

BY-LAWS

OF

TEMPLE CHAPTER,

NO. 6,

MILLEDGEVILLE, GA.

CONFEDERATE UNION PRESS
MILLEDGEVILLE, GA.

.....
1863.



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TEMPLE CHAPTER, NO. 6.

We the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of Temple Chapter No. 6, held in the City of Milledgeville, have made, ordained, established, and in open Chapter, agreed to the following By-Laws, to be binding upon us so long as we continue to be members of the Chapter aforesaid, and until we shall be regularly discharged therefrom :

ARTICLE 1ST. OF COMMUNICATIONS.

Section 1st. The stated meetings of this Chapter shall be held on the second and fourth Saturdays in every month, during the months November, December, January, February and March, at the hour of six o'clock P. M., and in every other month, at the hour of seven o'clock P. M.

ARTICLE 2ND. OF ELECTIONS.

Section 1st. The election of officers shall take place on the regular meeting next preceeding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist in every year, and the Installation (if circumstances permit,) at the same meeting, before any other business can take

place, to be determined by ballot, and the person having a majority of the whole number of votes given in, shall be declared elected.

Section 2nd, On the day of and previous to the Election of officers, the Secretary shall read over in open Chapter, a list of all delinquents, in order that no member may be permitted to vote, or elected to any office until he shall have paid up all dues.

ARTICLE 3RD.

OF ADMITTING MEMBERS—RECEIVING APPLICANTS, &C.

Section 1st, Admitting members, receiving candidates for Degrees, granting Diplomas, suspending and expelling members shall be decided by ballot.

Section 2nd, In balloting for the admission of Candidates, if there shall be more than one dissenting vote, the Candidate shall be declared rejected; if but one, the Companion who gave the dissenting vote, before the next regular meeting shall give his reasons to the High Priest, in private, who shall state the same to the Chapter; and if decided by the Members to be sufficient he shall be rejected; if frivolous, admitted without being subjected to another ballot.

Section 3rd, Every Petition for the Degrees must be accompanied with the sum of Ten Dollars, which shall be returned to the Candidate if he be rejected.

Section 4th, Every Companion who may be admitted a member of this Chapter, shall on his admission, pay the sum of Five Dollars to the Secretary, provided that no Companion, who has received the Degrees in this Chapter shall be subject to pay this charge.

ARTICLE 4TH.

OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND FEES.

Section 1st, Every member shall pay into the Treasury, Two Dollars a year— one half semi-annually in advance, on St. John's Day ; and if not paid within three months thereafter, the member or members in default shall stand suspended until payment is made, and they are restored by vote of the Chapter.

Section 2nd, It shall be the duty of the Secretary to pay over to the Treasurer all money collected by him, without delay.

Section 3rd, The Fees for Degrees, shall be as follows ; viz : For Mark Masters, the sum of Nine Dollars, and one, to the Tyler ; For Past Master, the sum of Four Dollars, and one dollar to the Tyler ; for Most Excellent Master, four dollars and one dollar to the Tyler ; for Royal Arch the sum of nine dollars, and one dollar to the Tyler. And no Candidate shall be received, Degrees conferred, or member admitted until the Fees shall have been paid in advance.

Section 4th, The Secretary shall be allowed as his salary, the sum of thirty dol-

lars per. annum, and shall be, together with the Tyler exempt from Dues, and they shall be entitled to receive their salaries semi-annually.

Section 5th, The Steward and Tyler (the duties of these officers being performed by the same Companion) shall be allowed, for every meeting which he shall attend as such, the sum of one dollar.

ARTICLE 5TH. OF WITHDRAWALS.

Section 1st, A member shall have the liberty to withdraw at any regular meeting, by producing the Secretary's receipt for all dues and arrears up to the time of such application; Provided, nevertheless, always, that it appear that such application is not made with a view to avoid an investigation for unmasonic or other improper conduct.

ARTICLE 6TH. OF COMMITTEES.

Section 1st, Once in every year a committee shall be appointed whose duty it shall be to examine the Treasurer's and Secretary's books, and report at the regular meeting, next after the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, a full and regular statement of the same.

Section 2nd, The High Priest, King and Scribe, of this Chapter, shall be a standing committee of charity, for the relief of indigent and distressed Companions,—any two

of whom may act in that capacity and report to the Chapter at the next regular meeting.

ARTICLE 7TH.
OF CHARGES.

Section 1st. Charges shall be preferred at regular meetings only, and shall be signed by the Companion, Brother or Committee preferring them; be publicly read, and entered on the minutes. The Secretary shall cause a fair copy of them to be made out, annex thereto a notice requiring the personal attendance of the Companion implicated, at such time as the Chapter may direct; which copy and notice shall be personally served on the Companion or Brother, against whom the charges have been preferred, at least ten days previous to such meeting (Provided he is within summoning distance of the Chapter;) if out of the limits of the same, a notice in one or more of the public gazettes of this place shall be sufficient;—and if such Companion shall fail to attend, agreeably to such notice, and shall not send a sufficient excuse for non-attendance, the Companion or Committee preferring the charges, may proceed *Ex parte* to substantiate them, and the Chapter to determine the truth or falsehood of the same.

Section 2nd. If upon such summons the Companion do attend, he shall be permitted to cross interrogate any inculpatory witness that may be introduced, and intro-

duce evidence to exculpate himself, & make his defence in writing; and if he should require, the investigation of the charges may be postponed to a future regular meeting at the discretion of a majority of the members present; and when a decision is about to be made, the accuser, the accused and witnesses, shall withdraw until the question is taken.

Section 3rd, Whenever a Companion shall be suspended from the privileges of Masonary by this Chapter, he shall not again be received as a member unless he shall procure a certificate from two or more Royal Arch Masons attesting the moral rectitude of his conduct, during the period of his suspension.

Section 4th, Whenever it shall become necessary to suspend or expel any Companion from this Chapter, the sentence of suspension or expulsion, together with his name, age and occupation shall be forwarded by the Secretary with his attestation, to the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE 8TH.

OF ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS.

Section 1st, No addition or alteration of this code, shall be made until such addition or alteration shall have been first handed in writing to the High Priest, and publicly read at a regular meeting of this Chapter, and at a subsequent regular meeting shall have been passed by two thirds of the members, thereof.



