Captain of the Guard.
Ill.·. Alexander McLean, 33°, Gr.·. Seneschal.
Ill.·. Wm. H. Shaw, 33°, Acting Gr.·. Sentinel.
Ill.·. Alexander Smythe, 33°, Acting Grand Chorister.

Member Emeritus.

M.·. Ill.·. Wm. H. Peckham, 33°, Past Sov.·. Gr.·. Commander.

Representatives of Grand and Subordinate Consistories and Honorary Members as Follows:

Ill.·. H. R. Howard, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. W. M. Hovey, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. J. A. McGuffin, 33°.
Ill.·. J. N. Conners, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. L. M. Bennett, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. J. J. Bright, 33°.
Ill.·. S. Yantis, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Gustav Brown, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Geo. W. Huddleston, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. R. M. McGuffin, M. D., 33°.
Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost, 33°.
Ill.·. W. W. Babcock, 33°. By proxy.

Ill.·. E. H. Bartley, M. D., 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Chas. Melius, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. J. Harris Balston, 33°.
Ill.·. R. P. Birdseye, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. W. L. Bagley, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Isaac W. Baker, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Chas. E. Hequembourg, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Frank B. Barnard, 33°.
Ill.·. L. S. Boardman, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Robert F. Sullivan, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Stephen M. Wright, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. John W. Warth, M. D., 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. E. F. Barnes, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Geo. H. Toop, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Geo. C. Bulen, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Joseph H. Cummin, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Henry D. Carey, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Chas. C. Gill, 33. By proxy.
Ill.·. Dudley A. Beekman, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Chas. R. Churchill, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. David C. Westervelt, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Judah Moses, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Wm. H. Sutton, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Alexander W. Archer, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. A. A. Eskridge, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. M. B. Crowell, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. S. A. Jackson, 33°.
Ill.·. Jas. L. Watson, 33°.
Ill.·. H. A. Schroetter, 33°.
Ill.·. James M. Saffell, 33°.
Ill.·. Chas. F. Hill, 33°.
Ill.·. John S. Lyle, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Franklin V. Gray, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. John P. Moore, 33°.
Ill.·. E. C. Elmore, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Benjamin W. Browne, 33°.
Ill. . Wm. C. Nickum, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. C. C. Isaacs, 33°.
Ill.·. Geo. R. Coffroth, 33°.
Ill.·. Wm. H. Cook, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Thomas Davidson, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Charles Bowman, 33°.
Ill. . C. V. S. Levy, 33°.
Ill.·. Benjamin F. Parlett, 33°. By proxy.
Ill.·. Edward R. Trippe, M. D., 33°.
Ill.·. Wm. F. Krull, 33°.
Ill.·. I. V. Jobe, 33°.

Ill.·. Wm. E. Hill, 33°.
Ill.·. John Edelstein, 33°.
Ill. . A. G. Hastings, 33°.
Ill.·. G. A. Karweise, 33°.

On motion the reading of the minutes of the annual rendezvous of June 25th and 26th, 1888, was dispensed with.

The Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. then read the minutes of all the meetings of the Supreme Council, held from June 25th, 1888, to April 27th, 1889, inclusive.

On motion of Ill.·. A. J. Provost, all of the actions of the Supreme Council were approved and confirmed.

The M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Gr. Commander then announced the appointment of the following committees:

COMMITTEE ON ALLOCUTION OF SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER.

Ill.·. J. Harris Balston,
Ill.·. Alfred G. Hastings,
Ill.·. James L. Watson.

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost,
Ill. . C. C. Isaacs,
Ill.· W. E. Hill.

COMMITTEE TO SELECT PLACE FOR HOLDING NEXT ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS.

Ill.·. B. W. Browne,
Ill.·. John S. Hopkins,
Ill.·. Wm. F. Krull.

The Sovereign Grand Commander also announced that, in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, he had appointed a committee, consisting of Illustrious Bros. J. Harris Balston, Geo. C. Gill, and Judah Moses, to examine the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer Generals H.·. E.·., that they had performed their duties, and would submit their report to the Sovereign Grand Consistory at the proper time.

The Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. then reported that the following Brethren had been duly recommended by Grand and Subordinate Consistories to be advanced to the Grade of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General 33°:

Ill.·. Edward Gibb, 32°.
Ill.·. Henry C. Cooper, M. D., 32°.
Ill.·. Frank T. Watson, 32°.
Ill.·. J. Frank Wilhelm, 32°.
Ill.·. John Mears, M. D., 32°.
Ill.·. William H. Vermilyea, 32°.

The Sovereign Grand Commander then ordered the ballot to be spread, whereupon the above-named Brethren were declared duly elected to receive the Thirty-third Degree.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory then called off and the Supreme Council assembled in Special Session.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory resumed labor, and the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. announced that the Supreme Council had confirmed the action of the Sovereign Grand Consistory by the election of the aforementioned Sublime Princes to receive the Grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33°.

It was then announced that the following Sublime Princes were in waiting to receive the Thirty-third and Last Degree.

Ill.·. Wm. Lowther Jackson, 32°.
Ill.·. Geo. M. Ockford, M. D., 32°.
Ill.·. W. H. Vermilyea, 32°.
Ill.·. J. J. Bright, 32°.
Ill.·. S. A. Jackson, 32°.
Ill.·. John Mears, M. D., 32°
Ill.·. George Pearce, 32°.

Whereupon the Illustrious Brethren, having complied with all of the constitutional requirements, were introduced in due form, received, acknowledged, crowned and proclaimed Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third Degree and honorary members of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory then called from labor to refreshment until 3 o'clock P. M.

3 o'clock P. M., June 24th.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory resumed labor at 3 o'clock P. M.

Present—Officers and Members as before.

The Sovereign Grand Commander then delivered his Annual Allocution, the reading of which was listened to with deep interest.

ALLOCUTION

DELIVERED BY

M.·. ILL.·. F. J. S. GORGAS, M. D., 33°,

AT THE ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS OF THE

SOV.·. GRAND CONSISTORY, JUNE 24, 1889.

ILL.·. PEERS AND BRETHREN:

The eighty-second year of the existence of our Rite, as organized by Ill.·. Bro.·. Joseph Cerneau in this country, has passed, and we are again permitted to assemble in Annual Rendezvous to legislate for the welfare of our cherished and time-honored organization. We meet under favorable circumstances, and we have every reason to hope that success may in the future, as it has in the past, attend our efforts to secure the general good of Scottish Rite Masonry. Let us invoke the blessings of the Supreme Architect of the Universe upon our labors, and render Him thanks for the manifold favors we have received. Let harmony pervade all our proceedings, and a due consideration be manifested for that brotherly feeling and fraternal affection which should characterize every branch of Masonry.

During the past year, death has been more sparing of our members than during the preceding period; and although we are called upon to mourn the loss of some who have labored with us, yet we have great cause to be thankful that the number of those who, in the natural course of human events, have been stricken from our rolls has not been greater.

ILL.·. BRO.·. JAMES ADDISON COCHRAN, 33°, an honored and esteemed citizen of Staunton, Va., and a Past Ill.·. Com.·.-in-Chief of Shenandoah Consistory, No. 26, died of typhoid fever, November 15, 1888, in the forty-fifth year of his age.

Ill.·. Bro.·. Cochran was a Past Master of Staunton Lodge, a member of the U. R. A. Chapter, and Stevenson Commandery, K.·. T.·. He was pursuing his studies at an academy when the war between the States began, but volunteered in a regiment of cavalry, and was severely wounded in 1864. After his military service ended, he engaged in mining enterprises in California for a few years, when he returned to his home in Virginia. Engaging in mercantile pursnits, his bright intellect and well-balanced judgment soon placed him in a leading position, and he rose rapidly in the confidence and affections of the people. He served several terms in the City Council, and for two years was Mayor of the city of Staunton, and after an interval of several years he was again chosen a member of the Council, and honored with the position of its President. He was also one of the founders and the first President of the Staunton Chamber of Commerce, and at the time of his death was the honored Secretary and Treasurer of the Valley Mutual Life Association. Ill.·. Bro.·. Cochran was a devoted Mason, in which Order the inspirations of his generous heart and prompt action were strikingly exemplified. His name will be forever cherished in the affections of the people of his native city and the community who loved to honor him.

Ill.·. Bro.·. William Henry Klinesmith, 33°, a member of Baltimore Consistory, No. 9, and a citizen of Baltimore, died suddenly in Hagerstown, Md., from congestion of the liver, February 9, 1889, at the age of thirty-nine years. At the time of his death, Ill.·. Bro.·. Klinesmith was the Eminent Commander of Baltimore Commandery, No. 2, K.·. T.·., and Treasurer of Boumi Temple of the A.·. A.·. O.·. N.·. Mystic Shrine. He was a zealous member of our Rite, and acted a prominent part in the organization of several of our Consistories, being well known and highly esteemed both as a man and as a Mason.

Ill.·. Bro.·. Joseph Nash, 33°, a member of Cerneau Consistory, No. 1, of the city of New York, died June 15, 1889. The Ill.·. Brother had been an active and zealous worker in all branches of Masonry for many years. He was a Past Master of Pyramid Lodge, No. 490, F.·. & A.·. M.·., Past High Priest of Union Chapter, No. 180, R.·. A.·. M.·., and Past Eminent Commander of York Commandery, No. 55, K.·. T.·., of the city of

New York. He was crowned a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, on June 24, 1884. Many prominent members of the various Masonic bodies with which he had been connected were in attendance at his obsequies, and his remains were interred in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, N. Y., with Masonic honors.

"Death takes us by surprise,
And stops our hurrying feet;
The great design unfinished lies,
Our lives are incomplete."

As it is made my duty to render to you an account of my official acts during the past year, and also to offer such suggestions as I consider of importance to our Rite, I invite your attention to the following résumé:

1888—July 17th—I granted a dispensation to Oriental Consistory, No. 36, of Kansas City, Mo., to ballot for, and if elected, to confer degrees on three candidates at a Special Rendezvous.

1888—July 18th—At the request of the Grand Commander of the Grand Consistory of Virginia, I directed V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, to institute Tazewell Consistory, No. 44, at Pocahontas, Virginia, with twenty-nine charter members.

1888—July 18th—The Grand Master General of Ceremonies, by my authority, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. John Izard, 32°, Commander-in-Chief of Tazewell Consistory, No. 44, and Rev. Benjamin Dennis, 32°, also of Tazewell Consistory, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

1888—July 24th—Assisted by Ill.·. Bros.·. C. C. Isaacs, 33°, and John S. Hopkins, 33°, I instituted Hanover Consistory, No. 45, at Hanover, Pa., with thirty charter members, and installed the principal officers.

1888—July 25th—Ill.·. Bros.·. Charles Bowman, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Hanover Consistory, and Albert Parlett, 32°, of the same Consistory, were crowned by me Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

1888—July 26th—Assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bros.·. James McGrath, 33°, P.·.F. D. Hibbs, 33°, and John H. Russell, 33°, members of the Supreme Council, and Ill.·. Bro.·. John H. Dusenbury, 33°, Active Sov.·. Grand Inspector General for Pennsylvania, I instituted Allentown Consistory, No. 46, with thirty-five charter members, at Allentown, Pa., and installed the officers.

1888—July 27th—Assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, I crowned Ill.·. Bro.·. Henry Herbert Herbst, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Allentown Consistory, No. 46, a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Thirty-Third and Last Degree.

1888—August 3d—Assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, I instituted Williamsport Consistory, No. 47, at Williamsport, Pa., with thirty-one charter members, and installed the officers.

1888—August 4th—Assisted by the Grand Master General of Ceremonies, I crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. Dr. F. J. Richards, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief, and Charles V. Runkle, 32°, First Lieut.·. Commander, of Williamsport Consistory, No. 47, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General.

1888—August 18th—I granted a dispensation to Hanover Consistory, No. 45, to receive and ballot upon petitions, and also to install the appointed officers at a Special Rendezvous, to be held August 22, 1888.

1888—August 20th—Under date of August 15, 1888, I addressed a letter to Joseph Eichbaum, R.·. W.·. Grand Master of Pennsylvania, denying his charges against our Rite of interference with the first three degrees of Symbolic Masonry, as promulgated in an edict issued by him to the Pennsylvania Blue Lodges, dated August 1, 1888. This letter was also sent to the officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and to every Worshipful Master in that State. It was as follows: [See Appendix A.]

This letter met with the approval of many who were not of our obedience, and was also endorsed by the Grand Master of Masons of Tennessee, as follows:

"I approve and endorse this letter, and hope it may promote the establishment of Truth and Justice among Masons.

[Signed] HENRY H. INGERSOLL."

The answer I received from Grand Master Eichbaum, who, it should be stated, is a member of the so-called Northern Jurisdiction, and an officer in one of its subordinate bodies, was as follows:

"PITTSBURG, August 28th, 1888.

Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas, M. D., Baltimore, Md.

DEAR SIR.—Politeness demands that I should acknowledge the receipt of your very lengthy letter dated August 15, 1888. The law of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania as expressed by its action March 5, 1866, is emphatic, and the Grand Lodge in June, 1888, only bears out the former action; though you have not seen proper to publish to your adherents any of the resolutions of the Committee of Past Grand Masters.

Yours respectfully, JOS. EICHBAUM."

This reply to my communication is indicative of the man and his purpose, for it is not only devoid of the courtesy due a Brother Master Mason, but also of anything that can be regarded as either reasonable or truthful; which may, however, be ascribed to the fact that the author is not only a mem-

ber of the so-called Northern Jurisdiction, but (as we have been informed) an aspirant for its highest honor; no doubt he will be rewarded.

The resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of March 5, 1866, referred to by Grand Master Eichbaum, read as follows:

"1st. *Resolved*, That no member of the Masonic Fraternity, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, has the right to visit any assemblage or collection of individuals claiming to be Masons, when such assemblage or meeting is not sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and that any communion or Masonic intercourse with such clandestine assemblage or meeting is a plain, palpable, and flagrant violation of the most solemn duties and obligations of the Craft."

The Second Resolution provides for the penalty of expulsion for a violation of the first resolution.

We have been informed by prominent members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, that these resolutions were offered in consequence of a member of that Grand Body having visited a negro Lodge claiming to be Masonic, and had no reference to Scottish Rite Masonry.

How they could be applied to our Rite is beyond my comprehension, for the Committee of Past Grand Masters of Pennsylvania, to which Grand Master Eichbaum refers in his reply to my letter, in their report to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, at the June, 1888, Communication, do not even refer to the March 5, 1866, resolutions, and we deny that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania had at any time prior to the issuing of Grand Master Eichbaum's edict against our Rite declared the "Cerneau Body" to be clandestine.

The Grand Master with equal propriety could have applied the Resolutions of March 5, 1866, to the Mystic Shrine, as they include "any assemblage or collection of individuals claiming to be Masons, when such assemblage or meeting is not sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania." As a member of the Shrine, I have yet to learn that that Body has ever been sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. But to condemn the Shrine would not benefit the so-called Northern and Southern Jurisdictions.

We also fail to comprehend how such an edict could be based upon the said report of the Committee of Past Grand

Masters of Pennsylvania, which closes with the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That if, as alleged, the organization known as the Consistory of the Cerneau Rite claims the power, or authority, or right to confer the three degrees of Ancient Freemasonry, it is not consistent with the duty of members of Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge to seek or retain membership in that organization."

This resolution only condemns our Rite *if we interfere in any manner with the first three degrees of Ancient Freemasonry;* and as we do not, and never have, claimed or exercised any power or right as alleged, we are certainly not clandestine on such grounds. The Past Grand Masters in their report also inform us that the statement concerning our claims to confer the first three degrees of Symbolic Masonry, was made by Grand Master Eichbaum, and when the latter was approached for his authority, he evaded the question as any one would who had invented a falsehood for base purposes.

Every Master Mason who has entered our Bodies in Pennsylvania, has done so under our present Constitution, which expressly declares that all candidates for the degrees of our Rite shall "be good men and true, and been regularly initiated in the first three degrees of Symbolic Masonry, and are Master Masons in good and regular standing." The report of the Past Grand Masters of Pennsylvania, to which I have before referred, and which was so strangely construed by the then Grand Master of Pennsylvania, also contains the following: "This Grand Lodge believes in the largest liberty on the part of Freemasons in attaching themselves to societies other than our own, so far as the exercise of that liberty is not inconsistent with our vows, or puts in peril our peace and harmony. It is a recognition of the high character of our Fraternity when any association of men requires for membership the intelligence, the integrity, the trustworthiness which is presumed from membership in a Masonic Lodge. We cannot object to this. With this we can have nothing to do, unless it is inimical or tends to our hurt. Then it is the duty of the Grand Lodge to speak with no uncertain voice in warning our Brethren of their danger, and, if need be, taking such means as shall be requisite for self-protection."

Can we not, as Scottish Rite Masons, appeal to all who have entered our Rite, in testimony that such requirements as those

enumerated by that Pennsylvania Committee of Past Grand Masters have been faithfully observed by us? But that report of his Past Grand Masters was not in accord with the desire and purposes of the then Grand Master of Pennsylvania, as he completely ignored it by issuing an edict against us, based upon charges which he well knew originated in his own brain and were absolutely false; an edict which his successor in office has enforced, merely for the alleged reason that all edicts from a Grand Master of his jurisdiction, whether just or unjust, must be obeyed. Truly more than one mortal, it would appear, possesses the power of infallibility.

1888—August 25th—Assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bros. P. F. D. Hibbs, 33°, and James McGrath, 33°, members of the Supreme Council, I crowned, at the Rooms of the Supreme Council, in New York City, Ill.·. Bro.·. John H. Birchall, 32°, of Allentown Consistory, No. 46, a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1888—August 31st—In company with V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, 33°, Grand Orator and Minister of State, and Ill.·. Bros.·. C. C. Isaacs, 33°, and John S. Hopkins, 33°, I met at Philadelphia the representatives of all the Consistories of our obedience in Pennsylvania. At that meeting certain resolutions were adopted, and printed copies sent to all Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Pennsylvania. [See Appendix B.]

1888—Sept. 6th—I received from a prominent member of our Rite in Pennsylvania, a photographic copy of the old Thirty-third Degree Patent, dated April 4th, 1781, and endorsed by several Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General in 1782 and 1791. I have this photograph for the inspection of the Brethren present at this Annual Rendezvous. A characteristic incident connected with this Thirty-third Degree Patent of 1781, is as follows: When I prepared a Chart giving a condensed history of the different organizations claiming to be Scottish Rite, I referred to this Patent as hanging in the Masonic Temple of Philadelphia. Shortly after the appearance of my Chart, this old Patent disappeared from the place in the Masonic Temple, where it had hung since that building was occupied, and its existence was denied in printed documents by our opponents. Last summer when the room in question of the Temple was being renovated, one of our Pennsylvania Brethren found the Patent behind a case where it appeared to have been hidden, and secured it long enough to have a photographic copy made, when he returned it to the Temple. In view of the pretensions made by the Charleston Body, now known as the Southern Jurisdiction, the old Patent is a most valuable document, as its date antedates that of the Pike Body by eleven years, and stamps many of the assertions of our enemies concerning the origin of the Thirty-third Degree with falsehood.

1888—Sept. 24th—I empowered V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, to institute a Consistory of Sublime Princes, 32°, in Newark, New Jersey.

1888—Oct. 6th—V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, acting as my proxy, instituted Newark Consistory, No. 48, in the city of Newark, N. J., with forty-two charter members, and installed the officers.

1888—Oct. 6th—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. William M. McDougall, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Newark Consistory, No. 48, and Rev.·. Thomas Chalmers Easton, 32°, First Lieut.·. Com.·. of the same Consistory.

1888—Oct. 8th—I commissioned V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, of Jersey City, N. J., the Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the State of New Jersey.

1888—Nov. 12th—Granted a dispensation to Oriental Consistory, No. 36, Kansas City, Mo., to act on petition, and if favorable to confer from the Fourth to the Thirty-second Degrees, inclusive, upon an applicant at the regular rendezvous of November 16th, 1888.

1888—Nov. 17th—By my authority, Ill.·. Bro.·. Rufus P. Birdseye, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Utica Consistory, No. 2, was crowned by V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1888—Nov. 28th—Granted a dispensation to Baltimore Consistory, No. 9, to act upon the petitions, and if favorable to confer the degrees of the Lodge of Perfection and Council of Princes of Jerusalem on two candidates at the regular rendezvous of this date.

1888—Nov. 30th—V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, acting as my proxy, instituted Palestine Consistory, No. 49, at Johnson City, Tennessee, with twenty-nine charter members.

1888—Nov. 30th—V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, by my authority, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. Ike T. Jobe, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief, and Elbert S. Miller, 32°, of Palestine Consistory, No. 49, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

1888—Dec. 5th—V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, assisted by Ill.·. Bro.·. M. W. Bayliss, 33°, by my authority, instituted Alpha Consistory, No. 50, in Nebraska City, Neb., with thirty-nine charter members.

1888—Dec. 6th—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. William E. Hill, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief, and Augustus Waddington, 32°, of Alpha Consistory, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

1888—Dec. 17th—In response to an inquiry from Ill.·. Bro.·. James T. Upington, 32°, Secretary of a Convention of the Representatives of the Consistories of our obedience in the State of Kentucky, I replied that a member of the A. . A. . Scottish Rite cannot be deprived of his membership in said Rite by the action of a body or organization of another branch of Masonry, if such action is based upon the performance of any duty which the obligations of our Rite imposes upon him, and which he

has voluntarily assumed. The Grand Minister of State, to whom this question was afterwards referred, will give you his decision in his report to the Sov.·. Grand Consistory.

1888—Dec. 28th—At a special rendezvous of the Supreme Council, held in the Consistorial Rooms, New York City, assisted by the members of the Council, I crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. Andrew Otterson, M. D., 32°, and Timothy Dickinson, 32°, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1888—Dec. 29th—Charges of unmasonic conduct having been preferred against Major W. Bayliss, 33°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Washington Consistory, No. 7, in accordance with my duty, as specified in Title XII., Article I., of our Constitution, referring to "Trials and Appeals," I appointed a commission of "three disinterested Brethren, hailing from three different Consistories, to hear and determine the same." This commission was composed of Ill.·. Bro.·. J. Harris Balston, 33°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Cerneau Consistory, No. 1; Ill.·. Bro.·. George C. Gill, 33°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Brooklyn Consistory, No. 24, and Ill.·. Bro.·. William M. McDougall, 33°, Com.·.-in Chief of Newark Consistory, No. 48. The charges against Ill.·. Bro.·. Bayliss were made to the Supreme Council, which, according to Title III., Article II., of our Constitution, is empowered with "all the executive powers of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory when" the latter is "not in session."

1888—Dec. 31—Assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bros.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, 33°, James McGrath, 33°, James S. Fraser, 33°, and John H. Russell, 33°, members of the Supreme Council, I institnted Jersey City Consistory, No. 51, at Jersey City, N. J., with thirty-two charter members, and installed the officers.

1889—Jan. 3d—I informed Ill.·. Bro.·. Major W. Bayliss, that in consequence of charges having been brought against him for unmasonic conduct, it was my duty, as Sov.·. Grand Commander, to suspend him from office as Com.·.-in-Chief of Washington Consistory, No. 7, and to revoke his commission as an Active Sov.·. Grand Inspector General during the investigation of such charges.

1889—Jan. 3d—I directed Ill.·. Bro.·. Emmet C. Ellmore, 33°, First Lieut.·. Commander, to assume the duties of Com.·.-in-Chief of Washington Consistory, No. 7.

1889—Jan. 4th—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. John Edelstein, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Jersey City Consistory, No. 51, and John Pearson, 32°, of same Consistory, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1899—Jan. 5th—A copy of the charges against him, signed by Ill.·. Bro.·. E. H. Bartley, M. D., 33°, was served on Ill.·. Bro.·. Major W. Bayliss, 33°, by Ill.·. Bro.·. George R. Coffroth, 33°, and his commission as Active Sov.·. Grand Inspector General was returned to me.

1889—Jan. 17th—Empowered Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, to crown Ill.·. Bro.·. William H. Sims, 32°, of Hornell Consistory, No. 40, a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Thirty-

third and Last Degree, Ill.·. Bro.·. Sims having been elected by the Supreme Council.

1889—Jan. 21st—By invitation, I visited Wilmington Consistory, No. 13, at Wilmington, Delaware, where I was most hospitably and fraternally entertained, and installed the newly-elected Com.·.-in-Chief, and First and Second Lieut.·. Commanders. The attendance was very large, and among the Brethren present was the Grand Master of Masons of Delaware.

1889—Jan.28th—Ill.·. Bro.·. James M. Saffell, 33°, the Act.·.Sov.·. Grand Inspector General of the State of Kentucky, acting as my proxy, instituted the Grand Consistory of Kentucky; Representatives of all the bodies of our obedience in that jurisdiction being present, and a charter having been granted by the Supreme Council, December 27th, 1888. Ill.·. Bro.·. James L. Watson, 33°, of Lexington, was installed Grand Commander, and Ill.·. Bro.·. John W. Lancaster, 33°, also of Lexington, Grand Secretary.

1889—Feb. 16th—By invitation, I visited Newark Consistory, No. 48, and installed the officers elect, and was entertained, with several other members of the Supreme Council, in a most hospitable and fraternal manner.

1889—Feb. 18th—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, crowned Ill.·. Bro.·. John Brockie, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Newark Consistory, No. 48, a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1889—Feb. 22d—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, 33°, Grand Minister of State and Grand Orator, crowned Ill.·. Bro.·. Joseph W. Brown, 32°, Grand Secretary of Binghamton Consistory, No. 23, a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1889—March 1st—Assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, and Ill.·. Bros.·. George B. Coffroth, 33°, and Albert Parlett, 33°, I instituted Maryland Consistory, No. 52, at Easton, Maryland, with forty-four charter members.

1889—March 2d—Assisted by V.·. Ill.· Bro.·. McGrath, 33°, I crowned Bros.·. Benj. F. Parlett, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief, and Edward R. Trippe, M. D., 32°, First Lieut.·. Commander of Maryland Consistory, No. 52, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1889—March 13th—I approved the By-laws of Palestine Consistory, No. 49, as corrected by the Grand Minister of State; also those of Annapolis Consistory, No. 41.

1889—March 22d—Granted a dispensation to Maryland Consistory, No. 52, to act upon, and, if favorable, to confer the Fourth to the Thirty-second Degree, inclusive, upon five candidates at a regular rendezvous.

1889—March 24th— By request of the Grand Commander of the Grand Consistory of New York, I empowered V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, to act as my proxy in instituting Susquehanna Consistory, No. 53, at Unadilla, N. Y., with twenty-nine charter members.

1889—March 24th—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. Robert

Franklin Sullivan, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Susquehanna Consistory, No. 53, and Louis Comstock Gurney, 32°, of the same Consistory, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1889—April 5th—Had a conference with several members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in regard to matters relating to our Rite in that State.

1889—April 16th—Granted a dispensation to Baltimore Consistory, No. 9, to change the place of meeting in Baltimore city.

1889—April 18th—At the request of Baltimore Consistory, No. 9, I conducted the ceremonies of Holy Thursday and Easter Sunday.

1889—April 23d—Acting as my proxy, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. William H. Peckham, 33°, P.·. M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, instituted Lincoln Consistory, No. 54, at Lincoln, Nebraska, with thirty charter members.

1879—April 24th—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. A. G. Hastings, 33°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Lincoln Consistory, No. 54, and Ill.·. Bro.·. Alva Eugene Keunard. 32°, of the same Consistory, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1889—April 27th—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. Alexander Calmelet, 32°, of Alpha Consistory, No. 50, and William F. Krull, 32°, of Oriental Consistory, No. 36, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1889—May 4th—By my authority, V.· Ill.·. Bro.·. George Davis, 33°, Grand Marshal General, and Active Sov. . Grand Inspector General for West Virginia, crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. Delos W. Emmons, 32°, of Huntington Consistory, No. 22, W. H. Holswade, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Huntington Consistory, No. 22, and James N. Carnes, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Kanawha Consistory, No. 14, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1889—May 11th—I empowered V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, 33°, Grand Minister of State and Grand Orator, to heal Bro.·. Dr. Hugh James Linn, a member of Philadelphia Consistory, of the so-called Northern Jurisdiction.

1889—May 17th—Acting as my proxy, and assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. William H. Peckham, 33°, P.·. M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, instituted Lancaster Consistory, No. 55, at Lancaster, New Hampshire, with thirty-three charter members.

1889—May 18th—By my authority, V.·. Ill.·. Bro.·. James McGrath, 33°, crowned Ill.·. Bro.·. John Pike Haseltine, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Lancaster Consistory, No. 55, a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third and Last Degree.

1889—May 20th—Assisted by V.·. Ill.·. Bros.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, 33°, and William Marshall, 33°, members of the Supreme Council, I crowned Ill.·. Bros.·. James Dobbs, 32°, Grand Master of Masons of Delaware, William

H. Cook, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Wilmington Consistory, No. 13, William C. Nickum, 32°, Com.·.-in-Chief of Baltimore Consistory, No. 9, and John A. Book, 32°, of Wilmington Consistory, No. 13, Sov.·. Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third and Last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite.

1889—May 27th—I commissioned Ill.·. Bro.·. William E. Hill, 33°, the Active Sov.·. Grand Inspector General for the State of Nebraska, and Ill.·. Bro.·. William F. Krull, 33°, the Active Sov.·. Grand Inspector General for the State of Missouri.

1889—May 28th—I commissioned Ill.·. Bro.·. Harrison De Forrest Young, 33°, the Active Sov.·. Grand Inspector General for the States of New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine.

The Supreme Council, in which all the executive powers of this Sov.·. Grand Consistory are reposed, when the latter body is not in session, has held quarterly meetings during the past year in its rooms in the City of New York. These meetings have been characterized by harmony, and a desire to exercise the executive and judicial powers given the Supreme Council by the Constitution, for the exclusive good of our Rite.

Every possible effort has been made to exercise economy in the expenditures, and to accomplish the greatest good in a manner that will not exceed the revenue provided by the Constitution. But two members of the Supreme Council have received any remuneration whatever for their services, viz.: the Secretary General and the Grand Master General of Ceremonies, and the salaries of these officers have been much smaller than the duties appertaining to their respective offices would command in any other organization.

It has become absolutely necessary that our Subordinate Bodies should receive more attention from the Grand Master General of Ceremonies than has heretofore been possible, owing to the expense thereby entailed. Whenever this officer has been invited to visit a Consistory, and instruct its members in the work of the Ritual, it has been productive of the most satisfactory results, and the Supreme Council would very willingly inaugurate an annual series of such visitations, so that every Consistory of our obedience should thus be stimulated and encouraged, as well as instructed, if our revenue would warrant it.

If several Consistories in each State would combine in bearing the traveling expenses of the Grand Master Genera

of Ceremonies, the burden would be comparatively light, and the good accomplished be incalculable.

It is also absolutely necessary that the supply of literature relating to our Rite should not only be maintained but increased. During the past year we have been greatly benefited by a series of articles appearing over the signature of "A CERNEAU THIRTY-THIRD," and measures should be taken at this Annual Rendezvous to provide means for the publication of such articles, and their general distribution, as will not only defend our Rite against the untruthful statements and slanderous utterances of our enemies, but will convincingly present our claims for legitimacy to all unprejudiced Brethren. I desire to commend to you a monthly publication, under the title of FREEMASON'S JOURNAL, edited by one of our members, which has been of inestimable service to our Rite during the past year, and indeed has been its only organ. Its low subscription price places it within the reach of all, and it has been, for months past, a faithful chronicle of our progress.

The year that ends with the opening of this Annual Rendezvous has been pregnant with events of the utmost importance to Scottish Rite Masonry. It has witnessed the prostitution of Symbolic Masonry in several jurisdictions to infamous ends, and the oppression and persecution of our Brethren for striving to uphold and propagate what they believe and know to be just and true.

Upon the annals of the past year are recorded acts of tyranny and injustice that Masonry never inculcated, and which are altogether foreign to its principles, and subversive of that freedom of action and spirit of toleration which characterizes our Government and the present age.

When a little more than a year ago I descended into the vast catacombs under Rome, and explored the miles of labyrinthine windings, vaulted chambers, chapels and tombs far under ground, where the early Christians sought for that spiritual rest which was so often interrupted by their enemies; and again, as I stood upon the site of the Circus of Nero, and in the shadow of the Egyptian Obelisk, with its pictured surfaces and indelible characters, which to-day stands aloft in the Court of the Vatican, as it did hundreds of years ago in the centre of the

arena of Rome, a mute witness of the cruel sports which characterized the dark days of paganism; and also within the massive walls of the Coliseum, so often thronged with thousands of brutal spectators gloating over the sufferings of the early martyrs of our faith, the thought occurred to me: how useless it is for man to strive against the Truth, and by deeds of wrong and injustice endeavor to obstruct its progress, and prevent that revelation which the Great Architect of the Universe has decreed should illuminate the world, accompanied with the ample assurance that evil, intolerance and persecution must ultimately be dethroned, and the true and good reign triumphant and eternal.

Our enemies, in the garb of Masons, who obligated themselves to practice friendship, love and charity towards their Brethren, having exhausted all other means in their power, have now resorted to a final effort to obstruct the propagation of true Scottish Rite Masonry—that of creating dissensions in several of the Symbolic Grand Lodges, in which they have found those in authority, either of their own number, or others who could be influenced by statements wholly at variance with the truth.

It is indeed surprising that in this enlightened age, a body of Master Masons could be found who will deliberately recognize, and declare legitimate, so-called Supreme Councils, concerning which a large majority of such Masons have absolutely no knowledge whatever, either by virtue of membership or through investigation.

We can only ascribe such actions to a blind following of unscrupulous men, whose pernicious influences have become paramount to sound judgment and correct reasoning. It would require but slight investigation to separate the true from the false, and to clearly prove which of the contending Scottish Rite organizations is the most loyal to Symbolic Masonry. It is also a significant fact that our active enemies, without a single exception, are those who are in some manner pecuniarily interested in the success of the organization of which they are the zealous champions. Such men, when in Symbolic Grand Lodges, declare that the powers of such bodies extend over all things claiming to be in any manner connected with Masonry;

yet in propagating the doctrines of their particular Scottish Rite organization, they claim that the latter is the supreme power over even the first three degrees. The head of one of these so-called Supreme Councils, and in reality the leader of two of them, has repeatedly claimed such powers in his allocutions, and no better evidence of this arrogancé is needed than the existence of the secret rituals of the first three degrees, which he has printed and distributed among his subordinate bodies. Our Rite, on the contrary, claims no authority whatever over any Symbolic Degrees, and cheerfully recognizes all lawful powers and prerogatives of Symbolic Grand Lodges.

We do contend, however, that a Symbolic Grand Lodge has only authority so far as appertains to the first three degrees of Ancient Freemasonry, and that such authority extends no farther.

So long as Master Masons are consistent members of Symbolic Lodges, and do not practice any part of the ceremonies of the Blue Lodge Degrees anywhere, or under any circumstances, except by permission of their Grand Lodge, they are fulfilling all their duties as Master Masons. and are not amenable to any body of Symbolic Masonry, or to any Grand Master's edict, for the exercise of their own judgment as to the particular Scottish Rite organization they may deem legitimate, or may elect to become members of.

To concede any further power would be subversive of freedom of conscience, liberal institutions and free government, and an admission that Masonry was tyrannical, oppressive, and unfit for free and enlightened men.

When we became Master Masons we obligated ourselves to no act, or to obedience to any act, that would curtail our liberty of conscience, or would bind us hand and foot to despotism, intolerance, or the machinations of any man, though he be for the time a Grand Master, or even to any body of men, who through ignorance, pernicious influences, or a blind following, may enact laws that would prevent the free exercise of our mental powers and intelligence, in everything within what is prescribed by the laws of our country.

No man, or body of men, can, with impunity, unjustly disparage the character of a fellow-citizen without becoming

amenable to the laws enacted for the protection of all citizens; and sooner than submit to such an injustice and injury of character as expulsion from a Blue Lodge would entail, when such expulsion was for no other cause than membership or connection with our Rite, I would not hesitate to invoke the protection of the law in defense of my rights.

Dr. Oliver, in his Dictionary of Symbolic Masonry, says: "The Grand Lodge is the governing body over our Craft in all their relations to the Fraternity;" and Chase, in his Digest of Masonic Laws, says: The Grand Lodge "in its legislative capacity has the power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the Craft, altering, repealing, or abrogating them."

All such powers, we, as Master Masons, cheerfully concede, but when a body of Symbolic Masonry attempts to exceed such powers as only appertain to the Craft, and interfere with matters appertaining to a Rite of which the Craft as such, are as completely ignorant as they may be of Odd Fellowship, and whose only connection with Symbolic Masonry consists in the requirement that its candidates shall be Master Masons in good standing, we certainly possess the well established right of protest against injustice and oppression.

When our Rite had not made so much progress as it has at the present time, the leader of the Southern Jurisdiction made use of the following language in his Allocution delivered October 20th, 1884:

"I wish to say distinctly here, as I said to you in a communication long ago, that I should think it very unwise on our part to endeavor to induce the Grand Lodges in our Jurisdiction to denounce the illegal organizations in New York, claiming to be of our Rite. I doubted both the propriety and policy of such an attempt when it was about being made in the beginning: and I said to you soon after, that if we admitted the right of a Grand Lodge to decide our Supreme Council legitimate, this would admit its power to decide us illegitimate, if it should arrive at that conclusion. I never could see what right the Grand Lodge of Master Masons of England had, at the Union in 1813, to recognize as legitimate Masonry 'the Supreme Order of Holy Royal Arch,' and graciously to tolerate the Masonic Orders of Knighthood. The power to recognize and tolerate implies the power to condemn and prohibit; and so the Grand Lodges of England (whose action that of Massachusetts may quote as an authoritive precedent) undoubtedly intended its action to imply.

"The action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts does, in fact, treat as not Masonic the Royal Order of Scotland, which is older than itself, and the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, which is accepted as legitimate in England, and firmly established in the United States. I pointed out this difficulty, of excepting so many Orders as it would be necessary to except from the ban, when I was consulted in regard to invoking the intervention of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and have thought much about the matter in all its aspects since; and I think it due to our own self-respect that we should advise the Brethren of our Obedience not to seek, anywhere in our jurisdiction, to have action taken by the Grand Lodges, in regard to spurious Organizations claiming to be of our Rite."

Either the author of the above has changed his mind, or his followers have disregarded his injunctions; for it is a well-known fact that copies of the edict of Grand Master Eichbaum, in the same form, type and paper, were scattered broadcast throughout all the Middle and Southern States by the adherents of the Southern Jurisdiction. Was this at the expense of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania? If it was, may we not conclude that it was making that Grand Lodge an instrument in the hands of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions?

The persistent attempts to make Symbolic Masonry subservient to so-called Scottish Rites, and the success which has attended such efforts on the part of unscrupulous men in several jurisdictions, should serve as a warning to all Master Masons who have a proper regard for that branch of Masonry. Have not the edicts of the Grand Masters of Pennsylvania been enforced in the most peremptory manner? Has a single case occurred where a member of our Rite in that State, or in any other where a like persecution prevails, has been afforded an opportunity to justify himself, and prove that he has committed no Masonic offense in discriminating between the true and the false? Has not evidence been offered of the strongest character to prove beyond refutation that there is nothing clandestine in our Rite? When our members offered to produce such evidence before the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania the Grand Master refused to entertain it, on the ground that an edict of a Grand Master of that State emanates from the inherent powers of his office, and has the authority of Masonic law; meaning, thereby, that even his Grand Lodge could not pass upon such an edict, notwithstanding its nature. If this is not a doctrine

of infallibility, a supernatural power conferred by election to a Masonic office, I do not comprehend the term.

And further, when every member of our Supreme Council solemnly asserted over his own signature, that the Rite to which we belong claimed no powers over the first three degrees of Ancient Freemasonry, and that its members were loyal Master Masons, and were required to be such, and in good standing, before they could become Scottish Rite Masons of our obedience, and when such facts, together with the Constitution governing our Rite, which clearly repudiates any claim or authority over what properly appertains to Grand Lodges, were presented to the authors of the edicts in question, these men totally ignored such evidence, although it emanated from Brethren who were in good standing in every Masonic Jurisdiction in which they resided, and the peers of the authors of the edicts in every respect, and especially so far as honesty of purpose, intelligence, and truthfulness are concerned. And yet one of them, as the editor of a Masonic paper, is weekly admonishing his Masonic Brethren to live and act according to that charity, friendship and Brotherly love which Masonry inculcates. Is it not remarkable how Masonry, or rather what Masonry teaches, is construed by different individuals?

We have also shown, by evidence which cannot be controverted, that the instigator of the persecutions some of our Brethren are undergoing, is anything but loyal to Symbolic Masonry, in so much that he not only refused to obey a summons from his Grand Lodge on the ground that he was the Masonic superior of its Grand Master, but also provided *printed* Rituals of the E.·. A.·., F.·. C.·., and M.·. M.·. Degrees for the use of his subordinate bodies; also, that he has publicly, in lectures and writings, ridiculed Blue Masonry, styling it the "Masonry of the multitude," and deriding its symbols. Witness the following, taken from page 379 of his "Morals and Dogma:"

"Blue Masonry, ignorant of its import, still retains among its emblems one of a woman weeping over a broken column, holding in her hand a branch of acacia, myrtle or tamarisk, while Time, we are told, stands behind her combing out the ringlets of her hair. We need not repeat the vapid and trivial explanation there given, of this representation of *Isis*, weeping at

Byblos, over the column torn from the palace of the king, that contains the body of Osiris, while Horus, the god of Time, pours ambrosia on her hair."

Again on page 819 of the same volume:

"The Blue Degrees are but the outer court or portico of the Temple. Part of the symbols are displayed there to the initiate, but he is intentionally misled by false interpretations. It is not intended that he shall understand them: but it is intended that he shall imagine he understands them. It is well enough for the mass of those called Masons, to imagine that all is contained in the Blue Degrees; and who so attempts to undeceive them will labor in vain, and without any true reward violate his obligations as an Adept."

I might quote many more such paragraphs, all tending to show the opinion entertained of Symbolic Masonry by their author, and how great an enemy he is to that branch of the Masonic order. And yet Master Masons can be so influenced by the followers of this would-be ruler of all Masonry, as to recognize his illegitimate body, and to give their assent to edicts which oppress the members of a Rite, who alone, of all those claiming to be legitimate Scottish Rite Masons, are the most loyal to Symbolic Masonry. It does not require a gift of prophecy to foretell the nature of the awakening that will result from such lethargy, if it continues much longer.

We do not ask for recognition by Grand Lodges, Chapters or Commanderies as Scottish Rite Masons, for the success of our Rite does not depend upon such bodies being made subservient to it, nor would we desire any debasement of orders we respect and revere, and of which we are consistent members, performing our duties according to the obligations we assumed. But we have to contend with those who are determined to brand every Mason who has connected himself with our Rite, as a liar and a malefactor, regardless of the obligations of Masonry, or the high character of the Brethren thus assailed; and all such acts are committed for the purpose of advancing the interests of organizations inimical to Symbolic, Capitular and Templar Masonry. We are charged with creating dissensions, whereas all the dissensions that have arisen to interrupt the harmony of Ancient Freemasonry have originated with our enemies, for we have claimed nothing, and exercise no powers except those strictly confined to Scottish Rite Masonry, which we claim is altogether distinct from Symbolic Masonry in its

ritualistic and esoteric work. The editor of the *Masonic Advocate*, who is a Thirty-third Degree member of the Northern Jurisdiction, has honestly and truthfully said:

"As a member of the Scottish Rite holding true allegiance to the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, we have yet to hear of the first instance where the peace, good order and harmony of a Lodge, Chapter or Commandery has been disturbed by a member of the Cerneau Rite. The discord in all cases has arisen in an attempt to enforce in their bodies action similar to what is embraced in the edicts of these Pennsylvania Grand Officers. In other words, it has been prodnced by forcing into these bodies a controversy which does not concern them at all, and which they are powerless to settle."

All honor to the author of such sentiments, as a true man and a conscientious Mason.

The fact that the most bitter enemies of our Rite are, without a single exception, pecuniarily interested in the success of the particular Scottish Rite organizations of which they are the champions, is characteristic of their motives.

We are also accused of invading the territory already occupied by Scottish Rite bodies. Such accusations betray an inexcusable ignorance of the history of Scottish Rite Masonry in this country, and the records of our oldest Grand Lodges will prove the contrary. Joseph Cerneau had established his Scottish Rite Council, in New York, six years before the adventurer De La Motta organized his spurious body in that city; and it only requires a reference to Shultz's History of Freemasonry in Maryland, to show that the early Scottish Rite bodies in that State, which were composed of the prominent Masons of the jurisdiction, and were under the obedience of the Cerneau Council, flourished at a period when the Charleston body had ceased to exist, and was as dead as a totally defunct organization could be.

Our opponents have also attempted to misrepresent the visit of your Sov.·. Grand Commander to France, and would have it appear that he committed a Masonic crime in communicating with the Council of Deliberation of the College of Rites of France concerning the antecedents of the illustrious founder of our Rite in this country, Joseph Cerneau, and his connection with the Grand Orient.

I repeat what before I had occasion to assert, that my communication with the Grand Orient of France, through its Council of Deliberation, related to Scottish Rite history only, and that I refused to accept an invitation to visit a Symbolic Lodge in Paris, working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient; a refusal which was in deference to the action taken by American Grand Lodges on account of alleged atheistical doctrines imputed to the Grand Orient.

It is a significant fact, that since my return home, the slanderous statements concerning Joseph Cerneau, have not been repeated, through fear, no doubt, of their being readily refuted by a reference to the records of the Grand Orient of France, and the evidence we can now furnish of the Masonic relations of Bro.·. Cerneau with that body.

But it is neither Symbolic, Capitular, nor Templar Masonry that is assailing our Rite. True Masonry inculcates principles to which persecution and wrong are as foreign as evil is to good. Our assailants are those who fear and avoid that careful investigation which would determine what is true and what is false. This is made evident by their refusal to afford us an opportunity to prove the legitimacy of our Rite, and its relation to other branches of Masonry. We are oppressed, because of the success which has attended our efforts to disseminate the truth, and wrongfully accused of acts of which we are innocent, in order to shield and benefit those who are using all Masonry for their personal ends. A prominent member of our Rite was recently asked, if its Sov.·. Grand Commander was not annually receiving thousands of dollars as a salary or emolument of his office. I need not inform you, my Brethren, as to the nature of such a statement, but for the benefit of those outside of our Rite, and who may be induced to credit such statements, I will again repeat what I have before asserted, and what you, as members of this Rite, well know to be true, that I have never received one dollar for any service I have rendered Scottish Rite Masonry: not even the reward of a jewel, now so common among other branches of Masonry. I have labored for our Rite, endured slander, falsehood, insult, and responsibility, because I consider its cause to be just, and its principles such as ennoble my fellow men. And the only

reward that I desire, is the conscientiousness that I have performed my duty, to the best of my ability, in behalf of a noble cause.

The Master Masons of several jurisdictions have been treated as serfs on account of their Cerneau membership, compelled to submit to every indignity it was possible for our enemies to enforce, threatened with expulsion, forced to answer degrading questions, for the presentation of which no just cause could be assigned, and compelled to obey edicts based upon false charges.

Another nefarious scheme of these enemies of all true Masonry, is to impress Grand Masters, who are not of their obedience and who cannot be induced, by the offer of high degrees, to declare against our Rite, with the idea that danger of severance of fraternal relations exists between the Grand Lodges who have meddled with the Scottish Rite controversies, and the others who have refused to thus disturb the harmony of their bodies. As a result, the Grand Master of Iowa warns any of the Brethren of that State who may have united with the Cerneau Rite, that they will be without a Masonic home, and be denied all Masonic benefits save within the borders of their own dominion.

To counteract such a deep-laid scheme will demand the most careful and deliberate consideration, which I trust this subject will receive during the present rendezvous.

Many Chairmen of Committees on Foreign Correspondence of the different Grand Lodges, Chapters and Commanderies throughout our country have strongly condemned any interference by such bodies with Scottish Rite controversies, while a few others have, from certain interested motives, declaimed against our Rite, and taken advantage of every opportunity to quote in their reports the statements of our enemies, while carefully excluding all comments and arguments favorable to us. The Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, who is a member of Pike's Supreme Council, in his Report of 1888, has even gone so far as to assert that "one of the leaders of the Cerneau faction of illegal Masons of the Scottish Rite was deposed of his office as a reviewer in Maryland, for his disregard of the cour-

tesies of his position. We presume that this statement of Brother Parvin's refers to your Sov.·. Grand Commander, who held that position in the Grand Lodge of Maryland for seven years. Such a statement is not only untruthful, but malicious, as there was not the slightest ground on which to establish it. We had voluntarily resigned the position one year before Grand Master Tyson's term of office expired, and at his written request, which we can at any time produce, we retained the office, at a considerable sacrifice of time and labor, for one year longer, when Ill.·. Bro.·. William J. Wroth, 32°, another Cerneau Mason, was appointed to the position. The attention of the present Chairman of Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, who is a Pike member, was called to this statement of Brother Parvin, and although he well knew that it was false, yet he failed to do us justice by correcting it in his report of 1889, although he was very careful in this latter report to quote many of the most disparaging remarks that had appeared during the previous year against our Rite, and especially against its Sov.·. Grand Commander; and yet this Brother would have united with the Baltimore members of the Pike Consistory when they renounced the so-called Southern Jurisdiction, if his proposition to establish an independent Scottish Rite organization, of which he was to be the head, had been adopted. These are examples of the love and friendship which some Masons extend to their Brethren.

If we refer to the condition of our Rite in the different States we can congratulate ourselves on its continued prosperity. Instead of losing adherents (as a certain Grand Master publishes in his Masonic paper, and who wished to show how great an "authority" *he* is on Scottish Rite history, by stating in a letter to one of our members, that he, the Grand Master, was more familiar with the Cerneau Rite than the member of our body he was addressing), we have added *twelve* new Consistories, comprising *forty-eight* bodies, to our Rite within the past twelve months, and the Masonic material of these bodies embraces the most active and consistent members of the Lodge, Chapter and Commandery of every locality in which they are located. I challenge contradiction of this fact.

During the year ending to-day, the receipts for fees, dues, &c., have far exceeded those of any previous year since 1868. There have also been more candidates initiated into our Rite during the past year than in any previous year since 1881, and we have at the present time more members in good standing than our Rite has ever had since the year of its organization in this country, 1807.

Although the Constitution of our Rite makes it the duty of every Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General to render a report in writing at each Annual Rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, I shall invite your attention to brief statements of the condition of our Order in the different States:

NEW YORK.

In this State we have a Grand Consistory and eleven Subordinate Consistories, comprising forty-five bodies. The Grand Consistory is governed by able and energetic officers, and its subordinate bodies are composed of some of the most active Masons in that State. Our largest Consistory, Cerneau, No. 1, of New York City, by the attention of its members to the ritualistic work, and their zealous efforts in behalf of Scottish Rite Masonry, has become renowned for the beautiful and effective manner in which the degrees are conferred; and it will well repay our Brethren outside of that city, to visit Cerneau Consistory at any regular rendezvous whenever the opportunity occurs.

Throughout the entire State of New York the bodies of our obedience are in good working order, a large number of candidates are being initiated, and everything indicates prosperity and continuance. Peace and harmony have prevailed in that jurisdiction, from the fact that the Grand Masters and the Grand Lodge of New York, have a just appreciation for the interests of Masonry and of their members, and are not influenced by false reports, nor disposed to create dissensions by interference with matters beyond the jurisdiction of their Grand Body. The harmony existing in all branches of the Masonic order in the State of New York, is a sufficient answer to the charge made by our enemies that the dissensions in Masonry originated with our Scottish Rite organizations.

MASSACHUSSETTS.

In Boston we have a large Consistory, with subordinate bodies, but owing to various causes, it has not been deemed advisable, up to the present time, to extend our Rite beyond the vicinity of that city. We have, however, some very zealous members in Boston Consistory, No. 5, and as new Consistories are being organized in adjoining States, the time may not be far distant when the propagation of our Rite in Massachusetts may be renewed with success.

VIRGINIA.

In this State we have seven Consistories, six of which are in a prosperous condition, and there is every reason for believing that it would require but little effort to considerably increase the number, especially now that the Grand Consistory has been instituted, with some of the most prominent Masons of that jurisdiction among its officers.

No better citizens can be found in any communities than those who compose the membership of our Virginia Consistories; but they have much to contend with from the active enemies of our Rite, who are unceasing in their efforts to obstruct the progress of Scottish Rite Masonry in that jurisdiction. There has been great impoverishment of the people in the Southern States, and that fact has rendered it necessary for them to devote more time to business affairs and less to Masonry, than is the case in other parts of our country.

WEST VIRGINIA.

In this State we have a Grand Consistory and ten subordinate Consistories, comprising forty-one Scottish Rite Bodies. The Grand Master of Masons of West Virginia is Commander-in-Chief of the Consistory at Charlestown, which is named in his honor. Our Rite flourishes throughout the entire State, and many of the prominent members of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and Grand Commandery are connected with it, and zealous in its propagation. With few exceptions, all the bodies of our obedience in that jurisdiction are prospering, and their officers are active in the performance of their duties.

DELAWARE.

In this State we have one of the most active Consistories of our obedience, Wilmington, No. 13. Among its members is the present Grand Master of Masons of Delaware, who has recently been crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

At a regular rendezvous held a few months ago, at which your Sovereign Grand Commander was an invited guest, the Consistorial Hall in the Masonic Temple at Wilmington was filled with the members of this body, all of whom appeared to be greatly interested in Scottish Rite Masonry. There is a bright prospect for the organization of other Consistories in Delaware during the coming Masonic year.

FLORIDA.

In this State, at Pensacola, a very promising Consistory was established about seven years ago, but as many of its officers and members were in the service of the Government, and subject to change of residence, and others, among them one of the most active Brethren, dying, this body has for some years been in a dormant condition.

There are hopes, however, of its resuscitation under the influence of some zealous and prominent Masons of Pensacola, and a visit of our Grand Master General of Ceremonies to that city would, without doubt, be attended with good results.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington Consistory, No 7, was organized in 1883, under auspicious circumstances, and by a large number of Master Masons, among them many zealous and able Brethren. Unfortunately for the prosperity of this Body, early in its career dissensions arose among several of its prominent members concerning matters more of a personal nature than any connected with our Rite. Such dissensions, which my predecessor in office used every effort in his power to heal, prevented a rapid increase in membership, which would, no doubt, have resulted, if we may judge from the members and zeal apparent on the organization of this Body. Later, from several causes, nearly all more or less dependent upon the original dissensions, but some upon matters connected with other branches of Masonry in the District, several prominent members of this Consistory dimitted, and united with our enemies, who on many occasions they had denounced, publicly as well as privately, in the most bitter terms. A reference to the newspaper articles emanating from some of these former members of our Rite in its defense, evokes surprise that their later investigations were so much more satisfactory and conclusive, than their earlier researches into the history of Scottish Rite Masonry. Truly our enemies had much to forgive on receiving such Brothers into their fold, and condoning the offenses they had, in their zeal for Cerneau Masonry, committed against them. We have respect for those who, when convinced of any error they may have committed, endeavor to make atonement by proper demeanor and consistent action; but for others who will deliberately espouse a cause they know to be wrong, we can only regret their want of principle, and rejoice that they are no longer of us.

It is a satisfaction, however, to know that many loyal Brethren remain in Washington Consistory, and that there are bright prospects for its future, now that its discordant element is removed. The latest report (that of June 17, 1889) from this Consistory, informs me that, although it is somewhat weaker numerically than one year ago, it is in reality stronger, as the present members are true men, and loyal to our Rite. The ceremonies of Maundy Thursday were observed by a large number of the Brethren.

TENNESSEE.

In this State we have two Consistories, the Com.·.-in-Chief of Knoxville, No. 10, being Ill.. Bro.·. Hon.·. Judge Henry H. Ingersoll, whose address as Grand Master of Masons of Tennessee, clearly defines the relations of our Rite to Symbolic and other branches of Masonry, and truly sets forth the cardinal doctrines and vital principles of Ancient Craft Masonry. If the example presented by Ill.·. Bro.·. Ingersoll was followed by all other Grand Masters, there would accrue therefrom that peace and harmony which is characteristic of true Masonry. There will certainly never be any trouble in Tennessee so long as such wise counsels prevail. The following sentences of Ill.·. Bro.·. Ingersoll's address to his Grand Lodge deserve perpetuation:

"Ancient Craft Masonry, comprising three Symbolic Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, universal and uniform throughout the world, is absolutely free and independent of all other orders, and should not be, and cannot lawfully be, allied with or dominated by any order of Scottish Rite Masons. Nor can we as Freemasons be called upon through our Grand Lodges to hear and decide any controversy between these various claimants to legitimacy in that Rite. If they pretend, any of them, to confer our degrees, then they are clandestine Lodges and their votaries are to us as 'heathens and publicans' We know them not, and can hold no sort of Masonic communication with them. If they do not lay claim to the Symbolic Degrees, then they are not of us. We have no knowledge or standard by which we can test their claim, try their cause or decide their rights. As well might we interfere with Odd Fellows, United Workmen, Knights of Honor, Knights of Pythias, or Knights of Labor. If they claim the right to base the order upon our triune temple, we cannot forbid them; and one, two, or twenty different and even belligerent bodies may indulge in this pastime, we can endure them all without harm or fear—*on the outside*. They can hurt us no more, we feel them no more than does the firm earth that supports us all. But, *outside* is their place and their sphere; *outside* they are impotent to injure Freemasonry; *outside* they cannot destroy our peace and harmony; and *outside* they must remain and not profane our sacred precincts.

"Standing to and abiding by the Ancient Charge I received as Worshipful Master, 'that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry,' I earnestly protest against the introduction of this foreign element into our perfect and symmetrical body. Recalling my official oath as Grand Master, that I would 'maintain the usages and customs of Free and Accepted Masons,' and my obligation to 'cling to the old landmarks,' I protest against any alliance of any kind with any order or rite that claims precedence or superiority, and demands submission and subserviency. Believing that Lodge membership makes a Brother a member of the whole Masonic family, and in the exalted character of Master Mason all avenues and opportunities are open, all rights and privileges are his which the broad empire of Freemasonry affords, I protest against the external conditions imposed by the Grand Master of Ohio upon worthy Brethren of his own jurisdiction to receive an honorable commission from the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. Nay, more; believing that a Freemason is a free man, I deny the right of any Lodge, Subordinate or Grand, to dictate to him whether he shall or shall not become a member of any other society, or fraternity, whose purposes and practices are not immoral. And, saving only clandestine Symbolic Lodges, it is not the function; nay, it is not within the scope of the powers of any Lodge, Subordinate or Grand, to hold an inquisition over and pronounce upon the legitimacy, regularity, orthodoxy or loyalty of any such order, society or fraternity.

"These I believe to be the cardinal doctrines and vital principles of Ancient Craft Masonry. They correctly represent the spirit of Tennessee Freemasons."

In Johnson City, Tennessee, Palestine Consistory, No. 49, is composed of active and prominent Masons of that locality, and promises to have a successful career.

Some feeling has arisen on the part of St. Andrew Consistory, No. 43, of Goodson, Va., on account of the organization of Palestine Consistory at Johnson City, Tenn, under the impression that the same rule which controls jurisdiction in the Grand Lodges of Virginia and Tennessee on the borders of these two States should govern our Rite. St. Andrew Consistory has a peculiar geographical position, one-half of the town in which it is located being in Virginia, called Goodson, and the other half being in Tennessee, and known as Bristol. St. Andrew Consistory is regarded as being located in Goodson, Va., and is subordinate to the Grand Consistory of Virginia.

I was assured before issuing authority for the organization of Palestine Consistory at Johnson City, Tenn., that the Brethren there would not unite with St. Andrew Consistory at Goodson, Va., on account of the distance, &c., and furthermore, I did not anticipate any objection on the part of St. Andrew Consistory, especially as I had previously rescinded the authority granted to a Brother in Johnson City to organize a Consistory at that place, at the request of the Com.·.-in-Chief of St. Andrew Consistory, and also at his request had transferred the authority to the present Com.·.-in-Chief of Palestine Consistory in Johnson City. When I received the protest from St. Andrew Consistory against the establishment of a Consistory at Johnson City, the Grand Master of Ceremonies was on his way to constitute Palestine Consistory at Johnson City. As I understand that representatives from these two Consistories will be present at this Annual Rendezvous, I trust that the matter at issue will be harmonized in a manner satisfactory to the parties interested.

MARYLAND.

In this State we have five Consistories, composed of twenty bodies, directly subordinate to the Sovereign Grand Consistory and Supreme Council, and all in good working order, and composed of Masonic material equal to any in this country. Among its members are Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and Grand Commandery of K.·.T.·. of Maryland. The present Grand Commander and a majority of the Past Grand Commanders of Maryland are members of Baltimore Consistory, No. 9, which was the first Consistory established in this State when our Rite again reoccupied it after an interval of many years.

A reference to Volume I., No. 4, of Schultz's History of Freemasonry in Maryland, the author of which is a member of the Pike body, and during the past year an active as well as an inconsistent opponent of our Rite, will show that the "ineffable degrees" were introduced into Maryland as early as 1792, by Henry Wilmans, Grand Inspector General, and that this early body, which derives its authority from the parent body in France, was composed of "seventy-six brethren, many of whom were the most active and prominent members of the Fraternity in this State—no less than four of

them were subsequently elevated to the position of Grand Master of Masons in Maryland." The Constitution and Laws of a Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix and Consistory of Princes of the Royal Secret, together with the names of the members, the latter bodies being in existence as late as 1820, are also published in the same volume; these records, and a number of rituals, having been discovered among the papers of Bro.·. Philip P. Eckel, one of the most prominent of the early Masons of Maryland. In Volume IV., No. 7, of the same history, the following paragraph can be found: "It is claimed that in the year 1801, nine years after the date of the establishment of this Lodge of Perfection at Baltimore, the twenty-five degrees of the Rite of Perfection were expanded to thirty-three by some Brethren at Charleston, and a new Rite thenceforth known as the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite was formed." And on the following page we are informed that at the same time the Lodge of Perfection was established in Baltimore, the "Rose Croix Chapter La Vérité" was brought to that city by the French Brethren, refugees from the Island of St. Domingo, somewhere between the years 1791 and 1793. This body became dormant in the year 1800, from which state it was in 1819 aroused by Louis F. De Loup, Grand Inspector of the Grand Consistory of Exalted Masonry in New York, and revived under the distinctive title of "Triple Unity," and in the following year received a charter from the Grand Consistory of New York (which charter is printed in full in this history), signed by Jos. Cerneau, as Sov.·. Grand Commander, De Witt Clinton, as Dep.·. Grand Commander, and by the other officers at that time composing the Cerneau Supreme Council. Another Charter issued by the Grand Consistory of New York, and bearing the same date and signatures as that of the Chapter of Rose Croix, to a number of the same Brethren for a "Grand Council of Princes of the Royal Secret" at Baltimore, is also printed in the same volume of Schultz's History.

These volumes I have with me for your inspection. Notwithstanding such evidence, our enemies persist in charging us with taking possession of territory already occupied by other Scottish Rite organizations.

Baltimore Consistory, No. 9, from the date of its organization in 1884, until January last, has been presided over by Ill.·. Bro.·. C. C. Isaacs, 33°, a Past Grand Commander and Past Grand High Priest of Maryland, and has greatly prospered under his able leadership. There is every reason for believing that this Consistory will continue to advance the interests of our Rite in the future, as it has done in the past. The Consistories at Cumberland, Frederick City, and Annapolis, are composed of some of the best Masons in Maryland, and their prosperity and continuance are assured. The last Consistory organized in this State, Maryland, No. 52, at Easton, promises to equal any Consistory of our obedience, by their zeal for the Rite, the energy they have manifested in rendering the work of the degrees and the number of candidates they have received since their institution. Some of the most prominent and active Masons of the Eastern portion of Maryland are members of this new Body; and our Grand Master General of Ceremonies, who has visited this Consistory on several occasions, will, no doubt, in his report, verify all I have said in its praise.

KENTUCKY.

In this State we have a Grand Consistory and four Subordinate Consistories, also composed of Brethren whose membership would honor any organization of Masons. They have been zealous in the propagation and defense of our Rite, and deserve the success which should ever attend great efforts made for a righteous cause. Although subjected to oppression, persecution, and slander, they are nobly contending for what they believe to be just and true; and if their Brethren in the other Masonic organizations of this State, who are not the slaves of a few unscrupulous men, will assist them in maintaining the purity of Masonry, there need be no fear for the result of this struggle. An outrageous amendment was forced upon the Grand Lodge of this State by a Pike Rite faction, assisted by their accomplices from Ohio, who acted like lobbyists of the best recognized type.

The Constitution of every Grand Body provides certain and uniform methods for amending its provisions, as a safeguard against injustice, but the manner in which the resolution against our Rite was engineered in the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, is worthy of the lowest political practices. I have been informed that not more than twenty of the members present in the Grand Lodge knew that they were voting for anything but a simple committee report, not suspecting that such an offensive and unjust Constitutional amendment was attached to it. What other Grand Lodge, except that of Ohio, would permit a Committee to attach a resolution to a proposed amendment to the Constitution, making the latter a law before it was regularly adopted, as was done in the Grand Lodge of Kentucky? It is beyond credence, that an intelligent body of men in this republican country could knowingly vote to make a proposed law operative before it was legally passed or adopted. Even the acknowledged organ of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky has been enlisted in behalf of the Pike Rite, and the *Masonic Home Journal*, from which we might at least expect Masonic charity and justice, on account of the noble charity it represents, takes advantage of every opportunity to assail our Rite, for the reason, perhaps, that it is more prudent to uphold might than right. In this State we also have presented to us the anomaly of one Grand Master refusing to execute an edict of the Grand Lodge which he deemed oppressive, and another Grand Master, his successor, enforcing an unjust edict of the same body, regardless of its consequences to consistent and reputable Master Masons. How completely Symbolical Masonry is being made subordinate to spurious Scottish Rite systems in some of the Grand Lodges of this country! but fortunately for the safety of Ancient Craft Masonry, up to the present time of writing, there are but three States in which Grand Lodges and Grand Masters (those of Ohio, Kentucky and Pennsylvania) have actively interfered in the affairs of other orders, and it is a significant fact that in these three States alone there is a lack of harmony amongst the Craft, and quarrels or animosities prevailing. Veritas Consistory, No. 27, at Louisville, has not only had to contend with the opponents of our Rite in rival organizations, but also with the misconduct of one of its own members. This case, which occurred quite recently, was a most infamous example of the prostitution of every

manly principle on the part of a Brother, from whom, at one time, we expected a different course. To escape charges of gross uumasonic conduct, he adopted a plan which he vainly thought would cover up his misdeeds, and which has been used by our enemies to help their own cause among strangers who were ignorant of the character of the individual, whom those who so used him cannot help despising, without they happen to be of the same nature; but such is human nature when unrestrained by honor and virtue. Veritas Consistory has enough of zealous and enthusiastic members to regain all and more ground than it has lost, and not only efface the stain it has received from the conduct of the individual before alluded to, but to successfully strive with the active enemies of the Pike Rite in its vicinity. The Consistories at Covington, Frankfort and Lexington, are composed of able and reputable members, and when the burden imposed by unjust legislation in the Grand Lodge is removed, there is every reason for believing that great progress will be made in the propagation of our Rite throughout this State, especially as all the bodies will now have the assistance and counsel of their Grand Consistory.

MISSOURI.

In this State a Consistory with subordinate Bodies was instituted in 1887, in Kansas City, and there was every reason for supposing from the material of which it was composed, that its career would be a prosperous one, as its officers appeared to be zealous and enthusiastic, and its membership included some of the most prominent and reputable Masons in that city, which is renowned for the energetic character of its citizens. For a time Oriental Consistory prospered, but when its first Com.·.-in-Chief changed his residence to another State, and two different factions claiming to be Scottish Rite, endeavored to seduce the Brethren of this Consistory from their allegiance, there was a time when those members who remained loyal to our Rite became somewhat discouraged, and invoked the assistance of the Supreme Council, which was promptly given, and through the efforts of our Grand Master General of Ceremonies the clouds disappeared, and the attempts of our enemies were so completely foiled that they retired in disgrace.

Under the government of its present Com.·.-in-Chief, a most zealous and energetic Brother, assisted by loyal members, Oriental Consistory, No. 36, we are pleased to state, is again in good working order, and its prospects for success are continually brightening.

KANSAS.

Hutchinson Consistory, No. 37, was also instituted in 1887, with a large membership composed of the active officers and members of all the Masonic Bodies located in that city. The officers of this Consistory have been zealous and energetic, and I am satisfied have done all in their power towards the success of their bodies. They greatly desire, however, the presence of our Grand Master General of Ceremonies, and measures should be adopted at this Annual Rendezvous to enable this officer of our Supreme Council to make the promised visit. There is no reason why our Rite should

not be carried into other parts of this State, and I feel assured that this can be done, if the effort is made, as we have never yet been defeated in an attempt to establish one of our Bodies, when Master Masons have had the claims of our Rite properly presented to them.

PENNSYLVANIA.

In this State our Rite has made great progress during the past year, and a Representative from that Jurisdiction is present at this Annual Rendezvous. We have instituted five Consistories with subordinate Bodies in Pennsylvania, and notwithstanding the persecution to which their members have been subjected, I can truthfully assert that they are all, with few, if any, exceptions, still loyal to our Rite, and are only awaiting an opportunity when the rights of Master Masons shall be respected, to actively engage in its propagation. The present Grand Master of this State, a few months before his election to that office, promised a member of one of our Pennsylvania Consistories, that during his term of office the subject of Scottish Rite Masonry should never enter his Grand Lodge. But he was scarcely installed, when he issued an edict demanding the enforcement of that of his predecessor, and giving the Brethren of our Rite ninety days to withdraw therefrom under the penalty of expulsion for non-compliance. He also closed the doors of the subordinate Lodges in that State against all "Cerneau Masons," and subjected his own members, as well as visiting Brethren from all other jurisdictions, to an addition to the test oath, which reads as follows: "Furthermore, I do not hold membership in or allegiance to, any Cerneau or other body claiming to be Masonic, that has been declared clandestine by this Grand Lodge." Even the expression of an opinion favorable to our Rite from Master Masons of this State is deemed a Masonic crime, as a visitor to a Lodge in Norristown, Pa., when the question was asked him if he was a member of a Cerneau Body, replied that he was not, but believed the Cerneau people were right, whereupon he was denied admission to the Lodge. Construing the two reports of the Committee of Past Grand Masters, which were adopted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in the most liberal manner, we fail to discover any action of that Grand Body which declared our Rite to be clandestine, notwithstanding the assertion to the contrary by the present Grand Master. That committee clearly stated that if our Rite claims or exercises the power, right, or authority to confer the recognized degrees of Ancient Masonry, it is clandestine. Now as we do not in any manner claim or exercise the right, power, or authority referred to, it follows that we are not clandestine according to such ruling, and have not been so declared by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The present Grand Master, however, is determined to make us clandestine, so far as it is in his power to do so, notwithstanding our innocence; a determination which the most autocratic power on earth could not exceed. This Grand Master in a recent correspondence with the Com.·.-in-Chief of Scranton Consistory (in which he was completely worsted), professes to have thoroughly investigated the question of "Cerneau Masonry," and to have found out that we have been guilty in the far past of

interfering with the prerogatives of Grand Lodges. If such is the case, this Grand Master has discovered something concerning which your Sov.·. Grand Commander is ignorant.

But when a Grand Master resorts to Pike's Allocutions for his evidence against us, and uses the language of the latter almost word for word, the mystery is made as clear as the noonday sun; and his investigations resemble those of a Past Grand Master of Kentucky, who has recently retired from office. On the receipt of the answer of the Scranton Brother to his charges, the Grand Master in his brief reply clearly shows that he has attempted more than he was able to accomplish, and declares the correspondence closed, wholly ignoring the sentiment of his friend, the leader of the Pike Rite, who declares in another of his allocutions of the past, that "no body of men can be safely condemned unheard, and none justly so, until informed of the charge against it, and allowed to traverse and deny it." I commend to your notice the correspondence referred to in Appendix C.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Commander, K.·. T.·., of Pennsylvania, have also joined the Grand Master of that State in assailing our Rite, basing their actions upon that of the latter. We can offer no better reply than to quote the opinion of Bro.·. Martin H. Rice, a Past Grand Master and Past Grand High Priest of Indiana, and a Thirty-third Degree member of the Northern Jurisdiction, concerning such meddlesome acts. He says:

"The Grand Master, Grand High Priest and Grand Commander respectively of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania have issued long edicts, addressed respectively to the Worshipful Masters, High Priests and Eminent Commanders of Lodges, Chapters and Commanderies in that jurisdiction, and which they order to be 'audibly read' in all such bodies, interdicting members of these bodies from holding membership in what they term the 'Cerneau Rite.' We have heretofore freely expressed our opinion in regard to the course to be pursued by Masonic Grand Bodies of the York Rite relative to the controversy now raging between rival Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite, which are absolutely under the control of a few men, with an autocratic system of government at variance with and repugnant to the landmarks, principles, teachings, and spirit of Freemasonry. Our position has been and still is that so long as these Scottish Rite bodies do not confer any of the degrees of Masonry embraced in the York Rite, from that of Entered Apprentice to Knights Templar, nor in any way attempt to interfere with the authorities controlling them, what they may do is no matter of concern to any Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter or Grand Commandery, and any attempt on the part of these Grand Bodies to uphold one Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite or to break down another will prove ineffectual. The Grand Master of Pennsylvania says in his edict, that bodies under the 'Cerneau Rite have been authoritatively ascertained and officially declared to be clandestine.' Clandestine what! Certainly not clandestine Lodges of Master Masons, nor Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, nor Commanderies of Knights Tem-

plar. A man need not be a Royal Arch Mason and a Knight Templar to become a member of the Scottish Rite. All that is required is that he shall be a Master Mason. What occasion had a Grand High Priest or a Grand Commander to volunteer with an edict in this controversy? These high officials in Pennsylvania declare their object to be 'to preserve the peace, good order and harmony' of Capitular and Templar Masonry in that jurisdiction. The excuse is too flimsy for serious consideration."

The results of such unreasonable acts in one jurisdiction should, as Bro.·. Rice remarks, "serve as a warning to other Grand Jurisdictions."

NEW JERSEY.

In this State we have two large Consistories, Newark, No. 48, and Jersey City, No. 51, with Subordinate Bodies, the officers and members of which are zealous and enthusiastic, and have displayed a very commendable energy in performing their duties and conferring the work of the degrees according to our Rituals. These Bodies have availed themselves of the services of the Grand Master General of Ceremonies, and as they are composed of good, energetic men and Masons, they have already demonstrated what zeal and attention to duties can accomplish. A large number of candidates have received the degrees of our Rite, from the Fourth to and including the Thirty-second, since these Bodies were instituted; and during my official visits, I have been assured of their prosperity, and impressed with the amount of good they are accomplishing for Scottish Rite Masonry, and their fellow men.

NEBRASKA.

Our Rite has been introduced into this State during the past year, by the institution of Alpha Consistory, No. 50, in Nebraska City, with Ill.·. Bro.·. William E. Hill, 33°, a Past Grand Master, Past Grand King and Past Deputy Grand Commander of Nebraska, as Com.·.-in-Chief; and of Lincoln Consistory, No. 54, in Lincoln, with Ill.·. Bro.·. A. G. Hastings, a Past Grand Master and Past Grand High Priest of Nebraska, as Com.·.-in-Chief. Both of these Consistories are composed of some of the best Masons of all branches in Nebraska, and have been actively working since their institution, Lincoln Consistory having initiated *eleven* candidates within less than one month after its organization, and Alpha Consistory quite a number also. The activity and purpose of our enemies is shown by the following extract from a letter recently written by a prominent Mason in Nebraska:

"The Pike folks have pickets scattered all over the State at important points, and are working night and day to accomplish their purpose. They admit that if they don't do something at once to stop our progress, that in twelve months more we will become so numerous in the State, that any effort on their part in the future will prove an utter failure. *From private information obtained, we learn* that Pike's advice to his followers is not to make the attempt" (to carry a Grand Lodge) "unless they are certain of success, for a failure would prove disastrous—he leaves the matter with his

Brethren to determine for themselves as to the advisability of making the attempt."

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Our Rite has also been introduced into this State during the past year, a very promising Consistory having been instituted at Lancaster, composed of the best Masonic material, with active and enthusiastic officers, under whose leadership, and that of the Active Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, Ill.·. Bro.·. Harrison De Forrest Young, 33°, success is assured.

In referring to the progress of our Rite during the past year, I have drawn no over-colored picture, but have been careful to state such facts only as can be verified by our members in every jurisdiction I have alluded to.

On account of the great activity of our enemies, and their unscrupulous acts, induced by the progress of our Rite, it becomes necessary that we should exercise the utmost care in regard to the material we receive, and especially concerning the multiplication of Thirty-third Degree members. Nearly all the cases of apostasy that have occurred among us, have been confined to those who have received our highest degree without earning such an honor by faithful service. Our Constitution provides that the Thirty-third Degree be conferred by virtue of an election to the office of Commander-in-Chief of a Consistory, and as a result, we have examples where those who have thus received it have become utterly useless to the Rite. On the other hand, if such an honor was made dependent upon faithful service in that office during an entire term, at the end of which, if merited, the degree could be conferred, better results would accrue to our Bodies. That which is cheaply obtained, is valued correspondingly.

The time has now arrived to reject all candidates who will not maintain the principles of our Rite at every sacrifice consistent with their obligations, and the duty they owe our Body by becoming members of it. We desire the membership of no Brother who is not at the time of his initiation into the Fourth Degree, convinced of the justice of our cause; and all who enter our portals should do so with a firm determination to uphold what they believe to be right and just against all enemies. Membership in our Rite requires no man to violate any Masonic obligation he may have previously assumed, but it does

require loyalty, and a determination to resist to the utmost, all attempts to deprive us of our just rights as Scottish Rite Masons. I will ever contend that I am not bound by any obligation I have ever assumed in Lodge, Chapter, or Commandery, to obey edicts from any source that are unjust and oppressive, notwithstanding such edicts may be clothed in Masonic verbiage, and may emanate from those temporarily invested with certain Masonic powers. I claim to be a free man, and the citizen of a free country, in which despotism and injustice are not tolerated, and that I am protected by laws republican in their character and liberal in their administration.

No Brother can appreciate the degrees of our Rite, or understand their full import, by having them hurriedly communicated to him; hence the necessity of the officers of our Bodies conferring the degrees in full, as there is not one of them but is well worth all the study that is required to understand it and properly present it to the candidate. By pursuing such a course, all of the members of a Body become interested, and the Body itself becomes an honor to our Rite.

As required by our General Regulations, I have appointed a Committee of three members of this Sovereign Grand Consistory to examine the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer Generals. The Supreme Council invites the most careful scrutiny of the report of this committee, satisfied that you will learn from it that the utmost economy has been practiced during the past year.

Certain amendments to the constitution will claim your attention at this Annual Rendezvous, and of such a nature as should receive careful consideration, and be harmoniously discussed. Ours is a representative body, and no article should be engrafted on our constitution that will in any manner destroy or affect its character as such. The rights of every jurisdiction should be respected, and no personal motives be permitted to interfere with the good of our Rite.

During my term of office as your Sovereign Grand Commander, and which expires at this Annual Rendezvous, I have endeavored to perform my duties to the best of my ability, and without fear, favor or affection. No man can justly say that I

have taken advantage of my office to promote any personal interests, or that I have ever derived any pecuniary advantage from it. My office has been one of responsibility and labor, so much so that only those who have occupied a similar position can judge of its trials, cares and solicitude, and I will willingly surrender it, if you deem it best that I should do so, in favor of any other Brother.

I have been ably supported by the officers composing the Supreme Council of our Rite, as all have been prompt to respond to every requirement. The nature of their duties have brought me into closer connection with the Grand Minister of State and Grand Orator and the Grand Master General of Ceremonies, than with the others, in the work of rendering decisions, the institution of new bodies and the conferring of degrees, although my correspondence has been considerable with the Grand Secretary General. At the meeting of the Supreme Council we have all met, and not only has the greatest harmony prevailed, but every member appeared to be instigated by a desire to promote the interests of our Rite.

The Lieut.·. Grand Commander has been present at the meetings of the Supreme Council on all occasions when his health permitted, and he has performed the duties of his office in a very efficient manner.

I am indebted to the Grand Minister of State and Grand Orator for wise counsel and valuable suggestions, and to the Grand Master General of Ceremonies for services without which I should, in many instances, have been greatly embarrassed. The good results attending his official visits to bodies of our obedience have been widely acknowledged, and I sincerely trust that our Rite may, for many years to come, have the benefit of his valuable services, as he possesses the ability and knowledge so necessary in the performance of the duties of his office.

The Grand Secretary General has been enabled to devote his entire time during the past year to the duties of his office, and I have always found him willing and prompt to furnish any information required of him.

The Grand Treasurer General has been extremely careful of the revenue of our Body, and his reputation as the guardian

of the funds of Masonic Bodies is well established in Symbolic as well as in Scottish Rite Masonry, as he is always ready to enter his protest against improper expenditures.

The Grand Marshal General, the Grand Standard Bearer, and the Grand Captain of the Guard have also shown themselves to be zealous officers of the Supreme Council, and their presence at its quarterly meetings, by their wise counsels and business qualities, has greatly promoted the interests of our Rite.

The terms of office of the Grand Treasurer General and the Grand Master General of Ceremonies also expire at this Annual Rendezvous, and I trust that in filling these offices you will be influenced by the good of our Rite alone.

I have always been opposed to the removal of efficient officers; but this is a matter which you, as a Body, must decide.

We are also greatly indebted to our P.·. M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander for many valuable services he has rendered our Rite during the past year, especially in the organization of several Consistories, where he assisted the Grand Master General of Ceremonies in overcoming determined resistance on the part of our enemies.

In the performance of the duties of my office, I have always endeavored to respect the feelings and opinions of others, and in presiding over the deliberations of this Sovereign Grand Consistory, I request the assistance of all of its members in maintaining that harmony and Brotherly love which the principles of the Rite inculcate.

Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas, 33°

M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander.

APPENDIX TO ALLOCUTION.

APPENDIX A.

Letter from Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas, M. D., 33°, M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander of the A.·. A.·. Scottish Rite, for the U. S. of America, its Territories and Dependencies, to R.·. W. Joseph Eichbaum, Grand Master of the R.·. W.·. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, F.·. & A.·. M.

GRAND ORIENT OF NEW YORK,
August 15th, 1888.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER:

Your recent edict dated August 1st, 1888, A. L. 5888, impels me to address you in behalf of the Rite of Scottish Masonry over which I have the honor to preside, as I cannot believe that you would knowingly condemn a body of Master Masons under the title of "Cerneau", who comprise, in every jurisdiction throughout our country, some of the most zealous and influential members of the Symbolic, Capitular and Templar Orders, on an unjust charge.

In the first place by your edict, you charge the Body of Scottish Rite Masons, organized by Ill.·. Bro.·. Joseph Cerneau in the City of New York in 1807, with exercising "the power, or authority or right to confer the three degrees of Ancient Freemasonry."

This charge of interfering with the prerogatives of the Grand Lodges of Symbolic Masonry, I declare, on my honor as a man, and on my obligations as a Mason, to be *untrue in every respect.* So far from exercising any power, authority or right over the first three degrees of Ancient Freemasonry, I hereby solemnly declare, that the members of our Scottish Rite have, to the best of my knowledge and belief, always been loyal to Ancient Freemasonry, and have at all times and in all places upheld the authority and prerogatives of the Grand Lodges of our country in their government of Symbolic Masonry. In proof of what I assert, I refer to the fact that the originator of our Scottish Rite, Joseph Cerneau, and his colleagues in St. Domingo, worked the Symbolic Degrees according to the Ancient York Rite, under the constitutional authority of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, under

whose obedience this eminent Mason, who is now so wrongfully traduced, was a member of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, until he arrived in New York in 1806, when he transferred his allegiance to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. It is certainly out of place for you, as the present Grand Master of the R.· W.·. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, to asperse the Masonic character of one so closely identified with the early history of your Grand Body, as was the organizer of what is known as the "Cerneau Rite of Scottish Masonry" in this country. As a further proof of the relation of our Rite with your Grand Lodge, I refer you to the following extracts from its minutes:

"GRAND LODGE (of Pennsylvania) Quarterly Communication.
March 31st, 1788.

"Received a letter from Peter Le Barbier Duplessis, Secretary of the Sublime Lodge of Perfection, informing the Lodge that Bro. B. N——, in consequence of charges entered and proved against him before the Sublime Lodge of Perfection held in this city on the 11th inst., was unanimously expelled from said Lodge, which was ordered to be filed and entered in the minutes of the Grand Lodge."

To still further show that the Body over which Joseph Cerneau presided in the City of New York, was recognized and in fraternal correspondence with the Grand Lodges of Symbolic Masonry of this country in 1821, I refer you to the following extract from the minutes of the Grand Lodge of the State of Kentucky, which can now be found in the Library of Lexington Lodge, Lexington, Ky., and which is signed by Daul. Bradford, Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge of Kentucky:

"From Grand Consistory of New York, *Ordo ab Chaos, Duxit Dominus Fiat Luxet Lux Fiat.* To the Glory of the Almighty Architect of the Universe. From the Orient of the Most Puis.·. Sov.·. Grand Consistory of the Supreme Chiefs of Exalted Masonry. According to the Ancient Constitutional Scottish Rite of Heredon for the U. S. of America, etc., etc., holding in the City of New York, at the central point of 40 deg. 41 min. North Latitude. To all Sov.· Grand Consistories, Councils, Chapters, Encampments and Grand Lodges wheresoever established throughout the World. Greeting: Health, Stability, Power. Extracts from the minutes of an extra sitting held on the 10th day of the 11th month A. L. 5820. Christian era, 10th of November, 1820. Present, the Most Ill.·. Bro.·. Joseph Cerneau, Sov.·. Grand Commander.

"The Sov.·. Grand Commander laid before the Consistory sundry documents and correspondence recently received, relating to the anti-Masonic conduct of a certain Joseph de Glock de Obernay, and the facts connected therewith being substantiated to the full satisfaction of the Grand Consistory, the following preamble and resolutions were submitted, adopted and ordered to be circulated:

"*Whereas,* Satisfactory information has been received by the Grand Consistory that Joseph de Glock de Obernay, alias De Obernay de Glock, professing to be a regular constituted member of the Masonic Order and to

have taken all the Degrees as far as the Degree of Grand Inspector General or Thirty-third Degree, has, under pretense of his quality as possessing the Last Degree, not only interrupted the harmony of the Order by the creation of a Grand Consistory in a place or places within the jurisdiction of the Grand Consistory, and where competent power had already been conveyed, but also by conferring of his own mere motion the three first Degrees of Ancient Masonry, and transferring the power of doing so to others without the Jurisdiction of regular organized Grand Lodges, or within the vicinity of Lodges which by some such regular organized Grand Lodge had been duly and efficiently constituted, and contrary to all Masonic usage.

"Now, therefore, in order to prevent as much as possible the continuance of this practice on the part of the said Joseph de Glock de Obernay, alias De Obernay de Glock, and to guard the Masonic community of all Degrees against his further imposition,

"*Resolved*, That the statement contained in the preceding preamble be communicated to all bodies with whom this Grand Consistory is in correspondence, and also to all known Grand Lodges throughout the world.

"By order of the Most Puis.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander.

ATTEST: AARON H. PALMER,
Grand Chancellor.

"Truly extracted from the papers in the Grand Secretary's office.

DANL. BRADFORD,
Grand Secretary."

I appeal to you, R.·. W.·. Sir, as a reasonable and intelligent man, if the foregoing extract from the minutes of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky does not establish the fact that Joseph Cerneau, and the Scottish Rite Body of which he was the Sov.·. Grand Commander, were loyal to Ancient Freemasonry? So much for the past. Let me now refer to the relations which the Body organized by Joseph Cerneau and its officers and members sustain toward Ancient Freemasonry at the present time; and also prove to you that so far from exercising or desiring any authority, power, or right over the first three Degrees, we are, as a Scottish Rite Body, the most loyal to Ancient Freemasonry, as governed by its respective Grand Lodges, of all the organizations claiming to be of Scottish Rite Masons. First, I will refer you to the Constitution which governs our Rite, and which we are all obligated to observe and maintain: Page 4—"We further declare that the Sovereign Grand Consistory and its Supreme Council, and the various Bodies under their authority, require no other qualification in candidates for the Degrees of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, except that they 'Be good men and true,' and have been regularly initiated in the first three Degrees of Symbolic Masonry, and are Master Masons in good and regular standing." Page 36, Art. III.—"A Consistory being thus constituted shall have full right and authority in its jurisdiction over the following Degrees of the A.·. A.·. Scottish Rite, viz.: 4. 'Secret Master.'—32. 'Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret,' which shows that we begin our initiations with the Fourth

Degree, known as 'Secret Master,' fully recognizing and requiring our candidates to be in possession of the E.·. A.·., F.·. C.·. and Master Mason Degrees, and to be Master Masons in good and regular standing."

I again ask you, R.·. W.·. Sir, if these quotations from our Constitution do not conclusively show that we are a Body loyal to Ancient Freemasonry, in no manner whatever interfering with, or claiming, or exercising any authority, right or power over the first three Degrees of Ancient Freemasonry?

I will also go so far as to inform you that we obligate every candidate receiving the Degrees of our Rite, that he "will not be concerned, aid or assist in conferring these degrees upon any one, unless he has previously received the Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, in a due and regular manner, and is a Master Mason in good and regular standing."

What more can any reasonable man ask as evidence that our Rite is loyal to Ancient Freemasonry? I will also quote from my first Manifesto, issued July 9th, 1887, immediately after being elected to the office of Sov.·. Grand Commander of our Rite:

"Upon assuming the duties devolving upon me by reason of my election to the office of M.·. P.· Sov.·. Grand Commander of the A.·. A.·. Scottish Rite for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, I do not appear as one who is unknown, or who has devoted the time he has been a Mason to a particular branch of the Order, to the neglect of others, as is too frequently the case.

"But having for many years of my life been an active worker in Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, and the recipient of the highest offices in the gift of my Brethren, Companions and Fraters, and with a conscientious belief that I have faithfully labored to promote the interests of all the Masonic bodies with which I am connected, and also having been brought in communication with my Brethren and Fraters throughout our own and other lands by reason of my duties as Chairman of Committees on Foreign Correspondence for many years of my Grand Lodge and Grand Commandery, I desire to assure all who are not Scottish Rite Masons, and especially those who have, perhaps, been in the habit of regarding the A.·. A.·. Scottish Rite (and with reason, I admit, owing to the pretensions of some persons connected with so-called Councils of Scottish Masonry), as antagonistic to Symbolic Masonry, that the Rite of Scottish Masonry over which I have the great honor to preside, is a firm supporter of the inalienable rights of Symbolic Masonry, and has never by word or deed sought to exercise any control over, or in any manner whatever attempted by its teachings, or by the phraseology of its rituals, to detract from the dignity and prerogatives of what is universally recognized as the foundation and origin of all masonry—namely, the first three degrees.

"What is generally known as the Cerneau Rite of Scottish Masonry, on account of its organization in the City of New York in 1807 by Ill.·. Bro.·. Joseph Cerneau, assisted by such prominent Masons as De Witt Clinton,

John W. Mulligan, Cadwallader Colden, and their immediate successors, Elias Hicks, Jeremy L. Cross and others, to whom Symbolic, Capitular, Cryptic and Templar Masonry are so greatly indebted, has never claimed jurisdiction over the first three degrees, and has never possessed any rituals of such work, but on the contrary has ever maintained that branch of Masonry in its privileges, always repudiating and repelling any interference with the prerogatives it rightfully possesses. Unfortunately this has not been the case with the other Bodies claiming to be Scottish Rite Councils, as can be clearly proven by a reference to their printed proceedings.

"I therefore truthfully assert that of all the different bodies claiming to be legitimate Scottish Rite Masons, the one over which I preside is more in accord with Symbolic, Capitular and Templar Masonry at the present time than any other, and in a number of the Masonic Jurisdictions of our country is composed of the active Masons, who, by their zeal, energy and intelligence, are the supporters of the different branches of Masonry, from the Blue Lodge to the Consistory. As the character of the members best illustrates the cause they represent, we have indeed reason to be proud of the Masonic record of the Brethren of the Cerneau Rite of Scottish Masonry; and the great success and prosperity which are attending our efforts to propagate the true Scottish Masonry, depends upon the character of those who sincerely believe that our cause is founded upon justice and truth, as well as on the proofs we can furnish of our legitimacy.

No branch of Scottish Rite Masonry can be in accord with Symbolic Masonry that takes advantage of every opportunity to make the latter subservient to the former; and such has been the course pursued in jurisdictions where Brethren, Companions and Fraters are persecuted for presuming to choose between truth and error. The day is not distant when the fact will be recognized, that of the bodies of Scottish Rite Masons in this country claiming to be legitimate the Cerneau is the most faithful to the principles of pure Masonry."

I also refer you to the following action of the Supreme Council of our Rite in June, 1888, copies of which were sent to yourself, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and the Committee of Past Grand Masters of your Grand Lodge on the Constituting of Bodies in your Masonic Jurisdiction known as the "Cerneau Rite:"

> "*Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General A.·. A.·. S.·. Rite, for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies.*
>
> GRAND ORIENT OF NEW YORK, June 9th, 1888.

We, the undersigned, constituting the entire membership of the Supreme Council of the A.·. A.·. S.·. Rite of Freemasonry as organized by Ill.·. Joseph Cerneau, in the City of New York, in the year 1807, do most solemnly declare that we have never claimed any authority over the first three degrees of Symbolic Masonry; that our Constitution and Obligations prohibit us from attempting any interference with those degrees; that we make it a peremptory qualification of candidates for the degrees of our Rite

that they be good men and true, and have been regularly initiated, passed and raised to the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, and are Master Masons in good and regular standing of a Lodge hailing from a jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge recognized as regular by the different Grand Lodges of the United States of America.

FERDINAND J. S. GORGAS, M.D., 33°, M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Gr.·. Com.

ALEXANDER B. MOTT, M.D., 33°, P.·. Lieut.·. Gr.·. Commander.

PHILIP F. D. HIBBS, 33°, Gr.·. O.·. and M.·. of State.

JAS. S. FRASER, 33°, Gr.·. Sec.·. Gen.·. H.·. E.·.

JOHN H. RUSSELL, 33°, Gr.·. Treas.·. Gen.·. H.·. E.·.

GEO. DAVIS, 33°, Grand Mar.·. General.

JAMES MCGRATH, 33°, Gr.·. Mas.·. Gen.·. of Ceremonies.

WM. MARSHALL, 33°, Grand Standard Bearer.

J. THOMPSON BROWN, 33°, Gr.·. Cap.·. of the Guard.

I also refer you to my Allocution, delivered June 25th, 1888, before our Sov.·. Grand Consistory at its annual meeting in New York City, and quote from it as follows:

"Our Rite has been most unjustly charged, by either the ignorant or the malicious, with claiming the power or right to confer the Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry.

"Now, every Master Mason who has received the Scottish Rite Degrees in Bodies of our obedience knows how absolutely false is such a charge.

"If it was true, your Sov.·. Grand Commander would not to-day occupy the position, nor would he be a member of a Body which thus attempted to undermine in this country the foundation of all Masonry. Do those who make such a charge through ignorance know that they are accusing worthy brother Masons of being false to their obligations, and that they are by so doing committing the same offense?

"An examination of the Constitution and Rituals of our Rite will convince the most sceptical that instead of interfering in any manner with Ancient Craft Masonry, or claiming any power to control or confer the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason's Degrees, we are, on the other hand, the most loyal of all the organizations claiming to be Scottish Rite Masons, to Symbolic Masonry and the various Grand Lodges governing the same."

I therefore declare (and challenge any one to prove the contrary):

1st.—That we as a Scottish Rite Body do not work and have no Rituals of the first three degrees of Ancient or Symbolic Masonry, and do not interfere in any manner whatever with the prerogatives and authority of Grand Lodges over such degrees.

2d.—That we uphold and cheerfully recognize the full authority of the recognized Grand Lodges of our country over all that pertains to Symbolic Masonry.

3d.—That we are loyal Master Masons to Symbolic or Ancient Freemasonry in every sense of the title.

4th.—That our Scottish Rite work is the same as that used by the organization known as the "Northern Jurisdiction;" for we claim that both the organizations called "Southern" and "Northern" Jurisdictions originally obtained the Scottish Rite work from our Rite.

5th.—That all candidates for the degrees of our Rite in Bodies of our Obedience must be Master Masons in good and regular standing in Lodges working under the Constitutional authority and government of the recognized Grand Lodges of our country.

6th.—That our membership is composed of the active, influential Master Masons of every jurisdiction in which Bodies of our Obedience are located, and comprise Grand Masters of Grand Lodges of Symbolic Masonry, Past Grand Masters of the same, Grand and Past Grand High Priests of Grand Royal Arch Chapters, and Grand and Past Grand Commanders of Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar.

I feel satisfied, R.·. W.·. Sir, that after you have read the convincing evidence I have placed before you, that you will materially change your views concerning our Rite; if you do not, I can only ascribe it to your connection with an organization known as the "Northern Jurisdiction," and which owes its recognition to one of the most bitter enemies of Symbolic Masonry, a man who has never surrendered his claim to authority over the first three degrees, but has only waived it, by his own confession, in deference to pressure from without, and from policy.

To prove to you, R.·. W.·. Sir, that your unjust charges against our Rite are wholly the result of the action of the organization known as the Southern Jurisdiction, I quote the following from the printed proceedings of that body: "Transactions of the Supreme Council of S.·. G.·. I.·. General of Thirty-third and Last Degree, A.·. A.·. S.·. Rite, for the Southern Jurisdiction of the U. S. of America, 1860." Address of the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander (page 14): "We should create *real* Master's Lodges, not as numerously as Grand Lodges have multiplied their Subordinate: not *one* where they have made *ten;* but in every place where they can be respectably and reputably maintained, and where there are brethren in sufficient number, of the requisite zeal, discretion and intelligence. For our Rite was never *intended* to be a *popular* Rite. It was never meant that our Temples should be invaded by a multitude, etc., etc." Alluding to the Constitutions of 1786, Mr. Pike says on page 49: "The assertions of our Ill.·. Bro.·., that 'these Constitutions disclaim all control over the first three degrees, wherever organizations of those degrees exist;' that the framers of these Constitutions 'prohibit their successors from meddling with the Symbolic degrees;' and that 'their action was to be confined to the Lodge of Perfection, and to the degrees above and including the Fourth or Secret Master' are strangely incorrect. It is true that Article XIII. provides that Sov.·. Grand Inspectors, Deputies of the Supreme Council, may delegate to Deputy Inspectors of at least the Thirtieth Degree, so much of their powers

as may enable them to establish, regulate and superintend Lodges and Councils in any of the Degrees, from the Fourth to the Twenty-ninth, inclusive. But this is a mere affirmative provision, that does not at all negative, or surrender the power of the Supreme Authority of the Rite over the first three degrees; a power asserted everywhere, in the Regulations of 1762, as well as of those of 1786. Thus the ordinance which precedes the latter declares *all* the degrees of *all* the Rites thereby united, 'from the *First* to the Eighteenth inclusive; to compose the first eighteen degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite; and that the Thirty-third Degree 'GOVERNS THEM ALL.'" "It is greatly to be regretted that one who now adds to his rank as a Thirty-third, the prestige of his present dignity of Grand Master of Masons of Louisiana, should so unfortunately and unnecessarily have set on foot opinions wholly erroneous in regard to the system of government and origin of powers in the Ancient and Accepted Rite." In the same "transactions," page 64, appears the following:

"FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 30th.

"The Supreme Council resumed labor in the Third or Master's Degree, according to the Ancient and Accepted Rite: the following officers occupying their respective stations."

In his Allocution, published in the Transactions of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction, 1874, Appendix A, page 19, Mr. Pike announces to the Supreme Council, that the Ritual of the Blue Degrees has been *printed*, in the following language: "Since your last session, the Ritual of the Blue Degrees (to be used for instruction only) has been printed, and the Morals and Dogma, and new edition of the Grand Constitution, Statutes, &c., published."

R.·. W.·. Sir, can you now doubt against what Rite your last edict should have been issued? You can examine Mr. Pike's *printed* Ritual of the Blue Degrees at any time you may desire to do so, as I can have this Ritual ready for your inspection at short notice.

In your edict of August 1st you also charge our Rite with being in correspondence with bodies that your Grand Lodge has declared clandestine, and at one time you modified this, I am informed, by stating that formerly our Rite was in correspondence with the "Grand Orient of France." I here deny most emphatically that as Master Masons we have any relations or correspondence with any body declared clandestine by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. When in Paris, France, during the month of April last, I refused to visit, when invited to do so, a Symbolic Lodge, working under the Constitutional authority of the "Grand Orient of France." I did this (which I can prove) in deference to the action of the Grand Lodges of my own and other States.

Your Grand Lodge, R.·. W.·. Sir, unanimously passed the following resolution June last:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge declines to enter upon any discussion of the history, use or legitimacy of any body claiming to confer what are known as the high degrees in Freemasonry, or to be committed to the

recognition of any such body as being Masonic, or as identified with, or a part of, Ancient Craft Masonry."

This certainly means that your Grand Body refuses to recognize as Masonic any of the organizations in this country claiming to be Scottish Rite Masons. How then could any relations entered into as a Scottish Rite organization with another of the same Rite, be construed as a Masonic offense against your Grand Lodge? I fail to recognize the crime, for under the decision of your Grand Lodge no Scottish Rite Body is Masonic; hence such a body has as much right as if it was one of Odd Fellowship to transact or enter into relations with another of the same Rite. Our relations with the "Grand College of Rites in France," are those of one Scottish Rite Body with another, and are wholly independent of Symbolic Masonry.

If "The Grand College of Rites in France" was to unite in fraternal relations with any non-Masonic organization in this country, do you imagine, R.·. W.·. Sir, that you would have the power, as Grand Master, to prohibit Master Masons who might be members of such a non-Masonic organization from continuing their membership in the same? The case of our Rite is exactly parallel, and we contend that you have nothing whatever, as a Grand Master, to do with the Scottish Rite Masons of our Obedience, so long as they act consistently in matters relating to Symbolic Masonry, as loyal Master Masons. As long as we remain consistent Master Masons, we perform our duty to our respective Grand Lodges, and cannot be disciplined for belonging to an organization which such Grand Lodges do not recognize as Masonic, and which does not interfere, as I have clearly shown you, R.·. W.·. Sir, with the powers and prerogatives of the Grand Lodge to which we owe allegiance as Master Masons.

The Committee of Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania begin their report as follows:

"At a Quarterly Communication, held June 6th, A. D. 1888, A. L. 5888, the Com.·. of Past Grand Masters appointed at the Quarterly Communication, held Dec. 7th, A. D. 1887, A. L. 5887, *on the statement of the Right Worshipful Grand Master as to the constituting of bodies commonly known as Cerneau Masons within this Masonic Jurisdiction, submitted the following report,*" and on Page 5 of the same report is the following: "But if it is correct, *as was stated by the R.·. W.·. Grand Master, that a body of men, Masons, seek to introduce, or have introduced into this Jurisdiction, an organization which claims the right to confer the Ancient Degrees of Freemasonry, etc., etc.* (The italics are ours.) From these statements of the Committee, R.·. W.·. Sir, it appears that this untruthful charge against our Rite comes from you alone. Now, I not only emphatically deny its correctness, but I challenge you to prove that our Rite claims or exercises any such authority, power or right. We are at all times ready to defend ourselves against such unfounded statements by presenting the most convincing evidence; and as

no man can be adjudged guilty until the charge against him has been proven, we ask you to verify your statement as to our interference with the degrees of ancient Freemasonry. Before any of our members in your jurisdiction can be condemned, your statement or charge must be proven, and this I contend you cannot do, simply for the reason that our Rite is innocent of the charges you make against it. You also threaten our members with the penalties of an act of your Grand Lodge of March 5th, 1886. That such act is in no manner connected with the present case, is shown by your Committee of Past Grand Masters making no reference to it whatever in their report. The action of your Grand Lodge concerning Knights Templar is given in full by your Committee, and also that in relation to the Charleston body in 1803; hence, your opinion that the 1886 act refers to our Rite is a mistaken one, as the said act or edict refers to an entirely different matter.

I also ask how, in the face of the resolution of your Grand Lodge just referred to, you can pass upon the legitimacy of our Rite, as your edict clearly shows you to do?

There was a time when our Rite was in a dormant condition, owing to the troubles existing in New York from the period of the existence of the two Grand Lodges in that State, which troubles were also carried into Scottish Rite Masonry. During this period the body known as the Southern Jurisdiction, obtained recognition in Europe, and was glad to be recognized by the "Grand Orient of France," as the following extract from the Allocution of Mr. Pike in the same Transactions (1860) will show, Page 29, which is as follows: "Our Correspondence with the Grand Orient of France has long existed and been uninterrupted by anything save negligence; but with the Supreme Council for France, we have had, at least since its revival in 1821, no correspondence. In 1834 it, with the Supreme Councils of Brazil and Belgium, made a treaty of Alliance, at Paris, with a body established in New York."

I also, R.·. W.·. Sir, desire to inform you that we have no bodies of our Rite in the State of Ohio; all bodies claiming to be Scottish Rite in that State being under the obedience of an organization which was formed by certain members of the Northern Jurisdiction, who at one time deserted the Cerneau Body, and after remaining for some sixteen years members of the Northern Jurisdiction deserted the latter body (for which they were expelled), and formed what is known at the present time as the Folger-Barker Body.

My object in addressing you, R.·. W.·. Sir, is to prove by the conclusive evidence I have presented, the unjustness of the charges made by you in your edict of August 1st, 1888, and to show you by such proofs as must convince all unprejudiced persons, that of all the bodies claiming to be Scottish

Rite, none is as loyal to Symbolic Masonry as the one over which I have the honor to preside.

In thus writing, I trust I have shown, as has been my intention, the respect due to your high office, and the honorableGrand Lodge of Pennsylvania, under whose obedience I was raised to the degree of Master Mason.

Fraternally, &c.,



Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas,



Sov.·. Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies.

APPENDIX B.

TO ALL FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND THE MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING:

At a meeting of the undersigned, members of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Pennsylvania, and representative delegates of all the Consistories in Pennsylvania of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, as organized by JOSEPH CERNEAU in 1807, and now presided over by F. J. S. GORGAS, of Baltimore, held at Philadelphia August 31, 1888, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Certain accusations have been made that we are not loyal to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, inasmuch as we have united ourselves with the body known as the A.·. A.·. Rite as organized by JOSEPH CERNEAU, 1807. Therefore be it

Resolved, First, That we as members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and also members of the A.·. A.·. Rite as organized by JOSEPH CERNEAU in 1807, do most heartily accept and approve of the report of the Committee of Past Grand Masters of Pennsylvania on this subject, as made to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at its Quarterly Communication held at Philadelphia, June 6, 1888, and hereto attached:

Resolved, Second, That the accusation that the body known as the A.·. A.·. Rite as organized by JOSEPH CERNEAU in New York on October 28th, 1807, "*not only claims, but has exercised, the power, or authority, or right, to confer the three degrees of Ancient Freemasonry, and recognizes as Masonic, and is in correspondence with bodies that this Grand Lodge has declared clandestine*, IS FALSE AND UNTRUE IN ITS ENTIRETY; and, to prove

this, we quote the following from page 431 of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York for the year 1808:

"A communication from an association styling itself a 'Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Sublime Degrees,' announcing to this Grand Lodge in very respectful terms its establishment in this city on October 28th, 1807, under patents regularly secured 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."

Resolved, Third, That we declare and challenge any one to prove the contrary—

1. That we as a Scottish Rite body do not work and have no Rituals of the first three degrees of Ancient or Symbolic Masonry, and do not interfere in any manner whatever with the prerogatives and authority of Grand Lodges over such degrees.

2. That we uphold and cheerfully recognize the full authority of the recognized Grand Lodges of our country over all that pertains to Symbolic Masonry.

3. That we are loyal Master Masons to Symbolic or Ancient Freemasonry in every sense of the title.

4. That our Scottish Rite work is the same as that used by the organization known as the "Northern Jurisdiction"; for we claim that both the organizations called "Southern" and "Northern" Jurisdictions originally obtained the Scottish Rite work from our Rite.

5. That all candidates for the degrees of our Rite in Bodies of our Obedience must be Master Masons in good and regular standing in Lodges working under the Constitutional authority and government of the recognized Grand Lodges of our country.

6. That our membership is composed of the active, influential Master Masons of every jurisdiction in which Bodies of our Obedience are located, and comprise Grand Masters of Grand Lodges of Symbolic Masonry, Past Grand Masters of the same, Grand and Past Grand High Priests of Grand Royal Arch Chapters, and Grand and Past Grand Commanders of Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar.

Resolved, Fourth, That we have never faltered in our fealty to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and that we do again assert our entire submission and obedience to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and all the landmarks of Ancient Craft Masonry as promulgated by the Grand Lodge of this jurisdiction, and that we do cheerfully acknowledge the authority and power of the Grand Master so far as the same relates to Ancient Craft Masonry. But we do most kindly, yet firmly, deny to any one the right to coerce us, or endeavor to interfere with us in our civil, religious or political privileges, so long as they do not conflict with Ancient Masonry.

Resolved, Fifth, That a proper interpretation of the report of the Past Grand Masters, referred to in resolution one, shows that the action of the

Grand Lodge of March 5, 1866, (Ahiman Rezon, page 234,) is only applicable to Ancient Craft Masonry, inasmuch as the report declares "That this Grand Lodge reiterates the language of its predecessors, which is, that Masonry consists of but three degrees, including the Royal Arch Degree, and this Grand Lodge claims no jurisdiction beyond the limits of Ancient Masonry"; and further, "That this Grand Lodge expressly declines to enter upon any discussion of the history, use, or legitimacy of any body, claiming to confer what is known as the high degrees in Freemasonry, or to be committed to the recognition of any such body as being Masonic or as identified with or a part of Ancient Craft Masonry."

Resolved, Sixth, That a copy of these Resolutions be sent to all Past Masters in this jurisdiction.

J. H. DUSENBURY, P. M. 338.
ASA B. STEVENS, P. M. 339.
W. S. SCHROEDER, P. M. 336.
CHAS. BOWMAN, P. M. 348.
PHILIP C. SHAFFER, P. M. 3.
FRANK J. RICHARDS, P. M. 106.
CHAS. V. RUNKEL, P. M. 106.
ABRAHAM SEIVARD, P. M. 227.
LEWIS F. SCHMIDT, P. M. 333.
Committee.

APPENDIX C.

WHO HAS WRONGED BROTHER MASTER MASONS?

To all Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania and the Masonic Jurisdiction thereto belonging:

Brothers:

Is Ancient Craft Masonry in danger?

Is the creature greater than the creator?

Can the Grand Master do no wrong?

Is it true that a Grand Master of Pennsylvania was given the Thirty-third Degree of the A.·. A.·. Rite by the Northern Jurisdiction of Scottish Masonry as a reward for defending their Rite; or that sixty thousand dollars or any part thereof has been used for the same purpose?

Must a Master Mason surrender his right as an American citizen in order to retain membership in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania?

The above questions are suggested to the careful consideration of the Craft, as the natural deductions to be drawn from the edicts and subsequent actions of the Grand Masters of Pennsylvania in disposing of the controversy between the Northern Jurisdiction and the Cerneau Rite of A.·. A.·. Scottish Rite Masonry in Pennsylvania as gathered from the following correspondence.

When about two years ago Consistories of the A.·. A.·. Rite, as established by Ill·. Joseph Cerneau in New York in 1807, were instituted in Pennsylvania, circulars were immediately circulated by the Northern Jurisdiction denouncing the Rite in the most emphatic manner and persecuting and berating Brother Masons who united with it. So notorious was the opposition made that it was openly boasted on the streets of our cities by the members of the Northern Jurisdiction that they had sixty thousand dollars to crush out Cerneau Masonry in Pennsylvania; that the Grand Master was given the Thirty-Third Degree to defend their Rite; that they held the trump cards and were going to play them. The matter was subsequently brought into the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and culminated in the edict of Grand Master MacCalla, of January 21, 1889.

In view of this edict and in consequence of loyalty to the Grand Lodge, the following petition was presented to the Grand Lodge at its quarterly

communication, held in March, 1889, which the Grand Master declined to entertain:

To the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Clifford P. MacCalla, the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

We, the undersigned, your petitioners, all of whom are Master Masons in good Masonic standing within the Masonic jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, would most respectfully petition and represent.

First—That whereas the Past Right Worshipful Grand Master Joseph Eichbaum, issued an edict dated August 1st, A. D. 1888, wherein he declared that "Having lawful Masonic information that the organization known as the Cerneau Rite, not only claims but has exercised the power, authority, or right to confer the three degrees of Ancient Masonry," and that the said organization was therefore a clandestine, body and that it was unmasonic for Master Masons to affiliate or unite with the said Rite.

Second—That whereas in pursuance of the said edict of Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Joseph Eichbaum, the present Right Worshipful Grand Master, Clifford P. MacCalla, did, on the 21st day of January, A. D. 1889, issue an edict wherein he declared that it "having been authoritatively ascertained and officially declared that the so-called Cerneau Rite was clandestine, and warned all Masons in his jurisdiction to sever their connections therewith within ninety days from the 26th day of January, 1889, under penalty of Masonic trial and punishment."

Third—That we were members of said Cerneau Rite, but that in pursuance of said edict, and in pursuance of our obligations as good, true, lawful, and obedient Masons, we have severed our connections with the said Cerneau Rite and are no longer associated therewith.

Fourth—That by reason of the said edict we stand condemned as having wilfully or carelessly united ourselves with an association whose teachings compelled us to violate our obligations as Master Masons, and most respectfully protesting that this odium has been unjustly cast upon us, that the body to which we belonged did not and does not now and never has claimed jurisdiction over the first three degrees of Ancient Masonry, or made any other claims inconsistent with the supremacy of this or any other Grand Lodge of Masons, nor did we, in joining said Rite, violate our obligations as Master Masons, nor commit any act of disloyalty to this Grand Lodge or any of its subordinate bodies.

Fifth—That still protesting our innocence of the charges made against us, and most respectfully asserting that the association and Rite to which we belonged does not and never did "claim nor exercise the power, authority, or right to confer the three degrees of Ancient Masonry," or any other authority inconsistent with the absolute supremacy of this Grand Lodge, and that this stigma which has been placed upon us may be removed and we set right before our Masonic Brethren throughout the world; we do therefore,

Sixth—Most respectfully and Fraternally petition and pray your Right Worshipful Grand Sir, and the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, that you investigate in such a manner as to you may seem right and proper, whether or not the Rite to which we belonged does claim or ever has claimed authority over the first three degrees of Masonry, and whether it has or does exercise such authority and power. We will ever pray, etc.,

(Signed) ASA B. STEVENS, P. M. LODGE 339.
F. J. AMSDEN, P. M. LODGE 291.
W. J. LEWIS, P. M. LODGE 261.
R. A. ZIMMERMAN,
CHARLES BOWMAN.

OFFICE OF THE R.·. W.·. THE GRAND MASTER OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA, &C.
MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, March 7, 1889.

ASA B. STEVENS, ESQ.:

My Dear Brother Stevens—I desire to personally thank you, and with you Bros. W. J. Lewis, F. J. Amsden, R. A. Zimmerman, and Charles Bowman for your manly, loyal, and truly Masonic conduct in severing your connection with the so-called Cerneau Rite. You all have proved yourselves to be "good men and true," and I shall never cease to remember it. The past is all forgiven and will be forgotten. Please convey to the above mentioned Brethren the assurance of my sincere Fraternal regard, and believe me always Truly and Fraternally yours,

CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA.

SCRANTON, PA., March 15, 1889.

CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA, ESQ., RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER:

Dear Sir and Brother:—Yours of recent date was duly received and the Fraternal sentiment therein contained was fully appreciated by myself and the Brethren therein referred to. In replying to your letter in the manner in which I shall, I trust you will accept it in the spirit of Fraternity and good will in which I write it. I intend no disrespect whatever, either to yourself or the high office you so honorably adorn; but I feel that a calm, considerate and respectful discussion of the subject is but just to myself and Brothers. It is not that the Cerneau Rite or the Rite to which we belonged, has been declared clandestine, that I desire to complain or take exception to, but it is to the cause for which it has been condemned, or rather the ground of condemnation, and for the further reason that even after we had withdrawn from it, you, in your wise discretion, decline to allow us an opportunity to prove to yourself that we were not guilty of the charge which was made against us. We have always acted in the most respectful manner to yourself and your Right Worshipful predecessor; we have cheerfully obeyed all the edicts and requirements emanating from yourself and your Right Worshipful predecessor, and after doing all of this,

I certainly think we should have been treated with a due consideration for our previous good Masonic conduct. As it is, we now stand before our Brethren, who know us, as condemned and convicted Masons, without even being allowed an opportunity to show that we were not guilty of the charges made against us. Certainly, R.·. W.·. G.·. M.·., it is humiliating to know and feel that after we have done all we could we were still refused the right to show our innocence. But you answer that the subject has already been passed upon; true, R.·. W.·. G.·. M.·., but remember that the entire findings of the fact of our guilt rests upon the Masonic information which was given to the R.·. W.·. P.·. G.·. M.·. Suppose that information was false, or suppose that it was given with a malicious intent? I do not deny nor intimate in the least degree that the P.·. G.·. M.·. received the information, which he claims to have received, and upon which he issued his edict of August 1st, 1888. But I do claim that this information was untrue and given with a malicious intent. Every Mason who ought to know whether or not the authority or power to confer the first three degrees in Masonry is claimed by the Cerneau Rite, from the Sovereign Grand Commander down to the lowest member, denies it upon their honor as men and Masons, and we who were members of it do most solemnly declare that no such claim is made. Is there not here an issue raised? On the one side the R.·. W.·. P.·. M.·. received information that such a claim was made by the Cerneau Rite, on the other the members of that Rite deny that such a claim was made. Now does not your own feeling of justice and right dictate to you, that we ought to have had an opportunity to show which side of the issue was right? I do not plead for Cerneauism, but for those inalienable rights, to wit: The right of petition, and the right of trial by our peers. These rights, I take it, belong to every American and surely to every Mason. When I knelt before that sacred altar to take my solemn obligation, I was assured there was nothing therein derogatory to my religion, my principles as a man or a law abiding citizen. And this I still hold to be true; and hence all Masons possess the right of petition, and an opportunity to face the witnesses against them and cross-examine the evidence upon which they are to be condemned. How could any harm have come from receiving the petition which I presented. If the position which you have taken is correct, and the information which the R.·. W.·. P.·. G.·. M.·. received was true, it could easily have been proven, and then we would have been satisfied.

I do not wish to condemn or say anything derogatory to any other Rite, but I think a fact right here concerning the Rite to which R.·. W.·. P.·. G.·. M.·. Eichbaum belongs is entirely pertinent. Prior to 1863 there were three well defined A.·. A.·. Rites, claiming jurisdiction over the higher degrees in Masonry in the United States, the Southern Jurisdiction, the Northern Jurisdiction, and the Cerneau Rite. The Southern Jurisdiction claimed that the Northern Jurisdiction was legitimate. In that year the Northern and Cerneau Rite united, and showed the supremacy of the Cerneau Rite by continuing all of the Cerneau officers as the officers of the united body, thereby admitting that the Cerneau Rite was more legitimate than their own. Not only did they continue the Cerneau officers, but adopted

the Cerneau constitution, and accepted the Cerneau ritual. Of this united body the Northern Jurisdiction claims to-day that it is the only true and lawful successor. If that be true, certainly the Northern Jurisdiction must be equally as clandestine as the Cerneau Rite, which claims that it is the true and lawful successor of the united bodies. But you say the Northern Jurisdiction has waived the right to confer the first degrees, so has the Cerneau; however, even if they have waived the right, the committee of the P.·. G.·. M.·. declare in their report that it makes no difference whether the right is now claimed or not, but whether they have ever claimed, and if so, they are clandestine. Again, the Southern Jurisdiction, which claims to be the mother of the Northern Jurisdiction, and all other legitimate A.·. A.·. Rites, in its printed proceedings of 1861, specifically claims the right to confer the first three degrees or Blue Degrees of Masonry, and their ritual contains the ritual for the first three degrees. I have both printed proceedings and the ritual referred to, and will gladly send them to you if you wish to see them. All these facts, R.·. W.·. G.·. M.·., I can prove, and set them forth here simply to show you that it is not to guard the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, but to crush out a rival body that we believe the information was given for. As I said before, we claim nothing for the Cerneau Rite, but I do claim that as Master Masons accused of violating our Masonic obligation, by uniting ourselves with a body that was inimical to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, under all these facts it was unjust, un-American, and unmasonic to refuse us the right and the opportunity to prove our innocence. I feel and know that it is due, and why could it not be had? I do not wish to boast, but you well know that of the men who joined the Cerneau Rite in this State, all were Masons against whom the breath of suspicion had never been raised, and were they not as Master Masons, not as Cerneau Masons, entitled to be heard before a fair and impartial Masonic jury before being condemned. I appeal to you, R.·. W.·. M.·., to put yourself in our place, and then say what you would do.

All this I submit in a most respectful manner, and ask you, as a Masonic Brother, to give me a candid and fair opinion.

Yours Fraternally, ASA B. STEVENS.

OFFICE OF THE R.·. W.·. THE GRAND MASTER OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA, &C.
MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, March 22, 1889.

ASA B. STEVENS, ESQ., Scranton, Pa.:

My Dear Sir and Brother:—I fraternally acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., and take pleasure in replying to its inquiries.

At the outset, I would say you do not need any vindication. You are neither convicted nor condemned, and your own action, as set forth in your recent petition, frees you from any blame. You have vindicated yourself by your loyal and Masonic action, and have set an example which I trust and believe will be generally followed by Brethren who have unwittingly con-

nected themselves with the officially ascertained and declared clandestine Cerneau Rite.

And just here I would disabuse your mind of the idea that my action as Grand Master was determined solely by the prior action of Grand Master Eichbaum. It was not. I thoroughly investigated the question myself, and found that various bodies of the so-called Cerneau Rite, without and against authority, have assumed to warrant Symbolic Lodges, which assumed to confer the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry. This has been repeatedly done, both in New York and Louisiana. In 1853 the Cerneau Council in New York chartered a Lodge called "John the Forerunner," and another called "La Sincerite." You may find a reference to this in Folger's History, page 253. Folger is, I believe, a Cerneau Mason, and hence anything he says to the discredit of Cerneanism may be accepted as true. One at least of these Lodges is still assuming to work the three degrees, "La Sincerite." See also the address of the Grand Master of New York on June 7, 1853. Transactions 1852-63, pages 65 and 66 and 107. See also action of Grand Lodge of New York on June 10, 1853. Transactions 1852-53, pages 237 and 238; and Transactions of 1853-54, page 18. See also Folger's History, page 244.

The original Cerneau Grand Consistory at New York, in 1813, established the Grand Consistory of Louisiana, on June 13, 1813. See Folger's History, edition of 1862, pages 167-8. This body assumed to constitute many Symbolic bodies, which conferred the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry. In 1851 the Cerneau Supreme Council of Louisiana re-affirmed its jurisdiction over said three degrees. See circular of Cerneau Supreme Council in "Historical Waifs," No. 16. Reprint Transactions Supreme Council, S. M. J., pages 21, 26, 55, 69, (Washington 1878.) On July 14, 1858, the said Cerneau Council of Louisiana again re-affirmed its authority over the three degrees. See Folger's History, pages 324-326, 241 and 337. I might give other authorities and references, but these are sufficient. The Cerneau Rite from the beginning was a rebellious, disloyal, and clandestine one, and no modern body claiming descent from it can be regarded in any different light from it. Masonically and lawfully the taint runs through them all.

I do not doubt, nor does anyone, that when you connected yourself with the Cerneau Rite you were ignorant of its real character, but I was familiar with it when I issued my edict of January 21st, 1889, and you will be familiar with it now. You have wisely severed your connection with it, an act which you will never regret.

As to the allegation that there are other bodies also clandestine, which have not been so pronounced, I would say that I have also carefully looked into that matter, and satisfied myself that it is not so. I am jealous of all the rights of the Grand Lodge, and will never knowingly see them trenched upon. As you are aware I am not a Scottish Rite Mason, and my only affection is for Ancient Craft Masonry, the authority of which I shall strive to maintain and uphold.

I have responded to you in the same Fraternal spirit in which you wrote me, and, I trust, to your satisfaction.

I may add that I have information that other Grand Lodges will shortly take action against the clandestine Cerneau Rite, and that its days are surely numbered.

Very truly and Fraternally yours,

CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA,
Grand Master.

SCRANTON, PA., April 26th, 1889.

CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA, R.·. W.·. G.·. MASTER:

Dear Sir and Brother:—I desire most Fraternally to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 22d, and shall take great pleasure in further continuing the discussion of the subject in the same Fraternal spirit.

Of course I will be compelled to take issue with you upon many of the points which you have raised in your letter, but I shall endeavor to do so in the same spirit of fairness which characterizes your letter. In one particular I think you have failed to answer my former letter, namely: the right of being heard in the Grand Lodge on this subject, by means of the petition which I presented, and I hope, before I shall have finished this letter, you will recognize the justice of my position. I have always held, and still claim, that there is an issue in this matter which should be decided on its merits. The past Grand Master accused certain Master Masons, among whom were the petitioners, of belonging to a certain clandestine body, claiming to be Masonic, and stated the reasons why it was clandestine. We, the petitioners, asserted that the body to which we belonged made no such claims as those charged by the Grand Master, and hence was not clandestine, for the reasons he claimed. That there is a controversy for supremacy among the various A.·. A.·. Rites cannot be denied. That this controversy is one of merit is also proven by the fact that good, true, loyal, intelligent, conscientious, and careful members of the Craft have divided upon the legitimacy of these various Rites and united themselves, some with one and some with the others.

Surely it cannot be denied that among the great army of intelligent and loyal Masons throughout the United States, who joined the Rite to which we belonged, cannot be said to have been ignorant of the real character of that Rite when they united with it, nor can it be claimed that they did so without having first considered what relation the said Rite held towards the various Grand Lodges touching the question of Symbolic Masonry. Some of the brightest and most loyal Master Masons that have ever lived in the United States were members of this Rite, and I do not believe that you will claim that all these good men and true Masons did not know what they were joining when they united themselves with the A.·.A.·. Rite which Joseph Cerneau established in 1807. I claim that this controversy is one of sufficient importance, so that when Masons of good standing in all the other bodies are about to be expelled because they have united with this particular

A.·. A.·. Rite, the fact of whether that Rite is clandestine or not, should be "officially ascertained" by the Grand Lodge from which they are to be expelled, and not by the Grand Master who is a member of one of the opposing bodies. I do not deny that the Grand Master was competent to investigate the subject, but I do assert that there are other members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania equally as competent as he to pass judgment upon this subject; and inasmuch as it is a question which affects the Masonic standing of so many of its members, it should have been decided by the Grand Lodge after a careful investigation and discussion of the subject, and not upon the opinion of one or two men. My object in presenting the petition was in every respect honorable and just. I hoped and trusted that thereby the subject would be investigated with a due regard to the rights of the Grand Lodge as well as of the accused, and that all its members would thereby have an opportunity to ascertain and know the true state of facts. No doubt you had the right to refuse that petition, but I claim it was unjust to do it. Certainly that method of disposing of the subject would convince any one that there was a disposition to extend that Masonic justice and equity to us, which is the soul of true Masonry. Before dismissing this part of my letter I wish to say (not in the spirit of boasting, but calmly and truthfully,) that in withdrawing from the Rite to which I belonged, I do not thereby concede that the said Rite was clandestine. I did not withdraw for any such reason, but because I was coerced into doing it. I claim and always have claimed to be a loyal Mason, and when you issued your edict commanding us to withdraw I did so in the spirit of loyalty to the Grand Lodge and its officers, and not because I was convinced that the Rite was clandestine; and until I am so convinced I shall always consider that power and not justice decided the question. If you will be so kind as to state in your reply just what the objection was to having this matter decided on its merits by the Grand Lodge, I shall be very much obliged.

In replying to that part of your letter wherein you attempted to justify the actions and conclusion of the R.·. W.·. P.·. Grand Master and yourself, that the Rite to which we belonged was clandestine because it claimed and exercised authority over Symbolic Masonry, I must say that I think you have not stated all the facts to be found in Folger's History:

First—Robt. B. Folger is not a Scottish Rite Mason of the Rite organized by Illustrious Brother Joseph Cerneau in 1807. Folger was a member of the Northern Jurisdiction for sixteen years, and in 1881 he, with others, founded a new Scottish Rite Council hostile to the Cerneau Council and has been repudiated by the Cerneau Council since 1865. You quote from this foe of Cerneau Masonry, and also with equal force from Albert Pike, but you fail to show all their testimony on this subject and use only what will answer your purpose in opposing the Cerneau Rite.

On page 100 of Supplement Folger's History, alluded to by you, and which was written in 1881, prior to the formation of his new body, Robt. B. Folger gives a list of the officers of the Cerneau Supreme Council existing

in 1881, at the head of which is the name of William H. Peckham, P. M., as Most P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, followed by the names of the other officers and members of the 32d degree composing the Sov.·. Gr.·, Consistory. After this list of names, on page 104, is the following from Folger: "This Council is the legitimate successor of the Cerneau Supreme Council, which was disbanded in 1863 upon the formation of the union, and as such possesses all the attributes, powers and authority which the Cerneau-Hayes Council possessed at that time."

Second—According to both Folger and Pike, the first thing Cerneau did on establishing his A.·.A.·. Scottish Rite and Council was to file a declaration with the Grand Lodge of New York, (the most of its officers being members of the Cerneau Council,) renouncing all powers over the first three degrees. See transactions of New York Grand Lodge of 1808.

Third—In 1814 De la Motta, a member of the Charleston, S. C., body, and the head of what afterward became the Northern jurisdiction, denounced Cerneau for renouncing all powers over the first three degrees, and declared that the A.·. A.·. Scottish Rite could not surrender this right and power—that this power over the first three degrees was inalienable. See Folger's History, page 159.

Fourth—In 1820 Cerneau warned the Grand Lodges of the world that a pretender, Joseph de Glock de Obernay, alias de Obernay de Glock, who claimed to be a 33d degree Mason, was conferring the first three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry contrary to all Masonic usage. See copy truly extracted from papers in Grand Secretary's office of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and signed as a true copy by Danl. Bradford, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and which is now in the library of Lexington Lodge of Kentucky; and also Folger's History, Doc. 22, page 199.

The Cerneau body has religiously lived up to this rule of renunciation to this day. And you, with the aid of the two foes of Cerneau, are able to cite but two exceptions in an existence of 82 years. Let us examine these exceptions:

1. The Louisiana matter. Previous to 1833 Masonry in Louisiana was in a chaotic state. All kinds of Jurisdictions prevailed, Scottish as well as Blue Lodges; even Pennsylvania invadod that State. See Folger's History, page 231.

In 1813 Cerneau established a Grand Consistory there, and *with the approval of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana*, established Lodges of the first three degrees until 1833, when these Lodges surrendered their charters and received new charters from the State Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of Louisiana granted a chamber in its bosom to the Scottish Rite Body, which it held until 1850. See Folger's History, pages 170 and 232. After 1833 the Scottish Rite Body worked only from the 4th degree.

In 1839 the Grand Consistory of Louisiana A.·. A.·. S.·. Rite ceased to be a Cerneau Body, and arrogated to itself, without any authority, supreme

power, and became an Independent Supreme Council, commonly known as the "Foulhouze Council." It was in this latter body that Albert Pike received his Scottish Rite degree.

In 1853 this Foulhouze Council passed into the hands of the Southern Jurisdiction and resumed control over the symbolic degrees. See Folger's History, page 234.

When Folger wrote his history the Southern Jurisdiction had twenty Blue Lodges in full operation in Louisiana. See page 273. During the entire time the three degrees of Symbolic Masonry were conferred by the Cerneau Rite, it was done with the sanction and approval of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and when the Grand Lodge revoked its sanction, the first three degrees of Symbolic Masonry were conferred by a body wholly independent of the Cerneau Body, and under the so-called Southern Jurisdiction. By such means this latter body procured the secret rituals of the Cerneau work which it (as well as the Northern Jurisdiction) is using at the present time. Pike, in one of his allocutions, accuses the Northern Jurisdiction as having stolen their rituals. You cite the action of this Louisiana Supreme Council in 1858, as the act of the Cerneau Council, though the former had been for twenty years wholly independent of the latter Council. See Folger's History, page 338, and former citations.

Fourth—The New York matter, 1853. From Folger's History, pages 253-254, it appears that the Louisiana Councils invaded New York, and, without the sanction of the Cerneau Council, chartered a Scottish Rite body under which, in 1853, two Lodges were chartered to work the first three degrees in Scottish Rite form. Evidently you are not familiar with the state of Masonry in New York previous to 1858. In 1837 prominent Masons complained of tyranny, oppression, and unmasonic edicts, seceded and organized "St. John's Grand Lodge." In 1849 there was a further secession and the "Phillips Grand Lodge" was organized for similar reasons. While there was a partial union of the St. John's and the New York Grand Lodges in 1851, there was a second secession in 1853. In 1858 the breach was healed, and all the discordant elements joined the Grand Lodge of New York. But during the period of strife, the three Grand Lodges were about equally supported by the Craft, and Fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of New York were severed by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, she, like other Grand Bodies, not knowing which Grand Lodge was to be deemed the regular one. It was during this time of uncertainty that the two Scottish Rite Lodges were formed in defiance of the declaration of Cerneau in 1808, and of every act of the Cerneau Council since that date. "La Sincerite," one of these two Lodges, in 1854 received a new charter from the Grand Lodge of New York, and has ever since been regarded as a regular Lodge. You allege that one of these Lodges (La Sincerite) is still working Scottish Rite degrees. It may astonish you (as I now assert) that there is not a Cerneau member in the Lodge called "La Sincerite," and that this Lodge is one of the regular chartered Lodges of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. The Lodge called "John the Fererunner," really had

no existence, and has not since been heard of. Hence such a statement as that made by you in charging the Cerneau Rite with the acts of these two Lodges, is both incorrect and absurd. The chartering of one of these Lodges by the Grand Lodge of New York, the only one that ever really existed, is an evidence of the mistake made by you, and the kind of investigation you have made. The Grand Lodge of New York forgave the error of forming rival bodies, and adopted and took into its fold the only Lodge that existed of the rival bodies, and this Lodge, La Sincerite, is a regular blue Lodge to-day.

It does not therefore become you to hold up such examples as evidence against the Cerneau Brethren, more especially when the Grand Lodge of New York even went so far in the cause of Masonic peace and harmony as to restore the Brethren expelled by it on account of such secessions. I have thus shown (I trust to your satisfaction) that the history of the only two incidents cited by you (those of Louisiana and New York) clearly shows the Cerneau body to be in no wise responsible for any interference with any of the prerogatives of Grand Lodges of Symbolic Masonry.

On the other hand we know that the De la Motta, the originator of the Gorgas body, afterwards the Northern Jurisdiction, claimed authority and power over the first three degrees and openly proclaimed it; that the Charleston body (now Southern Jurisdiction) was denounced by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina for claiming control of the Symbolic degrees; that Albert Pike has printed a ritual of the first three degrees, announced its publication in his Supreme Council, and has opened his Scottish Rite body in the Master Mason's degree; that Pike has established Scottish Rite bodies which work the first three degrees, and has in his allocutions, claimed authority over all Masonry, and to-day, through policy only, has *waived*, not surrendered, the right to confer and control the Symbolic degrees. McClenachan, of New York, the oracle of the Northern Jurisdiction, and their Grand Master of Ceremonies, published the following in his Scottish Rite works of 1882 and 1885: "The degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite commence with the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, yet in the United States the authority over them is waived." * * * "It is advisable to confer the first three degrees of the A.·. and A.·. Rite on candidates before their advancement." Thus you find that by their own admission, both the Southern and Northern Jurisdictions claim:

1. That their constitutions give them the *unquestionable* right to confer the first three degrees of Symbolic Masonry, and that this right is inalienable.

2. They print the ritual of the first three degrees and advertise them for sale.

3. They confer these three degrees within their own bodies.

4. They create Lodges and make Masons outside of the United States; in Mexico, for example.

5. That for the present they waive the right to create Blue Lodges in the United States, always, however, insisting on their absolute unquestionable right to do these things—always saying that they only waive the right.

Can there be any question that they now intend, and always have intended, to work the first three degrees when they are powerful enough so to do it without peril? By the constitution of the Cerneau Body, adopted years ago, all right or power over these three degrees of Symbolic Masonry was renounced.

By one fundamental law no man but a Master Mason in good and regular standing can become a candidate in the Cerneau Body. This constitution can never be set aside without a two-thirds vote of its Sovereign Consistory. Is it not, therefore, inconsistent and unjust (no matter what were the acts of individuals thirty-five years ago) to punish men who have joined the Cerneau Body under such a constitution?

Now, R.·. W.·. Sir, I trust I have shown to you that you are mistaken in believing that we have not given any thought to the subject before we united ourselves to the Rite. I have been a Mason for thirty-two years, and a member of the Grand Lodge twenty-seven years, and for the last seventeen years have given more study to the subject of Scottish Rite Masonry than any other branch of it.

Seventeen years ago I made application to the Northern Jurisdiction, paid my fees, and was elected a member of that body, and after an investigation of its legitimacy and its relation to Symbolic Masonry, declined to receive the degrees because I thought it was not loyal to the Grand Lodge, and I still think so, and know that the body you have condemned is innocent of the charges which you have made against it. I should be pleased to receive an answer to this, and if it is necessary to further show that you have done wrong in sustaining the Past Grand Master in this matter, I shall be happy to do so.

Yours Fraternally, ASA B. STEVENS.

OFFICE OF THE R.·. W.·. THE GRAND MASTER OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA, &C.
MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA, May 1, 1889.

ASA B. STEVENS, ESQ.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I fraternally acknowledge the receipt of your communication of April 26th ult., in reply to mine of March 21st ult., and I have carefully and duly considered all of its statements, and I beg to say I see no reason whatever to alter my judgment concerning the clandestine character of the so-called Cerneau Rite, or to in the least regret my official action in the premises. The matter has been authoritatively adjudicated by both the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge, and will not be reopened. All of the matters having been courteously gone over between us, correspondence concerning it will now close. On any other subject I shall be glad to hear from you.

Very fraternally yours, CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA,
Grand Master.

It is from the action of the Grand Master in declining to receive the petition and his subsequent refusal to reopen the subject and allow us to be heard on the merits of the case in the Grand Lodge, that I appeal to the members of the Craft. The Grand Master takes the position that the subject has been authoritatively adjudicated by both the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge. Upon this I take issue with the Grand Master. The Grand Lodge has not passed upon the subject. The only action ever taken upon the matter by the Grand Lodge was to adopt a report of one committee, a *majority* report of *another* committee which decided nothing, and claimed to decide or adjudicate nothing except to state what was the position of the Grand Lodge, touching the supremacy over Symbolic Masonry. This is the very question at issue, and I claim that it is an inherent Masonic right, to wit: the right of petition; and for the Grand Master to refuse to any member the right of petition is to throttle the principle of Free Masonry. The assertion of the Grand Master: "That the Cerneau Rite from the beginning was rebellious, disloyal and clandestine," is not borne out by the facts, nor can it be sustained by argument. In this assertion the Grand Master attacks the honor and loyalty of such men as DeWitt Clinton, John Mulligan, Marquis de Lafayette, whose pictures adorn the walls of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Elias Hicks and Henry C. Atwood, and a host of the brightest, best and most loyal Masons this country has ever produced, men who were members of the Cerneau Rite, and knew what it was, and were proud of it. They honored it—at the same time stood foremost in honoring and upholding Symbolic Masonry in all its rights and forms, and did more to prevent the Southern Jurisdiction of the A.·. A.·. Rite from overriding it than any other men in America.

In the most Fraternal sense, I have presented these things to the Craft from an unconquerable sense of duty, and not with any partial desire to sustain an A.·. A.·. Rite. My love and devotion to Ancient Craft Masonry is first and paramount to all other societies. But when my honor as a man is attacked and my rights as an American citizen are denied, I have no remedy but to appeal to my Brother Masons, knowing and believing that they will sustain me in my action, and in their judgment will do no injustice to the Grand Master and no more than justice to myself. For in Masonry all men are equal—they should meet upon the level, and part upon the square.

Fraternally, ASA B. STEVENS.

SCRANTON, PA., May 10, 1889.

On motion of V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, the Allocution of the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Gr. Commander was referred to the Committee on Allocution, with directions to sub-divide the same and make proper reference of the several parts.

The Sovereign Grand Commander announced that he was in receipt of a letter from V.·. Ill.·. Alexander B. Mott, M. D., 33°, P.·. Lieut.·. Gr.·. Commander, in which he expressed his regrets at his inability, on account of ill health, to be present at this annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, 33°, Grand Orator and Minister of State, then submitted the following report:

Report of Grand Orator and Minister of State.

Brooklyn, June 22, 1889.

Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, Officers and Members of the Sovereign Grand Consistory of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, of the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies.

Ill.·. Peers and Brethren:

On Dec. 17th, 1888, in response to a question placed in my hands by the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Gr.·. Commander, I rendered the following Official Opinion:

"A member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, cannot be deprived of his membership in said Rite by any action whatever of a Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council or Grand Commandery, or of bodies subordinate thereto; if such action is alone based upon the fact of his retaining his membership in said Scottish Rite, or in consequence of his performance of any duty devolving upon him by virtue of said membership, and being in all other respects a consistent Master Mason, Royal Arch Mason, Cryptic Mason or Knight Templar."

On February 22nd, 1889, I attended the Annual Rendezvous of the Grand Consistory of the State of New York, and by virtue of a Commission from the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Gr.·. Commander, and with the assistance of V.· Ill.·. James S. Fraser, 33°, Gr.·. Sec.·. General H.·. E.·., and V.·. Ill.·. John H. Russell, 33°, Gr.·. Treas.·. General H.·. E.·., conferred the Grade of Sov.·. Gr.·. Insp.·. General, 33°, upon Ill.·. Joseph W. Brown, 32°, of Binghamton, N. Y.

On Tuesday, June 14th, 1889, acting as proxy of the M. . P.·. Sov.·. Gr.·. Commander, and with the assistance of V.·. Ill.·. John H. Russell, 33°, Gr.·. Treas.·. General H.·. E.·., I healed Ill.·. Hugh James Linn, M. D., formerly a member of Philadelphia Consistory, under the obedience of the so-called Northern Jurisdiction. Bro. Linn is a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 115, of Philadelphia, and formerly a member of Temple Chapter,

No. 248, and St. Albin Commandery, No. 47, K.·. T.·., of the same city. I advanced the Brother to the Grade of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, 32°, and he is now a member in good standing of Cerneau Consistory, No. 1, of the City of New York.

It has been my privilege during the past year to visit Cerneau Consistory, No. 1; Binghamton Consistory, No. 23; Brooklyn Consistory, No. 24; Newark Consistory, No. 48, and Jersey City Consistory, No. 51; in each of which Bodies I have witnessed the exemplification of the various Degrees of our Rite in a manner highly creditable to those engaged in the work.

In each of these Bodies I have always been cordially received and heartily welcomed as a representative of the Supreme Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip F. D. Hibbs 33°

Grand Orator and Minister of State.

On motion of V.·. Ill.·. James S. Fraser, the report of the Grand Orator and Minister of State was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer Generals H.·. E.·. were then read, and on motion of Ill.·. J. J. Bright ordered to be spread in full upon the minutes.

The reports of the active Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, the majority of which indicated continued increase of enthusiasm and interest in the Rite, as well as remarkable success of the various efforts put forth during the past year in the several jurisdictions, were read, and on motion ordered to be spread in full upon the minutes.

The committee appointed to examine the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer Generals H.·. E.·. then submitted the following report:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS.

JUNE 15, 1889.

To the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, Officers and Members of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory.

PEERS AND BRETHREN:

The undersigned committee, appointed to examine the books, accounts, etc., of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer Generals, respectfully

report that they have made a careful and exhaustive examination of the same and find them correct in every particular.

The financial transactions during the past year we find to be as follows:

Balance in hands of Treasurer, June 23, 1888.....	$624 37
Receipts from June 24, 1888, to May 25, 1889.....	6,942 42
	$7,566 79
Disbursements during the year, as per vouchers.....	$5,972 41
Cash in hands of Grand Treasurer General H.·. E.·., May 25, 1889.....	1,594 38
	$7,566 79

We would also report that we have carefully compared the duplicate copies of the minutes of the annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory of 1888, and of the several meetings of the Supreme Council, from June 25th, 1888, to date, with the originals, and find the same to be true copies thereof, and that we have made certification to these facts on both originals and copies.

Respectfully submitted,

J. HARRIS BALSTON, 33°,
GEO. C. GILL, 33°,
JUDAH MOSES, 33°,
Committee.

On motion of Ill.·. C. C. Isaacs, the report of the committee was received and ordered to be spread in full upon the minutes.

On motion of V.·. Ill.·. James McGrath, the Sov.·. Grand Consistory called off until 9 o'clock A. M., June 25th, 1889.

LOUISVILLE, TUESDAY, June 25, 1889.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory resumed labor at 9 o'clock A. M., on the twenty-sixth day of the Hebrew month Sivan, 5649 A.·. M.·., corresponding to the twenty-fifth day of June, 1889 V.·. E.·.

Present—Officers and members as before.

The Committee on "Bulletin," appointed at the last Annual Rendezvous, submitted the following report, which was on motion ordered to be spread in full upon the minutes:

To the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, Officers and Members of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory.

PEERS AND BRETHREN:

The undersigned committee appointed for the purpose of taking charge of and publishing an "Occasional Bulletin," respectfully report the following as their doings:

First—They caused to be gathered together and written, articles comprising Bulletin No. I., which was published shortly after their appointment.

Second—That as the guns of the so-called Northern and Southern Jurisdictions seemed thereby to have been silenced, they turned their attention to the Gorman Body, and issued Supplements I., II. and III., all articles therein being original.

That material for Supplement No. IV. was prepared and approved, and it should have been issued last Fall, as a complete answer to the annual address of Judge Gorman. His followers, who had been posted by Supplements I., II. and III., were then in an inquiring state of mind, many of them ready for revolt, and had Supplement IV. been promptly issued it would in our judgment have been unnecessary to print more. But various reasons and causes over which your Committee had no control prevented its publication. Of course Bro. Gorman and his followers have taken new courage, and are flattering themselves that his delusive address, which was sent to our people as well as his own, is unanswerable. This is unfortunate indeed, and, though very late, your Committee believe that it is highly important that Supplement No. IV. should be at once published and their minds relieved from this delusion.

Bulletin No. II. was also substantially ready for the printer, but there is no particular urgency requiring its being issued just now. The only article for which there was a special reason for publication at an early day has been published by the FREEMASON'S JOURNAL of the City of New York, as also have some articles upon the late edicts of the Grand Master of Pennsylvania and other States.

Third. Your Committee, in the discharge of their duties, have caused over fifty articles of considerable length to be written and published, each of which had the approval of the M.·. P.·. S.·. Grand Commander.

For many reasons publications in a Masonic newspaper are more effective and of greater weight than if printed in pamphlet form, but when it is intended that several articles of a series, covering more space than could be secured in an ordinary newspaper, or where the subject is to be brought to the attention of a large number who are not subscribers, the "Bulletin" is the cheapest and best mode.

For this reason we have used both as far as we have been able. The FREEMASON'S JOURNAL, a bright, clean, inviting Masonic paper, containing general Masonic news, is owned by a Thirty-second Degree member of our Rite.

Its columns, both for editorials and communications, have been as open for our use as if we owned the paper, notwithstanding portions of our foes have for this reason stopped their subscriptions. And it has already come to be regarded among the Craft as a clean Cerneau paper, whose columns are open, however, for decent arguments on either side.

Fifth. Your Committee are almost daily in receipt of letters from different members of our Rite, from different Consistories who are ignorant of the history, claims and pretensions of the bogus Scottish Rite bodies and also not fully posted as to the rights, powers or legal status of our own.

That our own people, as well as Master Masons generally, may be thoroughly posted and warned of the danger threatening the Craft generally from the illegal and partisan acts of those opposed to our Rite, we would recommend that the Bulletin Committee or some other committee use as far as possible the columns of the JOURNAL, and that our own people may be given to understand that the articles appearing therein are entitled to credit. That those seeking for information subscribe for that paper.

That Consistories should, as far as is possible, cause extracts from the JOURNAL to be printed in their local papers and furnish such news as would be interesting for publication in the JOURNAL. To pay for this use, each Consistory should advertise its card or list of officers in, and see that its members subscribe, thus increasing its circulation among those where it will do the most good.

Your Committee also respectfully urge, as strongly as is proper, that the necessary steps be taken whereby at an early day there may be procured all necessary books and documents required to give a clear understanding of the history and claims of each Scottish Rite claimant in the United States.

That due notice of our action in this matter be given, and donations of all interesting Masonic matters are solicited.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ANDREW J. PROVOST, 33°,

Dated June 10, 1889. *Chairman of Committee.*

The Committee to whom was referred the Allocution of the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander then submitted the following report:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ALLOCUTION.

LOUISVILLE, KY., June 25th, 1889.

To the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

PEERS AND BRETHREN:—The Committee to whom was referred the Allocution of the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, respectfully report as follows:

We recommend that so much of his address as relates to death of Ill.·. Peers be referred to the Committee on Deceased Brethren.

That so much as relates to financial matters be referred to the Committee on accounts.

That so much as relates to law and decisions be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

That so much as relates to controversy and standing of our Rite in the State of Pennsylvania be referred to a special Committee of five.

That so much as relates to the use of Books of History of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite be referred to a special committee, to take under consideration the procuring of all books that may be of use to our Grand Body.

We have had but a limited time in which to give the Allocution the careful consideration it deserves. We desire, however, to express our hearty and unqualified approval of the admirable address our Sovereign Grand Commander has made. We find in it not only a plain and complete record of his official acts, faithful and efficient labors during the past year, but it shows a firm and manly courage to defend our beloved Rite with truth, honor and justice. We respectfully recommend that five thousand copies of the Allocution be printed for distribution.

Respectfully submitted,

J. HARRIS BALSTON, 33°,
A. G. HASTINGS, 33°,
JAMES L. WATSON, 33°,
Committee on Allocution.

On motion of Ill.·. John Edelstein the report of the Committee was received and recommendations adopted.

The Judiciary Committee presented the following report, which on motion of V.·. Ill.·. John H. Russell was approved and confirmed and the report of the Grand Orator and Minister of State ordered to be spread in full upon the minutes.

REPORT OF JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

LOUISVILLE, KY., June 25th, 1889.

To the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

PEERS AND BRETHREN:—The Judiciary Committee would respectfully report that they have carefully examined the official opinion as rendered by the Grand Orator and Minister of State, in his annual report, and find the same to be correct.

Fraternally submitted,

ILL.·. ANDREW J. PROVOST, 33°,
ILL.·. C. C. ISAACS, 33°,
ILL.·. WM. E. HILL, 33°,
Judiciary Committee.

The Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. announced that he was in receipt of the official papers relative to the charges for un-Masonic conduct which had been preferred against V.·. Ill.·. Major W. Bayliss, 33°, by Ill.·. E. H. Bartley, M. D., 33°. That the Commission, appointed by the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, reported that the Brother had been duly summoned, placed upon trial, and after a fair and impartial hearing, they had found him guilty of all the charges and specifications, and declared him expelled from all the rights and privileges of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.

Ill.·. John S. Hopkins raised the point that the proceedings relative to the trial of Bro. Bayliss had not been in accordance with the Constitution and General Regulations, inasmuch that the charges had not been preferred at an Annual or Special Rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

After some considerable discussion Ill.·. J. A. McGuffin requested, through the Sov.·. Grand Commander, the official opinion of the Grand Orator and Minister of State.

The Grand Orator and Minister of State, V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, then delivered the following as his official opinion on the matter under discussion:

Official Opinion of Grand Orator and Minister of State.

Louisville, Ky., June 25th, 1889.

To the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, Officers and Members of the Sovereign Grand Consistory for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies.

Illustrious Peers:

Charges for alleged un-Masonic conduct against V.·. Ill.·. Major W. Bayliss, 33°, Commander-in-Chief of Washington Consistory, No. 7, of Washington, D. C., were preferred to the Supreme Council, at a time when the Sov.·. Grand Consistory was not in annual or special rendezvous assembled. The M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander received the charges, appointed a commission and placed the Brother on trial. V.·. Ill.·. Bro. Bayliss, 33°, having been duly notified by the commission, protested against the action and denied the authority of said commission, claiming that the charges should have been preferred to the Sovereign Grand Consistory while in annual or special session.

The M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander now demands my Official Opinion as to the legality of the proceedings as above referred to.

Responding thereto I desire to respectfully call your attention to the following articles of the Constitution and General Regulations as having direct or indirect application to the subject under discussion, viz.:

Articles II. and III., of Title 1 (page 6); Articles I., II., III., XI. and XII., of Title 2 (pages 7, 8 and 11); Articles I., II. and VI., of Title 3 (pages 12 and 13), and Articles I., II., III. and IV., of Title 11 (pages 55 and 56). The foundation of this controversy lies in the preferment of the charges. Article XII., of Title 2 (page 11), reads as follows:

ARTICLE XII.

"A Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, can be tried only by his peers, and all charges against him for un-Masonic conduct must be preferred to the Sovereign Grand Consistory."

There can be no question then that charges for un-Masonic conduct against a Sov.·. Grand Ins.·. General, 33°, must be preferred to the Sov.·. Grand Consistory. The law does not, however, specify any particular time or session at which such charges are to be preferred. Now the first question arises, what is the Sov.·. Grand Consistory, of whom does it consist?

Article II., of Title 1 (page 6), clearly defines this.

ARTICLE II.

"The Sovereign Grand Consistory is composed of its Officers, members Emeriti, and representatives from each Grand and Subordinate Consistory under its jurisdiction, each of whom is entitled to vote therein; also of its honorary members who have no vote, but are entitled to privileges, as hereinafter provided."

Thus it appears that one of the component parts of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory consists of the Officers thereof, and by Article III., of Title 1 (page 6); Article II. and the first clause of Article III., of Title 2 (page 8), and Articles I. and II., of Title 3 (page 12), (which read as follows:

ARTICLE III.

"The Supreme Council is composed of the nine elective officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE II.

The officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory shall be styled and take rank as follows:

1. The Most Illustrious Pnissant Sovereign Grand Commander
2. The Very Illustrious Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander.
3. The Very Illustrious Grand Orator and Minister of State.
4. The Very Illustrious Grand Chancellor, Grand Secretary General of the Holy Empire, and Keeper of the Seals and Archives.
5. The Very Illustrious Grand Treasurer General of the Holy Empire.
6. The Very Illustrious Grand Marshal General.
7. The Very Illustrious Grand Master General of Ceremonies.
8. The Very Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer.
9. The Very Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard.
10. The Illustrious Grand Seneschal.
11. The Illustrious Grand Sentinel.

ARTICLE III.

The first nine officers shall be elected by ballot for a term of three years, as follows:

ARTICLE I.

The powers of the Supreme Council are executive and judicial.

ARTICLE II.

All the executive powers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, when not in session, are reposed in the Supreme Council.")

It also appears that the nine elective officers of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory constitute what is known as the Supreme Council and are, when the Sov.·. Grand Consistory is not in session, clothed with all its executive powers.

Therefore, from the reading of the laws quoted, it conclusively follows that the so-called Supreme Council is a part of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory, and when that body is not in annual or special session, said Supreme Council is always the executive part of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory.

The powers of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory are very clearly defined in Article I. of Title 2 (page 7), which reads as follows:-

ARTICLE I.

"The powers of the Sovereig nGrand Consistory are: executive, legislative, and judicial. The exercise of these powers is defined in the Constitution and General Regulations, which it has the right to frame and adopt at its own convenience, and to alter, amend, add to or repeal, at its pleasure, under the limitations therein imposed; and are final and conclusive upon all parties concerned, until altered or reversed by the Sovereign Grand Consistory."

The question now arises, under what department of the government does the reception of charges and their reference to a commission, as provided for in Article I. of Title 2 (page 55), belong? The Article referred to reads as follows:

ARTICLE I.

"In all matters of controversy which may arise between Grand Consistories, Subordinate Consistories, or individual members of Grand or Subordinate Consistories, and charges having been preferred either to the Sovereign Grand Consistory or to a Grand Consistory, the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander in the former case, and the Grand Commander-in-Chief, in the latter case, shall appoint a commission of not more than five or less than three disinterested Brethren, hailing from at least three different Consistories, to hear and determine the same."

What would be the difference, in effect, except as to delay, if the charges be preferred to the Sov.·. Grand Consistory, in annual or special rendezvous assembled, or to its Supreme Council? At this stage of the proceedings, neither the Sov.·. Grand Consistory nor the Supreme Council have any voice in the matter, except to listen to the reading of the charges, the power of either is negative, simply the clerical act of receiving the charges. The whole responsibility rests upon the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander.

Notice, if you please, the article just referred to, it reads: "The M.·.

P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander *shall* appoint a commission." There is not the least qualification in this, the law is mandatory. "*He shall.*" Therefore, the only power thus far exercised is an executive power, and there can be no doubt as to whom such powers are delegated when the Sov.·. Grand Consistory is not assembled in annual or special rendezvous.

A Sovereign Grand Inspector General having committed a Masonic offence, where are we to go in order to punish the offender and remove the disgrace from the Order? Some of our Peers would have you believe that though the offence be committed in the month of July you would be compelled to allow this offender to continue his Masonic offences until the following June before you could bring him to trial. I do not believe the Constitution means anything of the kind. It is so arranged that the executive power of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory is always in session. The Supreme Council has four stated meetings during the year, and in case of emergency the Sov.·. Grand Commander can call a special meeting of this executive branch of the government with but a few hours' notice. The Sov.·. Grand Consistory not being in annual or special session in its legislative capacity, a Brother having charges to prefer against a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General, and deeming it not wise or prudent to wait until the annual rendezvous, must prefer them to the only part of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory which is in session, that is the Supreme Council, or if the Supreme Council be not in session he prefers them to the Sov.·. Grand Commander who, if he deems them of sufficient importance, would immediately call a special meeting of the Supreme Council and place the accused upon trial in accordance with the law. It has been asserted by some members of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory, that Article XI., of Title 2 (page 11), conflicts with other parts of the Constitution and General Regulations in its reference to the matter under discussion. The Article reads as follows:

ARTICLE XI.

"The Sovereign Grand Consistory has original jurisdiction over all controversies which may arise between Grand Consistories, or individual members of different Grand Consistories, and Subordinate Consistories not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, or individual members of different subordinate Consistories not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory; it also has original jurisdiction over all controversies between Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third Degree; also unaffiliated Scottish Rite Masons residing in States or Territories where there are no Grand Consistories. The appellate judicial powers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory embrace all matters of controversy and discipline, over which it has or has not original jurisdiction. In all cases of controversy or discipline, the party aggrieved at the decision of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, is entitled to a final appeal to the Supreme Council."

The point at issue in this Article will be decided by the correct meaning of the words "Original Jurisdiction." Webster defines the meaning of the word "Original" as "preceding all others, first in order." And in regard to the word "jurisdiction," he says: "Jurisdiction, in its most general sense, is the power to make, declare, or apply the law; when confined to

the Judiciary Department it is what we denominate the judicial power, the right of administering justice, through the laws, by the means which the laws have provided for that purpose." Therefore, I understand the meaning of that portion of the Article referred to, as applied to the question before us, to be, that a Sov.·. Grand Inspector General having committed a Masonic offense, notwithstanding the fact that he is necessarily a member of a Grand or Subordinate Consistory, or both, and amenable to the laws thereof, being a member of a higher body, to which the others are subordinate, the higher body, the Sov.·. Grand Consistory, has precedence, and must, without interference of the Subordinate, exert its executive and judicial powers, and *through the laws, by the means which the laws of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory have provided for that purpose*, administer justice.

The commission, having been appointed, proceeds under the operations of the laws, (as defined in Articles II.-III.-IV. of Title 11 (page 56), which read as follows):

ARTICLE II.

"After service of the charges against the accused, the commission shall appoint a time and place convenient to the parties and summon them and such witnesses as either party may request.

ARTICLE III.

When the trial has been concluded, the commissioners shall, as soon as possible, make their report of the facts found by them, and their determination upon the matter, and give notice thereof to each of the parties concerned; they shall also file a report, together with all the papers, etc., connected with the case with the Grand Secretary General; or, if the trial be under the authority of a Grand Consistory, the report, papers, etc., must be filed with the Grand Secretary of such Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE IV.

A majority of the Commissioners having concurred in the judgment of the Commission, their decision shall be final, unless an appeal shall be taken therefrom within six months after the decision has been rendered.

The appellant within thirty days after receiving officially the decision of said Commission, shall give to the opposing party notice of his intention to appeal from such decision."

to hear and determine the charges. The trial being concluded, and a majority of the Commissioners having concurred in a decision, said decision, in accordance with Article IV. of Title 11, just read, is final, unless the accuser or accused, being aggrieved thereat, appeals therefrom to the Sov.·. Grand Consistory. Then begins the exercise of the appellate judicial powers of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory. Previously all powers exercised in the premises were merely "executive," and were actually exercised by the Sov.·. Grand Commander as the Supreme Chief of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory; but now the appellate judicial power of the whole Sov.·. Grand Consistory in annual or special rendezvous duly assembled must decide upon the appeal. The Supreme Council, in its special capacity as such, has no power at this stage of the proceedings, because, as the law is now constructed, the

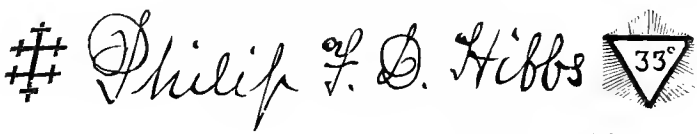
accused or the accuser, being aggrieved at the decision which the Sov.·. Grand Consistory may have arrived at on the appeal, has the privilege of making a still further appeal to the Supreme Council sitting as a Court of Appeal.

Having therefore carefully considered all of the intentions of the law as defined in the Articles of the Constitution and General Regulations hereinbefore quoted, I am constrained to deduct the following conclusions:

Charges for un-Masonic conduct were preferred to the Sov.·. Grand Consistory against one of the members thereof, through its executive department, the Supreme Council, at the time in session. Said charges were duly received, and the Sov.·. Grand Commander forthwith appointed a Commission consisting of three Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Thirty-third Degree, members of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory, hailing from three different subordinate Consistories and Peers of the accused. The Commission, as I am advised, duly notified the accused, met and proceeded with the trial in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and General Regulations.

Hence, therefore, I am of the opinion that the objections offered by the accused, in the case now before us, are captious and without merit, and that all proceedings so far as they relate to the preferring of the charges, appointment of the commission, and notification to the accused, were strictly in accordance with our laws.

All of which is Fraternally submitted,



Grand Orator and Minister of State.

On motion of Ill.·. J. J. Bright, the official opinion of the Grand Orator and Minister of State was approved, confirmed, and ordered to be spread in full upon the minutes.

On motion of Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost, the report of the Commission appointed to hear and determine the charges against V.·. Ill.·. M. W. Bayliss, was received, ordered to be spread in full upon the minutes, and the Commissioners discharged with the thanks of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

The following amendment to the Constitution, offered by V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, was then read, and on motion unanimously adopted:

Article IV., of Title 3, amended so as to read as follows:

ARTICLE IV.

The Supreme Council may delegate the power of conferring degrees to any member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

The following was added to Article I. of Title 4:

ADDITION TO ARTICLE I.

Charges for un-Masonic conduct having been preferred against a Grand Commander-in-Chief or acting Grand Commander-in-Chief of a Grand Consistory, or the Commander-in-Chief or acting Commander-in-Chief of a Subordinate Consistory, not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, it shall be the duty of the Sovereign Grand Commander to suspend such officer from the further performance of his duties until said charges have been disposed of.

The following was added to Title 7 and called Article XXIII.

ARTICLE XXIII.

Charges for un-Masonic conduct having been preferred against a Commander-in-Chief or Acting Commander-in-Chief of a Subordinate Consistory under the Jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, it shall be the duty of the Grand Commander-in-Chief of such Grand Consistory, to suspend such officer from the further performance of his duties until the charges have been disposed of.

The following Amendments to the Constitution offered by Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost, were read, and on motion unanimously adopted.

Article XI. of Title 4 amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE XI.

Section 1.—The number of active Sovereign Grand Inspectors General shall be limited to one for each State or Territory, who shall be appointed as provided for in Article I. of this Title, except that in a State or Territory in which there is located a Grand Consistory, its Grand Commander-in-Chief shall, by virtue of his office, become the active Sovereign Grand Inspector General of such State or Territory, and also in case of a member of the Supreme Council residing outside of the Grand Orient in a State or Territory wherein there is no Grand Consistory, he shall by virtue of his office, become the active Sovereign Grand Inspector General of his State or Territory.

Section 2.—Every Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall exercise a proper supervision over all the bodies of the Rite in his jurisdiction; shall grant dispensation for acts not within the control of Grand or Subordinate Consistories, or where such do not exist; shall have power to confer Degrees for the purpose of instituting new Consistories, and also to institute new Consistories in jurisdictions where no Grand Consistory exists; the fees for the Degrees thus conferred and for Charters of the Bodies thus organized, belonging to the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

Section 3.—Every active Sovereign Grand Inspector General, whose term of office is not otherwise constitutionally provided for, shall continue in office for the term of one year from the date of his appointment. Every Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall be responsible to the Supreme Council for the proper and discreet exercise of all his powers; and shall keep a register of all his acts, and report the same in writing at each annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

Article XII of Title 2 amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE XII.

A Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, can be tried only by his peers, and all charges against him for un-Masonic conduct must be preferred to the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or its Supreme Council. If such charges are preferred within sixty days prior to an annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, said charges shall be preferred at such rendezvous, otherwise the charges must be preferred to the Supreme Council. In either case the mode of procedure thereafter shall be as prescribed in Title 11 of the General Regulations.

The following Amendment to the Consitution offered by Ill.·. Judah Moses, was read, and on motion unanimously adopted.

Article XIX. of Title 3 amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE XIX.

A Sovereign Grand Inspecter General, having been duly elected and installed a member of the Supreme Council, shall not thereafter be elected to any other official position in the Rite during his term of office, save in the Supreme Council or that of Active Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

The following Amendment to the Constitution offered by Ill.·. John S. Hopkins was read, and on motion unanimously adopted.

Article IX. of Title 5 amended to read as follows:

ARTICE IX.

Should either of the representatives of a Grand Consistory, as provided for in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article I. of this Title, or of a Subordinate Consistory not under the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory, as provided for in Article II. of this Title, be unable to attend a rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, he may appoint one of the other representatives or some other Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, as his proxy. In all such cases, however, the proxy must be a member of a Consistory located in the same State or Territory as the Consistory which he is to represent.

On motion of Ill.·. John Edelstein, the election of Grand Officers was made the special order of business for 3:30 o'clock P. M., this day.

The matter of differences between St. Andrew Consistory, No. 43, and Palestine Consistory, No. 49, as presented by Ill.·. S. A. Jackson, of No. 43, and Ill.·. I. V. Jobe, of No. 49, was referred to the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander for adjustment.

On motion the Sovereign Grand Consistory called from labor to refreshment until 3:30 o'clock P. M.

3:30 o'clock P. M., June 25th.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory resumed labor at 3:30 o'clock P. M.

Present—Officers and Members as before.

The Sovereign Grand Commander announced that by reason of the expiration of their terms of office, it would be necessary to elect a Sovereign Grand Commander, Grand Treasurer General and Grand Master General of Ceremonies, for the ensuing three years.

Ill.·. J. A. McGuffin and Ill.·. John Edelstein were appointed as Tellers.

Under the gavel of V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, the Sovereign Grand Consistory proceeded to the election of a Sovereign Grand Commander for the ensuing term.

The result of the election was the unanimous choice of M.·. Ill.·. Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas, M. D., 33°, who, in a neat speech, accepted the office, returned his thanks to the Brethren and resumed the gavel.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory then proceeded to the election of a Grand Treasurer General and Grand Master General of Ceremonies, which resulted in the choice of V.·. Ill.·. John H. Russell, 33°, as Grand Treasurer General H.·. E.·., and V.·. Ill.·. James M. Saffell, 33°, as Grand Master General of Ceremonies, for the ensuing term.

An election for two members of the Board of Trustees for the ensuing year was then held and resulted in the unanimous choice of M.·. Ill.·. Wm. H. Peckham, 33°, and Ill.·. Edward F. Barnes, 33°.

V.·. Ill.·. James S. Fraser, 33°, then tendered his resignation of the office of Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., which on motion was accepted.

An election was then held to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Bro.·. Fraser, and V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs was duly elected Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. for the balance of the unexpired term.

V.·. Ill.·. George Davis, 33°, was then duly elected Grand Orator and Minister of State for the balance of the unexpired term of Bro.·. Hibbs.

V.·. Ill.·. Wm. Marshall, 33°, was then duly eleccted Grand Marshal General for the balance of the unexpired term of Bro. Davis.

V.·. Ill.·. Alfred G. Hastings, 33°, was then duly elected Grand Standard Bearer for the balance of the unexpired term of Bro.·. Marshall.

On motion of V.·. Ill.·. John H. Russell, M.·. Ill.·. F. J. S. Gorgas and V.·. Ill.·. Alexander B. Mott, P. F. D. Hibbs, James S. Fraser, John H. Russell, George Davis, James McGrath and William Marshall, having faithfully served various terms as members of the Supreme Council, and being Constitutionally entitled to the honor, were unanimously declared elected members Emeriti of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Preamble to the Constitution and General Regulations be and is hereby amended by inserting in the fifteenth line thereof, between the words "Council" and "Do," the following words: "Emphatically assert that they neither have, nor claim, power or authority over Symbolic, Capitular, Cryptic or Templar Masonry, but".

On motion the above resolution was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs then offered the following amendments to the General Regulations, which on motion were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that Article I. of Title 10 be and is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

ARTICLE I.

The Grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, shall not be conferred except in presence of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, or some other member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, duly commissioned by the Supreme Council, or Sovereign Grand Commander, to take charge of the work.

Resolved, that Title XI. be amended by striking out Article IV. and substituting the following, to be called:

ARTICLE IV.

In all cases of Masonic trial under the authority of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or of a Grand Consistory, a majority of the Commissioners having concurred in the judgment of the Commission, their decision shall be final unless an appeal be taken therefrom within six months after the decision has been rendered. A Brother having preferred charges against another for un-Masonic conduct, or the Brother against whom such charges have been preferred, being aggrieved at the decision thereon, either by a Subordinate Consistory, by a Commission appointed under the authority of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or of a Grand Consistory, or at the decision of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, or a Grand Consistory, and in either case desiring to appeal therefrom, must within thirty days after receiving official notice of such decision, give due notice in writing to the Grand Secretary of the Body to whom he appeals as well as to the presiding Officer and Secretary of the Body from whose decision the appeal is made. He shall then within the time prescribed in the first clause of thia Article, duly serve the Grand Secretary of the Body to whom he appeals with a copy of his appeal, stating therein, in full, his grounds therefor. The Grand Secretary of the Body to whom the appeal is made, after the Body has decided upon the time and place for the discussion, shall duly notify the appellant as well as the parties appealed from, giving each at least thirty days' notice. On the trial of the appeal the discussion shall be confined exclusively to the merits of the case as shown by the official documents previously presented in the original trial. In all cases of Masonic trials, or appeals, both the accused and the accuser in the former, and the appellant and party appealed from in the latter instance, shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, who must be a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite not lower in rank, as to Degrees, than the accused or appellant.

Resolved, that Title 12, of the General Regulations, be and is hereby numbered 13, and that the Amendments to the General Regulations relative to the election of an Assistant Grand Secretary and Depnty Grand Master of Ceremonies shall be placed under a Title which shall be numbered "12," and shall have for its caption—

"MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL CANNOT RECEIVE SALARIES—ASSISTANT GRAND OFFICERS.

Be it further Resolved, that the Amendments above referred to, be and are hereby amended, so that the same shall be numbered and read as follows:

ARTICLE I.

A member of the Supreme Council shall not be allowed to receive a salary from the funds of the Sovereign Grand Consistory for the performance of the duties of his office.

ARTICLE II.

At each Annual Rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, the Supreme Council shall elect, by a majority vote, an Assistant Grand Secretary and a Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies.

ARTICLE III.

It shall be the duty of the Assistant Grand Secretary under the direction of the Grand Secretary General, H.·. E.·., to attend to all of the clerical labors appertaining to his office. It shall also be his duty to be present at the office of the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. during office hours.

ARTICLE IV.

When the Grand Master General of Ceremonies finds it inconvenient to attend to duties requiring his presence at points distant from his home, it shall be the duty of the Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies, under the direction of the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, to attend to such duties. It shall also be his duty, when not otherwise engaged in the service of the Rite, to be present at the office of the Grand Secretary General during office hours.

ARTICLE V.

For the faithful performance of their duties the Assistant Grand Secretary and Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies shall receive such compensation as may be determined upon by the Supreme Council.

ARTICLE VI.

Should the Assistant Grand Secretary or Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies refuse or neglect to perform their several duties, charges may be preferred against them to the Supreme Council by any member of the Rite. After a careful and impartial hearing, the accused being duly notified and having had amplo opportunity to defend himself, and each member of the Supreme Council having been made fully acquainted with all the facts in the case, the Supreme Council, by the affirmative vote of six of its members, may declare the office of the accused vacant and elect another to serve during the balance of the term.

ARTICLE VII.

No one shall be eligible to fill the office of Assistant Grand Secretary or Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies, except he is a member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

ARTICLE VIII.

The office of the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·. shall be open daily, Sundays and legal holidays excepted, during such hours as may be determined upon by the Supreme Council.

Resolved, That Title XIII. (formerly Title XII.) be, and is hereby amended by the addition of the following Articles:

ARTICLE —.

A member of a Subordinate Consistory having signed a petition for the organization of a new Consistory, the same having been granted, and the new Consistory duly instituted, such Brother's membership in the older Consistory shall cease as soon as he shall have paid all his indebtedness thereto, and duly notified the older Consistory in writing over his own signature, through its Grand Secretary, of his action. In all cases of this kind the amount of indebtedness shall be computed to the date of the institution of such new Consistory. The Grand Secretary of the older Consistory having received a notice of this kind, shall read the same to his Consistory at its first regular rendezvous thereafter, whereupon the Commander-in-Chief, having definitely ascertained that the Brother has fully complied with all of the requirements of the Constitution and General Regulations, shall immediately declare a dimit granted, and order the Grand Secretary to forward the same to the new Consistory.

ARTICLE —.

A Brother desiring to dimit from a Subordinate Consistory must pay all of his indebtedness thereto, and make due application in writing over his own signature at a regular rendezvous of his Consistory. The Grand Secre-

tary, on receipt of such application, shall read the same to the Consistory, whereupon the Commander-in-Chief, having definitely ascertained that the Brother has fully complied with all of the requirements of the Constitution and General Regulations, shall immediately declare the dimit granted, and order the Grand Secretary to forward the same to the applicant.

ARTICLE —.

Section 1.—Authority for obtaining names for the organization of a new Consistory, to be located in a State or Territory where there is no Grand Consistory, shall be issued only by the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., and then only by the authority of a written order from the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall forward to the Grand Secretary General the name, address, and Masonic rank of the Brother to whom authority is to be given, also by whom recommended, together with all the evidence he may have as to the responsibility and character of the applicant for said authority. The Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., before issuing such authority, shall duly record in a book especially provided for the purpose all of the above facts, together with the date under which the authority is issued.

Section 2.—Authority for obtaining names for the organization of a new Consistory to be located within the jurisdiction of a Grand Consistory shall be under the same regulations as above, except that the authority must come from the Grand Commander-in-Chief and through the Grand Secretary of such Grand Consistory, who shall keep a correct record of all such matters, as in the case of the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·

Section 3.—In each instance, when authority, as above referred to, has been issued, the Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., or the Grand Secretary of a Grand Consistory, as the case may be, shall duly notify the subordinate Consistory located in the same state or territory nearest to the proposed location of the new Consistory.

V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs offered the following resolutions, which on motion were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of three members of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory, two of whom shall be members of the Supreme Council, and which shall be styled

"THE COMMITTEE ON PRINTING,"

be appointed by the M.·. P.·. Sov.·. Grand Commander, to serve until the 24th day of June, 1890.

Be it also Resolved, That each and every article of printing, which is to be done at the expense of the funds of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory, be and is hereby referred to the Committee on Printing, who shall use their best endeavors to have the same executed at the lowest market rates, with instructions however to give the FREEMASON'S JOURNAL Office the preference, prices and quality of work being equal to its competitors.

On motion of Ill.·. John Edelstein the Printing Committee was authorized to print 1,500 copies of the Constitution and Proceedings of this Annual Rendezvous, bound together, and 500 copies of the Constitution bound separately. Also that the Grand Secretary General be directed to send ten copies of

Constitution and Proceedings of this Rendezvous to each Subordinate Consistory.

On motion of Ill.·. Geo. R. Coffroth, the Grand Secretary General was directed to send one copy of the Constitution and Proceedings of this rendezvous to each member of the Sovereign Grand Consistory.

The Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred the resolution offered by V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, amending the Preamble to the Constitution and General Regulations, reported favorably thereon.

On motion the report was received and resolution of amendment adopted.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory called from labor to refreshment to resume labor at 8 o'clock P. M.

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8 O'CLOCK P. M., June 25.

The Sovereign Grand Consistory resumed labor at 8 o'clock P. M. Present—Officers and members as before.

V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs offered the following resolutions, which on motion were unanimously adopted :

Whereas, the various articles printed in Bulletin No. 1, and Supplements Nos. 1, 2 and 3, and in the FREEMASON'S JOURNAL during the year just ended, have, as we firmly believe, been of great service to our cause, and assisted very materially in the advancement of the interest of our Rite, and therefore as the author of these several articles has, without pecuniary remuneration of any kind, devoted not only his talents but much of his valuable time in this noble work, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Sov.·. Grand Consistory hereby makes due acknowledgment of the value of the services heretofore rendered by Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost, 33°, in the prosecution of the work referred to, and as a slight token of our appreciation of these services be it further

Resolved, that a vote of thanks be and is hereby tendered to Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost, 33°, Grand Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Consistory of the State of New York, for the untiring zeal and indefatigable energy displayed by him in his literary labors during the past year for the benefit of our Rite.

The Committee appointed to select a place for holding the next Annual Rendezvous, submitted the following report, which on motion was unanimously adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS.

TO THE SOVEREIGN GRAND CONSISTORY:

PEERS AND BRETHREN:—Your Committee to whom was referred the matter of selecting a proper place for holding the Annual Rendezvous, of June, 1890, desire to report that a very cordial invitation was extended by Wilmington Consistory, No. 13, of Wilmington, Del., through its representative, V.·. Ill.·. Wm. Marshall, 33°, inviting the Sovereign Grand Consistory to hold its next Annual Rendezvous in the Masonic Temple at Wilmington, Del. Your committee therefore has unanimously decided to accept this kind invitation, and respectfully recommend its selection for your approval.

B. W. BROWNE, 33°,
JOHN S. HOPKINS, 33°,
WM. F. KRULL, 33°,
Committee.

The Sovereign Grand Commander announced the following as the appointed officers for the ensuing year:

Ill.·. Alexander McLean, 33°, Grand Seneschal, of Brooklyn, N. Y.
Ill.·. Alexander W. Murray, 33°, Grand Sentinel, of Brooklyn, N. Y.
Ill.·. John A. Kelley, 33°, Grand Chorister, of New York, N. Y.

The Sovereign Grand Commander then installed the newly elected and appointed officers in due and ancient form, and proclamation was made that the members of the Supreme Council, and officers of the Sovereign Grand Consistory, had been duly elected, appointed and installed.

On motion, it was resolved that the necessity for the services of a Bulletin Committee still exists, and the Sovereign Grand Commander was requested to appoint such committee, under the resolution of June, 1888, to serve until June 24th, 1890.

On motion of Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost, it was resolved, that the committee on Books, Histories, &c., as provided for by the recommendation of the committee on Allocution, be authorized to prepare copies of all important papers, documents, or official instructions, sent to or issued by any author-

ized officer of the Rite since 1807. And said committee shall be allowed to draw upon the funds of the Sovereign Grand Consistory to an amount not to exceed $250, to be used for clerical labor.

On motion of V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs, it was resolved that the thanks of the Sovereign Grand Consistory are justly due, and are hereby tendered to V.·. Ill.·. James S. Fraser, 33°, Past Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·., for the magnificent manner in which he has for many years performed the duties of, not only the office which he has just vacated, but as well also of the other positions he has so creditably filled while a member of the Supreme Council.

On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered to V.·. Ill.·. James McGrath, 33°, Past Grand Master General of Ceremonies, for the very efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of his office during the many years he has been a member of the Supreme Council.

The Sovereign Grand Commander then announced the appointment of the following committees:

COMMITTEE ON DECEASED BRETHREN.

Ill.·. John S. Hopkins.
Ill.·. J. J. Bright.
Ill.·. Stephen A. Jackson.

COMMITTEE ON OCCASIONAL BULLETIN.

Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost.
Ill.·. E. H.·. Bartley, M. D.
Ill.·. C. V. S. Levy.
Ill.·. Judah Moses.
Ill.·. C. F. Hill.

COMMITTEE ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO PENNSYLVANIA, AS REFERRED TO IN ALLOCUTION OF SOV.·. GR.·. COMMANDER.

Ill.·. C. V. S. Levy.
Ill.·. Wm. F. Krull.
Ill.·. John H. Dusenbury.
Ill.·. James L. Watson.
Ill.·. John Edelstein.

COMMITTEE ON BOOKS, HISTORY, &C.

Ill.·. Andrew J. Provost.
V.·. Ill.·. John H. Russell.
Ill.·. B. W. Browne.

PRINTING COMMITTEE.

V.·. Ill.·. P. F. D. Hibbs.
V.·. Ill.·. John H. Russell.
V.·. Ill.·. James S. Fraser.

On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered to the officers and members of the Grand Consistory, and of the various Subordinate Consistories of the State of Kentucky, who have so courteously and fraternally attended to the wants of the members of the Sov.·. Grand Consistory during this annual rendezvous.

No further business appearing, this annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory was closed in due form, and by the mysterious numbers.

James S. Fraser, 33°

*Grand Secretary General H.·. E.··

SPECIAL MEETING

OF THE

SUPREME COUNCIL.

Immediately after the close of the annual rendezvous of the Sovereign Grand Consistory the Supreme Council met in Special Session.

On motion, the several amendments to the Constitution adopted by the Sovereign Grand Consistory, June 25th, 1889, were unanimously approved and confirmed.

The Supreme Council, in accordance with the provisions of the General Regulation, proceeded to the election of Assistant Grand Officers, the result of which was the unanimous choice of V.·. Ill.·. James S. Fraser, as Assistant Grand Secretary, and V.·. Ill.·. James McGrath, as Deputy Grand Master of Ceremonies, for the ensuing year.

Philip F. D. Hibbs 33°

Grand Secretary General H.·. E.·.