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
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CONSTITUTION
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OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK,

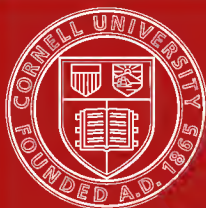
REVISED AND ADOPTED ON THE 7TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1867.

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CONSTITUTION
OF
THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK.

ARTICLE I.

GRAND CHAPTER.

Style.

SEC. 1. The style of this Grand Chapter shall be, "THE GRAND CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK."

Power and Authority.

SEC. 2. This Grand Chapter is a body of Royal Arch Masons in whom is inalienably vested the government and superintendence of Capitular Masonry within its territorial jurisdiction, subject only to its obligations to the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America.

*Constitution.**Who Compose.*

SEC. 3. This Grand Chapter shall be composed of its Officers, both elected and appointed, as enumerated in sections fifth and seventh of this Constitution, together with all Past Grand High Priests, Past Deputy Grand High Priests, Past Grand Kings and Past Grand Scribes of this Grand Chapter, who are also members of a subordinate Chapter within this jurisdiction, and the first three officers of each warranted Chapter working under the authority of this Grand Chapter, or the proxies of such Chapters duly appointed.

Annual Convocations, and Quorum.

SEC. 4. The annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter shall be held at the city of Albany, on the first Tuesday in February, and the representatives of five Chapters, together with at least one of the first four elective Grand Officers, shall constitute a quorum.

Elective Officers.

SEC. 5. The elective officers of this Grand Chapter shall be

The GRAND HIGH PRIEST,
 The DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST,
 The GRAND KING,
 The GRAND SCRIBE,
 The GRAND TREASURER,
 The GRAND SECRETARY, and
 The GRAND CHAPLAIN.

Who Eligible.

SEC. 6. None but High Priests or Past High Priests shall be eligible to election to either of the first four elective offices above named.

Appointed Officers.

SEC. 7. The appointed officers of this Grand Chapter shall be

The GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST,
The GRAND PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER,
The GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN,
Three GRAND MASTERS OF THE VAILS, and
The GRAND TILER.

Officers—How Chosen.

SEC. 8. The elective officers of this Grand Chapter must be chosen at each annual Convocation, by ballot and by a majority of all the votes cast. The appointed officers shall be selected by the Grand High Priest, and hold during his pleasure ; and all officers of this Grand Chapter must be contributing members of a subordinate Chapter within this jurisdiction.

Installation.

SEC. 9. The installation of the officers of this Grand Chapter must take place during the annual Convocation at which they are elected.

Number and Qualifications of Members.

SEC. 10. This Grand Chapter may enlarge or diminish the number and qualifications of its members at pleasure by a provision or change of its Constitution.

Votes and Voters.

SEC. 11. Each officer and permanent member of this Grand Chapter is entitled to one vote, and the acting Grand High

Priest to an additional vote in case of an equal division, and each Chapter of fifty members or less shall be entitled to three votes if duly represented, and an additional vote for each additional fifty members. Grand officers and permanent members may vote as such and as representatives.

Pay of Officers and Permanent Members.

SEC. 12. Each officer and permanent member attending the annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter shall be entitled to receive from its funds the regular fare charged by the most direct public conveyance to and from his residence, and five dollars per day for travel and attendance, allowing not more than one day each way for going and returning.

Pay of Representatives.

SEC. 13. One representative from each Chapter within this jurisdiction shall be entitled to the same pay as specified in the foregoing section, unless he be also a Grand Officer or permanent member of this Grand Chapter; but no representative shall be entitled to receive pay until the dues of his Chapter are fully paid.

Grand High Priest.

SEC. 14. The Grand High Priest shall exercise all the executive functions of this Grand Chapter during its recess, and shall, at each annual Convocation, communicate in writing a statement of his official acts during such recess, and recommend such measures as he may deem expedient.

Deputy Grand High Priest.

SEC. 15. The Deputy Grand High Priest is also empowered

To grant dispensations for new Chapters.

To order elections when such have not been held or were illegal.

To authorize the installation of officers after the constitutional time has expired.

To order elections to fill vacancies.

Succession in Office.

SEC. 16. In case of the death, absence or inability of the Grand High Priest, or a vacancy in his office, the Deputy Grand High Priest, the Grand King and the Grand Scribe will in succession succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes.

Grand Treasurer.

SEC. 17. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer to take charge of all the funds, property, securities and vouchers of this Grand Chapter, under the direction of the Trustees; to pay all orders duly drawn by direction of the Grand Chapter; to report annually to the Grand Chapter his receipts and disbursements by items, and the amount of moneys and securities in his hands.

Grand Secretary.

SEC. 18. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to record the transactions of the Grand Chapter; to keep a registry of members of subordinate Chapters; to receive, duly file and safely keep all papers and documents of the Grand Chapter; to sign and certify all instruments from the Grand Chapter; to receive and keep a proper account of all moneys of the Grand Chapter, and pay the same without delay to the Grand Treasurer, and report the same by items to the Grand

Chapter annually ; to report the Chapters that have neglected to render proper returns of their elections, members and dues, and to conduct the correspondence of the Grand Chapter under the direction of the Grand High Priest.

Other Officers.

SEC. 19. It shall be the duty of the several officers of the Grand Chapter, in addition to the duties herein specifically mentioned, to perform such other duties appertaining to their offices as shall from time to time be directed by the Grand Chapter.

 ARTICLE II.

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

Organization.

SEC. 20. A Chapter can only be organized by the Dispensation of the Grand High Priest or Deputy Grand High Priest, or the warrant of the Grand Chapter, and in each case only upon the application of not less than nine regular Royal Arch Masons.

Dispensation and Petitioners—How Qualified.

SEC. 21. No Dispensation to form a new Chapter can issue without the recommendation of the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is to be held, nor unless the petitioners therefor shall show that they are Royal Arch

Masons and in good standing as such; and no warrant shall be issued until the Chapter shall have given proof of its skill by labor under dispensation, and furnished a certificate from the nearest Chapter or the Grand Lecturer of its ability to confer the degrees; nor shall a Dispensation issue to form a new Chapter within two months next preceding the annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter.

Fee for Dispensation.

SEC. 22. The fee for a Dispensation to form a new Chapter shall be ninety dollars, and shall accompany the petition for the same. It shall also be accounted as payment in full for a warrant if afterwards granted.

Officers of Warranted Chapter.

SEC. 23. A warranted Chapter within this jurisdiction shall consist of

1. The HIGH PRIEST,
2. The KING,
3. The SCRIBE,
4. The TREASURER,
5. The SECRETARY,
6. The CAPTAIN OF THE HOST,
7. The PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER,
8. The ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN,
9. The MASTER OF THE THIRD VAIL,
10. The MASTER OF THE SECOND VAIL,
11. The MASTER OF THE FIRST VAIL,
12. The TILER,

and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of a warrant from this Grand Chapter, and and at the place designated in the warrant, or by this Grand Chapter.

Officers—When and How Chosen.

SEC. 24. The first five officers named in the preceding section shall be elected annually, by ballot and by a majority of all the votes cast, at the regular Convocation of the Chapter next preceding St. John the Evangelist's Day. The remaining officers shall be appointed by the High Priest immediately after his installation.

Who are Voters.

SEC. 25. Every member in good standing is entitled to one vote, and every voter is eligible to any office in the Chapter.

Installation.

SEC. 26. The installation of officers in a Chapter shall take place at the time of election, or within thirty days thereafter.

Vacancies in Office.

SEC. 27. Vacancies in elective offices can only occur by death, by resignation, by removal after election beyond the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, by promotion at an election to fill vacancies, and by suspension or expulsion; but the first three elective offices cannot be vacated by resignation.

Vacancies—How Filled.

SEC. 28. A Chapter may fill vacancies in any elective office (except that of High Priest,) by ballot, at any regular Convocation; but in case of a vacancy in the office of High Priest, an election can only be held at a regular Convocation, (the members having been duly summoned for that purpose,) and by virtue of a Dispensation from the Grand High Priest, or the Deputy Grand High Priest, which must be applied for

by the King and Scribe and a vote of two-thirds of all the members present at a regular Convocation, to be so certified by the Secretary under the seal of the Chapter.

Removal of Chapter.

SEC. 29. A Chapter may not remove its place of meeting from the city, town or village named in its warrant, nor from one place to another in the same city, town or village, except by concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present at a summoned Convocation, the object of the Convocation being stated in the summons, which must be served at least ten days previous to such Convocation; and such removal from the city, town or village must receive the sanction of this Grand Chapter previous thereto.

By-Laws.

SEC. 30. A Chapter has full power and authority to enact By-Laws for its own government, conformably to this Constitution; and any By-Law inconsistent therewith is absolutely void.

Dues, and How Collected.

SEC. 31. A Chapter may make By-Laws regulating the payment of dues from its members, and provide penalties for the enforcement thereof; but no greater penalty shall be inflicted than the suspension of the companion in arrears, which shall cease upon the payment of his dues to such time as the By-Laws shall direct.

Annual Returns and Dues to Grand Chapter.

SEC. 32. Every Chapter within this jurisdiction shall make annual returns to this Grand Chapter of all its work to St.

John the Evangelist's Day in each year, with a list of its officers and members, and pay into the treasury of this Grand Chapter the sum of three dollars for the exaltation of every companion, and the sum of fifty cents as annual dues for every member, reckoning from St. John the Evangelist's Day next succeeding his exaltation: said sums to be due and payable at the annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter; and such returns shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary on or before the tenth day of January in each year.

Chapter—How Dissolved.

SEC. 33. A Chapter can only be dissolved by the act of the Grand Chapter, or by a voluntary surrender of its warrant pursuant to a vote of a majority of its members, when duly summoned for that purpose, with notice of the object of the Convocation.

Warrant—How Forfeited or Suspended.

SEC. 34. The warrant of a Chapter can be forfeited only upon charges regularly made in Grand Chapter at its annual Convocation, of which due notice shall be given to the Chapter and an opportunity of being heard in defense; but it may be suspended by the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest at any time upon proper cause shown, which suspension shall not extend beyond the next annual Convocation thereafter.

Acts for which Warrant may be Recalled.

SEC. 35. The acts by which a warrant may be forfeited are, contumacy to the authority of the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest; violation of the fundamental principles

of Royal Arch Masonry or of this Constitution; neglecting to meet for one year or more; and the non-payment of dues to the Grand Chapter for two years successively.

Chapter deprived of Warrant or Dispensation.

SEC. 36. The surrender or forfeiture of a warrant or dispensation, when adjudged by the Grand Chapter, shall be conclusive upon the Chapter and its members, and carries with it all the property of the Chapter, which becomes the property of the Grand Chapter, and must, on demand, be surrendered to the Grand Chapter or its authorized agent, excepting therefrom the property and funds of such Chapters as may have availed themselves of the provisions of and powers conferred by chapter 317 of the Laws of the State of New York, passed April 2, 1866, entitled "An Act to enable Lodges and Chapters of Free and Accepted Masons to take, hold and convey real and personal estate."

Charges and Trials.

SEC. 37. If any member of a Chapter, or unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason, within this jurisdiction, shall be guilty of a Masonic misdemeanor which would subject him to discipline, charges, with distinct specifications of the offense charged, may be preferred in open Chapter; and it shall be the duty of the acting High Priest (except in cases of non-payment of dues,) to appoint three disinterested companions as commissioners to try the accused upon said charges and specifications, and to report their proceedings thereon to the Chapter with all convenient speed, together with their conclusions and recommendations thereon, for the action of the Chapter. The decision of the Chapter shall be final, unless an appeal be taken therefrom to the Grand Chapter within six months

thereafter. In case of charges against a Chapter or a High Priest, or by one Chapter against another or a member of another, they shall be referred to the Grand Chapter when in session, or, during recess, to the Grand High Priest or the Deputy Grand High Priest. When presented to either of the latter, he shall appoint the three commissioners (who shall be High Priests, or Past High Priests), from Chapters not interested in the case, and they shall hear, try and determine the matter, reporting their proceedings, conclusions and decision thereon to the officer appointing them; and their decision, if approved by him, shall be final, unless appealed from as above.

Witnesses, and Expenses of Trials.

SEC. 38. The High Priest of any Chapter may summon witnesses in any case provided for in the preceding section, and the expenses which may be incurred by commissioners appointed under the provisions of the above section shall be borne by one or both of the parties, as the commission may determine; and the amount of such expenses and their decision as to who shall be chargeable with the same shall be set forth in their report, and payment may be enforced in the same manner as Chapter or Grand Chapter dues.

Charges against High Priest.

SEC. 39. Charges against the High Priest of a Chapter for official misconduct while holding the office of High Priest, must be presented to the Grand High Priest, or this Grand Chapter during his term of office or within one year thereafter.

Other Rules for Trial.

SEC. 40. The Grand Chapter may establish such further reg-

ulations as to the mode and form of trials and appeals as it may deem expedient.

ARTICLE III.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Who present at Election in Grand Chapter.

SEC. 41. None but members of the Grand Chapter (past or present officers of other Grand Chapters excepted,) shall be present during the election of officers.

Who may Visit Grand Chapter.

SEC. 42. No companion shall be permitted to sit as a visitor in this Grand Chapter without unanimous consent of the members present.

Restoration by Grand Chapter.

SEC. 43. A restoration to the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry by the Grand Chapter does not restore to membership in a subordinate Chapter.

Grand Lecturer.

SEC. 44. The Grand High Priest may annually appoint a discreet and well-informed Royal Arch Mason as Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be, when required by any Chapter, to visit and instruct them in the work and lectures of the sev-

eral degrees, and such Chapters shall pay a reasonable compensation therefor. It shall also be his duty to attend the annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter, and he shall be entitled to the same pay as specified in section twelve; and such Grand Lecturer may appoint one or more discreet and well-informed Royal Arch Masons as assistant Lecturers, to aid him in his duty of visitation and instruction, who shall be entitled to like compensation.

Standard Work.

SEC. 45. Every Chapter shall adopt and practice the standard work and lectures of this Grand Chapter, and any Chapter violating this provision shall be subject to forfeiture of its warrant.

New Chapters must be Constituted.

SEC. 46. Whenever a warrant shall issue to authorize the holding of a new Chapter, the same shall be duly constituted and its officers installed by the Grand High Priest, the Deputy Grand High Priest, or the duly authorized proxy of either of them, previous to which ceremony no Convocation of the Chapter can be legally held.

Who presides in Chapter.

SEC. 47. The High Priest shall preside at the several Convocations of the Chapter, and in case of his absence, the King and Scribe, and no other, shall in order of rank succeed him.

Appeal from Decision of High Priest.

SEC. 48. No appeal to the Chapter can be taken from the decision of the High Priest.

Chapter Seal and Books.

SEC. 49. Every Chapter shall have a seal, and shall also keep the following books:—

1. A Book of By-Laws with the signatures of the members.
2. A Record Book of the proceedings of the Chapter.
3. A Register of the names of members, with the date of receiving the different degrees, &c.
4. A Book of Marks.
5. An Alphabetical List of expulsions, suspensions and rejections, and such other books as the Chapter shall direct.

Petitions and Fees for Degrees.

SEC. 50. The degrees of the Chapter shall not be conferred for a less sum than twenty dollars, (all of which must be paid before receiving the Mark degree,) and then only upon Master Masons, whose petitions shall have been duly presented in writing at a regular Convocation, reported upon by a committee of investigation and unanimously accepted by the Chapter; and a petition for the degrees or for membership shall not be balloted on before the next regular Convocation succeeding its reception.

Rejected Candidates.

SEC. 51. A petition for the degrees having been rejected, cannot again be received within the period of three months, nor by any other than the rejecting Chapter, without first obtaining its consent.

Jurisdiction over Candidates.

SEC. 52. A Chapter shall not confer the degrees upon a candidate who resides nearer some other Chapter without the consent of such Chapter; nor upon a candidate who resides in

another State without the consent of the Chapter within whose jurisdiction he resides; but two or more Chapters located in the same city or village shall be accounted as equally near, and shall have concurrent jurisdiction, except that the Chapters in the cities of New York and Brooklyn shall have one and the same jurisdiction.

Proxies.

SEC. 53. Each warranted Chapter within this jurisdiction is entitled to be represented in this Grand Chapter by its first three officers, but in case either of them can not attend, the Chapter (or, in case of its failure to do so, its High Priest or acting High Priest,) may appoint either of its other officers or members to act as their Proxy, and shall furnish said Proxy a certificate of appointment over the signature of the High Priest or acting High Priest, attested by the Secretary, and under the seal of the Chapter.

Amendments.

SEC. 54. No amendment to this Constitution shall be made, until it shall have been proposed at one annual Convocation, and adopted by a vote of two-thirds of all the members present at the next annual Convocation.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The Grand Chapter shall convene at eleven o'clock, A. M., on the first day of its annual Convocation until otherwise ordered.

2. At the sound of the gavel from the East, the Grand Officers shall take their respective stations and the members be seated.

3. The Grand Chapter shall be opened in due and ancient form.

4. The Standing Committee on Credentials which shall consist of the Grand Secretary, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Captain of the Host shall report.

5. The Grand Secretary shall read the minutes of all previous Convocations not before read and approved.

6. The Grand High Priest shall deliver his annual address.

7. The Deputy Grand High Priest and other Grand Officers shall make their annual reports.

8. The Grand High Priest shall appoint the following Standing Committees, each consisting of five companions:—

I. A Committee on Finance and Accounts to whom

shall be referred all subjects involving an appropriation of funds except pay of members.

II. A Committee on Warrants.

III. A Committee on Jurisprudence.

IV. A Committee on Appeals and Grievances.

V. A Committee on pay of Officers and Members.

And also a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, consisting of three members.

All of which Committee, except the last shall be discharged by the closing of the Grand Chapter.

9. No Companion shall speak more than once to the same question unless by permission of the Grand Chapter.

10. Votes may be taken by show of hands, unless a vote by Chapters is called for which must be seconded by the representatives of at least five Chapters.

11. These Rules of Order shall not be suspended except by unanimous consent, but may be amended at any time by a vote of two-thirds of all the members present.

12. All former rules of order inconsistent herewith are hereby abrogated.

FORM FOR THE INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

At the time appointed for the Installation, the installing officer, designates some suitable companion to act as Grand Captain of the Host, during the installation, who shall present the Grand High Priest elect, (divested of all official robes and jewels,) before the Installing Officer, saying:—

Most Excellent:—I hereby present before you Most Excellent Companion — —, who, having been duly elected Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York, now declares himself ready for installation.

The Grand High Priest elect then turning and facing the Companions, the Installing officer says:—

Companions:—You behold before you Most Excellent Companion — —, who has been duly elected to preside over you as your Grand High Priest, and who now declares himself ready for installation. If any of you have any reasons to urge why he should not be installed, you will make your objections known now, or else for ever hereafter hold your peace.

If no objections are made, he will continue :—

Hearing no objections, I shall proceed to install him.

The Installing Officer then administers the following obligation of office—all the Companions standing :—

I, ———, do promise and swear that I will serve as Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York for the term for which I have been elected, and will perform all the duties of that office to the best of my abilities, and will support and maintain the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, and that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. So help me God.

The Grand Chaplain shall then offer the following prayer :—

Most Holy and Glorious Lord God ! the Grand High Priest of Heaven and Earth !

We approach thee with reverence, and implore thy blessing on the Companion appointed to preside over our Ancient Fraternity. Fill his heart with thy fear, that his tongue and actions may pronounce thy will. Make him steadfast in thy service ; grant him firmness of mind and kindness of disposition ; teach him to rule his brethren, not with a rod of iron but with justice and equity ; animate his heart and strengthen his endeavors to do good. May he inculcate thy judgments and thy laws, and do all that his high office requires, with an eye single to thy glory and the good of the Craft ! Bless him, and bless those whom thou hast put under him ; and grant that when we shall have finished the work of this earthly temple of bodies, we may be admitted to the glories of that second temple of the spirit, eternal in the Heavens.—Amen.

Response. So mote it be !

The Installing Officer will then present the G. H. P. elect with the robes and jewels of his office, after which he will deliver to him the following:—

CHARGE TO THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

Most Excellent:—By the voice of your Companions you have been chosen to occupy the most important and the most honorable office in their power to bestow; and to me has been intrusted the pleasing duty of investing you with its insignia.

You have been too long a member of our Ancient and Honorable Craft to require now any instructions in relation to the duties of your office; and I do not doubt that you will be constant and regular in your attendance on the convocations of the Grand Chapter; watching with fidelity and diligence the conduct of the subordinate bodies within your jurisdiction paying strict attention to the Constitutions of Royal Arch Masonry, and requiring a due obedience to them from every member; and in all things, making the glory of the Grand High Priest of the Universe, and the good of the Craft, the chief objects of your regard.

The ancient Landmarks, by which we are distinguished from the rest of the world, are peculiarly intrusted to your care; and it therefore becomes your most sacred duty to see that, during your administration, not the least of them may be removed.

From our knowledge of your zeal and ability, we feel confident that you will discharge the duties of this important station in such a manner as will greatly redound to the honor of yourself, as well as of the Fraternity over whom you have been elected to preside.

Let the *Mitre* with which you are invested remind you of the dignity of the office you sustain, and its inscription im-

press upon your mind a sense of your dependence upon God; that perfection is not given unto man upon earth; and that perfect holiness belongeth alone unto the Lord.

The *Breast-Plate* with which you are decorated, in imitation of that upon which were engraven the names of the twelve tribes, and worn by the High Priest of Israel, is to teach you that you are always to bear in mind your responsibility to the laws and ordinances of the Institution, and that the honor and interests of the Craft and its members should be always near your heart.

The *various colors* of the *Robes* you wear, are emblematical of every grace and virtue which can adorn and beautify the human mind, whose cultivation and constant practice are as necessary to your own present and future happiness, as they are, to the prosperity of the Craft over whom you are placed.

You will now assume your station in the East, and instruct your subordinates in the duties which they are respectively required to discharge.

The Grand Captain of the Host will then make the following proclamation:—

Companions, in the name of the Most High God, I do hereby proclaim Most Excellent Companion—— —, Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York, with the Grand Honors of Masonry by three times three.

The Grand Honors of R. A. Masonry are then given. The Deputy Grand High Priest is then presented to the Grand High Priest in the same way, and after taking a similar obligation, the Grand High Priest delivers the following

CHARGE TO THE MOST EXCELLENT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

Most Excellent:—The station to which you have been

called by your companions is one of great dignity and importance. In many cases, your powers and prerogatives are co-extensive with those of your chief; and at all times are you, if he be present, to assist him with your counsel and co-operation, and, in his absence, to preside over the Craft. But while your powers and privileges are thus extensive, remember that they bring with them a heavy share of responsibility. The honor that has been conferred upon you, and the trust that has been reposed in you, demand a corresponding fidelity and attachment to the interests of those to whose kindness and confidence you are indebted for your official elevation.

The signification of the robes you wear, you have already heard explained. May the symbolic lessons which they convey be deeply impressed upon your mind and heart, and ever influence your conduct. You will now repair to your station.

The Grand King is then presented, in the following words:—

Most Excellent:—I now present before you Right Excellent Companion — —, who has been duly elected to serve this Grand Chapter as Grand King, and now declares himself ready for installation.

The Grand King elect then turning and facing the Companions, the G. H. P. says:—

Companions:—You behold before you Right Excellent Companion — —, who has been duly elected to serve this Grand Chapter as Grand King, and now declares himself ready for installation. If any of you have any reasons to urge why he should not be installed, you will make them known now, or else for ever hereafter hold your peace.

If no objections are made, he will say:—

Hearing no objections, I shall proceed to install him.

The Grand High Priest will then administer the following obligation :—

I, ———, do promise and swear that I will serve this Grand Chapter, as Grand King, for the time for which I have been elected; that I will perform all the duties appertaining to that office to the best of my abilities, and will support and maintain the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, and that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. So help me God.

The Grand High Priest will then cause the Grand King to be invested with the robes and jewels of his office, and deliver to him the following :—

CHARGE TO THE RIGHT EXCELLENT GRAND KING.

Right Excellent Companion :—The important station to which you have been elected, requires from you exemplary conduct, and its duties demand your most assiduous attention. In the absence of the Grand High Priest and his Deputy, you are to preside; in their presence, you are to strengthen and support the authority of your chief, and to aid him by your counsel and advice.

The *Scarlet Robe*, an emblem of royal dignity, should remind you of the paternal concern you should ever feel for our Institution, and the fervency and zeal with which you should endeavor to promote its prosperity.

In presenting to you the *Crown*, which is an emblem of royalty, I would remind you that, to reign sovereign in the hearts and affections of men, must be far more grateful to a generous and benevolent mind, than to rule over their lives and fortunes; and that, to enable you to enjoy this pre-eminence with honor and satisfaction, you must subject your own passions and prejudices to the dominion of reason and charity. You will repair to your Station.

The Grand Scribe is then introduced and obligated in the same way, and receives his special charge as follows:—

CHARGE TO THE RIGHT EXCELLENT GRAND SCRIBE.

Right Excellent Companion:—The office of Scribe, to which you are elected, is very important and respectable. In the absence of your superior officers, you are bound to succeed them, and to perform their duties. The purposes of the Institution ought never to suffer for want of intelligence in its proper officers; you will therefore perceive the necessity there is of your possessing such qualifications as will enable you to accomplish those duties which are incumbent upon you, in your appropriate station, as well as those which may occasionally devolve on you, by the absence of your superiors.

The *Purple Robe*, with which you are invested, is an emblem of *union*, and is calculated to remind you that the harmony and unanimity of the Craft should be your constant aim; and to this end, you are studiously to avoid all occasions of giving offense, or countenancing any thing that may create divisions or dissensions. You are, by all means in your power, to endeavor to establish a permanent union and good understanding among all orders and degrees of Masonry; and as the glorious sun, at its meridian height, dispels the mist and clouds which obscure the horizon, so may your exertions tend to dissipate the gloom of jealousy and discord, whenever they may appear. You will repair to your Station.

The remaining officers are then obligated collectively, after which each receives his special charge.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND TREASURER.

Right Excellent Companion:—You have been elected to the responsible office of Grand Treasurer, and I now invest you with the badge of your office.

It is your duty to receive all moneys due the Grand Chapter from the hands of the Grand Secretary; make due entries of the same; and pay them out by order of the Grand High Priest, and with the consent of the Grand Chapter. The office to which you have been elected embraces an important trust, and the choice of you by your companions is an evidence of the high opinion they entertain of your fidelity and discretion. You will repair to your Station.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND SECRETARY.

Right Excellent Companion:—You have been elected to the important office of Grand Secretary, and I now invest you with the jewel of your office.

It is your duty to receive all moneys due the Grand Chapter, and pay them over to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same; to observe all the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and to make a true record of all things proper to be written. You are also the official organ of the Grand Chapter, and in that capacity will conduct its various correspondence, and act as the medium of intercourse between the Fraternity and their presiding officer. In the discharge of these extensive duties, let your carriage and behavior be marked with that promptitude and discretion that will at once reflect credit on yourself and honor on the body whom you represent. You will repair to your Station.

CHARGE TO GRAND CHAPLAIN.

Right Excellent and Rev. Companion:—The sacred position of Grand Chaplain has been intrusted to your care, and I now invest you with the jewel of your office.

In the discharge of your duties, you will be required to conduct the devotional exercises of our Grand Convocations, and to perform the sacred functions of your holy calling at our

public ceremonies. Though Masonry be not religion, it is emphatically religion's handmaid; and I am sure that, in ministering at its altar, the services you may perform will lose nothing of their vital importance, because they are practiced in that spirit of universal tolerance which distinguishes our Institution. The doctrines of morality and virtue which you are accustomed to inculcate to the world, as the minister of God, will form the appropriate lessons which you are expected to communicate to your companions. The profession which you have chosen for your lot in life, is the best guaranty that you will discharge the duties of your present appointment with steadfastness and perseverance in well doing. You will repair to your Station.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST.

Right Excellent Companion:—The office with which you have been intrusted is of great importance, and requires much skill and attention for the faithful discharge of its duties, which are those of a marshal, or master of ceremonies.

You are to superintend all processions of the Grand Chapter, when moving as a distinct body, either in public or private; and as the world can only judge of our private discipline by our public deportment, you will be careful that the utmost order and decorum be observed on all such occasions. You will ever be attentive to the commands of your chief, and always near at hand to see them duly executed. I invest you with the badge of your office, and presume that you will give to your duties all that study and attention which their importance demands. I present you with this sword, as the appropriate implement of your office. You will repair to your Station.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER.

Right Excellent Companion:—The office confided to you is

one of great importance, though subordinate in degree. Occupying a station which corresponds to that of Senior Deacon in the lower degrees, it becomes your duty to obey and extend the orders of your superiors, and to act as their proxies in the active business of the Grand Chapter. Attention, obedience, and promptitude are, therefore, essentially necessary for the faithful performance of your duties. I present you with the rod, a symbol of command, as the proper ensign of your office. You will repair to your Station.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN.

Right Excellent Companion:—The office to which you have been appointed nearly corresponds to that of Junior Deacon in the inferior degrees. It is, therefore, your duty to see that the external avenues of the Grand Chapter are securely guarded, and that none are permitted to pass or repass, but such as are duly qualified and have the requisite permission. Let vigilance and attention, therefore, actuate you in the discharge of the functions of your important office; for the more faithful performance of which, I intrust this sword to your keeping. You will repair to your Station.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND MASTER OF THE THIRD VEIL.

Right Excellent Companion:—I present you with the *Scarlet Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and with a sword to protect and defend the same. The rich and beautiful color of your banner is emblematical of *fergency* and *zeal*; it is the appropriate color of the Royal Arch degree; it admonishes us, that we should be fervent in the exercise of our devotions to God, and zealous in our endeavors to promote the happiness of man.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND MASTER OF THE SECOND VEIL.

Right Excellent Companion:—I invest you with the *Purple*

Banner, which is the ensign of your office, and arm you with a sword, to enable you to maintain its honor.

The color of your banner is produced by a due mixture of *blue* and *scarlet*; the former of which is the characteristic color of the *symbolic* or *first three degrees of masonry*, and the latter, that of the *Royal Arch degree*. It is an emblem of *union*, and is the characteristic color of the intermediate degrees. It admonishes us to cultivate and improve that spirit of union and harmony, between the brethren of the symbolic degrees and the Companions of the sublime degrees, which should ever distinguish the members of a society founded upon the principles of everlasting truth and universal philanthropy.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND MASTER OF THE FIRST VEIL.

Right Excellent Companion:—I invest you with the *Blue Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and a sword for its defence and protection. The color of your banner is one of the most durable and beautiful in nature. It is the appropriate color adopted and worn by our ancient brethren of the three symbolic degrees, and is the *peculiar characteristic* of an institution which has stood the test of ages, and which is as much distinguished by the durability of its materials or principles, as by the beauty of its superstructure. It is an emblem of universal *friendship* and *benevolence*; and instructs us, that in the mind of a mason, those virtues should be as expansive as the blue arch of heaven itself.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND TILER.

Companion:—You have been appointed Grand Tiler of this Grand Chapter; and I now invest you with the jewel of your office, and place this sword in your hands, the more effectually to enable you to repel the approach of cowards and eavesdroppers, and to guard against surprise.

It is your duty to guard the door of the Grand Chapter, at the outside ; to report to the Grand Royal Arch Captain those who desire to be admitted ; to place the Grand Chapter Room in order for its convocations ; and to attend to such other duties as may be required of you by the Grand Chapter. Your punctual attendance is essentially necessary at every convocation. You will repair to your Station.

The Grand Captain of the Host then makes proclamation as follows :—

By authority of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of the State of New York, I proclaim its Officers duly installed in ample form, with the Grand Honors of Masonry, by three times three.

FORM FOR CONSTITUTING A NEW CHAPTER,

AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS IN SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

The new Chapter will meet in its hall, and open on the Royal Arch Degree ; the Grand officers will meet in an adjoining room, and on being notified by a committee of the new Chapter that its members are ready for their reception, they will proceed to the Chapter room, where being received by the new Chapter with the Grand Honors, the officers of the new Chapter resign their stations to the Grand Officers.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Almighty and Supreme High Priest of Heaven and Earth ! Who is there in heaven but thee ! and who upon earth can stand in competition with thee ! Thy Omniscient Mind brings all things in review, past, present, and to come ; thine Omnipotent Arm directs the movements of the vast creation ; thine Omnipresent Eye pervades the secret recesses of every heart ; thy boundless beneficence supplies us with every comfort and enjoyment ; and thine unspeakable perfections and

glory surpass the understanding of the children of men ! Our Father, who art in heaven, we invoke thy benediction upon the purposes of our present assembly. May this Chapter be established to thine honor, and consecrated to thy glory ; may its officers be endowed with wisdom to discern, and fidelity to pursue, its true interests ; and may its members be ever mindful of the duty they owe to their God, the obedience they owe to their superiors, the love they owe to their equals, and the good will they owe to all mankind. Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

The Grand Captain of the Host then forms the new Chapter in front of the Grand High Priest.

The Deputy Grand High Priest says :—

Most Excellent Grand High Priest:—a number of Companions duly instructed in the sublime mysteries, being desirous of promoting the honor, and propagating the principles of the Art, have applied to the Grand Chapter for a Warrant to constitute a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, which having been obtained, they are now assembled for the purpose of being constituted, and having their officers installed in due and ancient form.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST. Let the Warrant of Constitution be read.

Grand Secretary reads it.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST. Companions:—The Grand Chapter having granted to you a Warrant for forming and opening a new Chapter, and having full confidence in your ability to conduct the same in accordance with the spirit of our Royal Art ; Now therefore, by virtue of the high powers in me vested, I do form you, my respected Companions, into a regu-

lar Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. From henceforth you are authorized and empowered to open and hold a Lodge of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters, and a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; and to do and perform all such things as thereunto may appertain; conforming in all your doings to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States, and of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York; and may the God of your fathers be with you, guide, and direct you in all your doings.

The Ark of the Covenant, and the furniture, clothing, jewels, and implements belonging to the Chapter, (having been previously placed in the centre, in front of the Grand High Priest,) are now uncovered, and the dedication proceeds.

GRAND CHAPLAIN. To our most excellent patron Zerubbabel, we solemnly dedicate this Chapter. May the blessing of our Heavenly High Priest descend and rest upon its members, and may their felicity be immortal. Glory be to God on high.

Response. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Deputy Grand High Priest then presents the High Priest of the new Chapter to the Grand High Priest, saying:—

Most Excellent Grand High Priest:—I present you Companion ———, nominated in the warrant, to be installed High Priest of this new Chapter. I find him to be skillful in the Royal Art, and attentive to the moral precepts of our forefathers, and have therefore no doubt he will discharge the duties of his office with fidelity.

The Grand High Priest then addresses him as follows:—

Most Excellent:—I feel much satisfaction in performing my duty on the present occasion, by installing you into the office

of High Priest of this Chapter. It is an office highly honorable to all those who dilligently perform the important duties annexed to it ; your reputed Masonic knowledge, however, precludes the necessity of a particular enumeration of those duties ; I shall therefore only observe, that by a frequent recurrence to the Constitution, and general regulations, and a constant study of our sublime science, you will be best able to fulfil them ; and I am confidant that the Companions who are chosen to assist you, will give strength to your endeavors, and support to your exertions. I shall now propose certain questions to you, relative to the duties of your office, to which I must request your unequivocal answer.

1. Do you solemnly promise that you will redouble your endeavors to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of those of your Companions who have attained this sublime degree.

2. That you will never suffer your Chapter to be opened, unless there be present nine regular Royal Arch Masons.

3. That you will never suffer either more or less than three brethren to be exalted in your Chapter at one and the same time.

4. That you will not exalt any one to this degree, who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition ; or who has not made a considerable proficiency in the foregoing degrees.

5. That you will promote the general good of our fraternity, and on all proper occasions be ready to give and receive instructions, and particularly from the General and State Grand Officers.

6. That to the utmost of your power you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies, and behave in open Chapter, with the most profound respect and reverence, as an example to your Companions.

7. That you will not acknowledge or have intercourse with any Chapter that does not work under a Constitutional warrant or dispensation.

8. That you will not admit any visitor into your Chapter who has not been exalted in a Chapter legally constituted, without his being first formally healed.

9. That you will observe and support such by-laws as may be legally made by your Chapter.

10. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the instructions of the General and State Grand Officers, particularly relating to the several lectures and charges, and will resign the chair to them, severally, when they may visit your Chapter officially.

11. That you will support and observe the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America, and of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, under whose authority you act.

Do you submit to all these things, and do you promise to observe and practice them faithfully?

Answer. I do.

The Grand Chaplain offers the following

PRAYER.

Most holy and glorious Lord God, the Great High Priest of Heaven and Earth;

We approach thee with reverence, and implore thy blessing on the Companion appointed to preside over this new assembly, and now prostrate before thee;—fill his heart with thy fear, that his tongue and actions may pronounce thy glory. Make him steadfast in thy service; grant him firmness of mind; animate his heart, and strengthen his endeavors; may

he teach thy judgments and thy laws ; and may the incense he shall put before thee, upon thine altar, prove an acceptable sacrifice unto thee. Bless him, O Lord, and bless the work of his hands. Accept us in mercy ; hear thou from heaven thy dwelling-place, and forgive our transgressions. Amen.

Response. So mote it be.

The Grand High Priest then administers the following obligation to the High Priest :—

I, — —, do promise and swear that I will serve this Chapter as High Priest for the time that I have been elected ; that I will perform all the duties appertaining to that office to the best of my abilities, and will support and maintain the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, and that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

The High Priest will then be presented with the clothing and badges of his office, and the Grand High Priest will address him as follows :

Most Excellent :—In consequence of your cheerful acquiescence with the charges, which you have heard recited, you are qualified for installation as the High Priest of this Royal Arch Chapter ; and it is incumbent upon me, on this occasion, to point out some of the particulars appertaining to your office, duty, and dignity.

The High Priest of every Chapter has it in special charge, to see that the by-laws of his Chapter, as well as the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, and all the regulations of the Grand Chapter, are duly observed ;—that all the officers of his Chapter perform the duties of their respective offices faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their Companions ;—that true and accurate records of all the proceedings of the Chapter are kept by the Secretary ;—that the

Treasurer keeps and renders exact and just accounts of all the moneys and other property belonging to the Chapter ;—that the regular returns be made annually to the Grand Chapter ;—and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. He has the right and authority of calling his Chapter together at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence, which in his judgment may require their meeting. It is his privilege and duty, together with the King and Scribe, to attend the meetings of the Grand Chapter, and the well-being of the institution requires that this duty should on no occasion be omitted.

The office of High Priest is a station highly honorable to all those who diligently perform the important duties annexed to it. By a frequent recurrence to the constitutions and general regulations, and a constant practice of the several sublime Lectures and Charges, you will be best enabled to fulfill those duties ; and I am confident that the Companions who are chosen to assist you, will give strength to your endeavors, and support to your exertions.

Let the *Mitre* with which you are invested, remind you of the dignity of the office you sustain, and its inscription impress upon your mind a sense of your dependence upon God ;—that perfection is not given unto man upon earth, and that perfect holiness belongeth alone unto the Lord.

The *Breast-Plate*, with which you are decorated, in imitation of that upon which were engraven the names of the twelve tribes, and worn by the High Priest of Israel, is to teach you that you are always to bear in mind your responsibility to the laws and ordinances of the institution, and that the honor and interests of your Chapter and its members, should be always near your heart.

The *various colors* of the *Robes* you wear, are emblematical of every grace and virtue which can adorn and beautify the

human mind; each of which will be briefly illustrated in the course of the charges to be delivered to your subordinate officers.

You will now take charge of your officers, standing upon their right, and present them severally in succession to the Deputy Grand High Priest, by whom they will be presented to me for installation.

The High Priest of the Chapter will then present each of his officers in succession to the Deputy Grand High Priest, who will present the officer to the Grand High Priest, in the words already used in presenting the High Priest, making the necessary variation for the office. The Grand High Priest will administer an obligation similar to that administered to the High Priest, and after presenting each officer with his clothing and badges, he will address him as follows:—

CHARGE TO THE KING.

Excellent Companion:—The important station to which you are elected in this Chapter, requires from you exemplary conduct; its duties demand your most assiduous attention; you are to second and support your chief in all the requirements of his office; and should casualties at any time prevent his attendance, you are to succeed him in the performance of his duties.

Your badge, *the Level surmounted by a Crown*, should remind you that although you are the representative of a King, and exalted by office above your Companions, yet that you remain upon a level with them, as respects your duty to God, to your neighbor, and to yourself; that you are equally bound with them, to be obedient to the laws and ordinances of the institution; to be charitable, humane, and just, and to seek every occasion of doing good.

Your office teaches a striking lesson of humility. The institutions of political society teach us to consider the king as the chief of created beings, and that the first duty of his subjects is to obey his mandates:—but the institutions of our sublime degrees, by placing the King in a situation subordinate to the High Priest, teach us that our duty to God is paramount to all other duties, and should ever claim the priority of our obedience to man; and that however strongly we may be bound to obey the laws of civil society, yet that those laws, to be just, should never intermeddle with matters of conscience, nor dictate articles of faith.

The *Scarlet Robe*, an emblem of imperial dignity, should remind you of the paternal concern you should ever feel for the welfare of your Chapter, and the *fervency* and *zeal* with which you should endeavor to promote its prosperity.

In presenting to you the *Crown*, which is an emblem of royalty, I would remind you, that to reign sovereign in the hearts and affections of men, must be far more grateful to a generous and benevolent mind than to rule over their lives and fortunes; and that to enable you to enjoy this pre-eminence with honor and satisfaction, you must subject your own passions and prejudices to the dominion of reason and charity.

You are entitled to the second seat in the council of your Companions. Let the bright example of your illustrious predecessor in the Grand Council at Jerusalem, stimulate you to the faithful discharge of your duties; and when the King of Kings shall summon you into his immediate presence, from his hand may you receive a *crown of glory*, which shall never fade away.

CHARGE TO THE SCRIBE.

Excellent Companion :—The office of Scribe, to which you are elected, is very important and respectable. In the ab-

sence of your superior officers, you are bound to succeed them, and to perform their duties. The purposes of the institution ought never to suffer for want of intelligence in its proper officers; you will therefore perceive the necessity there is of your possessing such qualifications as will enable you to accomplish those duties which are incumbent upon you, in your appropriate station, as well as those which may occasionally devolve on you, by the absence of your superiors.

The *Purple Robe*, with which you are invested, is an emblem of *union*, and is calculated to remind you that the harmony and unanimity of the Chapter should be your constant aim; and to this end you are studiously to avoid all occasions of giving offense, or countenancing anything that may create divisions or dissensions. You are, by all means in your power, to endeavor to establish a permanent union and good understanding among all orders and degrees of masonry; and as the glorious sun, at its meridian height, dispels the mist and clouds which obscure the horizon, so may your exertions tend to dissipate the gloom of jealousy and discord, whenever they may appear.

Your badge, *a Plumb-rule surmounted by the Turban*, is an emblem of rectitude and vigilance; and while you stand as a watchman on the tower, to guard your Companions against the approach of those enemies of human felicity, *intemperance* and *excess*, let this faithful monitor ever remind you to walk uprightly in your station; admonishing and animating your Companions to fidelity and industry while at labor, and to temperance and moderation while at refreshment. And when the Great Watchman of Israel, whose eye never slumbers or sleeps, shall relieve you from your post on earth, may he permit you in heaven to participate in that food and refreshment which is

“ Such as the saints in glory love,
And such as angels eat.”

CHARGE TO THE TREASURER.

Companion:—You are elected Treasurer of this Chapter, and I have the pleasure of investing you with the badge of your office. The qualities which should recommend a Treasurer, are *accuracy* and *fidelity*; accuracy, in keeping a fair and minute account of all receipts and disbursements; fidelity, in carefully preserving all the property and funds of the Chapter, that may be placed in his hands, and rendering a just account of the same, whenever he is called upon for that purpose. I presume that your respect for the institution, your attachment to the interests of your Chapter, and your regard for a good name, which is better than precious ointment, will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.

CHARGE TO THE SECRETARY.

Companion:—I with pleasure invest you with your badge as Secretary of this Chapter. The qualities which should recommend a Secretary, are, *promptitude* in issuing the notifications and orders of his superior officers; *punctuality* in attending the convocations of the Chapter; *correctness* in recording their proceedings; *judgment* in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be committed to writing; *regularity* in making his annual returns to the Grand Chapter; *integrity* in accounting for all moneys that may pass through his hands; and *fidelity* in paying the same over into the hands of the Treasurer. The possession of these good qualities, I presume, has designated you as a suitable candidate for this important office; and I cannot entertain a doubt that you will discharge its duties beneficially to the Chapter, and honorably to yourself. And when you shall have completed the record of your transactions here below, and finished the term of your probation, may you be admitted into the celestial Grand Chapter of saints and angels, and find your name *recorded* in the *book of life eternal*.

CHARGE TO THE TILER.

Companion :—You are appointed Tiler of this Chapter, and I invest you with the badge, and this implement of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Tiler, to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of all *cowans and eavesdroppers*, and suffer none to pass or repass but such as are *duly qualified*, so it should morally serve as a constant admonition to us to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts, to place a watch at the door of our lips, to post a sentinel at the avenue of our actions, thereby excluding every unqualified and unworthy thought, word, and deed, and preserving consciences void of offense towards God and towards man.

As the first application from visitors for admission into the Chapter is generally made to the Tiler at the door, your station will often present you to the observation of strangers ; it is, therefore, essentially necessary that he who sustains the office with which you are intrusted, should be a man of good morals, steady habits, strict discipline, temperate, affable and discreet. I trust that a just regard for the honor and reputation of the institution, will ever induce you to perform with fidelity the trust reposed in you ; and when the door of this earthly tabernacle shall be closed, may you find an abundant entrance through the gates into the temple and city of our God.

CHARGE TO THE CHAPTER.

Companions :—The exercise and management of the sublime degrees of masonry in your Chapter hitherto, are so highly appreciated, and the good reputation of the Chapter so well established, that I presume these considerations alone, were there no others of greater magnitude, would be sufficient to induce you to preserve and perpetuate this valuable and honorable character. But when to these is added the pleasure

which every philanthropic heart must feel in doing good, in promoting good order, in diffusing light and knowledge, in cultivating masonic and Christian charity, which are the great objects of this sublime institution, I cannot doubt that your future conduct, and that of your successors, will be calculated still to increase the lustre of your justly esteemed reputation.

May your *Chapter* become *beautiful* as the *temple*, *peaceful* as the *ark*, and *sacred* as its *most holy place*. May your oblations of *piety* and *praise* be *grateful* as the *incense*, your love *warm* as its *flame*, and your charity diffusive as its fragrance. May your hearts be *pure* as the *altar*, and your conduct *acceptable* as the *offering*. May the exercises of your *charity* be as constant as the returning wants of the distressed *widow* and helpless *orphan*. May the approbation of Heaven be your encouragement, and the testimony of a good conscience your support; may you be endowed with every good and perfect gift, while *traveling* the *rugged path* of life, and finally be *admitted within the veil* of heaven, to the full enjoyment of life eternal. Amen. So mote it be.

The Grand Captain of the Host then makes the following proclamation:—

In the name of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of the State of New York, I hereby proclaim — Chapter No. —, to be legally constituted and consecrated, and the officers thereof duly installed, with the Grand Honors of Masonry, by three times three.

The Grand Honors are then given, and the Grand High Priest directs the newly installed officers to repair to their respective stations, and enter upon the discharge of their duties.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE

THE GRAND CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

Passed March 31, 1818.

Whereas it is represented to the legislature by the Grand Chapter of Freemasons of the State of New York, that they experience great difficulties in vesting and securing their funds, which are chiefly intended for charitable purposes; and that they wish to purchase and hold a lot of ground for the purpose of erecting thereon a Masonic Hall: Therefore,

I. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly,* That Ezra Ames, Richard Hatfield, Joseph Enos, jr., John Brush, Ebenezer Wadsworth and Isaac Hempsted, and their associates, be, and they are hereby declared a body politic and corporate, in fact and in name, by the name of the "Grand Chapter of the State of New York;" and that by that name, they and their successors shall and may have succession, and be capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, defending and being defended, in all courts and places whatsoever, in all manner of actions, suits, complaints, matters and causes whatsoever,

and that they may have a common seal, and alter the same at pleasure.

II. *And be it further enacted*, That their elections of officers shall be made annually, at such time and place, and subject to such rules and regulations, as the said Grand Chapter shall from time to time direct; and that the first four officers, together with the secretary and treasurer for the time being, shall always be the trustees, and have the management of the concerns of the said Grand Chapter: *Provided always*, That all appropriations of the funds of the said Chapter shall be made by the trustees aforesaid, by and with the consent of a majority of the members thereof, present at their annual meetings.

III. *And be it further enacted*, That the trustees aforesaid, and their successors, by the name aforesaid, shall be in law capable of purchasing, holding, selling and conveying any estate, real and personal, for the use and benefit of the said Chapter, not exceeding fifty thousand dollars in value: *Provided*, That no real estate or lot of ground shall be purchased or held by the said trustees, except for the purpose of building and erecting a masonic hall thereon; and that the powers of the said trustees in relation to their personal estate, shall be confined to the vesting and securing of their funds, and the transfer and distribution thereof, for the ordinary and usual purposes of the said Chapter: *And provided also*, That this act shall in no wise affect any other or subordinate Chapter in this State.

IV. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall be taken and deemed to be a public act, and that it shall and may be lawful for the legislature, at any time hereafter, to alter or repeal the same.

AN ACT FOR INCORPORATING

THE TRUSTEES OF A SUBORDINATE CHAPTER.

CHAPTER 317.

AN ACT to enable Lodges and Chapters of Free and Accepted Masons to Take, Hold, and Convey Real and Personal Estate. Passed April 2, 1866.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :

SECTION 1. Whenever any lodge or chapter of Free and Accepted Masons which is or hereafter may be duly chartered by and installed according to the general rules and regulations of the grand lodge or grand chapter of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, shall be desirous of having the benefit of this act, it shall and may be lawful for such lodge or chapter, at any regular communication or convocation thereof, held in accordance with the constitution and general regulations of the grand lodge or chapter aforesaid, and in conformity to its own by-laws, to elect three trustees for such lodge or chapter, for the purpose aforesaid, a certificate of which election and purpose shall be made and subscribed by the first

three elective officers of such lodge or chapter, under their hands, and stating therein the time and place of such election, the regularity thereof, the names of said trustees, and the terms severally for which they are allotted to serve, and the name of the lodge or chapter for which they are elected. The execution of such certificate shall be acknowledged or proved before some officer authorized to take the acknowledgment of deeds, who shall indorse thereon a certificate of such acknowledgment, under his hand, and the same shall then be filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Such trustees and their successors shall thereupon be and become entitled to all the benefits, rights, and privileges granted by this act, to and for the use and behoof of said lodge or chapter, and a copy of said certificate, certified by the Secretary of State, or his deputy, shall be evidence of the right of said trustees to exercise all the rights and privileges conferred by this act; and said trustees shall thereupon be authorized to take and hold and convey real and personal estate, for the charitable purposes of said lodge or chapter, not exceeding the clear and annual value of ten thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. The persons so first elected trustees shall be divided by lot by said officers making said certificate, so that the term of one shall expire on the day of the festival of St. John the Evangelist next thereafter, and another in one year, and the third in two years thereafter. One trustee shall annually thereafter prior to the expiration of the terms of office of said trustees and their successors, be elected by said lodge or chapter by ballot, in the same manner and at the same time as the first three officers thereof severally are or shall be elected according to the constitution, by-laws, and general regulations aforesaid, and a certificate of said election, under the hands of said officers, and the seal of said lodge or chapter, if they have

one, shall be made and shall be evidence of said election, and entitle said person so elected to act as trustee. Said lodge or chapter may, at any regular communication or convocation, fill any vacancy that may have occurred in said board of trustees, to be certified in like manner and with like effect as at an annual election. The person so elected shall hold his office for and during the term of the trustee whose place he was elected to fill.

SEC. 3. If any person so elected trustee shall die, resign, demit, or be suspended or expelled from said lodge or chapter, remove from the State, or become insane, or otherwise incapacitated for performing the duties of said trust, his office as trustee shall therefor be deemed vacant, and said lodge or chapter may thereafter, at any regular meeting, fill such vacancy, in the manner and with the effect stated in the last section.

SEC. 4. The trustees of any lodge or chapter, and their successors, shall be and are hereby authorized to take, hold, and convey, by and under the direction of said lodge or chapter, and for the use and benefit thereof, all the temporalities and property belonging thereto, whether consisting of real or personal estate and whether the same shall have been given, granted or devised directly to such lodge or chapter or to any person or persons for their use, or in trust for them or their benefit, and also in their individual names, with the addition of their title of trustees aforesaid, to sue and be sued in all courts and places having jurisdiction, and to recover, hold, and enjoy, in trust, and subject as aforesaid, all the debts, demands, rights, and privileges, and all masonic halls, with the appurtenances, and all other estate and property belonging to such lodges and chapters, in whatsoever manner the same may have been acquired, or in whose name soever the same may be held,

as fully and amply as if the right or title thereto had originally been vested in said trustees, and also to purchase and hold for the purposes and subject as aforesaid, other real and personal estate, and to demise, lease, and improve the same; and such lodge or chapter shall have power to make rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the laws of this State, nor contrary to the constitution or general regulations of the grand body to which it shall be subordinate, for managing the temporal affairs of such lodge or chapter, and to dispose of its property and all other temporal concerns and revenue thereof, and the secretary and treasurer of such lodge or chapter, duly elected and installed according to the constitution and general regulations aforesaid, shall, for the time being, be *ex officio* the secretary and treasurer of said trustees.

SEC. 5. Nothing in this act contained shall be construed or taken to give to such trustees of any lodge or chapter, the power to purchase, sell, convey, or dispose of any property, real or personal, of such lodge or chapter, nor shall they have such power except by and under the direction of such lodge or chapter, duly had at a regular or stated communication or convocation thereof, according to the constitution and general regulations aforesaid, and said trustees shall at all times obey and abide by the directions, orders, and resolutions of said lodge or chapter, duly passed at any regular or stated communication or convocation thereof, according to and not contravening the constitution and laws of this State, or of the grand body to which it shall be subordinate, or of the lodge or chapter aforesaid. *Provided*, that in case said lodge or chapter shall surrender its warrant to the grand body to which the same shall be subordinate, as aforesaid, or shall be expelled or become extinct, according to the constitution and general regulations aforesaid, it shall be the duty of said trustees then in office, out of the property aforesaid, to satisfy all just debts

due from said lodge or chapter, and the residue of said property shall be transferred to the "trustees of the masonic hall and asylum fund," a corporation created by an act entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Asylum Fund," passed April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and unless reclaimed by said lodge or chapter within three years after said transfer, in accordance with the constitution and general regulations aforesaid, the same, with the avails or increase thereof, shall be applied by said trustees last mentioned, to the benevolent purposes for which said trustees were created in and by said act.

SEC. 6. It shall and may be lawful for any lodge or chapter, or the trustees or officers thereof, under the direction of such lodge or chapter, heretofore incorporated by the laws of this State, or thereby enabled to take and hold real or personal estate or both, to surrender such act of incorporation, charter, or privilege, and to be enabled to take and hold property, with all the rights and subject to all the provisions of this act, on making and filing the certificate in the manner specified in the first section of this act, and therein stating, in addition to what is therein required, the surrender of said act, charter or privilege, referring to and specifying the same, and on such certificate being so made and filed, the lodge or chapter making and filing the same shall thereupon be deemed as having fully surrendered such incorporation, charter, or right, and its property shall be fully vested in the trustees specified in said certificate, and their successors, with all the rights, powers, and privileges, and subject to all the provisions of this act.

SEC. 7. No board of trustees for any lodge or chapter, filing the certificate aforesaid, shall be deemed to be dissolved for any neglect or omission to elect a trustee annually, or fill any vacancy or vacancies that may occur or exist at any time in

said board ; but it shall and may be lawful for said lodge or chapter to fill such vacancy or vacancies at any regular communication thereafter to be held, and till a vacancy arising from the expiration of the term of office of a trustee is filled, as aforesaid, he shall continue to hold the said office and perform the duties thereof.

SEC. 8. This act shall be deemed a public act and be benignly construed in all courts and places, to effectuate the objects thereof.

SEC. 9. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK. }
Office of the Secretary of State. }

I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in this office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original law.

FRANCIS C. BARLOW, *Secretary of State.*

FORM OF CERTIFICATE,

TO BE USED BY CHAPTERS DESIRING TO INCORPORATE THEIR TRUSTEES UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ABOVE ACT.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
County of }

We, the undersigned, the first three elective officers of Chapter No. of Free and Accepted Masons, duly chartered by and installed according to the General Rules and

Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of New York, do hereby certify, that, at a regular convocation of said Chapter held at their Hall in _____, on the _____ day of _____, in the year 18____, in accordance with the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Chapter aforesaid, and in conformity to their By-laws, the said Lodge being desirous of having the benefits and privileges conferred by an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York, entitled, "An Act to enable Lodges and Chapters of Free and Accepted Masons, to Take, Hold, and Convey Real and Personal Estate," passed April 2, 1866, did, then and there, proceed to elect three Trustees for such Chapter, for the purpose aforesaid, and whose terms of office were allotted, by the undersigned, as prescribed in said act.

And the undersigned do further certify, that said election was regularly conducted, according to the Constitution and General Rules and Regulations of the said Grand Chapter, and the By-laws of the Chapter aforesaid; that the names of said Trustees, and the terms, severally, for which they were allotted to serve, are as follow: _____, whose term will expire on the day of the festival of St. John the Evangelist next after said election; _____, whose term will expire in one year thereafter; and _____, whose term will expire in two years thereafter.

In testimony whereof, we the undersigned, the first three elective officers of said Chapter have hereto set our hands, this _____ day of _____, in the year 18____.

— *High Priest.*

— *King.*

— *Scribe.*

Signed, and duly stamped before }
execution, in presence of }

{ Rev. Stamp. }
{ 5 cts. Canceled. }

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
 County of }

I, the undersigned, an officer duly authorized by law to take the acknowledgment of deeds, do hereby certify, that on the
 day of , in the year 18 , in the
 of , in the said county, before me personally appeared , with whom I am personally acquainted, and know to be the first three elective officers, viz: High Priest, King and Scribe of the Chapter specified in the foregoing instrument, and the persons and officers described therein, and who have subscribed the same, and who, each, then and there, severally acknowledged the execution by them of the foregoing certificate.

{ Rev. Stamp. }
 { 5 cts. Canceled. }

The Judge, Commissioner, Justice, or Notary Public before whom the certificate is acknowledged will sign this certificate officially. In case he does not personally know the subscribers, they can be identified by some witness who does know them, and the certificate can be altered accordingly. The certificate must then be sent to the Secretary of State and a copy sent to the Grand Secretary.

OFFICERS

OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, FROM
ITS ORGANIZATION, MARCH 14, 1798, TO 1867.

1798. M. E. De Witt Clinton, G. H. *Priest*.
Thomas Frothingham, G. *King*.
Jedediah Sanger, G. *Scribe*.
Comp. John Hanmer, G. *Secretary*.
Ammi Rogers, G. *Chaplain*.
Thomas Smith Webb, G. *Treasurer*.
John C. Ten Broeck, G. *Marshal*.
Benjamin Whipple, G. *Sentinel*.
Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler*.
1799. M. E. De Witt Clinton, G. H. *Priest*.
Thomas S. Webb, D. G. H. *Priest*.
Thomas Frothingham, G. *King*.
Jedediah Sanger, G. *Scribe*.
Comp. John Hanmer, G. *Secretary*.
John F. Ernst, G. *Chaplain*.
Ezra Ames, G. *Treasurer*.
John C. Ten Broeck, G. *Marshal*.
Benjamin Whipple, G. *Sentinel*.
Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler*.

1800. M. E. De Witt Clinton, G. H. *Priest.*
 Ezra Ames, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 Thomas Frothingham, G. *King.*
 Samuel Edmonds, G. *Scribe.*
 Comp. G. Bogart, G. *Secretary.*
 Richard Allanson, G. *Treasurer.*
 John F. Ernst, G. *Chaplain.*
 E. Porter, G. *Marshal.*
 Benjamin Whipple, G. *Sentinel.*
 Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler.*
1801. M. E. De Witt Clinton, G. H. *Priest.*
 Ezra Ames, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 Warren Smith, G. *King.*
 Zebulon R. Shipherd, G. *Scribe.*
 Comp. Richard Allanson, G. *Treasurer.*
 John Scoville, G. *Secretary.*
 John F. Ernst, G. *Chaplain.*
 Simeon Lester, G. *Marshal.*
 Benjamin Whipple, G. *Sentinel.*
 Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler.*
1802. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
 Zebulon R. Shipherd, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 Samuel Edmonds, G. *King.*
 John Buller, G. *Scribe.*
 Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary.*
 Joseph Fry, G. *Treasurer.*
 John F. Ernst, G. *Chaplain.*
 Abraham D. Lansing, G. *Marshal.*
 Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler.*
1803. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
 Samuel Edmonds, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 Elijah Porter, G. *King.*

List of Officers:

- James Adams, G. *Scribe*.
- Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
 Joseph Fry, G. *Treasurer*.
 Silas Churchill, G. *Chaplain*.
 Elisha Gilbert, jr., G. *Marshal*.
 Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler*.
1804. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
 Zebulon R. Shipherd, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 Daniel Hale, G. *King*.
 Ephraim Allen, G. *Scribe*.
- Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
 Joseph Fry, G. *Treasurer*.
 Ozias Fuller, G. *Marshal*.
 Silas Churchill, G. *Chaplain*.
 Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler*.
1805. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
 Zebulon R. Shipherd, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 Elisha Gilbert jr., G. *King*.
 William Patrick, jr., G. *Scribe*.
- Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
 Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
 Silas Churchill, G. *Chaplain*.
 Adonijah Skinner, *Marshal*.
 Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler*.
1806. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
 Samuel Edmonds, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 Asa Fitch, G. *King*.
 Ebenezer Wadsworth, G. *Scribe*.
- Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
 Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
 Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 William A. Needham, G. *Marshal*.
 Isaac Sturges, G. *Tiler*.

1807. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
James Woods, D. G. H. *Priest*.
John E. West, G. *King*.
Abner Peck, G. *Scribe*.
Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
John F. Doty, G. *Marshal*.
Abraham Martin, G. *Tiler*.
1808. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
James Woods, D. G. H. *Priest*.
Benjamin Prince, G. *King*.
Adonijah Skinner, G. *Scribe*.
Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
John F. Doty, G. *Marshal*.
Abraham Martin, G. *Tiler*.
1809. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
James Woods, D. G. H. *Priest*.
Jedediah Sanger, G. *King*.
Samuel Edmonds, G. *Scribe*.
Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
John F. Doty, G. *Marshal*.
Abraham Martin, G. *Tiler*.
1810. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
James Woods, D. G. H. *Priest*.
Jedediah Sanger, G. *King*.
Samuel Edmonds, G. *Scribe*.

List of Officers.

- Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
 Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
 Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 John F. Doty, G. *Marshal*.
 Benoni B. Forman, G. *Tiler*.
1811. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
 John C. Ludlow, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 Samuel Edmonds, G. *King*.
 Joseph Enos, jr., G. *Scribe*.
 Comp. John Scoville, G. *Secretary*.
 Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
 Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 John F. Doty, G. *Marshal*.
 Benoni B. Forman, G. *Tiler*.
1812. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
 Thomas Lownds, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 Samuel Edmonds, G. *King*.
 Joseph Enos, jr., G. *Scribe*.
 Comp. Isaac Hempsted, G. *Secretary*.
 Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
 Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 John F. Doty, G. *Marshal*.
 Benoni B. Forman, G. *Tiler*.
1813. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest*.
 Thomas Lownds, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 Samuel Edmonds, G. *King*.
 Joseph Enos, jr., G. *Scribe*.
 Comp. Isaac Hempsted, G. *Secretary*.
 Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer*.
 Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 John F. Doty, G. *Marshal*.
 Benoni B. Forman, G. *Tiler*.

1814. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
Thomas Lownds, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
Augustus F. Hayden, G. *Scribe.*
Comp. Isaac Hempsted, G. *Secretary.*
Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer.*
Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
John F. Doty, G. *Marshal.*
Abraham Martin, G. *Tiler.*
1815. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
Joel Hart, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
Comp. Isaac Hempsted, G. *Secretary.*
Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer.*
Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
John F. Doty, G. *Marshal.*
Abraham Martin, G. *Tiler.*
1816. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
Joel Hart, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
Comp. Isaac Hempsted, G. *Secretary.*
Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer.*
Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
John F. Doty, G. *Marshal.*
Abraham Martin, G. *Tiler.*
1817. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
Richard Hatfield, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
Comp. Isaac Hempsted, G. *Secretary.*

List of Officers.

Christopher C. Yates, G. *Treasurer.*
 Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
 John F. Doty, G. *Marshal.*
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Tiler.*

1818. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
 Richard Hatfield, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
 John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
 Comp. Ebenezer Wadsworth, G. *Secretary.*
 Isaac Hempsted, G. *Treasurer.*
 Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Tiler.*
1819. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
 Richard Hatfield, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
 John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
 Comp. Ebenezer Wadsworth, G. *Secretary.*
 Isaac Hempsted, G. *Treasurer.*
 William B. Lacy, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Tiler.*
1820. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
 Richard Hatfield, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
 John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
 Comp. Ebenezer Wadsworth. G. *Secretary.*
 William Barclay, G. *Treasurer.*
 William B. Lacy, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Tiler,*

1821. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
Richard Hatfield, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
Comp. Ebenezer Wadsworth, G. *Secretary.*
Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer.*
William B. Lacy, G. *Chaplain.*
John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Tiler.*
1822. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
Richard Hatfield, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Enos, jr., G. *King.*
John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
Comp. Ebenezer Wadsworth, G. *Secretary.*
Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer.*
Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Tiler.*
1823. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Enos, G. *King.*
John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
Ebenezer Wadsworth, G. *Secretary.*
Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer.*
Rev. Wm. A. Clark, G. *Chaplain.*
Comp. John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
Charles Hewett, G. *Sentinel.*
1824. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
Richard Pennell, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Enos, G. *King.*
John Brush, G. *Scribe.*
Ebenezer Wadsworth, G. *Secretary.*

List of Officers.

- Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. William Clark, G. *Chaplain.*
 Comp. John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Charles Hewett, G. *Sentinel.*
1825. M. E. Ezra Ames, G. H. *Priest.*
 Richard Pennell, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Joseph Enos, G. *King.*
 Ezra S. Cozier, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Joseph Prentiss, G. *Chaplain.*
 Comp. John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Charles Hewett, G. *Sentinel.*
1826. M. E. Asa Fitch, G. H. *Priest.*
 Ezra S. Cozier, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Orville Hungerford, G. *King.*
 Jonathan Eights, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Joseph Prentiss, G. *Chaplain.*
 Comp. John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Charles Hewett, G. *Sentinel.*
1827. M. E. Asa Fitch, G. H. *Priest.*
 Richard Pennell, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Orville Hungerford, G. *King.*
 Jacob Gould, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Joseph Prentiss, G. *Chaplain.*
 Comp. John Bull, jr. G. *Marshal.*
 Charles Hewett, G. *Sentinel.*

1828. M. E. Asa Fitch, G. H. *Priest*.
 Richard Pennell, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. Orville Hungerford, G. *King*.
 Benjamin Enos, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Joseph Prentiss, G. *Chaplain*.
 Comp. John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal*.
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Sentinel*.
1829. M. E. Richard Pennell, G. H. *Priest*.
 Ezra S. Cozier, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. Benjamin Enos, G. *King*.
 Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 Gerrit L. Dox, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Joseph Prentiss, G. *Chaplain*.
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal*.
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Sentinel*.
1830. M. E. Richard Pennell, G. H. *Priest*.
 James M. Allen, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. Benjamin Enos, G. *King*.
 Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Edward Andrews, G. *Chaplain*.
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal*.
 Cornelius Higgins, G. *Sentinel*.
1831. M. E. Ezra S. Cozier, G. H. *Priest*.
 Mordecai Myers, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. *King*.
 John F. Hubbard, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.

List of Officers.

Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Edward Andrews, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Cornelius Higgins, G. *Sentinel.*

1832. M. E. James M. Allen, G. H. *Priest.*
 Mordecai Myers, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. *King.*
 John F. Hubbard, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Cornelius Higgins, G. *Sentinel.*
1833. M. E. James M. Allen, G. H. *Priest.*
 Mordecai Myers, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. *King.*
 John F. Hubbard, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Cornelius Higgins, G. *Sentinel.*
1834. M. E. Mordecai Myers, G. H. *Priest.*
 Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Joseph Cuyler, G. *King.*
 Nathan Gillett, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Cornelius Higgins, G. *Sentinel.*

1835. M. E. Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. H. *Priest.*
Richard Pennell, D. G. H. *Priest.*
E. Joseph Cuyler, G. *King.*
Nathan Gillett, G. *Scribe.*
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
Cornelius Higgins, G. *Sentinel.*
1836. M. E. Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. H. *Priest.*
Richard Ellis, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Cuyler, G. *King.*
Nathan Gillett, G. *Scribe.*
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
Cornelius Higgins, G. *Sentinel.*
1837. M. E. Jacob T. B. Van Nechten, G. H. *Priest.*
Richard Ellis, D. G. H. *Priest.*
Joseph Cuyler, G. *King.*
Nathan Gillett, G. *Scribe.*
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
Cornelius Higgins, G. *Sentinel.*
1838. M. E. Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. H. *Priest.*
Richard Ellis, D. G. H. *Priest.*
E. Joseph Cuyler, G. *King.*
Ebenezer Wadsworth, G. *Scribe.*
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*

List of Officers.

Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Abraham Sickels, G. *Sentinel.*

1839. M. E. Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, G. H. *Priest.*
 Richard Ellis, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Joseph Cuyler, G. *King.*
 Jonathan Eights, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Abraham Sickels, G. *Sentinel.*
1840. M. E. Richard Ellis, G. H. *Priest.*
 Benjamin Enos, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Joseph Cuyler, G. *King.*
 Ezra S. Barnum, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal.*
 Abraham Sickels, G. *Sentinel.*
1841. M. E. Richard Ellis, G. H. *Priest.*
 Benjamin Enos, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 E. Joseph Cuyler, G. *King.*
 Ezra S. Barnum, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer.*
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 Abraham Sickels, G. *Sentinel.*

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Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer*.
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John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal*.
Abraham Sickels, G. *Sentinel*.
1845. M. E. Elisha Gilbert, G. H. *Priest*.
Robert R. Boyd, D. G. H. *Priest*.
E. Ezra S. Barnum, G. *King*.
Achille J. Rousseau, G. *Scribe*.
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.

List of Officers.

- Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer*.
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1846. M. E. Ezra S. Barnum, G. H. *Priest*.
 Robert R. Boyd, D. G. H. *Priest*.
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 Lewis G. Hoffman, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
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 John Bull, jr., G. *Marshal*.
 John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.
1848. M. E. Achille J. Rousseau, G. H. *Priest*.
 Robert R. Boyd, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. Lewis G. Hoffman, G. *King*.
 William Brewster, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Marshal*.
 John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.

1849. M. E. Robert R. Boyd, G. H. *Priest*.
William Brewster, D. G. H. *Priest*.
E. Orsamus Dibble, G. *King*.
James S. French, G. *Scribe*.
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
Gerrit W. Ryckman, G. *Treasurer*.
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Marshal*.
John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.
1850. M. E. Robert R. Boyd, G. H. *Priest*.
Orville Hungerford, D. G. H. *Priest*.
E. John L. Lewis, jr., G. *King*.
James S. French, G. *Scribe*.
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Marshal*.
John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.
1851. M. E. Orville Hungerford, G. H. *Priest*.
Oscar Coles, D. G. H. *Priest*.
E. John L. Lewis, jr., G. *King*.
John S. Perry, G. *Scribe*.
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Marshal*.
John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.
1852. M. E. John L. Lewis, jr., G. H. *Priest*.
James W. Powell, D. G. H. *Priest*.
E. John S. Perry, G. *King*.
Sylvester Gilbert, G. *Scribe*.

List of Officers.

- John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Marshal*.
 John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.
1853. M. E. John L. Lewis, jr., G. H. *Priest*.
 James W. Powell, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. John S. Perry, G. *King*.
 Sylvester Gilbert, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Marshal*.
 John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.
1854. M. E. John L. Lewis, jr., G. H. *Priest*.
 Charles L. Church, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. John S. Perry, G. *King*.
 Peter P. Murphy, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Marshal*.
 John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.
1855. M. E. John S. Perry, G. H. *Priest*.
 Charles L. Church, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. Peter P. Murphy, G. *King*.
 Sylvester Gilbert, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 Jesse P. Mitchell, G. *Marshal*.
 John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.

1856. M. E. Charles L. Church, G. H. *Priest.*
Peter P. Murphy, D. G. H. *Priest.*
E. Sylvester Gilbert, G. *King.*
George H. Thacher, G. *Scribe.*
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
William Seymour, G. *Treasurer.*
Rev. Salem Town, *Chaplain.*
George N. Williams, G. *Capt. of the Host.*
Jesse P. Mitchell, G. R. A. *Capt.*
John Pierce, G. *Sentinel.*
1857. M. E. Peter P. Murphy, G. H. *Priest.*
James M. Austin, D. G. H. *Priest.*
E. Sylvester Gilbert, G. *King.*
Augustus Willard, G. *Scribe.*
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
William Seymour, G. *Treasurer.*
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
George N. Williams, G. C. H.
Jesse P. Mitchell, G. R. A. C.
John Pierce, G. *Sentinel.*
1858. M. E. Peter P. Murphy, G. H. *Priest.*
James M. Austin, D. G. H. *Priest.*
E. Sylvester Gilbert, G. *King.*
Augustus Willard, G. *Scribe.*
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
William Seymour, G. *Treasurer.*
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain.*
George N. Williams, G. C. H.
William Connelly, G. R. A. C.
John Pierce, G. *Sentinel.*
1859. M. E. James M. Austin, G. H. *Priest.*
Sylvester Gilbert, D. G. H. *Priest.*

List of Officers.

- E. Augustus Willard, G. *King*.
 George N. Williams, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 Edgar C. Dibble, G. C. H.
 William Connelly, G. R. A. C.
 John Pierce, G. *Sentinel*.
1860. M. E. James M. Austin, G. H. *Priest*.
 Sylvester Gilbert, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. Augustus Willard, G. *King*.
 George N. Williams, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 Edgar C. Dibble, G. C. H.
 William Connelly, G. R. A. C.
 Alonzo Crosby, G. *Sentinel*.
1861. M. E. George H. Thacher, G. H. *Priest*.
 Arthur Boyce, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 E. Darius A. Ogden, G. *King*.
 Dan S. Wright, G. *Scribe*.
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
 Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
 William F. Holmes, G. C. H.
 William Connelly, G. R. A. C.
 Alonzo Crosby, G. *Sentinel*.
1862. M. E. George H. Thacher, G. H. *Priest*.
 Arthur Boyce, D. G. H. *Priest*.
 R. E. Darius A. Ogden, G. *King*.

Dan S. Wright, G. *Scribe*.
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
Seymour H. Stone, G. C. H.
William Connelly, G. R. A. C.
Alonzo Crosby, G. *Sentinel*.

1863. M. E. Darius A. Ogden, G. H. *Priest*.
Horace S. Taylor, D. G. H. *Priest*.
R. E. Seymour H. Stone, G. *King*.
Rees G. Williams, G. *Scribe*.
John O. Cole, G. *Secretary*.
William Seymour, G. *Treasurer*.
Rev. Salem Town, G. *Chaplain*.
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1865. M. E. Horace S. Taylor, G. H. *Priest*,
Seymour H. Stone, D. G. H. *Priest*.
R. E. Rees G. Williams, G. *King*.
Joseph B. Chaffee, G. *Scribe*.

List of Officers.

- John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Charles H. Platt, G. *Chaplain.*
 David F. Day, G. C. H.
 William Connelly, G. R. A. C.
 Amza Fuller, G. *Sentinel.*
1866. M. E. Horace S. Taylor, G. H. *Priest.*
 Seymour H. Stone, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 R. E. Rees G. Williams, G. *King.*
 Joseph B. Chaffee, G. *Scribe.*
 John O. Cole, G. *Secretary.*
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer.*
 Rev. Charles H. Platt, G. *Chaplain.*
 David F. Day, G. C. H.
 John S. Dickerman, G. R. A. C.
 Amza Fuller, G. *Sentinel.*
1867. M. E. Seymour H. Stone, G. H. *Priest.*
 John W. Simons, D. G. H. *Priest.*
 R. E. Rees G. Williams, G. *King.*
 Joseph B. Chaffee, G. *Scribe.*
 William Seymour, G. *Treasurer.*
 Christopher G. Fox, G. *Secretary.*
 Rev. Charles H. Platt, G. *Chaplain.*
 David F. Day, G. C. H.
 John D. Williams, G. P. S.
 John S. Dickerman, G. R. A. C.
 Daniel Wolff, G. M. 3d V.
 Thomas C. Cassidy, G. M. 2d V.
 James D. Pollard, G. M. 1st V.
 Amza Fuller, G. *Tiler.*

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS,
FOR THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
AS

Revised and Amended at the 17th Triennial
Session, held at Chicago, Illinois,
September, 1859.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

Of the General Grand Chapter.

SECTION 1. There shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America, which shall be holden triennially, on the second Tuesday in September, at such place as shall from time to time be designated for that purpose, and at which time the General Grand Officers shall be elected by ballot, and installed, except the General Grand Chaplain, who shall be appointed by the General Grand High Priest at the commencement of each Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

The General Grand Chapter, at any regular meeting, may change the time for the next succeeding meeting; and if, in the opinion of the General Grand High Priest, or, in case of his death or absence, of the senior General Grand Officer, there shall be danger to life or health, from sickness or other local cause, by any meeting being held at the time appointed, he may change the time of the particular meeting to some subsequent time; and, in the event of such change being made, he shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, who shall forthwith notify the other officers and members in such manner as he may deem best calculated to effect the desired object.

SEC. 2. The General Grand Chapter receives all its powers, faculties and prerogatives by grant and delegation from the several State Grand Chapters; and it can have and possess no other powers than such as are expressly granted and delegated to it by them, or as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers, and consistent with the nature of the confederation between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it are reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several States.

It shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all Chapters established by itself in those States, Districts, Republics and Territories which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter established.

It shall have power to decide all questions of Masonic law, usage and custom which may arise between any two or more Grand Chapters, or in any of the Subordinate Chapters under its own immediate jurisdiction, and all that may be referred to it for its decision by any Grand Chapter, by formal vote; and its decisions so made shall be deemed and regarded as those of the supreme judicial tribunal of Royal Arch Masonry in the last resort.

It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specially granted, nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapters, nor shall entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter, preferred by any Subordinate Chapter or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere; but it may, upon proper reference to it of any matter of controversy between any two or more Grand Chapters, and even where the question is not one of Masonic law, custom or usage (both or

all such Grand Chapters consenting to such reference), act as final arbiter between them, and settle such controversy.

It shall judge of the qualifications of its own members. It shall see that the ancient work of the Order is preserved in the several degrees, and establish uniform formulas for installation of its own officers and those of Grand and Subordinate Chapters, for the consecration and constitution of Chapters, and the opening of Grand Chapters; and it may suspend the proceedings of any Chapter under its own immediate jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory where there is no Grand Chapter, for any wilful violation of any of the provisions of this Constitution, or for gross, unmasonic proceedings or conduct.

SEC. 3. The officers of the General Grand Chapter shall consist of a General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Chaplain, General Grand Captain of the Host, and General Grand Royal Arch Captain. These, together with the first four officers of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction, or the proxies of the first four General Grand Officers, and of the first four officers of each State Grand Chapter aforesaid, shall compose the General Grand Chapter: *Provided*, That any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers shall collectively have one vote.

SEC. 4. On all questions to be decided by the General Grand Chapter, each State Grand Chapter shall be entitled to four votes by its representative or representatives. If there be but two representatives, the inferior officer or his proxy shall give but his own single vote, and the higher or his proxy

shall give the other three. If there be three representatives, the highest officer or his proxy shall give two votes, and the others or their proxies one each.

The General Grand Officers, when present, shall each have one vote ; and no General Grand Officer shall be allowed to take a seat in the General Grand Chapter, as the representative of any State Grand Chapter, nor shall any member of the General Grand Chapter be permitted to vote as proxy while the person giving the proxy is present ; nor shall any person be admitted into the General Grand Chapter, as the representative of more than one State Grand Chapter, at one and the same time.

SEC. 5. The General Grand High Priest and Deputy General Grand High Priest shall have authority to call a special meeting of the General Grand Chapter, whenever they may consider it expedient or necessary ; and it shall be their duty so to do when properly requested by a majority of the State Grand Chapters, of which four months' notice shall be given of the time and place of meeting.

SEC. 6. The General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe shall severally have power and authority to grant Dispensations, for a limited length of time, for new Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of the appendant Orders, in any State, Country, Republic or Territory in which there is not a Grand Chapter regularly established, when in their opinion the good of the Craft may require the same, which term of time shall in no case extend beyond the close of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter ; but no new Chapter shall be established in any State, Country, Republic or Territory where there is a Chapter within a reasonable distance, under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, without the approbation of the Chapter nearest the place where said new

Chapter is proposed to be located; and in all cases of such Dispensation, the officer who may grant the same shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, and make report of the same at the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, when the General Grand Chapter may grant the said Chapter a Charter.

SEC. 7. The fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter, with subordinate degrees, shall be ninety dollars, and no more; and no credit shall be given for Dispensations or Charters, or for conferring the degrees, in any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction. And every Chapter holden by Dispensation or Charter under this jurisdiction, shall pay into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter the sum of two dollars for each Companion therein exalted, until such time as a Grand Chapter shall be regularly established in the State, Country, Republic or Territory in which such Subordinate Chapter is located. The Secretary shall be paid by the petitioners ten dollars for his services in furnishing the Charter.

The fees in the several States for conferring the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason, shall not be less than twenty dollars.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, to improve and perfect themselves in the sublime Arts, and work of Mark Masters, Past Masters, Most Excellent Masters, and Royal Arch Masons, to make themselves Masters of the several Masonic Lectures, and Ancient Charges, to consult with each other and with the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the several State Grand Chapters aforesaid,

for the purpose of adopting measures suitable and proper for diffusing a knowledge of the said Lectures and Charges. And the better to accomplish this laudable object, the aforesaid officers are hereby severally authorized and empowered to visit and preside in any Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodge of Most Excellent Master, Mark, and Past Master Masons throughout the said States, and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the Fraternity may require; always adhering to the ancient landmarks of the Order.

SEC. 9. The only degrees recognized by this General Grand Chapter, to be conferred in Chapters under its jurisdiction, are, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason. And no Royal Arch Mason who shall have regularly received said degrees, shall be excluded from the rights of such, by reason of his not being in possession of any other, so called, degrees.

SEC. 10. In all cases of the absence of an officer from any body of Masons, instituted or holden by virtue of this Constitution, the officer next in rank shall occupy his place; unless through courtesy, or for other reasons, he should decline in favor of a Past High Priest.

SEC. 11. In every Chapter and Lodge under the immediate jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, all questions (except the admission of members or candidates, which shall require a unanimous ballot), shall be considered and determined in such way and manner as such Chapters and Lodges may, all circumstances considered, find most conducive to their harmony and permanent prosperity: *Provided*, They do not in any case interfere with or infringe on the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. 12. The General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter shall have and keep a seal, which shall be affixed to all his communications.

SEC. 13. Should any casualty, at any time hereafter, prevent the triennial election of officers, the several officers shall retain their respective offices until successors are duly elected and qualified.

SEC. 14. An appeal shall in all cases lie to the General Grand Chapter, from the decision of the M. E. General Grand High Priest; but his opinion and decisions shall stand as the judgment of the General Grand Chapter, unless it is otherwise determined by the concurrent vote of two-thirds of all the members present.

ARTICLE II.

Of State Grand Chapters.

SECTION 1. The State Grand Chapters shall severally consist of a Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Captain of the Host; and likewise, of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes, for the time being, of the several Chapters over which they shall respectively preside, and of the Past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes, of the said Grand Chapters; and the said Grand Chapters shall have full power and authority to elect such other officers, and to establish such rules and regulations as they shall from time to time consider necessary and proper: *Provided*, Such regulations do not in any way interfere with the provisions of this Constitution.

SEC. 2. The State Grand Chapters shall severally be holden once in every year, and oftener if they may consider it expedient or necessary, at such time and place as they shall respectively direct; and, at their annual meetings, the constitutional officers shall be elected or appointed, in such manner as shall be provided for by their rules and regulations, and installed into their respective offices; and the Grand, or Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively, for the time being, may call special meetings, to be holden at such times and places as they may think proper.

SEC. 3. The several State Grand Chapters shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters, and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons, within their respective jurisdictions, to assign their limits, and to settle the controversies that may happen between them; and shall have power, under their respective seals and the signs manual of their respective Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, attested by their respective Grand Secretaries, to constitute new Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, within their respective jurisdictions; but their jurisdictions shall in no case be construed to extend beyond the limits of the State, except by consent of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. 4. The Grand, and Deputy Grand High Priests, severally, shall have the power and authority, whenever they shall deem it expedient, during the recess of the Grand Chapter of which they are officers, to grant letters of Dispensation under their respective hands and private seals, to a competent number of petitioners, possessing the qualifications required by the seventh Section of the second Article of this Constitution, empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for a certain specified term of time: *Provided*, That the said term of time shall not extend beyond the next

meeting of the Grand Chapter of the State in which such Dispensation shall be granted: *And provided further*, That the same fees as are required by this Constitution for Charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Secretary. And in all cases of such Dispensation, the officer who may grant the same shall make report thereof at the next stated meeting of the Grand Chapter of his jurisdiction, when the said Grand Chapter may either continue or recall the said Dispensation, or may grant the petitioners a Charter of constitution. And in case such Charter shall be granted, the fees first deposited shall be credited in payment of the same; but if a Charter should not be granted, nor the Dispensation continued, the said fees shall be refunded to the petitioners, excepting only such part thereof as shall have been actually expended by means of their application.

SEC. 5. No Dispensation or Charter shall be granted for instituting Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, or Mark Masters, independent of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

SEC. 6. The Grand Chapters shall have power, severally, to require from the several Chapters under their respective jurisdictions such reasonable proportion of sums received by them for the exaltation or advancement of candidates, and such certain annual sums from their respective members, as by their ordinances or regulations shall be appointed; all which said sums or dues shall be made good and paid annually by the said Chapters, respectively, over to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter under which they hold their authority, on or before the first day of the respective annual meetings of the several Grand Chapters.

SEC. 7. No dispensation or Charter for the institution of a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall be granted, except upon the petition of nine regular Royal Arch Masons; which

petition shall be accompanied with a certificate from the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral character and Masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending that a Dispensation or Charter be granted them.

SEC. 8. The Grand Secretaries of the State Grand Chapters shall, severally, make an annual communication to each other, and also to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, containing a list of Grand Officers, and all such other matters as may be deemed necessary for the mutual benefit and information of the said Grand Chapters. And the said Grand Secretaries shall also regularly transmit to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, a copy of all their By-Laws and regulations; and also a copy of their proceedings, annually, to each of the officers of the General Grand Chapter; and the State Grand Chapters shall see that their Secretaries faithfully and punctually perform this duty.

SEC. 9. Whenever there shall have been three Chapters regularly instituted and consecrated in any State, Country, Republic, or Territory, by virtue of authority derived from this Constitution, a Grand Chapter shall be established, so soon as convenience and propriety may dictate: *Provided*, That the approbation of one of the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter be first obtained. And said Grand Chapters, by their regular officers, shall assemble in some suitable place, elect their officers, and make such rules and regulations for their government as may be necessary—not inconsistent with the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. 10. No person shall be permitted to take a seat in any State Grand Chapter, as the representative of more than one Chapter; nor unless he is a member of a Subordinate Chapter under that jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III.

Of the Subordinate Chapters.

SECTION 1. Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons throughout this jurisdiction shall have a Dispensation, as is provided in Section 6 of Article I, or Section 4 of Article II, of this Constitution, or a Charter from the General Grand Chapter, or from some Grand Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter; and no Chapter shall be deemed legal without such Dispensation or Charter; and Masonic communication, both public and private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any Chapter, or any member of it, and any Chapter or assembly that may be so illegally formed, opened or holden, without such Charter, or any or either of their members, or any person exalted or advanced in such illegal Chapter. But nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any Chapter which was established before the adoption of the Grand Royal Arch Constitution, at Hartford, on the 27th day of January, A. D. 1798.

SEC. 2. Whenever a Charter is issued for instituting a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, with a power in said Charter to open and hold Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons, the High Priest, King, and Scribe, for the time being, of such Chapter, shall be the Master and Wardens in said Lodge, according to seniority.

SEC. 3. It is incumbent on the High Priest of every Chapter, as appertaining to his office, duty and dignity, to see that the By-Laws of his Chapter, as well as the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and the Regulations of the Grand Chapter be duly observed; that all his subordinate officers perform the duties of their respective stations faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their Companions; that true and exact records be kept of all the proceedings of the Chapter, by the Secretary; that the Treasurer keep and render exact and just accounts of all moneys belonging to the

Chapter ; that regular returns be made by the Secretary annually to the Grand Chapter, of the admission of all candidates or members ; and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. The Charter of his Chapter is committed to his special care and charge. He has the right and authority of calling his Chapter at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence which in his judgment may require their meeting, and he is to fill the chair when present. It is likewise his duty, together with his King and Scribe, to attend the regular and special meetings of the Grand Chapter, either in person or by proxy.

SEC. 4. No person, having been a member of a Chapter, shall be admitted a member of any other Chapter under this jurisdiction, until he shall have produced a certificate from the Chapter to which he last belonged, that he was in regular standing, and as such, at his own request, is dismissed and recommended.

SEC. 5. That any worthy Companion, from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produce satisfactory evidence of his having received that degree, that each and every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter have liberty, and they are hereby authorized, to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, on such Companions (who have not heretofore received them), to the end that they may be healed, and thereby become regular Royal Arch Masons, free of charge.

SEC. 6. That the Subordinate Chapter so conferring said degrees shall be exempt from paying any dues therefor.

SEC. 7. It shall not be deemed regular for any Chapter to confer the degrees of the Chapter upon any person whose fixed place of abode is within any other State in which there is a Chapter regularly established, except by the consent of the Chapter nearest the place of residence of said applicant.

Miscellaneous.

SECTION 1. Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the General Grand officers, or the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively, to attend in person, to constitute a new Chapter and install the officers, they shall severally, have power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest, or Past High Priest, or the High Priest of the same Chapter while it was under Dispensation, when he himself shall have been installed, to perform the necessary ceremonies.

SEC. 2. The officers of every Chapter under this jurisdiction, whether chartered or under Dispensation, before they enter upon the exercise of their respective offices, and also the members of all such chapters, and every candidate upon his admission into the same, shall take the following obligation, viz:—

“I, A. B., do promise and swear, that I will support and maintain the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America.”

SEC. 3. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended, unless such alteration or amendment be proposed in writing at one regular meeting of the General Grand Chapter, published among the Minutes of the proceedings, and at the next regular meeting receive the approval of two-thirds of the members then present.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have caused the Seal of the [L. s.] General Grand Chapter, to be hereunto affixed.

Dated at the city of New Orleans, this 1st day of November, 1859, and the year of the Order, 2393.

SAM'L. G. RISK,

G. G. Secretary.

FORM OF PETITION FOR DISPENSATION FOR NEW CHAPTER.

To the *Most Excellent*——, *Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons in the State of New York* :—

We, the undersigned Royal Arch Masons in good standing, having the prosperity of the Royal Craft at heart, and anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Royal Arch Masonry, are desirous of forming a new Chapter at——, in the County of——, to be named ——Chapter.

We, therefore, pray for a Dispensation empowering us to open and hold a regular Chapter at——aforesaid, and therein to discharge the duties and enjoy the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry, according to the landmarks and usages of the order, and the constitution and laws of the Grand Chapter.

And we do hereby nominate and recommend Companion ——, to be our first High Priest; Companion——, to be our first King, and Companion——, to be our first Scribe.

And should the prayer of this petition be granted, we do hereby promise a strict conformity to the constitution, laws and edicts of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, and to the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, so far as they may come to our knowledge.

Dated at——, this——day of——. (Signatures of not less than nine
A. D. 18——. Royal Arch Masons.)

[The above petition may be presented to the Grand High Priest, or the Deputy Grand High Priest, as provided for in Sections 20, 21 and 22 of the constitution of the Grand Chapter, and should have the following endorsement upon it:]

To the *Most Excellent*——, *Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons in the State of New York* :—

At a regular convocation of——Chapter No.——, holden at——, on the——day of——A. L. 58——, A. I. 2——, the petition of several Companions, praying for a dispensation to open a new Chapter at——, in the County of——, was duly laid before the Chapter, when it was

Resolved, That this Chapter, being fully satisfied that the petitioners are Royal Arch Masons, in good standing, and vouching for their moral character and Masonic abilities, does therefore recommend that the Dispensation prayed for be granted to them.

(SEAL) A true copy of the records.

—— ——— *Secretary.*

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