



THE RISE AND PROGRESS  
OF  
FREEMASONRY IN ILLINOIS

1783-1952

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1952

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of  
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons  
of the State of Illinois

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THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF  
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

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3903  
T.M.E.

## FURTHER LIGHT

Hale, brothers of the Rule and Line, who work by Truth  
and Honor's laws;

Still striving toward the Light divine, the dayspring of  
our righteous cause.

The cause our ancient seers upbore, in lonely lands  
through darkest night;

Still keeping in their mystic Lore, the prophecy of  
"FURTHER LIGHT."

And further light spread Truth and Love, 'till now  
the world begins to know

The Fatherhood of God, above, the Brotherhood of  
Man, below.

And we, who caught their thought in part — how oft  
we met, in former time

To search for truths their "Royal Art," had woven  
in the "work" sublime.

And oft within the dimmest lore, of ancient writ,  
we sought and found

Some Jewel from their secret store — concealed of old  
in Holy ground;

Concealed for those who sought aright, as that  
Foundation Stone of yore,

"First seen in Heaven" by Holy Light, then centre  
of the Master's floor.

And oft we met in concourse glad, and hail our chosen  
rulers all,

And oft with spirits O how sad, to hear for some  
the funeral pall,

And oft must be, 'till all go, and none shall  
know that we were here,

For what is lost on earth below, is treasured in that  
higher sphere.

So one by one they passed the bourne, whence none  
returns to earthly light —

While we await the hastening morn, which ushers  
each to "FURTHER LIGHT."

H. P. H. BROMWELL  
*Grand Master, 1865.*



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## Chapter 1

# EXPLANATORY

From a lake in Minnesota a small stream starts on its long journey to the sea; so small that a child can cross it. It is joined by others and gradually increases in size as it continues its movement to the south. As it flows onward it absorbs other streams, both great and small until, finally, it becomes the "MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI"—the "FATHER OF WATERS" and is perpetuated in song as "OL' MAN RIVER."

In like manner Freemasonry came to the Illinois Country. At an early day a lone Mason arrived in Cahokia at a time when he was one of the only two white men who were not French. The French had a few small settlements along the river, five in number, extending from Cahokia to Kaskaskia, a distance of about sixty miles. At no place did these settlements extend more than five miles from the river. All the remainder of what is now Illinois was a primeval wilderness, the habitat of Indians and wild beasts.

The noise and bustle of civilization were yet hundreds of miles to the east. The people were busy through the day but the silence of the night was disturbed only by the hoot of the owl and the howl of the wolf.

Returning soldiers of the Clark army told of the wonderful fertility of the soil and soon bands of emigrants were wending their way to the new Eldorado. Among them were members of the mystic craft. These soon became known to each other by well-known tests. They remembered the social enjoyments and fraternal welcome at their lodges and determined to form a lodge to help relieve the hardships of their new life. Only six were found but it was known that a Mason lived at St. Louis. At that time the journey to St. Louis was long and dangerous, but the needed signature was secured, and in due time a lodge was founded at Kaskaskia. For ten years it was the only lodge in the Illinois country, but Shawneetown had become the most important point on the Ohio river below Louisville, Kentucky, and when the requisite number of Masons had arrived another lodge was established. Other lodges soon followed as the stream of Masonry continued to flow

into the country. Finally a Grand Lodge was formed, but this was no "MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI." It was a very small and unimportant organization but the individuals who composed it were very prominent in the government of the state. On its membership rolls were present and future Governors, United States Senators, Supreme Court Judges and many other state officials.

The course of the first Grand Lodge was not like that of the river. There were pitfalls, log jams and stagnant pools to interfere with its steady progress; finally outside influences, together with the necessity of many of its members to find suitable locations where they would have food and clothing, caused the Grand Lodge to close its doors and the little lodges that composed it gradually ceased to exist.

But the spirit of Masonry still lived in the hearts and minds of the brethren. Thousands of new settlers were coming into the country; larger and more permanent towns were built. Other lodges came into existence and these have continued to the present time. They organized the second Grand Lodge which grew rapidly until today the mighty Grand Lodge of Illinois sheds its influence over every village and hamlet in the state.

The need for preserving the records of the early lodges in the state was recognized in 1858 by the adoption of two resolutions:

Resolved, That the materials for a complete history of Masonry in the Territory and State of Illinois, from the organization of the first Lodge therein, together with such biographical sketches and personal incidents as may be worth preserving, ought to be gathered up, and placed in our archives, so that a historical volume may be issued.

Resolved, That the Grand Master appoint a suitable person for that service, to be styled the Illinois Masonic Historian, who shall be fully authorized to gather such materials together, and to call to his aid the service of such Masters, Wardens and Secretaries, as may be able to render him any service. All the reasonable expenses of said Historian to be paid by this Grand Lodge.

There is no record of the appointment of any such historian, neither is there anything to show that an attempt was made to collect the old records, until in 1868 Grand Master Gorin called attention to the little knowledge that was had of the early lodges and appointed John C. Reynolds to write the history of the first Grand Lodge and "rescue it from oblivion."

Right well did he do his work. His history is not written in flowery language with well rounded sentences but consists almost entirely of extracts from the early records which he, fortunately, was able to find.

Without his history the story of early Masonry in Illinois would have been lost. This is the most valuable book the Grand Lodge ever published. To Brother Reynolds should go great praise. The Grand Master said:

Bro. Reynolds is entitled to the grateful thanks of the Fraternity for his indefatigable and successful labors, in bringing to light much of the history of the old Grand Lodge of Illinois which has been covered with the accumulated rubbish of many years.

Enough copies were printed to supply every lodge with one but those books are ninety years old, the paper is tender and the binding easily broken. They are not available to the average member so it was thought best to begin this history with the earliest time of Masonic activity in Illinois. The Reynolds history ends with 1850. Nothing has been written since that date. True, John C. Smith published a history in 1903 but it consists only of the proceedings of the first Grand Lodge 1822-27 and a few minutes of the Western Star Lodge in 1828-29.

This book is an attempt to cover the many important Masonic events since 1850 together with what has gone before.

Extensive research has been made and many new facts about Western Star Lodge have been found together with some other new history.

The writer is under lasting obligation to several Masonic students in other jurisdictions for valuable information, especially to Brother W. J. Paterson, Librarian of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, who has spent many tedious hours searching through the old records of that Grand Lodge.

A. E. Orton, Grand Secretary of Kentucky, has also sent many new and valuable records of the activity of that Grand Lodge in establishing lodges in Illinois.

The Grand Secretaries of several other Grand Lodges have furnished copies of their records.

With this explanation the history is offered to the craft of Illinois in the hope that it will be found of some value.

EVERETT R. TURNBULL  
*Committee on History*

## Chapter 2

# KASKASKIA

### First Town in Illinois, First State Capitol, Home of the First Masonic Lodge

From aboriginal times Kaskaskia was a meeting place for the Indian tribes. The first white man known to have stopped there was Lieutenant Tonti, an Italian explorer with La Salle. In 1690 a catholic mission was established by the name of "The Village of the Immaculate Conception of the Holy Virgin." A chapel was built; this in turn was succeeded by others and in 1712 a Jesuit mission was started. More French came and gradually the country was covered with farms.

Ex-Governor John Reynolds said:

In olden times, Kaskaskia was to Illinois, what Paris is at this day to France. Both were at their respective days the great emporium of fashion, gaiety, and I must say, happiness also. In the year 1721 the Jesuits erected a monastery and college in Kaskaskia which, a few years afterward, were chartered by the government. Kaskaskia for many years was the largest town west of the Alleghaney mountains. It was a tolerable place before the existence of Pittsburg, Cincinnati or New Orleans. The Jesuits erected water and wind mills near the village. Kaskaskia was agricultural and extended its commerce to New Orleans and Mobile, but not north.

1732 to 1754 were the palmiest days of the French occupation. The country exhibited a scene of flourishing prosperity. From the hostility of the French and Indians no Briton ever saw the upper Mississippi until the treaty of Paris in 1763.

A great portion of the American Bottom was under cultivation; grain and stock farming principally.

There were no factories or other industries, except the water mills built by the Jesuits for grinding grain.

In 1763 France ceded the country to England. About one third of the French crossed the river to St. Genevieve, preferring to live under Spanish rule rather than that of England.

There were no courts until the British established them in 1763. The British made little effort to colonize the country, being interested

only in trade. When the British took possession there was an immense exchange of goods with New Orleans. Dr. Snyder said (*Ill. Hist. Soc. Vol. 6, No. 1*):

The rich alluvial plain of the American Bottom about Kaskaskia had become in a great measure, the main source of food supply for New Orleans and its dependent military posts. Wheat and corn were of luxuriant and almost spontaneous growth. Thousands of pounds of flour, ground by the water mills along the Kaskaskia river and neighboring streams, together with quantities of bacon, venison, buffalo meat, and other local products annually floated down the great river in large home-made bateaux to the lower Mississippi metropolis.

In 1770 Kaskaskia contained only 65 resident families yet, at that time one man furnished the King's stores from his crop — 86,000 pounds of flour (*Aux Illinois — Vivier.*)

In 1774 the British Parliament made the Cahokia country part of the Province of Quebec.

In 1766 Captain Harry Gordon of the British Army came to Illinois to study the best means for permanently holding the country. In his journal he wrote:

The Kaskaskia village is on the plain. It consists of 80 houses, well built, mostly of stone, with gardens and large lots to each, whose inhabitants live generally well, & some have large stocks of cattle & hogs.

Other houses were of logs set upright with clay and straw between the posts. Nearly all the houses had wide porches on three sides.

The most momentous event in the life of Kaskaskia was when the Virginians under George Rogers Clark captured the town on July 4, 1778.

Under British rule the great mercantile firms of Philadelphia established trading headquarters at Kaskaskia and shipped immense quantities of goods of all kinds there for distribution from St. Louis to Memphis.

George Rogers Clark, in a letter to Patrick Henry, Governor of Virginia, said:

It is situated 30 leagues above the mouth of the Ohio, on a river of its own name, five miles from its mouth and two miles east of the Mississippi. On the west side of the Mississippi 3 miles from "Kuskuskies" is a village of (St. Genevieve) belonging to the Spaniards. The town of "Kuskuskies" contains about one hundred families of French and English; they have a considerable number of negroes. The houses are framed and very good, with a small but elegant stone fort situated but a little distance from the center of the town.

A description of the town written in 1810 said it was:

A port town, and the chief one in Randolph county, contains 45 houses, many of them well built, several of stone, with gardens and large lots adjoining. It now contains 467 inhabitants, of whom 47 are slaves.

When the soldiers of the Clark army returned home they gave such glowing accounts of the fertility of the soil that soon large contingents of colonists were on the way to make new homes.

The first brick building was erected in 1792. It served as the Territorial and State Capitols until the removal of the capitol to Vandalia. The supreme court also used it. After the removal of the state government to Vandalia it was the Randolph county court house until 1848, when the county seat was moved to Chester.

The greatest social event in the life of Kaskaskia was the visit of General LaFayette on April 30, 1825. On the 29th the General visited the Grand Lodge of Missouri then in session at St. Louis. The next day, in company with Governor Coles of Illinois, Governor Dodge of Missouri and delegations representing the states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee, he boarded the steamer Natchez and departed at eight o'clock in the morning. The boat arrived at Kaskaskia at one in the afternoon, landing at the ferry. The company was taken to the house of General John Edgar where Governor Coles delivered an address of welcome and a reception was held. The General Assembly made no appropriation for LaFayette's visit but did appoint a committee consisting of Representatives Hamilton, Moore and Webb and Senators Smith and Widen to draft an address of welcome. This was adopted and the committee was authorized to forward the address through the Executive.

The entire party of twenty-four visitors and the local committee of thirteen went to the tavern of Colonel Sweet where a banquet was served, followed by a few speeches. The party then went to the stone house of William Morrison where another reception and ball was held.

After the ball the ladies who danced with the General decided to preserve their slippers as mementos of the occasion. One of those fortunate enough to dance with him was the widow of John Guy. She spent her last years in Carlinville and told about the reception and displayed her slippers. After her death the slippers were put in a glass case and deposited in the office of the sheriff of Macoupin County where they remained for several years. They have long since disappeared.

An order of nuns started a large convent in 1833 but the building was not finished until 1836. Gallahar and Harson were the contractors. It was 110 by 32 feet and four stories high; there was a wing 150 feet long and two stories high. The cost was about \$30,000. Here the nuns conducted a flourishing school until 1844. That year the nuns and girls had to be taken from the second-story windows into the steamboat *Indiana* and the water damaged the building so much it had to be abandoned.

In 1844 the water was seven feet deep in the town. Many houses were carried away by the flood. The water commenced to rise June 12 and began falling June 28 at five in the afternoon. All the people were taken across the Kaskaskia river to the high ground on the east side. This information is from the official report of the flood by Ferdinand Maxwell, Clerk.

Floods of 1851 and 1857 still further damaged the town and many people were forced to leave. The doomed town continued to exist but that was about all. In 1882 the Mississippi broke through into the Kaskaskia and took tracts of land as large as a quarter of an acre at a time with the houses and washed them completely away. Three weeks after the break-through the steamboats used the new channel.

Kaskaskia never was a large settlement. Old French records show that in 1723 there were 196 white inhabitants; a British census in 1767 showed 600 white men, women and children. It has been claimed that there was a large population when General LaFayette visited there in 1825.

The population in 1825 as taken by Brother T. J. V. Owen, census commissioner, showed 477 white and 140 black people. The township outside of the town had forty-one families. The United States census report shows 513 people in 1850; 326 in 1880; 177 in 1900; in 1910, 142. There was only one house standing in 1906.

## Chapter 3

# WESTERN STAR LODGE

### The Seven Signers to the Petition for the Dispensation

William Arundel was born in Ireland, and received a liberal education there before sailing for Quebec. He was at Little Niagara in 1778. In 1782, he was in business under the firm name of Arundel and Dawson at Sandusky, but this evidently did not prove satisfactory, as we find him the next year in a partnership in Detroit under the name of Arundel and May.

Ex-Governor John Reynolds, who was personally acquainted with Arundel, said he was in Cahokia in 1783, about sixty miles north of Kaskaskia. He was an Indian trader and fur buyer. A few years later he moved to Kaskaskia, where he became a large land owner.

He received the degrees of Masonry in Saint Andrew's Lodge No. 2, Quebec, under the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec. Entered Apprentice February 1, 1777; Fellowcraft February 27, 1777; Master Mason March 15, 1777. He was Master of Union Lodge in Detroit sometime between 1778 and 1783. He was the first secretary of Western Star Lodge at Kaskaskia. He dimitted in 1812, but affiliated in 1814.

He was a justice of the peace, and one of the three judges that held the first county court. From 1809 to 1815, he was clerk of the circuit court.

His dimit is very different from those now in use.

#### SUMMA LAUS DEO.

In the East arose a light, and the light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not.

We, the Master and Wardens of Western Star Lodge No. 107, Ancient York Masons, held in the town of Kaskaskia, in the Illinois Territory, under a regular charter from the Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, do hereby certify that Brother William Arundel, who has signed his name in the margin, and unto whom we grant these letters, is a regular and duly Registered Master Mason, and has performed all his works amongst us to the entire satisfaction of his brethren. We therefore pray all the Worshipful Lodges and all Free and Accepted Masons

to receive him into Fellowship wherever Providence may allow his abode on earth.

In testimony whereof, we have hereto set our hands, countersigned by our said Brother and Secretary (no seal for our lodge being yet provided), this twenty-second day of June, Anno Lucis, 5812.

P. Fouke, Master,  
Wm. C. Greenup, S. Warden,  
James Edgar, J. Warden.

Mich'l Jones, Sec'y, P.T.

Brother Arundel died in 1816.

Robert M'Mahon, a member of Staunton Lodge No. 13, Virginia, came to the Illinois country with his wife and six children in 1794, and located southeast of New Design. The next year he and two daughters were captured by Indians, bound, and forced to witness them kill his wife and four other children. He and his daughters were carried away captives, but he escaped and, after incredible hardships, reached his friends. The daughters were ransomed later. He was a justice of the peace, and judge of the Randolph county court, 1795 to 1803. His last years were spent on a farm south of Troy, where he died and was buried.

James Edgar was a native of Philadelphia and was initiated in Lodge No. 9, Philadelphia, January 4, 1784; was installed Master June 24, 1792 and served until December 27, 1793. He resigned in 1795. It is probable that he removed to Kaskaskia about that year. He was sheriff of Randolph County 1803-05. He was the moving spirit in organizing Western Star Lodge as is shown by his letter to Jonathan Byrd Smith who was Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania 1791-2.

Kaskaskia, 11th March, 1805.

Dear Sir:

I herewith take the liberty of inclosing to you a supplication made to our Grand Lodge joined by some of the Fraternity here to endeavor for the good purposes therein contained to meet as we ought to do here — in hopes of creating a number of the Elect, and will now give you the knowledge of my acquaintance with them, Robert McMahan is one of our Justices and resides at about 20 miles from this — Wm. Arundel is an acquaintance made on my arrival in this Country and has been M. of a Lodge at Detroit known by Union Lodge — Myself your acquainted with — M. Jones is here Commissioner & Register of the land office — J. Gilbreath is an Inhabitant here, M. Easton is Atty General of Louisiana — M. Robinson is Clk to the Commissioner on land Claims all tried and have been entered, passed and raised to Sublimity. And therefore must request the indulgent favor of you to endeavor to Give every aid

in your power to have this business forwarded as soon as Possible and oblige most Loving and

Sincere Brother.

James Edgar

Jonathan Byrd Smith.

As no envelopes were used at that time there was endorsed on the back of the letter:

Kaskaskia 19 March      Paid 50.  
Jonathan Byrd Smith, Esquire.

Mail Philadelphia.

Kaskaskia, Ill., 1805. Letter from Brother James Edgar respecting application for a Warrant or Dispensation.

The dispensation bears the date of September 24, 1805 and names James Edgar first master. December 11, 1805 he took to his assistance Rufus Easton as Senior Warden and M. Jones as Junior Warden and duly instituted the lodge. The charter was dated June 18, 1806 and the lodge was constituted September 13 with James Edgar as Master. He was again installed Master June 24 and December 27, 1806. A dispensation was granted for Louisiana Lodge No. 109 at St. Genevieve, Louisiana Territory, and the lodge was constituted by Brother Edgar November 14, same year. June 23, 1816 he dimitted but re-affiliated July 5, 1817. The lodge was informed of his death November 1, 1817 and it was

Resolved, That the members of this lodge will meet at the lodge-room on the morrow at one o'clock, and proceed therefrom to the house of their deceased brother, James Edgar, long a member, and one of the founders of the Lodge, and attend the funeral, and pay him Masonic honors; and that the members of Louisiana Lodge No. 109 at St. Genevieve be invited to attend at Kaskaskia at three o'clock on tomorrow evening, and that a special messenger be engaged by the treasurer to carry the notice and information to the Louisiana Lodge in such way as the Worshipful Master may direct.

Ten members and five visitors from St. Genevieve attended the funeral.

Michael Jones was initiated June 24, 1793 in Lodge No. 45 at Pittsburg. He came to Kaskaskia in 1804 as Commissioner and Register of the Land Office. He acted as Junior Warden at the institution of the lodge and was elected first Senior Warden and second Master of the lodge. He served a total of eight terms as Master; these were for six months each.

February 7, 1818 the lodge record reads:

Bro. Jones on his way to the Eastern States [was authorized to procure jewels for the lodge, and was particularly exhorted, in the discharge of his duty,] to have regard to the funds of the Lodge.

March 6, 1819: Bro. Michael Jones was allowed fifty dollars for a set of jewels and a carpet.

That year he removed to Shawneetown and on October 2, 1819

The lodge passed resolutions of regret at losing so old and active a member as Bro. Jones, and appointed a committee to prepare an address to Bro. Jones setting forth this feeling.

June 23, 1820 he delivered the oration at the installation of officers. Several other times he delivered the "Annual Oration." In 1810 he was appointed Colonel of the land militia of Randolph County. He died November 26, 1822.

Robert Robinson was a member of Staunton Lodge No. 13 at Staunton, Virginia. He received the degree of Entered Apprentice on January 4, 1803; Fellowcraft on January 22, 1803; Master Mason on February 9, 1803. He was in Kaskaskia in 1805 and was clerk in the office of the Commissioner and Registrar of the land office. The petition for the charter asked that Brother Robinson be appointed to constitute the lodge.

We do certify that Bro. Robinson has proved himself to us, a W.M. of a warranted lodge of Ancient Y. M.

Jas. Edgar  
Jas. Gilbreath.

The charter was accompanied by the following letter:

WE, James Milnor, R.W. Grand Master of Masons in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging:

To Bro. Robt. Robinson, a Past Master Mason—Greeting:

Reposing the greatest confidence in your zeal, fervor, and constancy in the Craft, We do, by virtue of the Powers and Authorities in Us vested, hereby authorize and empower you to call to your assistance a sufficient number of known and approved Masons to open and constitute a new Lodge at Kaskaskia, in the Indiana Territory, in the U.S., and there to proceed to the installation of our worthy Bro. James Edgar, Master-elect, and other officers of a new Lodge there to be established and constituted, to be called the "Western Star Lodge" number one hundred and seven, according to the most ancient and honorable custom of the Royal Craft in all ages and amongst all nations throughout the

known world, and not contrarywise, and make report to US hereon endorsed of your proceedings. This dispensation to remain in force three months from the date thereof.

Given under our hand and the seal of the R.W. Grand Lodge  
[SEAL] of Pennsylvania, at the city of Philadelphia, this 18th day of  
June, in the year of our Lord, 1806, and of Masonry 5806.

James Milnor, Grand Master

attest Geo. A. Baker, Grand Secretary.

On the back of the commission of Brother Robinson was written:

Agreeably to the within Dispensation to me directed to open and constitute a new Lodge of Ancient York Masons, at Kaskaskia, and to install the W. Master, Brother James Edgar, and other, the officers thereof, on the 13th day of September, 1806, I took to my assistance a sufficient number of known and approved Past Master Masons, and proceeded to open and constitute a new Lodge under the warrant of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, bearing date of the second day of June, 1806, to the brethren here granted.

Whereupon the W. Master, Brother James Edgar, and the other officers of this Lodge in the said warrant mentioned, were duly installed and invested with the ensigns of their respective offices, and the Lodge closed in due form.

Robert Robinson,

Appointed to constitute Lodge No. 107

Kaskaskia, October 20th, 1806

Brother Robinson was Master of Western Star Lodge from June 24, 1808 to December 27, 1808.

October 16th, 1811:

The Lodge was called for the purpose of attending the funeral of Bro. Robert Robinson, deceased — When a M. Mason's lodge was opened in ample form, and proceeded to the place of interment, and after the usual solemnities returned and closed in harmony.

This was the first Masonic funeral in Illinois.

James Gilbreath is listed in the return of Western Star Lodge for 1806 as a Past Master. He was a member of Lodge No. 79 at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. The records of Western Star Lodge show him installed as Master, December 27, 1808 and again June 24, 1809. He was sheriff of Randolph County 1805-09.

May 7, 1812: Bro. Gilbreath stated his reasons for not attending the meetings of the Lodge, which were deemed reasonable, and he granted a dimit.

August 15, 1815: [Jas. Gilbreath was summoned] to appear in open

lodge — [reason not stated. The record continues] that having gone through the business before them [the Lodge was closed.]

September 1, 1815: [The charges against James Gilbreath] were taken as confessed, he not having appeared or made any defense [and he was accordingly] unanimously expelled by a unanimous vote.

Rufus Easton never lived in Kaskaskia. He was a member of Roman Lodge No. 82, New York. He was the first Senior Warden of Western Star Lodge — was one of a committee to select a name for the lodge. Living in St. Louis it was not convenient for him to attend the lodge meetings. August 2, 1808 he signed the application for St. Louis Lodge No. 111. From that date his connection with Western Star ended.

Easton was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, May 4, 1774, studied law under Ephraim Kirby, first General Grand High Priest, and was admitted to the bar in Litchfield but soon after moved to western New York. Here he gained recognition as a lawyer and politician. He spent the winter of 1803-4 in Washington, D.C. He then came to St. Louis and was one of the first judges in Louisiana Territory. During the same year he was appointed postmaster at St. Louis and served ten years. He had to rent his own office and the government allowed him two dollars to purchase furniture for the office. He was a territorial delegate to Congress 1814-16 and was the second Attorney General of the State of Missouri. He became wealthy but lost most of his property through speculation. He retired to St. Charles where he died July 5, 1834.

### **The Beginning**

St. John's Day, Philadelphia, Monday 25th June (St. John's Day having fallen on Sunday, 24 inst.) A.D., 1804.

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Grand General Communication.

A letter from Brother James Edgar, dated Kaskaskia, 7th May last, directed to James or Thomas Wilkins, was read. Brother Edgar thereby intimated a desire of obtaining a Dispensation for holding a Lodge in Kaskaskia, until a society should be formed, when application might be made for a warrant. Ordered, To lie over for consideration until the next Quarterly Communication.

October 15th 1804: The letter from Brother James Edgar respecting a Dispensation for holding a lodge at Kaskaskia, read on St. John's Day last, and ordered to lie over for consideration, was again read and referred to the R.W. Grand Master to take such measures thereon as he may deem most expedient.

## Petition for the Dispensation for the Western Star Lodge No. 107

To the Grand Master and members of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania — Bretheren:

The subscribers and many others of our Bretheren in the counties of St. Clair and Randolph, beg leave to approach your Worshipful body and state to you; that they are far removed from those social enjoyments which they once as Masons have experienced; that from the growth of population many worthy and respectable brethren have settled, and many more will soon come to this country; and that your suppliants, from a sense of duty incumbent on them as Masons and as men, to promote their mutual happiness, the happiness of their neighbours, and as far as in their power lies, harmonize society — and furthermore to impress on their memory what has long been written on their hearts.

Wherefore your suppliants thus presume to approach your worshipful body and request that, if in your councils you think it expedient, your worshipful body will grant to your suppliants a Warrant or if that can't be obtained a Dispensation authorizing them to hold a regular Lodge in the town of Kaskaskia, appointing such of your suppliants to preside therein as may seem proper to your Worshipful body, sending with the said warrant — your constitution, all other necessary instructions and the amount of the expenses attending the same which will be duly remitted by your suppliants, etc., etc.

Rob<sup>t</sup> M'Mahon, Staunton No. 13

William Arundel, St. Andrews Lodge No. 2, Quebec

James Edgar, No. 9, Philadelphia

Mich<sup>l</sup> Jones, No. 45, Pittsburg

Ja<sup>s</sup> Gilbreath, No. 79, Chambersburg

Rufus Easton, Roman Lodge No. 82, New York

Robert Robinson, Staunton No. 13

Indiana Territory, Kaskaskia, March 9th, 1805.

### The Dispensation

We, *Israel Israel*, Esquire, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging:

To all Free and Accepted Masons wherever dispersed.—

Reposing the greatest Confidence in the Zeal, Fervor and Constancy in the Craft of our Worthy and beloved Brother James Edgar, a Past Master Ancient York Mason, residing at Kaskaskia in the Indiana Territory in the United States And by Virtue of the Powers and authorities Vested in US, WE DO hereby Authorize and Empower and Request him to call to his Assistance a sufficient number of known and Approved Master Masons to open a Lodge at the Town of Kaskaskia aforesaid and then and there Initiate, Pass, and Raise Free Masons according to the most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Craft in all Ages and Nations

throughout the Known World, and not contrarywise and to make Report to US hereon endorsed of their proceedings. This Dispensation to remain in force SIX Months from the date hereof and no longer.

Given under Our Hand and The Seal of our Grand Lodge at the City of Philadelphia this Twenty-Fourth Day of September in the Year of our LORD 1805 and in the Year of Masonry 5805.

[SEAL]

Israel Israel, Grand Master.

attest George A. Baker Grand Secretary.

### Organization of the Lodge

Indiana Territory, Randolph County,  
Kaskaskia, Saturday, 14th December, 1805, A.L. 5805.

In compliance with petition from sundry members addressed to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, a dispensation was forwarded by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, 24th September, directed to Brother James Edgar, authorizing him to take to his assistance a sufficient number of members for the purpose of holding a Lodge in the town of Kaskaskia and vicinity, and initiate such as may be approved by the members thereof into the mysteries of Masonry, according to the Most Ancient and Honorable Custom of the Craft.

Upon which the Worshipful Master, the said James Edgar, called to his assistance Bros. Rufus Easton as Senior Warden, Michael Jones as Junior Warden, Robert Robinson as Senior Deacon, Alexander Anderson as Junior Deacon, and William Arundel as Secretary, all of whom he found on due trial to be Master Masons.

Whereupon, the Worshipful Master, and others above named, took their seats, and an Entered Apprentice's Lodge was opened in due form.

On motion,

Ordered, That the naming of the Lodge be submitted to Bros. M. Jones and Rufus Easton, whereupon it was agreed that this Lodge be styled and known by the name of 'Western Star Lodge,' Kaskaskia.

On motion and seconded,

Ordered, That a subscription be opened for the purpose of raising a sum sufficient to enable the brethren to obtain a warrant and dispensation to institute a Lodge of Ancient York Masons at Kaskaskia, to be styled the Western Star Lodge. The sums that may be subscribed by the brethren to be placed to their respective accounts on the credit side of the same, and the Lodge to be debtor, which sums so subscribed to be discharged in due proportion out of the first moneys that may be paid into the treasury from initiation fees or otherwise. The said subscription to be presented in open Lodge only, and to none except such as now are or may become members of this Lodge.

On motion,

Requested, That Bros. M. Jones and R. Robinson be a committee to prepare rules or regulations for the government of this Lodge, and to report the same from time to time for the approbation thereof.

Whereupon, the Lodge closed in harmony, until the first Saturday in January next, unless otherwise found necessary by the Worshipful Master.

The first petitions were received January 4, 1806. They were from Andrew Henry, Walter Fenwick and George Bullett, all residents of St. Genevieve, Louisiana Territory. By-laws were adopted January 16, 1806. A more complete set of by-laws was adopted on June 24, 1808. These had twenty-six sections. First came a condensed copy of the Ancient Charges. The first section provided that meetings should be held from seven to ten p.m. March 25 to September 25 and from six to nine from September 25 to March 25. Elective officers were the master, wardens and treasurer and, with the consent of the lodge, the master may appoint two deacons, a secretary and steward; "if any shall refuse to serve he shall pay one dollar, unless he had served in a similar office before."

Section 8 provided that

a brother may call for the previous question, and the question put, if the motion is seconded and *thirded*.

Section 10 provided that

No brother shall rise to speak or interrupt another addressing the Master, unless to call to order; or if any shall mock, deride or endeavor to ridicule any brother whilst speaking, or while the Lodge is sitting, he shall, on conviction by a majority of the members present, forfeit and pay for the first offense five dollars, and ask pardon of the Lodge and of the offended brother; for the second offense he shall forfeit and pay ten dollars, and ask pardon of the Lodge and the offended brother; for the third offense he shall forfeit and pay fifteen dollars, and ask pardon of the Lodge and the offended brother, and for the fourth offense shall be expelled, and not re-admitted without the unanimous consent of the Lodge, to be given either by ballot or otherwise, as the Lodge shall determine, and shall pay twenty dollars to the charity fund.

Section 12 provided that

a brother cursing or swearing, or holding an angry dispute, shall be subject to the same penalties as prescribed in section 10.

This section governed conduct outside of the lodge and in public as well as in the lodge room.

Section 14 provided that

any brother revealing any of the transactions of the Lodge, shall be fined fifteen dollars, or be expelled, and if expelled, *should not be re-admitted at all*.

Section 15 provided that a Tyler shall be appointed and if absent, the youngest brother present shall act and shall be fined five dollars for refusal except for good reasons.

Section 17 fixed the annual dues at \$1.84 of which one dollar went to the Charity Fund and eighty-four cents to the Grand Lodge.

Section 18 provided that every brother and visitor to pay twenty-five cents for refreshments; and every absent brother was liable for the same charge.

Section 20 provided fees for affiliation: four dollars for Master Masons; eight for Fellowcrafts and ten for Entered Apprentices. The latter fees probably paid for remaining degrees.

Section 21 provided that every initiate pay eight dollars to the charity fund, eight dollars to the contingent fund, one dollar to the Secretary and one dollar to the Tyler.

Section 26 provided for trial procedure and penalties.

Eighty-four names were signed to these by-laws.

So many petitions were received that special meetings were held; these were called "Extra Lodge."

### Petition for Charter

Kaskaskia, April 13, 1806.

To the R.W. Grand Master and brethren of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pa.

Brethren — We the subscribers, members of a Lodge holden at Kaskaskia under a dispensation granted by order of your worshipful body, in pursuance of our former petition, beg to solicit a fulfillment of your promise contained in your letter accompanied by your said dispensation, directed to Brother James Edgar, of granting a warrant and dispensation to constitute a Lodge at Kaskaskia, to be styled the Western Star Lodge. Brothers James Edgar, Michael Jones and James Gilbreath, M.M. and formerly members of Lodges constituted under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (as will more fully appear by a reference to the communications made to your worshipful body, by the several Lodges of which they have been members) have been elected officers of this Lodge, for the time being, to whom the warrant may issue. Assurances having been given by Bro. James Edgar, that Bro. Robert Robinson has regularly passed the chair, we do therefore desire that the dispensation for constituting the Lodge may be directed to him. Your dispensation with our proceedings endorsed thereon, as also the amount of your fees, you will find herewith enclosed.

We are R.W. Sir and Brethren, yours fraternally,

Jas. Edgar, W.M.

Michael Jones, S.W.

Jas Gilbreath, J.W.

Robt. Robinson, Treasurer.

Wm Arundel, Secretary.

Accompanying this was the following:

We the subscribers, formerly members of lodges constituted under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and present members of Western Star Lodge at Kaskaskia, do recommend the prayer of the foregoing petition to the consideration of the W.M. and members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Jas Edgar,  
Michael Jones  
Jas. Gilbreath.

Recommended by

Andrew Nilson P.M. No. 9  
John Boyd P.M. No. 2  
Jas. Wilkins P.M. No. 9

John Boyd was Senior Warden of No. 2 in 1796 and probably Worshipful Master the next year. Andrew Nilson was Worshipful Master of No. 9 from 1797 to June 1801 and resigned on July 3, 1807. James Wilkins was Past Master of No. 9, was admitted January 4, 1784; died September, 1819.

The following action was taken by the Grand Lodge on June 3, 1806:

The return of a dispensation granted by the late R.W. Grand Master on the 24th of September last, directed to Bro. James Edgar, authorizing him to open and hold a Lodge at Kaskaskia, in the Indiana Territory, in the United States, for the term of six months from the date of said dispensation, was read; also, a letter from Bro. Edgar, dated 14th April last, respecting their proceedings under said dispensation, and also a petition from Bro. Edgar and several other brethren who had been members of said Lodge held under the aforesaid dispensation, praying for a warrant for holding a Lodge at Kaskaskia aforesaid, to be called the Western Star Lodge, and that Bro. James Edgar might be named Master, Bro. Michael Jones, Senior Warden and Bro. James Gilbreath, Junior Warden of the same.

Which petition being duly recommended according to the regulations of this Grand Lodge, on motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that the Grand Secretary make out a warrant accordingly, and the same be numbered 107.

## The Charter

James Milnor, Grand Master

Fred J. Walbert, Deputy Grand Master

Robert Lewis, Senior Grand Warden Robert Poalk, Junior Grand Warden

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction Thereunto Belonging in Ample Form assembled at

Philadelphia in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Wisdom

Strength

Fraternity

KNOW YE, that WE the said GRAND LODGE of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the Old Constitutions, revived by his Royal Highness Prince Edwin, at York, in the Kingdom of England, in the Year of the Christian Aera Nine Hundred Twenty and Six, and in the Year of Masonry Four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and Six) by virtue of the Powers and Authorities vested in US, DO hereby constitute and appoint our trusty and well beloved Brethren James Edgar ----- Master, Michael Jones ----- Senior Warden and James Galbraith, ----- Junior Warden of a Lodge to be called "The Western Star Lodge" ----- Number One Hundred and Seven to be held at Kaskaskia in the Indiana Territory in the United States ----- or within Five Miles of the same. AND WE DO FURTHER authorize and empower our said trusty and well beloved Brethren James Edgar, Michael Jones and James Galbraith ----- to admit and make Free Masons according to the Most Ancient and Honorable Custom of the Royal Craft in all Ages and Nations throughout the known World and not contrarywise. AND WE DO FURTHER empower and appoint the said James Edgar, Michael Jones and James Galbraith ----- and their Successors to hear all and singular matters and things relating to the Craft within the Jurisdiction of the said Lodge with the assistance of the Members of said Lodge. AND LASTLY, WE DO hereby authorize and empower our said trusty and well beloved Brethren James Edgar, Michael Jones and James Galbraith - to instal their Successors, being first duly elected and chosen, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant, and to invest them with all the Powers and Dignities to their Offices respectively belonging, and such Successors shall in like manner, from time to time, instal their Successors &c, &c &c. Such installation to be upon or near ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST' DAY during the continuance of this Lodge for ever. PROVIDED ALWAYS that the said above named Brethren, and their Successors, pay due respect to this RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE and the Ordinances thereof, otherwise this Warrant to be of no Force or Effect.

Given in open GRAND LODGE under the hands of our Right Worshipful Grand Officers and the Seal of our Grand Lodge,

[SEAL] at Philadelphia this Second — Day of June ----- A.C. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Six and of Masonry Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Six.

Attest

George A. Baker, Grand Secretary      Tho<sup>s</sup> Armstrong, Grand Treasurer

With the charter was a letter to Robert Robinson authorizing him to constitute the lodge. The letter is given as part of Brother Robinson's sketch. He took to his assistance James Gilbreath as Senior Warden and William Arundel as Junior Warden and opened a *Past Master's* Lodge and installed James Edgar as Master. The *Past Master's* Lodge was then closed and a Master Mason's Lodge opened. Brother Edgar installed the remaining officers and the lodge closed. The constituting ceremony was carried out on September 13, 1806. On October 4 there was a notable visitor who was to have much to do with the prosperity of the lodge and Masonry in Illinois. The record reads:

Shadrach Bond Jr. of Temple Lodge No. 26 Reisters Town, Baltimore Co. Maryland.

That night he petitioned for affiliation and was elected to membership.

December 27, 1806: At the first election under the charter Andrew Henry was elected Junior Warden and George Bullitt appointed Junior Deacon. They were both residents of St. Genevieve, and two of the first petitioners. The same night the petition of several Masons in St. Genevieve for a dispensation to organize a lodge was recommended. The officers named in the petition were Dr. A. Elliot, Master; Andrew Henry, Senior Warden; George Bullitt, Junior Warden. Western Star Lodge lost four members and two Entered Apprentices. The reply of Western Star Lodge to this application was:

At a meeting of the Western Star Lodge held at Kaskaskia in the Territory of Indiana, on St. John's Day, the 27th December A.L. 1806, James Edgar, Worshipful Master, in the chair.

A petition having been presented to this Lodge signed by a number of ancient York Masons (to us known as such) residing at St. Genevieve and its vicinity in the territory of Louisiana together with some members of this Lodge, praying this Lodge to recommend to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Brother Doctor Aaron Elliot as Worshipful Master, Brother Andrew Henry, as Senior Warden, and Brother George Bullitt as Junior Warden, of a lodge to be constituted in the Town of St. Genevieve in the Territory aforesaid, to be called the "Louisiana Lodge" — This lodge having had said petition under consideration Do hereby recommend the said Aaron Elliot, Andrew Henry and

George Bullitt, all Master Masons, as proper characters to fill the offices aforesaid, agreeable to the prayer of the petition hereto annexed.

In testimony whereof we, as the W. Master and Wardens of the said Western Star Lodge No. 107, held under the jurisdiction of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at Kaskaskia aforesaid, have hereunto set our hands and seals the day and year above written.

James Edgar W.M. [SEAL]

Mich'l Jones S. W. [SEAL]

Jas. Gilbreath J.W. [SEAL]

N.B. Nine of the foregoing petitioners are known to us as Master Masons

No seal being procured the Private Seal is substituted.

Attest. William Arundel, Secretary.

At the second election, June 24, the Wardens were installed in the Past Masters' lodge. At the next installation all officers were installed while the lodge was opened on the third degree, no Past Masters' lodge having been previously opened.

Notifying members to attend meetings was somewhat of a problem. June 4, 1808: "Distant members" were ordered notified to attend on the 27th of June. The secretary's record shows that notification to four were sent "by Bro. Rector's son," June 13th and to six others were sent "under cover" to John Hays, Cahokia, by "Mr. Joseph Charless, printer, on his way to St. Louis to purchase material."

December 17, 1808: An invitation was received from Louisiana Lodge No. 109 inviting the members to participate in the St. John's Day celebration and installation of officers and was accepted. At the same meeting a petition was received from "Sundry brethren at Cahokia asking a recommendation for a new Lodge, laid over." The petition was signed by five brethren but no action was taken owing to some irregularity in the payment of dues.

June 16, 1809: Invitations were received from the lodges at St. Louis and St. Genevieve to attend their St. John's Day celebrations; the latter was accepted. At this meeting the "Tyler" appears for the first time. When the lodge at St. Louis was organized Western Star lost three members; Rufus Easton who lived in St. Louis and John Hay and John Hays, both residents of Cahokia.

June 24, 1810: Brother Andrew McCormick of Lodge No. 137, of Loughbrickland, Ireland, Orange Body, was introduced as a Fellowcraft.

June 15, 1811: 'Stated Lodge night dues' were reduced from 25c to 12½c. Bills to the amount of \$150.07½ were allowed, with reason not stated except that \$8 was for a sword.

March 6, 1812: An unusual incident prevented the meeting of the lodge:

The minutes of the last meeting being called for, it was found that no lodge was held — that the earthquakes, so frequent and alarming at the time, rendered an assemblage of the members almost impossible, and indeed unsafe. The stone house in which the lodge was held was considerably shattered by the frequent concussions, and was on that evening abandoned by its proprietor, Bro. Greenup, who from the hurry of the moment, in moving his family, forgot to make any arrangements. The books and furniture then became inaccessible to those who had met, and consequently the delinquency on the part of the Lodge in not meeting was unavoidable.

April 4, 1812: A record that has been generally misunderstood was entered: "Brother Aaron Burr, Master Mason, member of Union Lodge No. 40, Connecticut, visiting." This was not the ex-Vice-President as he was on a ship returning from Europe at that date.

February 5, 1813 is the first record of the examination of a candidate:

The Lodge was opened in the first step in Masonry, according to ancient custom. When on examination of Bro. Conway, who prayed to take the step of a Fellowcraft, it was moved the said brother withdraw.

He was then passed.

June 24, 1813: A record showing the lax way in which members were examined is given:

Wharton Rector, a member of the Lodge, having been reported by the Grand Lodge of Virginia as suspended in December 1805 by Winchester Lodge No. 14, Virginia, a committee was appointed to investigate the matter.

August 6, 1813: The record reads: "Wharton Rector was unanimously expelled."

July 1, 1814: An account of \$26 for aprons and sashes was allowed. A committee appointed at a previous meeting to procure a room, reported and was granted further time.

Jan. 6, 1815 A subscription was ordered to be taken, for the purpose of building a lodge-room.

June 24, 1815 Breth. Edgar, Walker and Swearingen were appointed a committee to instruct the younger brethren.

July 7th Charges were preferred against a brother, alleging having in his possession, making, and altering forged bank notes, and associating with counterfeiters.

[The charges were referred to a committee to] collect testimony for and against the charges.

Oct. 6th The lodge-room being occupied by a sick person, the Lodge moved to the house of Bro. Jones, by consent.

A candidate was raised and the lodge closed at 12 midnight. This was two hours later than provided in the by-laws for closing.

Nov. 4th Bro. Greenup (secy) was allowed one dollar twelve and a half cents, postage on one communication from the Grand Lodge.

Dec. 2nd. [The election was held and a committee appointed to make arrangements for a] Masonic dinner and ball on St. John's Day and it was ordered that every brother who attended should pay two dollars.

Dec. 27th. The petition of Thomas C. Browne was received, referred, and reported on instanter, and the candidate initiated.

This was the brother that presided when the Grand Lodge was organized in 1822.

January 23, 1816: In memory of a departed brother the treasurer was ordered to procure crape and blue ribbon for the members, the crape to be worn on the hats and the blue ribbon at the third button hole of the vest; to be worn thirty days.

March 2: The finance committee reported \$535.65 delinquent dues. Phillip Rocheblave was granted a dimit. The text is inserted to show the curious wording:

Western Star Lodge No. 107.

To all Free and Accepted Masons, Union, Health and Happiness:

We the Master and Wardens of Western Star Lodge No. 107, held at Kaskaskia, in the county of Randolph, under the Grand Warrant of Pennsylvania, assembled in due form adorned with all our honors, do hereby declare and attest to all men enlightened on the face of the earth, that our beloved Bro. Phillip Rocheblave, who hath signed his name in the margin, hath been received as an entered apprentice, passed as a fellowcraft; and after having sustained with firmness, strength and courage, the most painful works and wonderful trials, we have given to him as a recompense, due to his zeal, diligence, and capacity, the sublime degree of Master, and have admitted and initiated him as such into our misteries and secret works in which he has helped us with his talents, skill and knowledge. In testimony whereof, we have granted to him this present certificate, signed by our Master and Wardens, and attested by our Secretary, with the private seal of the said Lodge, the twenty-fifth day of April, in the year of Masonry 5816 and of Salvation 1816,

S. Bond, W.M.,  
P. Fouke, S.W.,  
Samuel Walker, J.W.

Attest D. S. Swearingen, Secretary.

October 5: The lodge passed a resolution preventing the Worshipful Master from drawing orders on the Treasurer until the next stated meeting. The reason for this action was that the Master and Secretary wished to pay the Grand Lodge dues amounting to \$60. The objection was made that it would reduce the finances of the lodge to a dangerously low position.

December 7: It was voted to have the notice of the installation "in the public newspaper at Kaskaskia." In the *Western Intelligencer* of December 19th appeared

#### NOTICE

The Members of the Western Star Lodge No. 107 are requested to meet on the 27th of this month at their lodge room in Kaskaskia for the purpose of celebrating the day, it being the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. All transient brethren are solicited to attend.

D. S. Swearingen, Secy.

Fourteen brethren were present for the installation. The lodge, after the installation, went to the house of Brother William Bennett and "partook of dinner and other refreshments provided by the committee." There is no mention of what the "other refreshments" were but our olden time brethren were firm believers in "the glass that cheers."

Sep. 6, 1817 Resolved, That the members of this Lodge will, as a token of their grief for the death of their deceased brother N. G. R. Rhea, wear a piece of black ribbon through the second and third button holes of their coats for three months.

At a preceding funeral they wore blue ribbon and crape.

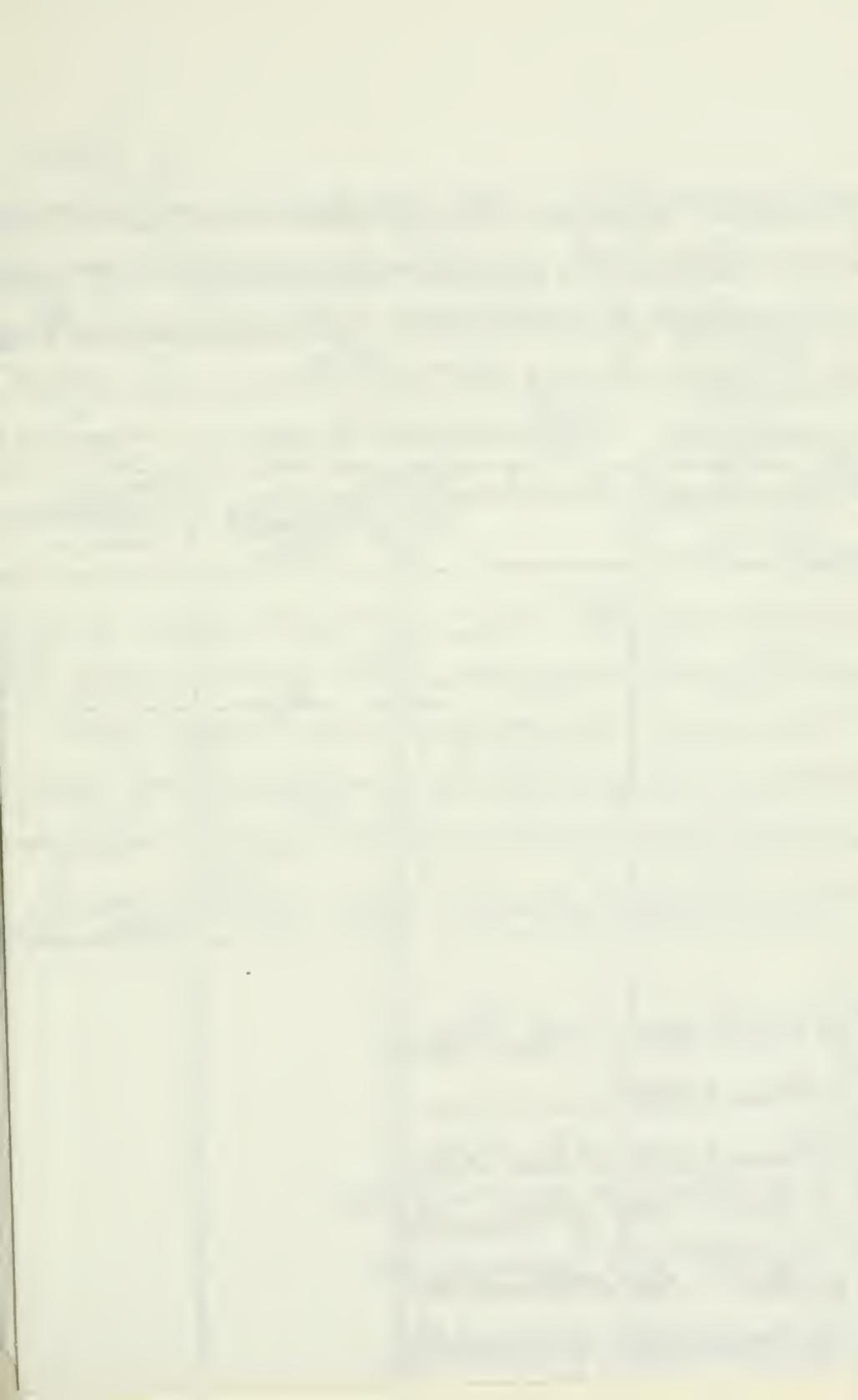
The installation of officers on June 24, 1819 found thirty-five brethren present, seventeen being from Louisiana Lodge No. 109 at St. Genevieve. This was a notable representation as they had to cross the Mississippi river.

Numbers present did not in any way interfere with necessary business.

December 27, 1819 the record reads:

At 8 o'clock in the morning brethren Bond, Fouke, and Walker, assembled, and Bro. Roberts, Master-elect, was installed in a Lodge of Past Masters, and that Lodge closed, and a Lodge of Master Masons opened, and called off until 10 o'clock, at which time ten brethren were present, and the remainder of the elective officers installed.

The record dated December 9, 1820 is the last minutes now



Return of the members of the Western Star Lodge No 107 Ancient York Masons held in the Village of Kaskaskia in the Indiana Territory under the Authority of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and of their Institutions, Admissions, Postings, Raisings &c. From the Commencement of the said Lodge, being the 11<sup>th</sup> December 1805 and of Masonry 5805 to St. John's Day December 1806. — U.S.A.

Names	What Degree.	When Instituted or admitted	When Raised	When Raised	Members Expelled from	Members who returned when —	Remarks Deceased when
James Edgar	P. M.	14 Decr. 1805					
Rufus Easton	M. M.	14 Decr. 1805					
Michael Jones	M. M.	14 Decr. 1805					was Called to the Home shipful Mast <sup>r</sup> of Justice at the Commencement but has signed
Robert Robinson	P. M.	14 Decr. 1805					
William Arundel	P. M.	14 Decr. 1805					
Alexander Anderson	P. M.	14 Decr. 1805				24 March 1806	
James Galbraith	P. M.	14 Decr. 1805					
Charles Quincy	M. M.	3 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806	4 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806	5 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806			
Doct <sup>r</sup> Walter Fenwick	F. C.	17 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806	1 March 1806				
George Bullitt	M. M.	17 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806	1 March 1806	6 Decr 1806			
John Kay	M. M.	18 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806	19 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806	10 <sup>th</sup> March 1806			
John Kay	M. M.	18 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806	19 Feb <sup>r</sup> 1806	10 March 1806			
Francis Valli	M. M.	1 March 1806	16 March 1806	24 March 1806			
Levi Laloug, alias Moore	M. M.	1 March 1806	16 March 1806	24 March 1806			
Stephen Foster	M. M.	1 March 1806	16 March 1806	17 March 1806			
Andrew Henry	M. M.	24 March 1806	24 March 1806	24 March 1806			
James Moore	Ent <sup>d</sup> A	1 Nov <sup>r</sup> 1806					
Henry Dodge	Ent <sup>d</sup> A	6 Decr. 1806					
Thomas Oliver	Ent <sup>d</sup> A	6 Decr. 1806					

I James Edgar Worshipful Master of the Western Star Lodge No 107 Ancient York Masons do hereby Certify, to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania that the foregoing is a just and true Return of the members of the Western Star Lodge No 107 and of the Institutions, admissions &c. in the said Lodge, as above stated during the time above mentioned.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my private Seal. There being no Seal of the said Lodge, at Kaskaskia 27<sup>th</sup> day of December 1806 and in the year of Masonry 5806

Attest  
 J. Edgar  
 William Grubbel, Secretary of W. S. Lodge No 107

P.S. On the 19<sup>th</sup> September 1806 this Lodge was Instituted and the Officers Installed in Conformity with Warrant and Dispensation granted for that purpose by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Dated 2<sup>d</sup> June 1806 and of Masonry 5806 as well as per by the Act and Statute made —  
 J. Edgar

known until those of June 24, 1828, on which date the lodge was opened by Thomas Reynolds, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois; the lodge was consecrated and officers installed under a warrant from the Grand Lodge dated February 14, 1827. Thirteen brethren were present. The lodge was given the number ONE by the Grand Lodge of Illinois. The oration was delivered by Richard M. Young, member of Union Lodge No. 6, later United States Senator and Supreme Court Judge.

Nine meetings were held after the consecration. The largest number present at any meeting was eight; most of the time only four and once three were all that attended.

September 6, 1828 by-laws were adopted. These consisted of twenty-four sections and were similar to original ones adopted when the lodge was first organized. The record of this lodge up to 1820 is taken from the "History of Masonry in Illinois" by John C. Reynolds. Brother Reynolds copied from the minutes of each meeting and his work is a most valuable story of our first lodge. A perusal of that history will furnish the interested brother with a wealth of information about that lodge. The minutes of 1828 and the consecration meeting are from the original records. The Reynolds history was printed in 1869.

### Financial Trouble

During the years when the lodge minutes are missing the lodge experienced much difficulty on account of financial trouble. In 1823 and the years following all banks were closed and there was very little money of any kind in the country, making it impossible for the members to pay dues. James Hall owned newspapers in Shawneetown and Vandalia. He received payment for advertising etc. "in bacon, tallow, beeswax and feathers." So the owner and editor managed a general store as an adjunct to his newspaper business. Here follows copies of the record of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

#### KASKASKIA LODGE No. 107

Under date of June 16, 1823 a communication was received from Kaskaskia Lodge No. 107

Containing a statement of the past and present situation of the Lodge, the pecuniary embarrassments under which it labors, their desire that the Grand Lodge would give them a credit for \$192.21 dues of delinquent members which they have actually never received nor can expect, as appears by the above mentioned statement, their intention to close all accounts with the Grand Lodge up to St. John the Evangelist's Day last and to remit the same as early as possible. They also inform of

the establishment of a Grand Lodge in the State of Illinois and ask for permission to surrender their present Charter when they may deem it expedient to take a new one under the Grand Lodge of Illinois and to retain all their Jewels and Furniture for the use of the new Lodge.

On motion and seconded, the said Communication together with the statement of the delinquent members were referred to the Committee on Finance.

WESTERN STAR LODGE No. 107

Adjourned Stated meeting Western Star Lodge No. 107.

Kaskaskia Monday May 12th, A.D. 1823, A.L. 5823

The Secretary with the assistance of the Worshipful Master having in pursuance of an order of the Lodge made out and laid before the Lodge a return to the Grand Lodge, of the admissions, Enterings, passings, raisings, Expulsions, demissions, deaths &c with a Statement of the annual dues of each member from the 27th December A.D. 1813 to the 27th Dec. A.D. 1822, Together with an account current with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, It appears to this Lodge proper to express freely its Sentiments to the Grand Lodge.

In submitting the report and account current to the Grand Lodge it will appear that a balance of \$393.63 remains due from the Western Star Lodge. Whilst the Lodge has to regret that it is at the present time unable to pay the amount due to the Grand Lodge, it cannot reproach itself with having received and expended the funds which has come to their hands from its members. The only regret which is felt, is that of too liberal indulgence to its members, and to that Source alone is to be ascribed their present embarrassment. But few indeed of the members have discharged the amount of their accounts with the Lodge, and by continued indulgence many have removed so distantly from the Lodge that it is next to impossible to obtain their annual dues, in fact some have removed to places unknown to the Lodge without having paid their dues.

By a Statement accompanying this report it will be seen that a considerable amount has been actually paid by this Lodge to the Grand Lodge from its commencement up to the 27th December 1813, which in fact never was received by this Lodge nor never will. The same Statement also shows the amount which has accrued from that time up to the 27th December 1822 which this Lodge conceives to be irrecoverably lost. This Lodge has a much greater account charged against these delinquents. The Consequence of which has been that the funds of this Lodge has been advanced in making payments to the Grand Lodge of dues which never has nor never will be received by them. And it would, this Lodge conceives, be very hard indeed for it to incur not only the loss of that amount, but of their own demands which are of a much larger amount. It would in fact be throwing the burden of all these delinquents entirely on the more upright few.

The expenditure of the funds of this Lodge in completing the payments heretofore made agreeably to the return of 1813 and the amount

required for House rent and the sums lately required to meet the engagements entered into to finish a room for the Lodge has exhausted all the funds received, and in fact this Lodge is now somewhat in debt for the room it has now provided. It is therefore evidently out of the power of this Lodge until it can make collections, to make remittances to the Grand Lodge.

Some loss has been Sustained by this Lodge by the depreciation of the value of the paper of the State Bank of Illinois which has been received. The depreciation of the value of that paper has caused this Lodge to expend about double the sum it would otherwise have required in paying off its expenses. In addition to this circumstance, it is a fact that its members are residing in almost every part of the State. Many have not been in the Lodge for the last seven years. To make collections is attended with much difficulty. Orders have been repeatedly made requesting payments, but no determinate effectual measures have been resorted to except in only two or three instances. Indulgence has been the general course pursued, and the result must be that of great loss to the Lodge. Measures however have lately been entered into which if effected, and we have every reason to believe they will, that must result in the close of this protracted business.

The remote situation of this Lodge from the Grand Lodge is attended with much inconvenience. The benefits derivable from a Grand Lodge Communication are not here enjoyed. We are sensible that irregularities in our workings exist, it must be expected to exist, differences are known to exist under different Grand Lodges, and the members of the Lodge are from various parts of the United States and differently instructed. Consequently when called to officiate in our Lodge their methods must be different. Yet we are satisfied that no material deviation exists from the Substantial ancient Land Marks of the Order. But we need, greatly need, a regular System, which we cannot well obtain without a visit from the Grand Communication.

We pleasingly anticipate the organization shortly of a Grand Lodge in the State. The constitution of which is now before this Lodge for its approbation or rejection. Notwithstanding our high regard and attachment and our Conception of the liberality and justice of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania that must always claim our regard and gratitude, yet we are persuaded that the vicinity of a Grand Lodge Communication must afford us a means of pursuing our work with more regularity and advance our instructions in Masonic lights and virtues.

Having thus taken a brief view of the condition and affairs of this Lodge at the present time, we deem it proper to remark to the Grand Lodge that it is the sincere determination of this Lodge now to close all the accounts with its members up to the last St. John the Evangelists Day and endeavor as far as possible to effect the Collections by the next St. John the Baptist's Day and to remit to the Grand Lodge as early as may be thereafter. But we declare that we believe that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should feel some little charity and forbearance for our situation and give us a credit in our accounts for the Sum of One

hundred ninety-two dollars and twenty-one cents, which sum we have actually never received nor can expect as will appear by the Statement herewith transmitted.

This Lodge deems it proper also to ask permission of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to surrender its present Charter when it may deem it expedient to take a new one under the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and that it may retain all its jewels and furniture for the use of the new Lodge.

A true copy from the Record

Attest	Wm. C. Greenup,
F. W. Owen, Secty.	Master of Western Star Lodge No. 107

To the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

The Committee of Finance to whom was referred the petition of Lodge No. 107, considering the doubtful power of this Grand Lodge to enforce a coercive course against a Lodge situate within the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, beg leave to offer the following Resolutions:

Resolved that the Grand Treasurer be authorized and is hereby authorized and directed to close the account of Lodge No. 107 up to and including 27 Dec. 1822 on receiving the sum of Two hundred Dollars.

Resolved that on the payment together with such dues as shall have accrued subsequently to Dec. 1822 of the aforesaid Two hundred Dollars Lodge No. 107 may surrender its Warrant to the Grand Secretary whenever it shall deem it expedient.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard Dahlgren,  
William Page,  
Wm. Mayweg.

Philad<sup>a</sup>. 16 July 1823

12 May 1823

Communication from Lodge No. 107

read in G. L. 16th June 1823,  
and referred to the Committee  
on Finance.

Report made thereon 2 August 1823 and  
adopted.

June 7, 1824. On motion and seconded:

Resolved, That the Warrant of Lodge No. 107 be vacated for delinquency and that the Grand Secretary be directed to communicate the same to them.

Dec. 20, 1824, On motion and seconded:

Resolved, that the Grand Secretary write the late master of late Lodge No. 107, requesting him to deliver the Jewels, Books, etc, of the

Lodge and inform him that the members individually remain suspended from the benefits of this institution until the request be complied with.

Kaskaskia, Illinois, Oct. 20, 1825.

Sir and Brother:—Your letter of the 22nd ult. is now before me. The solicitude which I feel, to have the perplexing business of the late Western Star Lodge closed with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, prompt me to use every endeavor to felicitate its accomplishment. I am satisfied that the misunderstanding has not been sought or intended. The Western Star Lodge found itself much embarrassed by circumstances which it could not well control. The deranged state of the currency of the Country, about the year 1823, arising from a mistaken policy of State legislation, based as was alleged, upon the general depression of the country, paralyzed everything, the enforcement of contracts was suspended, and nothing but a depreciated paper system was transacted. The Lodge had previously made contracts, and payments from it became due, and in consequence of the general embarrassment, its means of collection were limited, and what was effected, was so far depreciated that it had to sacrifice considerable to meet the engagements. When the proposition was made to the Grand Lodge to close the accounts, it was calculated that it could be effected, but in that it was disappointed. Coercive measures were adopted (Which, although painful under the peculiar circumstances of the times) and put into a train of operation, which were arrested by the recall of the charter, leaving no means for their completion. A little before that time, The Grand Lodge of Illinois was constituted, and a general solicitude felt to become a branch of it, a resolution was adopted by that institution, to solicit the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to permit the Western Star Lodge to withdraw its funds and furniture, and work under the Illinois jurisdiction, but the unfortunate destruction of the books and archives of the Illinois Grand Lodge shortly after, by the conflagration of the capitol where they were deposited, prevented as I am informed, its being communicated to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. In reference to that proposal were based the remarks contained in communication from W.S.L., in April, 1824, and was not a proposition originating from the Western Star Lodge.

In my communication of 28th August last, I suggested the expediency of a special agency to close the business, it was the only method I could then devise, but since that time another expedient has occurred to me. Let a resolution be adopted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to restore the warrant of W.S.L. until it can complete the collection of the outstanding dues from its members, and take measures against the delinquents by suspension or expulsion according to its bye-laws; and to make its remittances and returns to the Grand Lodge, and upon its being made satisfactory to appear to the R.W. G.M., that the same has been done as far as practicable, that he grant the privilege for the W.S. Lodge, to surrender its charter and retain its jewels, furniture, &c., and be at liberty to unite with such Grand Lodge as it may deem expedient.

It is evident from the books of the Lodge that a much larger sum is due to it from its members than is sufficient to pay the balance due the Grand Lodge, but no authority is now vested to collect it, and unless it be soon attended to, the dues will be in all probability lost, some of which, I am satisfied, has already become so. I am fully persuaded that considerable collections can be effected if authorized either by agency or the restoration of the charter. I wish it to be fully understood that I feel no disposition to dictate a course for the Grand Lodge, but my solicitude for the adjustment of the affairs, in the present deranged and embarrassed condition, induces me to offer for the consideration of the Grand Lodge and its officers, such projects as seem to me best calculated to bring about the accomplishment of the desired object. The subject is an unfortunate and unpleasant one, and I heartily desire its termination in the most cordial and satisfactory manner, believing as I do that it has not been wantonly sought or intended, but growing solely out of circumstances misunderstood.

Fraternally yours,

Wm C. Greenup.

Nov. 21, 1825

Two letters to the Grand Secretary from C. C. Conway, late W.M. of late Lodge No. 107, Kaskaskia, dated at that place on 28th August and 20, October last respectively were read, explaining the peculiar difficulties under which the members of that Lodge laboured in consequence of the vacation of their Warrant and requesting that such measures might be adopted by the Grand Lodge as will secure the collection of the sums due by the members of the Lodge individually, and the discharge of such as have paid or may pay their arrearages.

Whereupon, On Motion and seconded:

Resolved, That the Warrant of Lodge No. 107, Kaskaskia, be and it is hereby revived in favour of the officers elected in December 1823. Resolved, That as soon as it shall satisfactorily appear to the R.W. Grand Master that the debts of Lodge No. 107 are collected and remittances thereof are made to the Grand Treasurer as far as practicable, he shall be and he is hereby authorized to grant permission to said Lodge to surrender its Warrant, retain its Jewels and Furniture and apply for a new Warrant to the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

Grand Lodge of Illinois, January 3, 1826 a petition was received for a new lodge at Kaskaskia. The committee to which this petition was referred

have had under consideration a communication from the Worshipful Master of Western Star Lodge No. 107, together with a petition from a number of Master Masons residing in and near the town of Kaskaskia, praying for letters of dispensation; and beg leave to make the following report:

The object of the communication is, to ask from this Grand Lodge a charter of constitution. It appears from documents in possession of your committee, that T. J. V. Owen, is an officer of Western Star Lodge No. 107; and that he is also recommended as one of the officers of the proposed Lodge. Conceiving it incompatible with the general regulations of our institution, and contrary to the principles inculcated in the book of constitutions, that a Mason should be a member of more than one Lodge at the same time; your committee beg leave to offer the following resolution:

“Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners from Kaskaskia praying for a dispensation or charter, ought not to be granted.”

At the time this petition was filed Western Star Lodge No. 107 was under sentence of suspension by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and this was evidently an attempt to preserve their Masonic life by working under a new charter. However, the sentence had been removed but the long time required to receive mail (35 days Philadelphia to Kaskaskia) was the reason the information had not been received.

Nov. 30, 1826:

In pursuance of the power vested in us, by virtue of a resolution of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, adopted on the 21st day of November A.D. 1825, A.L. 5825, we do hereby authorize and empower the W.M. and brethren of Lodge No. 107 to surrender the warrant thereof to us and to apply to the R.W. Grand Lodge of Illinois to hold a Lodge under warrant from that Grand Lodge.

At a communication of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, December 3, 1826 a resolution was introduced by Thomas Reynolds:

Resolved, That the M.W. Grand Master, when he shall be satisfied that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has consented for Western Star Lodge to surrender its warrant, and become a subordinate of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, shall direct a warrant to be issued authorizing such brethren as shall be recommended by Western Star Lodge to be installed as officers and open and hold a Lodge under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Illinois; and that such warrant be issued gratis, except the G. Secretary's fee for making out the same.

The resolution was adopted.

The next record is:

Extra meeting of the Western Star Lodge No. 107.

Kaskaskia, Saturday, Jan. 27th, A.D. 1827, A.L. 5827.

Present: C. C. Conway, W.M.; L. W. Cooper, S.W.; Th. J. V. Owen, J.W.; and Tyler p.t., and J.D., p.t.; Wm. C. Greenup, Secretary; P. Fouke, Tr. p.t.; Jacob Feaman, S.D.; Shadrach Bond P. Master. John

Atkins, visiting brother M.M. The Lodge was solemnly opened in the first step of Masonry, according to ancient form.

No business appearing in the first (degree) of Masonry, it was closed, and a Fellow Crafts Lodge was opened, and no business appearing before the Lodge in the Fellow Crafts Lodge, it was closed, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened.

The Worshipful Master laid before the Lodge a copy of the resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, adopted on the 21st, November, A.D. 1825, authorizing the Right Worshipful Grand Master to grant permission to this Lodge to surrender its warrant and procure another under the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Illinois, when he shall be satisfied that all practicable collections and payments shall be made, accompanied by the assent of the R.W. Grand Master, bearing date the 30th November last, and a letter from the Grand Secretary of the 10th of December last, which were severally read.

On motion of Bro. Wm. C. Greenup, and seconded by Bro. Bond, it was unanimously

Resolved, That application be immediately made by the Worshipful Master of this Lodge, to the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, for a warrant or charter under that Grand Lodge, and that when attained, that the present warrant of this Lodge, under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania be surrendered to the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, with a request that he transmit the same to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and inform that Grand Lodge of the new installation this Lodge.

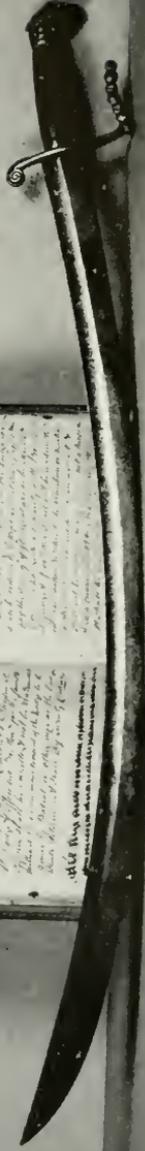
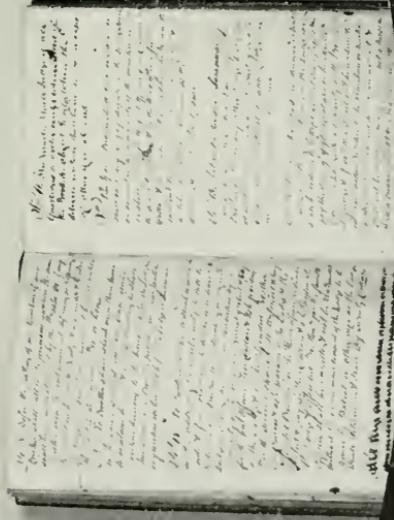
Resolved, That it be recommended to the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, that the name of this Lodge be called in the new warrant "The Western Star Lodge."

Resolved, As the opinion of this Lodge that the warrant now asked from the Grand Lodge of Illinois, ought to be given gratis, except the Grand Secretaries fees for making out the warrant, which this Lodge will cause to be paid at the time of installation.

Resolved, That this Lodge will state by ballot at the present meeting, suitable members to be named in the new warrant, and recommends them to be named as Master and Wardens.

Resolved, That a copy of the proceedings of this meeting be made out and certified by the Secretary and transmitted by the Worshipful Master, together with copies of the last communication from the Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, to the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

The Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers under the fourth resolution which resulted in the election of Shadrach Bond, Worshipful Master; William C. Greenup, Senior Warden; and Thomas J. V. Owen, Junior Warden. Accompanying these resolutions was the following letter:



Sword and 1828 minute book of Western Star Lodge,  
Now owned by Kaskaskia Lodge No. 86.



Kaskaskia, Feb. 5th, 1827.

Right Worshipful Sir and Brother:

You will perceive by the preceeding copies of the minutes of the late special meeting of the Western Star Lodge No. 107, and the copies of the resolutions of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the declaration of the R.W. Grand Master of that Grand Lodge, and the letter of the Grand Secretary, I am directed to transmit them to you and apply for a new warrant from the R.W. Grand Lodge of Illinois.

In November a memorial was transmitted by the Master and Wardens of this Lodge and laid before the R.W. Grand Lodge of Illinois, at the last Grand Communication, requesting a resolution to be passed authorizing the issue of a warrant to this Lodge gratis, Secretaries fees excepted, which resolution was passed as I am informed by a member (by letter) authorizing you to grant the same upon being satisfied that the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania consented thereto. That consent we now have, and the foregoing is a true copy.

The resolutions of this Lodge contain, as far as occurs to me, the views and desires of the Lodge, except a request of the members expressed to me of having an early installation, and if consistent, as public a manner as the case will permit. It would afford us particular pleasure if you could find it convenient to be personally present, and that we could have certain previous information of the time, so that some preparations may be made to afford time to invite as many of the craft to be present as circumstances may permit.

I shall esteem it a particular favor to receive from you as early as you can find it convenient, an answer containing your determinations.

I am with due respect, your obedient servant and brother, R.W.  
Bro. H. H. Snow.

Wm. C. Greenup.

The Lodge was consecrated June 24th, 1828.

Pursuant to a previous notice to the members to The Western Star Lodge No. 107, by the Rt. Worshipful Thomas Reynolds, Deputy Grand Master of the Rt. Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, assigning this day for the consecration of the Western Star Lodge, No. —, and installing of the officers under a warrant obtained from the said Rt. Worshipful Grand Lodge, bearing date the 14th day of February, A.L. 5827, A.D. 1827.

The following named members and visiting brethren assembled at the Lodge Room at 9 A.M.:

Members:—

Shadrach Bond P.M.

Wm. C. Greenup P.M.

Thos. J. V. Owens, M.M.

Jesse W. Cooper M.M.

Saml, Walker P.M.

Visiting brethren—

Rich'd S. Dorsey M.M.

Ed. Roberts P.M.

Ferdinand Onger M.M.

Hypolite Menard M.M.

John Atkins M.M.

C. C. Conway P.M.

Tho. Reynolds P.M.

Jacob Feaman M.M.

Whereupon the Lodge was opened in due form, according to ancient custom, in the first step in Masonry. Officed as follows, to-wit:

Shadrach Bond W.M.

Wm. C. Greenup S.W.

Tho. J. V. Owens, J.W.

Sam'l Walker, Secretary,

Tho. Reynolds, Treasurer,

Jacob Feaman, S.D.

Ed. Roberts J.D.

C. C. Conway, Tyler.

No business appearing in this step, a Fellow Crafts Lodge was opened in due form, and, no business in this step, a Master Mason's Lodge was opened in due form. No business appearing in this step of Masonry, after those who were not Past Masters having retired, a Past Masters' Lodge was opened in due form. Officered as follows, to-wit:

William C. Greenup, W.M. pro tem,

Edmund Roberts S.W. pro tem,

Samuel Walker J.W. pro tem,

Shadrach Bond Secy. pro tem,

Thomas Reynolds, Treas. pro tem,

Clement C. Conway, Tyler pro tem.

Whereupon Shadrach Bond, W.M., named in the warrant aforesaid, was duly installed by the Rt. Worshipful Deputy Grand Master as Master of this Lodge, in due form, according to ancient usage. No further business appearing in the Past Masters Lodge, the Past Masters Lodge was closed and a Master Masons Lodge was opened, when the brethren above named who were not Past Masters were again admitted and whereupon William C. Greenup was duly installed Senior Warden, and Thomas J. V. Owens, Junior Warden, of this Lodge in due form.

The Worshipful Master was pleased to appoint Jesse W. Cooper, Secretary, and Samuel Walker, Treasurer, and Clement C. Conway, Tyler, of this Lodge, and Jacob Feaman, Senior Deacon pro tem, and Hypolite Menard, Junior Deacon pro tem, who severally took their places and stations accordingly. Whereupon the Lodge walked in procession from the Lodge Room to Brother Fredrick Holden's and partook of some refreshment, and at High meridian returned again in like order to the COURT HOUSE AND LODGE, when they were joined by the following named visiting brethren:

Joseph Grafton P.M.  
 Richard M. Young, P.M.  
 Samuel Smith, P.M.,  
 John Oaklass M.M.,  
 James Clark, M.M.  
 Geo. E. Jackson, M.M.

The Lodge was then consecrated and the officers installed by the Rt. Worshipful Grand Master in due form.

An appropriate address was delivered by Brother Richard M. Young, in presence of the Lodge and a respectable audience of citizens, after which the Lodge walked in procession to Brother Fredrick Holden's and partook of a dinner and other refreshments, and then returned in like order to the Lodge Room. The Lodge was then closed in due order and harmony at 4 p.m.

Shadrach Bond

Jesse W. Cooper

W.M.

Secretary.

The last reference to this lodge is in a letter dated at

Kaskaskia April 10, 1829.

Sir:

The Grand Lodge of Illinois having granted a warrant to the members of Western Star Lodge No. 107 formerly held under the Grand Lodge of Pa., and the Lodge having been installed on the 24th June last, I herewith enclose you the warrant for Lodge No. 107. There is due to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania from No. 107 the sum of \$25.00. The funds to meet it are notes of the State Bank of Illinois which are at a discount of 37, 1/3 per cent. Should the Grand Lodge agree to take that kind of funds (for there is no other) I can transmit it, if not I cannot say when the paper will be at par.

Fraternally,

The Right W.G.M.

Your Obed Servant

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

C. C. Conway

WM Western Star Lodge No. 107.

Thus ended an existence of nearly a quarter of a century by the pioneer lodge of Illinois. The records of organization are complete with the exception of where the meetings were held. It is commonly believed that the lodge held its first meeting in the two story brick building erected in 1792. Brother John C. Smith, Past Grand Master, whose wife was a native of Kaskaskia, said it was the first brick building in the Mississippi valley. The bricks were 9 by 4 by 3½ inches in size. Some writers claim this building was stone but Brother Smith said he had one of the bricks which he took from the ruins of the building. This building was the meeting place of the Territory and

afterwards of the State Legislature. The Supreme Court also used it and after the state capitol was removed to Vandalia it was the court house of Randolph County until 1848. During its last years there was a grocery and dry goods store in the first floor while the second story was a residence.

The lodge met at the houses of some of the members. In 1812 it was at the stone house of W. C. Greenup, for a time with Michael Jones and in 1816 with Enoch Paine.

In 1826 the return showed fifty-five members, however, many of these members had moved away and their addresses were unknown. The faithful few upheld the banner of Masonry until the last. St. John's Day was always celebrated with the installation of officers, a dinner and an oration. From the primitive conditions under which the lodge labored it is evident that the rule of seven to constitute a lodge was either unknown or ignored. There are many records where meetings were held by four or five, business transacted and candidates raised. Local rules were neglected but the fundamental principles of Masonry prevailed; the destitute brother was helped and the appeal of the widow was not unheard.

The history of Western Star Lodge is, in a measure, the history of the state. On the roll of membership were the names of the first Governor, two United States Senators, one Secretary of State, two Supreme Court Justices, four state senators, twelve representatives besides several state and national appointive officers. One member was Territorial Delegate from Missouri and the second Attorney General of that state. Another was Territorial Governor and afterwards United States Senator from Wisconsin.

The removal of the state capitol to Vandalia and the encroachments of the river brought the lodge to its end. With its light extinguished, its altar overturned and its doors closed it yet remains the bright example to encourage us of today to continue under all conditions and carry aloft the torch of Masonry that fell so many years ago from other hands.

The faithful few continued to hold meetings but the end was in sight.

December 20, 1828. Only three were present. A resolution was introduced by Brother Greenup which reads:

Whereas, The Grand Lodge of Illinois has not convened in the years A.D. 1827 and 1828 A.L. 5827 and 5828, And that Western Star Lodge No. 1, held at Kaskaskia, under a warrant from said Grand Lodge, was



Desk of Shadrach Bond and gavel used by Western Star Lodge. Both now used by Chester Lodge No. 72.



duly installed on the 24th day of June last, and no intelligence having reached the Western Star Lodge that any report of that installation has been made according to usual custom, and approved or disapproved by said Grand Lodge and therefore

Resolved, By the Western Star Lodge No. (1) in this their adjourned stated meeting, until a report of their installation and approbation of the same shall be communicated to them by the Grand Lodge aforesaid, that all meetings of the same after the 27th inst, be and the same are hereby postponed.

However, no action was taken on the date specified in the resolution but on February 7, 1829 another resolution was adopted, reading:

Resolved, That the resolution proposed for adoption at an adjourned meeting of this Lodge, on the 20th of December last, be now adopted to take effect from and after this meeting.

This was the last meeting of Western Star Lodge. Other lodges continued to exist for a time in a feeble way, but the life was gone from Masonry for several years.

During its existence up to December, 1820 the lodge had 125 members registered; also 100 visitors attended one or more meetings.

#### MASTERS OF WESTERN STAR LODGE No. 107

Name	Installed	Name	Installed
James Edgar	U.D. Sept. 24, 1805	Shadrach Bond	June 24, 1815
James Edgar	June 24, 1806	Shadrach Bond	Dec. 24, 1815
Michael Jones	June 24, 1807	Phillip Fouke	June 24, 1816
Michael Jones	Dec. 27, 1807	Michael Jones	Dec. 27, 1816
Robert Robinson	June 24, 1808	No election in 1817 June	
James Gilbreath	Dec. 27, 1808	Samuel Walker	Dec. 27, 1817
James Gilbreath	June 24, 1809	Shadrach Bond	Dec. 27, 1818
George Fisher	Dec. 27, 1809	Edmund Roberts	Dec. 27, 1819
William C. Greenup	June 24, 1810	Phillip Fouke	Dec. 27, 1820
James Kinney	Dec. 27, 1810	W. C. Greenup	Dec. 27, 1821
W. C. Greenup	June 24, 1811	W. C. Greenup	Dec. 27, 1822
Phillip Fouke	Dec. 27, 1811	C. C. Conway	Dec. 27, 1823
Michael Jones	June 24, 1812	C. C. Conway	Dec. 27, 1824
Michael Jones	Dec. 27, 1812	C. C. Conway	Dec. 27, 1825
W. C. Greenup	June 24, 1813	Shadrach Bond	Dec. 27, 1826
W. C. Greenup	Dec. 27, 1813	Shadrach Bond	Dec. 27, 1827
Michael Jones	June 24, 1814	Shadrach Bond	Dec. 27, 1828
Michael Jones	Dec. 27, 1814		

The early masters were elected for a six months' term; beginning with 1817 the term was extended to twelve months.

## Chapter 4

# OTHER EARLY LODGES

### Lawrence Lodge No. 34

The Kentucky record reads:

Sep. 2, 1815:—

A petition from a number of brethren, residing in or near Shawneetown, Illinois Territory, principally members of Jerusalem Lodge No. 9, praying that a charter or letters of Dispensation be granted them, authorizing them to work together as a regular lodge of Masons was received and read; whereupon, Ordered, that a dispensation issue for a lodge to be held in Shawneetown, Illinois Territory, to be known by the name and title of Lawrence Lodge, and that Meredith W. Fisher be the master, William C. Vaught, Senior Warden and Benjamin Talbot, Junior Warden.

Aug. 28, 1816:—

Ordered, that a charter issue, authorizing a lodge to be held at Shawnee Town, Territory of Illinois, to be known by the name of Lawrence Lodge No. 34; and that John Caldwell be the first Master, Wm. C. Vaught, first Senior Warden and William E. Ashby, first Junior Warden.

Return of Lawrence Lodge, held under Dispensation at Shawnee Town, Illinois Territory, from May 1816 to August 1816,

#### Officers

Meredith W. Fisher, Master,  
William C. Vaught, Senior Warden  
Benjamin Talbot, Junior Warden  
John Hull, Secretary  
John Caldwell, Treasurer  
James Latham, Senior Deacon  
Thomas Shannon, Junior Deacon  
James Blue, Steward  
Leonard White, Tyler

#### Master Masons

David Apperson  
Nathan Sloe  
Josiah Ramsey  
Henry Oldham  
John Marshall

Leonard White  
Harrison Wilson  
Thomas C. Brown  
James Ratchliffe  
William R. Ashby

## Entered Apprentices

Walter White

William Harding

## Initiated

Nathan Sloe	May 13th, 5816	Walter White	May 16th 5816
James Blue	"	Josiah Ramsey	"
David Apperson	"	Henry Oldham	"
John Marshall	"	William Harding	"

## Passed

David Apperson	
Nathan Sloe	May 16th, 5816
James Blue	May 20th, 5816
Josiah Ramsey	
Henry Oldham	
John Marshall	June 1st,

## Raised

David Apperson	May 16th, 5816
Nathan Sloe	
Josiah Ramsey	
James Blue	June 1st, 5816
Henry Oldham	
John Marshall	June 17th, 5816

## Admitted

John Caldwell	
Leonard White	
Thomas Shannon	
Harrison Wilson	
Thomas C. Browne	M. M's. May 16th, 5816

## Rejected

Ephraim Sellers	July 26th, 5816
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There were no returns for the years 1818, 1819, 1820. The return for Aug. 1816 to Aug. 1821 show stated meetings — 1st Monday.

James Hall, Master  
 Harrison Wilson, Senior Warden  
 James Marshall, Junior Warden  
 William T. Shepard, Secretary  
 Russel F. Wilson, treasurer  
 William Hardin, Senior Deacon  
 Thomas C. Browne, Junior Deacon

## Past Masters

James Hall  
 Meredith W. Fisher  
 Wm. C. Vaught

Thomas Shannon  
 John Caldwell  
 Sergeant Hall.

The 1822, Aug. return shows the same officers except Robert Martin, Senior Deacon and Morrison D. Wilcox, Junior Deacon. It also shows "No steward or tyler."

Aug 1824 past masters Meredith W. Fisher and William C. Vaught are not listed.

Aug. 1824:—

Your committee on the Examination of Returns, have also had before them a letter from W.M. of Lawrence Lodge No. 34, to the Grand Secretary. enclosing the dues for the years 1823 and 1824, Stating the reasons why the returns for those years have not been made, which letter we beg leave to lay before the Grand Lodge, as part of our report.

On motion of brother Daniel Radford:

Resolved, that the explanation of Lawrence Lodge No. 34, for its delinquency last year, is satisfactory to this Grand Lodge, and the said Lodge stands fully acquitted of neglect of duty.

The return for 1824 shows several different officers:—

Thomas L. Pasey, Master  
 William Siddall, Senior Warden  
 Robert Enders, Junior Warden  
 Calvin Gold, Secretary  
 John Marshall, Treasurer  
 William Hardin, Sr. Deacon  
 Arnold B. Dake, Jr. Deacon  
 Harrison Wilson, Tyler.  
 (no return of past masters, members or initiations.)

No further record is found in the Kentucky proceedings, as this lodge became a member of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1824.

**Libanus Lodge No. 29**

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Tennessee, 1819.

The M.W. Grand Master reported that since the last Grand Annual Communication he had issued a dispensation to sundry brethren residing at or near Edwardsville, Illinois, by the name of Libanus Lodge No. 29.

Ordered that a charter issue to Libanus Lodge No. 29, upon receipt of their proceedings. provided it shall appear to the satisfaction of the M.W. Grand Master that their work has been in conformity with the principles of Masonry. The charter was issued Oct. 6, 1820.

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, 1822, page 59.

Whereas, It has been made known to some members of this Grand Lodge, that a member of Mount Libanus Lodge No. 29, at Edwardsville, State of Illinois, has been guilty of conduct grossly immoral and unmasonic, and whereas, it is believed, the proceedings had in his case, have been irregular, and whereas, it is understood, that said lodge is not in the habit of corresponding with the Grand Lodge under which it works,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the facts and proceedings aforesaid, and report to the Grand Lodge, at its next Semi-Annual Communication.

The proceedings of the semi-annual mentioned above contain no reference to this resolution.

In the Illinois proceedings for December 7, 1824 appears the following:

Resolved, That Jacob C. Brunner, who has been expelled by Libanus Lodge, be restored to his membership in the same, and to the privileges of Masonry, but that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the said Lodge from again proceeding to the trial of the charges exhibited against him.

This was laid on the table and the next day the question was taken up when it was:

Resolved, That as Libanus Lodge is working under the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, this Grand Lodge can take no cognizance of said petition.

In 1887 the printed by-laws of this lodge, together with the treasurer's book, the original account book, a number of receipts, etc. were found in the effects of Mrs. John Guy, a widow 87 years of age, living in Carlinville. She was a sister of Alexander Miller, Treasurer, 1823-24. The bills were signed by John Todd, Worshipful Master; James D. Henry, Senior Warden; D. Prickett, Junior Warden; Alexander Miller, Treasurer and I. G. A. McKinney, Secretary. The Treasurer's book is a home-made affair but splendidly executed, both as to penmanship and arrangement, and is excellently preserved. It contains the following entries:

CR.

1823, July 1, By one hundred and twenty-three dollars of the paper of the S.B. of Illinois, received from David Prickett, Secretary as per receipt bearing this date \$123.00

## DR.

1823 July 1. To this sum paid to the W.M'S order in favor of Bro. John Diamond	S.P. \$5.00
July 5. To this sum paid am't of Bro. A. Prickett's acc't dated the 3rd inst, per order of W.M.	S.P. \$18.—
Aug. 8, To this sum state paper paid Bro. Byron Patterson, the am't dated the 3rd inst. per order of W.M.	S.P. \$18.00
Aug. 24, This sum state paper paid on acc't of the W.M'S order in favor of Charles Stoker for \$15. it being all the money in the treasury.	\$40.00
	<hr/>
	\$123.00
	Alex'r Miller treas'r.

## CR

1824, April 16. By eleven 50-100 dollars of Illinois State paper, from I. C. A. McKinney, Secretary, as per cer't of the present date \$11.50

The value of state paper in those days is shown by the tyler's bill, which was for \$27.00 but it took \$60.00 of state paper to settle it.

These papers were sent to Edwardsville Lodge No. 99 in whose possession they now are.

This lodge recommended the petitions of Olive Branch, Sangamo and Vandalia Lodges to the Grand Lodge of Missouri. It started the movement to organize the Grand Lodge by its letter to Western Star Lodge. It is not known how long it lasted. It sent six members to participate in the organization of the Grand Lodge and was represented at every session after its organization.

**Temple Lodge No. 35**

## Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Tennessee, 1820:

The Grand Secretary reported that on the 28th of June 1820, a dispensation was granted to Bros. David Blackwell of Solomon's lodge no. 5, Ky and others to open a new lodge in the town of Belleville, Illinois, by the name of Temple Lodge No. 35.

Aug. 5, 1820 Temple Lodge No. 35 was opened in form with eight brethren present, among them being Charles Marini of St. John's Lodge No. 7, Ancona, Italy, a visitor.

Oct. 1, 1821 The Grand Secretary reports, that Temple Lodge No. 35 surrendered its dispensation without working under it. Reason, not known.

### Olive Branch Lodge No. 5

June 2, 1821 a number of brethren residing at Alton prepared a petition for a lodge at that town and submitted it to Libanus Lodge for its recommendation. The petition reads:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Missouri:

The petitioners hereof humbly show that they are Ancient, Free, and Accepted Master Masons. Having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, they are willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry.

For the convenience of their respective dwellings, and for other good reasons, they are desirous of forming a new lodge in the town of Alton, county of Madison, and State of Illinois, to be named Olive Branch Lodge No. —, in consequence of this desire, and the good of the Craft, they pray for a dispensation empowering them to assemble as a legal Lodge, to discharge the duties of Freemasonry in the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the ancient forms of the Fraternity and the laws and regulations of your Grand Lodge.

That they have nominated and do recommend Erastus Brown to be the first Master, Hezekiah H. Gear to be the first Senior Warden; and Henry H. Snow to be the first Junior Warden of said Lodge; that if the prayer of the petition should be granted, they promise a strict conformity to all the constitutional laws, rules, and regulations of the Grand Lodge and that if the proceedings of their lodge shall meet the approbation of the said Grand Lodge, at the next regular meeting of that Most Worshipful body, they, your petitioners, will apply for a charter or warrant. And as in duty bound will ever pray.

State of Illinois, Madison County, June 2, 1821.

The petition was signed by Erastus Brown, Master Mason, Chad. Brown, Master Mason, Henry H. Snow, Master Mason, Nelson Aldrich, Master Mason, Joel Finch, Master Mason, Daniel Mauross, Master Mason, Hezekiah H. Gear.

The recommendation of Libanus Lodge reads:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Missouri — Showeth:

That this petition has for a long time been under consideration of Mount Libanus Lodge, opened and held at Edwardsville, Illinois; that said Lodge have made all and every necessary inquiries respecting the qualifications and respectability of the petitioners, as also the locality of the place petitioned for; and, after calling a vote on the subject it was carried in favor of the petition being granted unanimously.

attest. Nicholas Hanson, Sec'y of s'd lodge.

Edwardsville 19th September, 1821.

The dispensation reads:

SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT.

By the Most Worshipful Nathaniel B. Tucker, Grand Master.

To all and every our Right Worshipful and loving brethren greeting:

Know ye, that the Most Worshipful Nathaniel B. Tucker, Grand Master, at the humble petition of our Right Worshipful and well loved brothers, Erastus Brown, Hazekiah H. Gear, Henry H. Snow, and several other brethren residing at and near the town of Alton, Madison county, State of Illinois, of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of York Masons, and for certain other reasons moving our Worshipful Grand Master, do hereby constitute the said brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to be opened in the Town of Alton, by the name of Olive Branch Lodge No. 5. At their said request and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the said brethren, the Most Worshipful Grand Master doth hereby appoint Bro. Erastus Brown, Worshipful Master, Bro. Hezekiah H. Gear, Senior Warden and Bro. Henry H. Snow, Junior Warden for opening — the said Lodge and governing the same. It is required of our friend and brother the Worshipful Erastus Brown, to take special care that all and every of the said brethren of your Lodge, as well those hereafter to be admitted, into our body by your Lodge regularly made Masons; and that they do observe, perform, and keep all the rules and orders contained in our book of Constitutions, and the ancient landmarks be strictly attended to; and further, that you cause to be entered in a book kept for that purpose, an account of your proceedings; which, when done you are required to transmit herewith to the Grand — Master (with a list of those initiated, passed and raised, or otherwise managed) at our next Grand Semi-Annual Communication.

Given at St. Louis under the hand seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, this 30th day of October, A.L. 5821 and A.D. 1821.

N. B. Tucker, G.M.

Wm Renshaw, G. Secy.

Resolved, That the act of the M.W. G. Master, in granting a letter of Dispensation to Olive Branch Lodge, No. 5, is approved by this Grand Lodge.

The record was received and referred to the committee on Proceedings and Work of lodges under dispensation. The committee report reads:

That they have had under consideration the work and proceedings of Olive Branch No. 5, and after a careful examination of the same, your committee find that the records of said lodge have not been kept with the exact regularity and precision which is desirable in all lodges, but they do not find any essential error. or departure from the ancient usages of the order.

Resolved, That a Charter of Constitution be granted to the members of Olive Branch Lodge No. 5, according to the prayer of the petition,

The charter was issued accordingly.

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, October 8, 1822:

Brother Geo. H. C. Melody, who had been deputed to install the officers of Olive Branch Lodge No. 5, presented his report on that subject, which was read and adopted.

Committees were appointed by the Grand Lodge to solicit subscriptions for the purpose of erecting a Masonic Hall in St. Louis. The report of the committee from Olive Branch Lodge reads:

The undersigned, who by a resolution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, adopted at the last Grand Semi-Annual Communication, was constituted a committee to procure subscriptions and donations for the purpose of erecting a Masonic Hall in the town of St. Louis, beg leave to report, that they have attended to the duty assigned them, as far as practicable, but have not been able to obtain anything for the contemplated object; which is respectfully submitted.

H. H. Snow  
Nelson Aldrich.

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, October 9, 1822:

The committee to whom was referred the Proceedings of Olive Branch Lodge No. 5, beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the By-laws of said lodge, as well as proceedings, and find nothing therein contained contrary to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, or the ancient land-marks of Masonry. Your committee beg leave to offer the following resolutions, viz.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge approve of the Proceedings of Olive Branch Lodge No. 5.

The first meeting was held November 7, 1821. J. W. Whitney, a Fellowcraft petitioned to receive the third degree.

November 8. A committee on by-laws reported. One section was amended by striking out six as the hour of meeting and substituting "four of the clock." The first election was held in May and the by-laws provided that "forever after that, semi-annually, in the months of May and Sep." Visitors were required to pay twenty-five cents after the first visit "in any one year." The Tyler was paid fifty cents per meeting and he was permitted to collect twenty-five cents for his own use from every candidate initiated, passed or raised and from every brother who affiliates. Entered Apprentices had to wait three months

before being passed, Fellowcrafts had to wait two months. Provided, that

a brother who became *thoroughly* acquainted with all the information belonging to his degree, he might, at the discretion of the lodge, be advanced in less time.

Every candidate was presented with an apron and a copy of the by-laws.

On January 10, 1823 a resolution to prohibit smoking in the Lodge was introduced and laid over until the next regular meeting. On February 14 said resolution "was negatived."

Olive Branch Lodge No. 5, Upper Alton, for 1823, the officers were: Nelson Aldrich, Worshipful Master; Emmanuel J. West, Senior Warden; Southard Shaw, Junior Warden; Henry P. Rundle, Treasurer; Alexander Hart, Secretary; Benjamin Spencer, Senior Deacon; Benjamin Harwood, Junior Deacon; Culver Woodburn, Steward; William Heath, Tyler. In 1822 a contract for rent of hall was made at "twelve dollars per annum in specie, or thirty dollars in State paper."

The lodge sent three delegates to the convention that organized the Grand Lodge. In 1824 it was represented by David Coons. That year the return of the lodge showed twenty-five members, being the largest membership of any lodge shown.

On January 6, 1826 the committee on reports of subordinate lodges reported that the returns of Olive Branch Lodge had been received and appeared satisfactory so far as a disposition to conform to our regulations and the rules of Masonry were manifest. At the same meeting of the Grand Lodge we note the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge disapproves of a resolution adopted in Olive Branch Lodge No. 5 on the day of their last election, allowing visiting brethren to vote in said election.

Nothing has been found to show when the lodge severed its connection with the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Neither is there anything to show when it ceased to exist. There are a few records of minor transactions as late as October 14, 1826.

To show the difficulties under which some lodges labored: Rev. J. M. Peck said that in 1828 there were 32 families with 132 members in "lower Alton." Six years later there were 2,500 inhabitants.

### Hiram Lodge No. 8

The origin of this lodge is a mystery. Every Grand Lodge in existence in 1824 has been contacted and none of them has any record of

such a lodge. Evidently the Grand Lodge issued that charter in 1823 but all records for that year were burned when the State House was destroyed December 9th. The first record of it is when Richard J. Hamilton, Worshipful Master was registered as a delegate to the Grand Lodge in 1824. That year the return showed twenty-four members. This is the only year that the lodge was officially represented. The committee on returns of lodges in 1826 reported that the returns from Hiram Lodge No. 8 were satisfactory. January 1, 1827 Richard J. Hamilton was reported as a visitor. Hamilton was Master of Union Lodge No. 10 in 1822.

The only other known member of this lodge was Joseph Duncan, the father of the free school system and several years a member of the legislature. In 1834 he was elected governor and served four years. He was born in Paris, Kentucky, on August 31, 1795 and died at Springfield on March 25, 1846.

The lodge was supposed to have been located at Brownsville, the first county seat of Jackson County. It was situated on the north bank of the Big Muddy river about five miles west of Murphysboro. In 1834 it was said to have a population of between four hundred and five hundred people. The court house burned on January 10, 1843 and because many people had settled around the immediate territory, there was a demand for a more centrally located county seat. Doctor Logan, father of General John A. Logan, offered twenty acres of his farm as a site for the court house. His offer was accepted and in a few years all trace of Brownsville was gone.

### Albion Lodge No. 9

The first mention of this lodge reads:

Vincennes Lodge No. 1, March 1st, A.L. 5822, A.D. 1822.

This being a called Lodge by order of the W. Master, for the purpose of taking into consideration a petition from a number of brothers residing in and near Albion, in Edwards county, Illinois, and after having properly examined Brothers Jas. O. Wattles and A. B. Dake, who attended with said petition, and finding them well skilled, and they having vouched for the remainder of the signers;

On motion,

Resolved, That this Lodge do recommend the brothers named in the within petition to the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Indiana, agreeably to the prayer of the petition.

I, Elihu Stout, Secretary of Vincennes Lodge No. 1, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of the proceedings of said Lodge on said petition.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of Vincennes Lodge No. 1 this 2nd day of March, A.L. 5822, A.D. 1822.

E. Stout, Sec'y V. L.

The petition was endorsed "Albion Lodge, 12th March, 1822. Received \$5.00 Lawrenceburgh paper," and was accompanied by the following letter:

Vincennes, 5th March, 1822.

Dear Sir:—

At the request of Judge Wattles, I forward you the petition of a number of the brethren residing in Albion, Illinois, and recommended by the Vincennes Lodge No. 1. They are desirous of having a letter of dispensation forwarded to me immediately, unless some business might induce you to visit this section of country. The officers mentioned in the petition are very expert workmen, and their prospects of success quite flattering. I was not properly aware of the amount of funds necessary to accompany the petition, but believing it to be five dollars, they left that sum in my hands, which I now enclose to you. Please forward the dispensation without delay, as they have a room prepared, and are very anxious to be installed as soon as possible.

James T. Moffatt.

P.S. Be so good as to advise me of any arrangements which are or may be made for the organization of a Grand Chapter in this state.

With respect, your fraternally,  
James T. Moffatt.

The dispensation was issued on March 12, 1822:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Indiana:

A dispensation from the Most Worshipful John Sheets, Esq. Grand Master, was granted on March 12th, 1822, to a number of petitioners residing in Albion, Illinois, authorizing them to open and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons at Albion, to be known and designated by the name of Albion Lodge, and naming Bro. James O. Wattles, Master; John B. Johnson, Senior Warden; and Arnold B. Dake, Junior Warden, which being enclosed to me, with direction to organize the Lodge, I proceeded on the 13th of April to install the officers named in the dispensation, with the other subordinate officers which had been chosen for that purpose. The good effect produced by the solemnities of a public installation were so visible in the vicinity of Carlisle Lodge, (Ind.) that the brethren of Albion were very desirous to have their's in public. As it was only a dispensation, I had some doubts as to propriety of the measure, but upon consulting with the brethren of this place, we concluded there would be no impropriety in it. Mr. Twigg, the brother appointed by the Albion Lodge to attend the Grand Lodge with the

dispensation and a copy of the proceedings of the Lodge, will be able to give any information that may be thought necessary as to the installation.

Respectfully,

James T. Moffatt.

Note—as these are the only returns I have ever made, you will please to excuse informality, and should they not be sufficiently explicit, you will give me notice of the same.

Vincennes, Sept. 30, 1822.

Dear Sir—The bearer of this, Mr. Twigg, is a member of Albion Lodge, has a copy of proceedings, and wishes to get their dispensation renewed. Anything you can do for him will be reciprocated by your friend.

J. T. Moffatt.

Grand Lodge of Illinois committee report, 1824:

The committee to whom was referred the examination of credentials, report that the credentials of all the Lodges represented here are in form, with the exception of Albion Lodge, which has appointed delegates instead of their being appointed by the officers of the Lodge as proxies, your committee, therefore, beg leave to introduce the following resolution:

Resolved, That the delegates from Albion Lodge be allowed to take their seats in this Grand Lodge.

James O. Wattles was elected Grand Treasurer in 1824 and again in January 1826.

The lodge did not prosper during its latter days. On December 12, 1826 a statement regarding the lodge was presented by Brother George Webb, Senior Warden, which resulted in the following action:

Resolved, That Bro. Henry I. Mills take charge of the furniture of Albion Lodge; that the Secretary of said Lodge is required to deliver all records and papers into his hands, and he is hereby authorized to settle with the former Treasurer, and collect all moneys due said Lodge, and pay them over to the order of the M.W. G. Master.

Resolved, That the operations of Albion Lodge No. 9, be, and they are hereby suspended.

The return for 1822 shows the following officers:

James O. Wattles,	M.
John B. Johnson	S.W.
Jesse B. Brown	J.W.
John M. Robinson	Secy.
Henry I. Mills,	Treas.
William A. Crowell	S.D.
David Dundas	J.D.
Henry Eowman	Ty.

Ten candidates were raised. In 1823 four were raised, four dimitted and one dismissed. The return for 1824 showed twenty-two members.

### Sangamo Lodge No. 9

On April 4, 1822 the following petition was sent to Libanus Lodge No. 29:

To the Worshipful Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, and brethren of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri:

Your petitioners respectfully beg leave to represent that they are Free and Accepted Master Masons, that they have been members of regular Lodges, and having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, are willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Masonry. That for the conveniency of their respective dwellings, and for other good reasons, are desirous of forming a new Lodge in the town of Springfield, county of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, to be called Sangamo Lodge No. —; and that in consequence of this desire, they pray for letters of dispensation from your honorable body (there being no Grand Lodge in the State of Illinois), to empower them to assemble as a legal Lodge, to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the original forms of the Order, and the regulations of your Grand Lodge. That they have nominated Stephen Stillman to be the first Master; Gershom Jayne to be the first Senior Warden, and John Moore to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge. That if the prayer of your petitioners should be granted, they promise a strict conformity to all the constitutional laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Jas. Latham  
 Stephen Phelps  
 Stephen Stillman  
 Gershom Jayne  
 Thos. Constant  
 Charles Wright  
 Oramel Clark  
 John Moore.

Libanus Lodge No. 29, April 4th, 1822, A.L. 5822.

The within petition from sundry brother Masons of Sangamon County, praying to be recommended by this Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Missouri for letters of dispensation, was presented and read, and each petitioner being properly vouched for, it is ordered that this Lodge do recommend said petitioners as prayed for.

John Todd, Secretary  
 A true copy of record.

John Y. Sawyer, Master  
 John Todd, Secretary.

On April 5 the following dispensation was issued:

SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT.

By the Most Worshipful Nathaniel B. Tucker, Grand Master.

To all and every, our right Worshipful and Loving Brethren —  
Greeting:

Know ye, that the Most Worshipful Nathaniel B. Tucker, Grand Master, at the humble petition of our Right Worshipful and well beloved brethren, Stephen Stillman, Gershom Jayne, John Moore and several others residing at and near the town of Springfield, county of Sangamon, State of Illinois, of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of York Masons, and for certain other reasons moving our Worshipful Grand Master do hereby constitute the said brothers into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons to be opened in the town of Springfield, by the name of Sangamo No. 9. At their said request and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the said brethren, the Most Worshipful Grand Master doth hereby appoint Bro. Stephen Stillman Master, Bro. Gershom Jayne Senior Warden, and Bro. John Moore, Junior Warden, for opening the said Lodge and governing the same. It is required of our friend and brother, the Worshipful Stephen Stillman, to take special care that all and every of the said brethren of your Lodge, as well as those hereafter to be admitted into our body by your Lodge, be regularly made Masons, and that they do observe, perform, and keep all the rules and orders contained in the Book of Constitutions, and the ancient landmarks be attended to; and further, that you cause to be entered in a book kept for that purpose, an account of your proceedings, which when done, you are required to transmit herewith to the Grand Master (with a list of those initiated, passed and raised, or otherwise managed), at our next Grand Annual Communication.

Given at St. Louis, under the hand and seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, this 5th day of April A.L. 5822, A.D. 1822.

Th Douglas

D.G.M. and G.M. pro tem.

attest Wm. Renshaw, G. Sec'y.

The first meeting was held on August 31, A.L. 5822:

Lodge met pursuant to notice being given, at the lodge-room in Springfield.

Brethren present: Stephen Stillman, W.M.; Gershom Jayne, S.W.; John Moore, J.W.; Moses Broadwell, Treas.; James C. Stephenson, Secy.; Oramel Clark, S. D.; Thomas Constant, J.D.

Lodge opened on the first degree of Masonry in due form; no business before this. Lodge closed, and that of a fellow craft opened; no business being presented, the Lodge closed, and that of a Master Mason opened. A form of by-laws was presented, which were adopted and signed by the brethren.

Moved and seconded that Brother John Moore furnish three small

stand tables, pedestals, rods, &c., for the use of the Lodge. No further business being before the Lodge, it was closed in harmony.

James C. Stephenson, Secretary.

Stephen Stillman, W.M.

These minutes were sent to the Grand Lodge accompanied by the following letter:

To the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri:

The Sangamon Lodge, through their Secretary, most respectfully report that on the 31st day of August, A.D. 1822, A.L. 5822, the Lodge convened agreeable to previous notice, at Springfield, and formed their by-laws, rules and regulations for the government and conduct of the said Lodge, which are herewith transmitted for the examination and approbation of your ancient and honorable body.

Your brethren at Sangamon most respectfully offer an extenuation of their apparent paralytic feelings for the advancement of Masonry, the following excuses, viz:

1st. Springfield being in its infancy, there was no convenient and safe place for them to convene.

2nd. Our Worshipful Master, S. Stillman, undertook to erect a building that would temporarily answer our purpose, but the wet season kept the Sangamon river high until a late period, which embarrassed his proceeding so as to enable them to commence work until the sickly season came on, since which the necessary absence of some, and sickness of others, has rendered it out of our power, with one exception, to convene the requisite number to transact business.

Your brethren at Sangamon feel desirous to obtain a charter, and humbly ask your honorable body to look on their past neglect, as not wholly faults wilfully resting in them, but with so many grains of allowance as to authorize your feelings to grant us a charter, which we deem essential in this place for the advancement of Freemasonry and the good of mankind; and in case your honorable body cannot grant us a charter we respectfully ask a renewal of our dispensation.

By order of the W.M., Wardens, and brethren.

James C. Stephenson, Secretary.

The by-laws accompanied the letter; also \$15.68 and \$3 state paper equal to \$1.50. The regular meetings were on Saturday preceding the full moon in each month at two o'clock P.M. unless the full moon came on Saturday, in which case the Lodge was to meet on that day. The fee for each degree was five dollars. Investigating committees were required to report in writing. Candidates were required to be examined in open Lodge before advancement. Each member was required to pay twenty-five cents at every meeting. No member was permitted to vote at election of officers who had not "paid all dues, fines, and arrearages."

Other by-laws similar to those now in use. (Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, October 9, 1822):

The committee to whom was referred the By-Laws and Proceedings of Sangamo Lodge No. 9, have examined the same, and beg leave to report, that they find the By-Laws and Proceedings of said lodge in strict conformity with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, but perceive the said lodge unintentionally omitted to require a certificate of the good standing of brothers applying for membership in this lodge. Your committee beg leave to recommend the following resolution, viz;

Resolved, That it be recommended to Sangamo Lodge No. 9, so to amend their By-Laws as to require a certificate of good standing (with the lodges of which the applicant was last a member), of any brother applying for membership.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge approve of the Work and Proceedings of Sangamo Lodge No. 9.

Resolved, That a Charter issue to said lodge.

Then followed the constitution of the lodge and the installation of officers:

Pursuant to a charter granted by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and by authority of the Deputy Grand Master (the Grand Master being absent) to George H. C. Melody, to consecrate, dedicate and install Sangamo Lodge No. 9, and in pursuance of said authority, on the 24th day of June, A.D. 1823, A.L. 5823, the Grand Lodge was opened in Springfield, Sangamon county, Illinois. Present: George H. C. Melody, Dep. G.M.; Asa S. Shaw, S. Warden p.t.; James Adams, G. Secy. p.t.; and Grand Chaplain, p.t. Whereupon, Lodge No. 9 was consecrated and dedicated to the Holy St. Johns, and the following officers installed, to-wit: Bro. Stephen Stillman being absent, Bro. John Moore, being a Past Master, and one of the officers named in the charter, was installed Master, proxy; Bro. Gershom Jayne, Senior Warden; Bro. John Moore, Junior Warden, being the same brother who was enstalled Master, proxy.

G. H. C. Melody.

attested, J. Adams, G. Secy. p.t.

The Deputy Grand Master (of Missouri) was appointed in October, 1824 to visit Springfield in October, 1825 and settle the accounts of Sangamo Lodge but he found the Master had failed to keep his promise. A summons was issued requiring the Master to convene the lodge but no attention was paid to it. He, therefore, proceeded to open the lodge and

finding the minutes badly kept, a great want of punctuality in their meetings and attendance to the business of the lodge, and that their conduct, if they were suffered to act any longer, would inflict indelible disgrace upon the fraternity, your committee deemed it his duty, for the credit of Masonry, to arrest their charter, which was accordingly done.

The report of the committee to whom the report of the Deputy Grand Master was referred said:

That they find no communication has been made from Sangamo Lodge, to this Grand Lodge, and none of its dues have been paid for so great a length of time, that your committee can view that lodge in no other light than as utterly careless of her duties owing from a subordinate to a superior lodge, and entirely, regardless of the true interests of Masonry.

The committee concluded by this resolution:

Resolved, That the charter heretofore granted to Sangamo Lodge No. 9 be, and the same is hereby declared, null and void; and that the name of the said lodge be stricken from the books of this Grand Lodge.

Thus ended the career of the first lodge in the present State Capitol.

### Union Lodge No. 10

The following petition was sent to Unity Lodge No. 6 at Jackson, Missouri on May 29, 1822:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Missouri:

We the undersigned free and Accepted Master Masons, being at present and having been members of regular Lodges, and having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, are willing to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Masonry. And for conveniency of our respective dwellings and for other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new lodge in the town of Jonesborough, Union county and State of Illinois, to be named "Union Lodge," and in consequence of this desire we pray for letters of dispensation or a warrant of constitution to empower us to assemble as a legal Lodge, to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner according to the original forms of the Order and the regulations of the Grand Lodge. And we have nominated, and do recommend Richard J. Hamilton to be the first Master, James Finney to be the first Senior Warden, and William M. Alexander to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge. And if the prayer of the petition should be granted, we promise a strict conformity to all the constitutional laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Richard J. Hamilton  
James S. Smith  
Wm. M. Alexander  
George Wolf

James Finney  
Ben W. Brooks  
Abner Field  
Jeptha Sweet

At a special meeting of Unity Lodge No. 6, held in the town of Jackson, State of Missouri, on Wednesday the 29th of May, 1822— On application of sundry Masons of Jonesborough, Union county, State of

Illinois, to be admitted to form a Lodge in the above town. Ordered that the brothers named in the said petition be recommended to the Grand Lodge of Missouri, for a dispensation.

C. Buckner, W.M.

Edward S. Gantt, S.W.

J. Frizel, J.W.

The dispensation reads:

SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT.

By the Most Worshipful, Nathaniel Beverly Tucker, Grand Master. To all and every our Right Worshipful and loving Brethren, Greeting—

Know ye, that the Most Worshipful Nathaniel Beverly Tucker, Grand Master at the humble petition of our Right Worshipful and well beloved Brothers R. J. Hamilton, James Finney, William M. Alexander, and several other brethren residing at and near Jonesborough, Union county, State of Illinois, of the ancient and honorable Fraternity of York Masons, and for other reasons moving our Worshipful Grand Master, do hereby constitute the said brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to be opened in the town of Jonesborough, county and state aforesaid, by the name of "Union Lodge No. 10."

At their said request and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the said brethren, the Most Worshipful Grand Master doth hereby appoint Bro. Richard J. Hamilton, Worshipful Master, Bro. James Finney, Senior Warden and Bro. William M. Alexander, Junior Warden for opening the said Lodge and governing the same. It is required of our friend and brother the Worshipful Richard J. Hamilton, to take special care that all and every of the said brethren of your Lodge, as well those hereafter to be admitted into our body by your Lodge, be regularly made Masons, and that they do observe, perform and keep all the rules and orders contained in our book of Constitutions and the ancient landmarks be strictly attended to; and further, that you cause to be entered in a book kept for that purpose, an account of your proceedings, which when done you are required to transmit herewith to the Grand Master (with a list of those initiated, passed and raised, or otherwise managed), at our next Annual Communication.

Given at St. Louis under the hand and seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Master this fourth day of May A.L. 5822, A.D. 1822.

N. B. Tucker, G.M.

Attest, Wm Renshaw, G. Secretary.

The date on this dispensation is a mistake inasmuch as the petition was not filed until May 29. The date evidently should read June 4.

The committee to enquire into and report on this lodge said:

It does not appear to your committee that Union Lodge No. 10, has complied with the conditions expressed in their Letter of Dispensation. But, on the contrary, that said lodge has wholly failed to make any

returns whatever. That the Letter of Dispensation must necessarily expire by its own limitations with the close of the present Grand Annual Communicaton.

Your committee would charitably hope that this failure on the part of Union Lodge No. 10, to comply with their Letter of Dispensation, has been rather the result of some untoward circumstance than of wilful neglect.

Your committee would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions: viz.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do highly disapprove of the conduct of Union Lodge No. 10, in failing to make returns.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary inform Union Lodge No. 10, that unless they shall transmit a copy of their proceedings, as required by their Letters of Dispensation, duly certified, to the M.W. Grand Master, on or before the first day of December next, said Lodge will be stricken from the list of lodges under this jurisdiction.

Resolved, That in the event of Union Lodge No. 10 certifying to the M.W. G. Master, on or before the first day of December next, a transcript of their proceedings, that he be authorized to grant to the brethren composing said lodge a renewal of their dispensation until our next Semi-Annual Communication.

The lodge profited by the action of the Grand Lodge and filed the necessary papers and the committee reported:

The standing committee for the examination of returns from subordinate lodges working under this jurisdiction, and to whom was referred the By-laws and Proceedings of Union Lodge No. 10, at Jonesborough, Illinois, beg leave to report: That they have examined the same, and find them conformable to the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge. Your committee overlook some imperfections in the By-Laws and work of said Lodge, from the conviction that they are inadvertencies that will be readily corrected, on the suggestion of the Grand Lecturer, who will shortly visit said Lodge. Your committee therefore recommend the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge approve of the By-Laws and Proceedings of Union Lodge No. 10.

Resolved, That a charter issue to Union Lodge No. 10.

The report and resolutions were adopted.

Jonesborough, Ill. 4th Nov. 1824.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Missouri:

Whereas, a Grand Lodge has been recently established in the State of Illinois, and our Lodge, formerly "Union Lodge No. 10," having attached itself to it under the title of "Union Lodge No. 8" by said Grand Lodge. Wherefore, we the members of Union Lodge are desirous of withdrawing ourselves from the jurisdiction of your Grand Lodge, if agreeably to your will and pleasure, and request that the Grand Secre-

tary, would have the goodness to transmit us by mail, the amount of the balance of our fees, &c, remaining due and unpaid to your Grand Lodge, and the money shall be remitted as soon as possible.

Yours very affectionately and fraternally,

B. W. Brooks, Secretary  
Union Lodge No. 8.

In 1824 the lodge reported seventeen members.

The lodge was represented at all the known meetings of the Grand Lodge but no further information about its existence is available.

### Vandalia Lodge No. 11

On February 7, 1822 the following petition was presented to Libanus Lodge No. 29:

To the Grand Lodge of Missouri:

Your petitioners, Master Masons, being domiciled in Vandalia (the seat of Government) in the State of Illinois, respectfully sheweth, that they are free and accepted Master Masons; that they have been members of regular Lodges; that having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, they are willing to exert their best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Masonry; that for the conveniency of their respective dwellings (there being no Lodge within fifty miles) and for other good reasons, they are desirous of forming a new Lodge in the Town of Vandalia, to be named "Vandalia Lodge," that, in consequence of this desire, they pray for Letters of dispensation, or a warrant of constitution, to empower them to assemble as a legal Lodge, to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the original forms of the order and the regulations of the Grand Lodge. That they have nominated and recommend James M. Duncan to be the first Master; John Warnock to be the first Senior Warden; and William L. D. Ewing to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge; that if the prayer of the petition should be granted, they promise a strict conformity to all the constitutional laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

~~Jas. M. Duncan,~~  
John Warnock,  
Wm. Lee D. Ewing,  
John C. Kellog,  
Moses K. Botsford,  
Joseph Enos,  
Green P. Rice,  
E. C. Berry.

Edwardsville February 7th, A.L. 5822.

At a regular meeting of Libanus Lodge No. 29, the foregoing Petition was presented. It was unanimously agreed to recommend the same

to the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and pray that a Dispensation or charter be granted.

John Y. Sawyer, Master.

April 2, 1822 the Grand Lodge of Missouri;

Resolved, That a Letter of Dispensation be granted to the following brethren, petitioners from Vandalia, viz; James M. Duncan, John Warnock, William Lee D. Ewing, John C. Kellogg, Moses K. Bottsford, Joseph Enos and E. C. Berry.

Oct. 8, 1822—The committee to whom was referred the Proceedings and By-Laws of Vandalia Lodge No. 11, Under Dispensation, reported, That they find the same in strict conformity with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge and with the ancient charges of Masonry, and submit the following resolutions to wit:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge approves of the By-Laws and Proceedings of Vandalia Lodge No. 8.

Resolved, That a Charter issue to Vandalia Lodge No. 8. Which report was adopted.

The by-laws provided that every candidate initiated should be presented with a white apron and a copy of the by-laws. Another provided that every candidate should be examined before advancement. Another was

Be it further ordained, that no member of this Lodge below the degree of Master Mason shall be permitted to vote on any question which may come before the Lodge.

This appears to be the first lodge to adopt such a resolution.

On April 27, 1822 the petition of William H. Brown was received, referred and reported on instanter, and he was initiated. Brother Brown was the Grand Secretary of the first Grand Lodge.

On June 25, 1822 the lodge voted to purchase

Five Lodge tables, three gavels, two pillars, three benches, and a ballot box.

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, April 5, 1824:

A communication was received from the Secretary of Vandalia Lodge No. 8, stating that a Grand Lodge had been formed in the State of Illinois, and that Vandalia Lodge No. 8, having attached itself to said Grand Lodge, was desirous of withdrawing itself from this jurisdiction.

The return of this lodge for the year 1823 shows

Suspended — William L. D. Ewing and Elijah C. Berry.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri having received an appeal from the

decision of Vandalia Lodge No. 8 in the case of Elijah C. Berry, made the following report:

Report:—That they have no additional evidence before them upon which to form their opinion. The records of the Vandalia Lodge are said to have been destroyed by the conflagration of the State House and therefore we are not furnished with a regular transcript of the charges against the brethren accused, as acted upon by the Vandalia Lodge. We, however, from the documents before us, have been enabled to form an opinion and with real Masonic sincerity, offer it to the Grand Lodge. We think, from the communication of E. C. Berry to this Grand Lodge, under date of October 3rd, 1823 it may fairly be inferred, and, in fact, no other judgment can be formed than that Brother Berry connived at, and was accessory to, the corporal punishment inflicted upon Brother Bottsford, as he is charged; also with having been called upon in vain by Brother Bottsford for assistance and protection, and Berry not having denied or in any manner extenuated the charge, we are forced to believe he had no defence to make, and hence we take occasion to remark, in answer to a communication from the Worshipful Master of Vandalia Lodge, that the rule of evidence in Masonic proceedings is not fixed, and that any proof an honest man would be willing to act upon ought to be received in this High Court of equity. We offer the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge disapprove of the proceedings of Vandalia Lodge No. 8, in the case of E. C. Berry and Wm. L. D. Ewing.

Resolved, That from the statement of the case, as submitted to the Grand Lodge, it is their opinion that the said brethren, in the matters charged upon them, and established to the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge, entirely lost sight of the principles of Masonry.

Resolved, That Elijah C. Berry be expelled the Masonic fraternity.

The action taken by the Grand Lodge was:

The first of said resolutions was amended by adding thereto the words, "in inflicting so slight a punishment for so flagrant a breach of Masonic duty, and in rescinding the order made by the lodge for a new trial of the charges against said brethren, at a special or called meeting of the lodge, without any notice of such meeting or proceedings being given to the brethren."

The amended resolutions were then agreed to.

On April 7, 1825 a communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Illinois to the effect that the lodges formerly subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Missouri had placed themselves under the jurisdiction of said Grand Lodge.

The case of E. C. Berry was still a matter of contention. A communication was received from the Grand Lodge of Illinois on the subject of the expulsion of Berry and

Report:—That Wm. Lee D. Ewing was implicated with Berry in the same offence, (namely, that of permitting the person of a brother to be violated, notwithstanding his appeal for protection and relief), has frankly confessed that the charge is true; yet, from the pertinacity of Berry in denying the legality of his conviction, and in resting his defence upon technical objections to evidence, (not denying the truth of the charge), your committee are of the opinion that no cause has been shown which would entitle Berry to a reconsideration of his case, but the high source from whence the communication emanates entitles it to consideration. Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby instructed to transmit to the Grand Lodge of Illinois a transcript of the Proceedings in the case of E. C. Berry, and inform said Grand Lodge that, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the case of E. C. Berry does not merit consideration.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri reinstated William Lee D. Ewing but declined similar action regarding E. C. Berry. Correspondence was continued between the two Grand Lodges but in the meantime Vandalia Lodge had affiliated with the Grand Lodge of Illinois which gave that body authority over the case. On December 12, 1826 Berry was reinstated by the Grand Lodge of Illinois by a vote of ten to five. Thus we have him in good standing in Illinois and under sentence of expulsion in Missouri. The importance of this case is the prominence of the brethren. E. C. Berry was Auditor of Public Accounts 1818-31 and Ewing was a prominent legislator, later Governor of the State and United States Senator.

### Eden Lodge No. 11

June 26 1822: The following petition was prepared and sent to Missouri Lodge No. 1 for its recommendation.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Missouri:

Your petitioners, inhabitants of the town of Covington and its vicinity, all have been regularly entered, passed, and raised to the degree of Master Mason in regular constituted Lodges, and at present reside at so great a distance from any Lodge, that they are cut off from most of the advantages of this ancient Order, and being desirous of diffusing the genuine principles of the Order, and rendering themselves useful to the Craft, do pray for a warrant of dispensation or charter constituting them a new Lodge, at the town of Covington, in the State of Illinois, by the name of "Eden Lodge," authorizing them to assemble and work

as Ancient York Masons, and they do nominate John Smith for their first Master, Charles Mullikin for their first Senior Warden and Thomas G. Gazley as their first Junior Warden of said new Lodge, and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

John Smith  
Charles Mullikin  
Thos. G. Gazley  
Jos. Phillips  
Daniel S. Swearingen  
Isaac Hughson Jr  
Addison Philleo  
James Turney  
Philo Beers.

The dispensation was issued June 30, 1822.

SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT.

By the Most Worshipful Nathaniel B. Tucker, Grand Master.

To all and every our Right Worshipful and Loving brethren Greeting:

Know ye, That the Most Worshipful Nathaniel B. Tucker, Grand Master, at the humble petition of our right worshipful and well beloved brothers, John Smith, Charles Mullikin, Thomas G. Gazley, and several other brethren residing at and near the town of Covington, State of Illinois, of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of York Masons, and for certain other reasons moving, our Worshipful Grand Master do hereby constitute the said brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to be opened in the town of Covington, by the name of Eden Lodge No. 11. at their said request, and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the said brethren, the Most Worshipful Grand Master doth hereby appoint Bro. John Smith, Worshipful Master; Bro. Charles Mullikin, Senior Warden; and Bro. Thomas G. Gazley, Junior Warden, for opening the said Lodge and governing the same. It is required of our friend and brother, the Worshipful John Smith, to take special care that all and every of the said brethren of your Lodge, as well as those hereafter to be admitted into our body by your Lodge, be regularly made Masons, and that they do observe, perform, and keep all the rules and orders contained in our Book of Constitutions, and the ancient landmarks be strictly attended to; and further, that you cause to be entered in a book kept for that purpose, an account of your proceedings, which, when done, you are required to transmit to the Grand Master herewith (with a list of those initiated, passed and raised, or otherwise managed), at our next Grand Annual Communication.

Given at St. Louis, under the hand and seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Master this thirtieth day of June A.L. 5822, A.D. 1822.

Th. Douglas D.G.M.  
in the absence of the M.W.G.M.

attest Wm. Renshaw, G. Secy.

## Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, October 5, 1822:

The committee to whom was referred the By-Laws and Proceedings of Eden Lodge No. 11, Under Dispensation, reported, That they have carefully examined the same, and find them generally correct, with one exception, viz: That they are in practice of receiving petitions for initiations on the First Degree. Your committee are of opinion that all petitions should be received in a Master Mason's Lodge, as none but Master Masons are permitted to vote on them. Your committee beg leave to offer the following resolutions, to wit:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge disapprove of the Proceedings of Eden Lodge, No. 11, in receiving petitions on the first degree, and approve of all their other proceedings.

Resolved, That a Charter issue to Eden Lodge, No. 11, and that the Grand Secretary forward them a copy of this report and resolutions annexed thereto.

Which report was adopted.

## Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, October 7, 1823:

Resolved, That the 8th section of the By-Laws in the present instance be dispensed with so far as the representative of Eden Lodge No. 11 is concerned, having lost on his way thither the proceedings of said lodge, and that he shall have all the privileges of any other representative in this Grand Lodge during its present session.

The lodge was represented at the organization of the Grand Lodge by James Turney but not again until 1826. In 1824 the Grand Lodge published the returns of the lodges but Eden made no return. However, a return was made to the Grand Lodge of Missouri that year. Three candidates were raised and one member admitted.

## Chapter 5

# THE FIRST GRAND LODGE

With more lodges being organized it is not surprising that the thought of forming a Grand Lodge was in the minds of members. The first suggestion was in a letter from Libanus Lodge to Western Star Lodge which was read November 16, 1820. It was brought by N. Hanson, Secretary of Libanus Lodge. The record reads:

A letter from our brethren at Libanus Lodge No. 29 at Edwardsville, requesting that there should be measures taken with the several Lodges of this State to form a Grand Lodge. Motion was made and carried that we coincide with the Libanus Lodge to confer with the several Lodges of this State, that there may be measures taken to establish a Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That this Lodge concur with Libanus Lodge No. 29 in the propriety and expediency of establishing a Grand Lodge in this State and that a committee be appointed to confer with that and the other Lodges on the subject, and in case of general concurrence in the establishment of such Grand Lodge, with power to fix upon a certain number of delegates from each of the several Lodges in this State, to meet in convention, as also upon the time and place of such meeting of such Lodges, and forming a constitution thereunder.

The members of the committee were Henry S. Dodge, Thomas Reynolds and Shadrach Bond, who were given authority to correspond with the other Lodges in the State and to make necessary arrangements for said convention.

Vandalia Lodge September 24, 1822:

A communication from Libanus Lodge No. 29, of Edwardsville, was received and read, on the subject of forming a Grand Lodge at Vandalia, proposing a meeting of delegates from the different lodges in this State, in this place, during the sitting of the next General Assembly.

On motion of Bro. Browne, it was ordered, that the Secretary of this Lodge reply to the communication from Libanus Lodge No. 29, informing them that their proposition would be met by this Lodge so soon as it received its charter.

Olive Branch Lodge No. 5, November 14, 1822:

W. N. Aldrich, Master, presented a circular letter from the Vandalia

Lodge requesting the concurrence of this Lodge to certain resolutions of Vandalia Lodge, soliciting this Lodge to send delegates to meet delegates from the several Lodges in this State, at Vandalia, on the second Monday of December next, for the purpose of forming a Grand Lodge in this State.

The few available records of other lodges do not furnish any report on this question but delegates from eight lodges attended the meeting.

The record of the meeting to form the Grand Lodge is:

Vandalia, Illinois.

Masonic Convention December 9, 1822. At a meeting of the brethren, consisting of delegates of the different Lodges in the State of Illinois, on Monday, December 9 A.L. 5822 Brother Thomas C. Browne was appointed Chairman, and Brother Wm. H. Brown, Secretary. The following brethren produced their certificates and were recognized as delegates, viz.

Libanus Lodge No. 29,—Richard J. McKinney, Dennis Rockwell, John Y. Sawyer, Nathaniel Buckmaster, William H. Hopkins, David Prickett.

The Western Star Lodge No. 107,—Thomas Reynolds, Shadrach Bond.

Olive Branch Lodge No. 5,—James W. Whitney, Charles Gear, Charles W. Hunter.

Albion Lodge No. 9,—Benjamin J. Mills, Gilbert T. Pell.

Eden Lodge No. 11,—James Turney.

Union Lodge No. 10,—Abner Field, Charles Dunn.

Vandalia Lodge No. 8,—William H. Brown, James M. Duncan, John S. Duncan, Russell Botsford, E. C. Berry, John Warnock.

Lawrence Lodge No. 34—Thomas C. Browne, James Hall.

On motion:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to form a Constitution for a Grand Lodge in the State of Illinois, and that the committee report to-morrow at 4 o'clock.

Bros. T. Reynolds, C. W. Hunter, G. T. Pell, James Turney, Abner Field, Wm H. Brown, James Hall and John Y. Sawyer were appointed that committee.

On motion:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge be located at Vandalia.

The Convention then adjourned until tomorrow at 4 o'clock P.M.

December 10, 5822.

The Convention again assembled. Bro. Sawyer, from the committee appointed to draft a Constitution for a Grand Lodge, reported the following Constitution, which was read section by section and adopted.

The constitution had ten sections and the by-laws twenty-one. They are much the same as are in use today.

The same delegates were present as on the preceeding day, and all agreed to the report of the committee.

On motion of Bro. Dunn:

Resolved, That the delegates from each Lodge take a copy of the Constitution and transmit the same to their respective Lodges.

Adjourned until to-morrow at 4 o'clock P.M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Bro. Hall, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we proceed forthwith to the nomination of persons to fill the offices of Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, which nominations shall be presented to the several Lodges, with the Constitution recommended for their adoption; and if a majority of the Lodges approve of said nominations, the persons so nominated shall be considered as duly elected.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the several Lodges, immediately upon the ratification or disapproval by them of the proceedings of this Convention, to transmit notice of same to the Grand Master-elect, and if it appear that a majority of the Lodges concur in the proceedings of the Convention, then the Grand Lodge shall be considered as duly organized, and the Grand Master shall order the first meeting of the same at such time as he shall think proper.

Whereupon, the Convention proceeded to ballot for officers, when upon counting the ballots it appeared that Shadrach Bond was elected Grand Master; John Y. Sawyer, Grand Senior Warden; Wm M. Alexander, Grand Junior Warden; Richard T. McKinney, Grand Secretary; James O. Wattles, Grand Treasurer.

On motion:

Resolved, that a copy of the minutes of the Convention be made out by the Secretary, and countersigned by the Chairman, and that a copy of the Constitution now formed be deposited in Vandalia Lodge until the Grand Lodge is organized.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

Thomas C. Browne  
Chairman.

William H. Brown  
Secretary.

This was a notable gathering of citizens. Thomas C. Browne, chairman, was chief justice of the Supreme Court, serving on that body from 1818 to 1848. After finishing his work as a judge he went to California where he died in 1856.

William H. Brown, Secretary of the convention, was born in Connecticut about the beginning of the 19th century. He settled in Kas-

kaskia in 1818 and was appointed Clerk of the United States court in 1819, which office he held for sixteen years. He moved to Chicago in 1835 and was cashier of the State Bank of Illinois. In 1840 he became school agent for the city and upon retiring was given a vote of thanks by the mayor and aldermen for the efficient way in which he had conducted the business. He became President and was the principal agent in building the Galena and Chicago Union railroad in 1846-47. He was President of the Chicago Historical Society for seven years. He died in Amsterdam, Holland in 1867.

Shadrach Bond had left the office of Governor only four days before the convention was held. Thomas Reynolds became a member of the Supreme Court three years later. Others held positions as follows: James Hall, circuit judge; John Y. Sawyer, circuit judge; Elijah C. Berry, Auditor of Public Accounts; Charles Dunn, Clerk of the House of Representatives; Nathaniel Buckmaster and Gilbert T. Pell, House of Representatives.

From the Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Fayette County we learn that

The first State House was a two-story log structure, on the corner of Fifth and Johnson Streets, on the present site of the Union hotel (1910). This building was destroyed by fire during the Third Session of the Legislature, held at Vandalia, December, 1833. The Presbyterian church and the residence of Colonel Robert K. McLaughlin had to be utilized for State purposes, until another Capitol Building could be erected. The new one was pretentious, being a two-story brick structure, put up in the summer of 1824, at the cost of \$15,000, of which the people of Vandalia contributed \$3,000.

Additional material in the possession of the Illinois State Historical Library describes the first State Capitol as follows:

a plain two story wooden structure, the lower floor of which was devoted to one room for the House of Representatives and a passage and stairway to the second floor. The second story consisted of two rooms—the larger for the Senate Chamber and the smaller for the Council of Revision.

It was in the senate chamber that the Grand Lodge was organized. The site of the building and the town was surveyed by W. C. and Beal Greenup, both members of Western Star Lodge. They also contracted to erect a building 40 feet by 30 feet; two stories of which were to be used as the State Capitol. The cost of the survey was \$496.00 and that for the building was \$4,732.00

This building was large enough for the purpose at that time. When the state records were moved from Kaskaskia to Vandalia they were all hauled in one wagon at a cost of \$25.00 dollars.

### 1823

No printed record of the meeting for this year has been found for the following reason:

#### ILLINOIS CAPITOL (VANDALIA).

Illinois Intelligencer (Vandalia). 13, Dec. 1823, p/2, col. 4.

#### "FIRE FIRE"

About 2 o'clock, on the night of the 9th, instant, the STATE HOUSE, in this place, was discovered to be on fire, and in a very short time, it was entirely consumed. So rapid was the progress of the flames that not a single article belonging, or attached to the STATE-HOUSE was saved, All the tables, chairs, and benches, except a few which were in the public offices, were consumed by the fire.

The receiver's office for this land district was kept in one of the rooms of the STATE-HOUSE, and the books, papers, and every other article belonging to his office, were entirely destroyed. It is difficult to conjecture how it took fire. The house was occupied by the Auditor of the state during the preceeding day in selling non-residents' land for taxes, and he adjourned the sale at noon until the next day. Several gentlemen were in the STATE-HOUSE late in the evening, and there were scarcely enough of brands in the fire place to warm their hands.

A letter from W. C. Greenup to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1825 states that all the

books and archives of the Illinois Grand Lodge were destroyed shortly after the meeting by the conflagration of the capitol where they were deposited.

### 1824

The annual session was opened on December 6 by the Deputy Grand Master the Grand Master being absent. Representatives from eight lodges were present. Fourteen visitors were present.

It was resolved:

That a committee of five be appointed to enquire how far the subordinate Lodges within this state are affected by the resolution declaring that Lodges which assisted in the formation of this Grand Lodge shall be considered as within our jurisdiction, and what is the operation of said resolution in regard to such Lodges.

The record said the committee made a report "which was con-

curred in." The nature of the report was not published. In connection with this question a petition was received from Jacob C. Brunner for reinstatement to good standing, he being under sentence of expulsion by Libanus Lodge. The decision was given that the Grand Lodge had no authority over the action of Libanus Lodge, since that was under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. Details of the Brunner matter will be found under "Libanus Lodge No. 29." Financial troubles were serious. The Grand Treasurer had received five dollars toward paying for the dispensation for Palestine Lodge; that amount with one more dollar was all the money in the treasury. The fee for a dispensation was fifteen dollars and a charter was ten dollars additional.

A committee was appointed to correspond with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to ascertain why that Grand Lodge had suspended Western Star Lodge. The financial troubles of this lodge have been explained under its history.

The Grand Lodge was determined to get control over the lodges.

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges, who assisted at the formation of this Grand Lodge, and have neglected to surrender their charters from other Grand Lodges, and take charters from this Grand Lodge, be allowed a further time of six months to perform that duty.

Resolved, That those Lodges neglecting the requisitions of the preceding resolution, be stricken from the roll of this Grand Lodge, and that those Lodges be immediately furnished with a copy of these resolutions.

James Hall was elected Grand Master,  
John Y. Sawyer, G.S. Warden  
Richard J. Hamilton, G.J. Warden,  
James O. Wattles, G. Treas.,  
William H. Brown, G. Secy.

A Lodge of Past Masters was opened with George H. C. Melody, Deputy Grand Master of Missouri presiding and

After some business done therein, the Lodge was closed, and a Lodge of Master Masons opened.

The Grand Officers were then installed by Brother Melody. This is the only time that the Grand Master was not installed in a Lodge of Past Masters. Brother Melody was given twenty dollars "to discharge the expenses of his visit to us."

A reminder of the fire that destroyed the first State House in 1823 is seen in the following resolution:

Whereas, Vandalia Lodge has paid to Col. William Berry the sum of forty dollars, as a compensation for the loss of his Sword, destroyed in the conflagration of the state house, after the meeting of this Grand Lodge in 1823; therefore,

Resolved, That the dues owing by said Lodge to this M.W. Grand Lodge for the present year be remitted.

Another resolution shows the difference between the methods of transacting business in those days and those of the present time:

Resolved, That it be recommended by this Grand Lodge to each of the Lodges subordinate thereto, to transact the ordinary business of a Lodge in an Entered Apprentice's Lodge; and to receive and act upon all petitions for membership, or for any degree in Masonry, in a Master's Lodge only, and that the Grand Secretary transmit a copy of this resolution to each of the subordinate Lodges.

The lack of cash is shown by the action of the Grand Lodge in granting a charter to Palestine Lodge:

and time was given them till the next Grand Communication to pay the fees due for said charter.

A charter was granted to Albion Lodge and a dispensation for Greene Lodge at Carrollton was granted to Hart Fellows and others. The only other member of this lodge that has, thus far, been found is Samuel C. Pierce who represented the lodge in 1826. This dispensation was continued until the next annual communication.

The result of the action concerning lodges taking charters from the Grand Lodge bore fruit in that charters were issued to Union as No. 7 and Vandalia as No. 8. Guy W. Smith was installed as Master of Palestine Lodge in a Lodge of Past Masters.

The first attempt to bring about uniformity in ritual is shown by the following:

Resolved, the R.W. Deputy Grand Master of this Grand Lodge be, and he is hereby authorized and required, to visit each and every Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge once in each year.

Henry H. Snow was the Deputy and he was continued as ritualistic instructor and inspector during the life of the Grand Lodge.

The thanks of the Grand Lodge was presented to the Honorable Senate

for their polite offer of the use of the Senate Chamber, for the use of this Grand Lodge.

However, the Grand Lodge evidently used another room, at least part of the time:

Resolved, That the sum of four dollars be appropriated for the payment of John Bullard, for the use of his chamber.

It was also ordered

That upon presentation of their work, constitution and by-laws to the M.W. Grand Master, or his Deputy, a charter be granted in vacation to Greene Lodge as Lodge No. 11.

The Grand Tyler was allowed seven dollars for his service, same to be paid out of any money not otherwise appropriated.

The returns for the year 1824 were published as follows:

Olive Branch no. 4	25 members
Vandalia no. 5	12
Union no. 6	17
Eden no. 7	report made to GL of Mo.
Hiram no. 8	24
Albion no. 9	22
Palestine no. 10	17
Greene no. 11	11

Kaskaskia, Shawneetown, Edwardsville and Springfield lodges, not being affiliated, were not included.

## 1825

For some reason now unknown this session was not held until January, 1826. The session was opened on January 3, 1826 in the State House with James Hall, Grand Master, presiding. Nine Grand Officers and eleven members of five Illinois lodges were present. Five out-of-state visitors were present.

A dispensation had been granted for Illion Lodge No. 12. Phillip Aylesworth was present with a copy of the proceedings of that lodge and the return of the dispensation. Frontier Lodge No. 13 also presented its record and asked for a charter. The report of the committee shows that both lodges acted for the first time under their dispensations on December 3, 1825; that their by-laws and proceedings were correct, with one exception. Both lodges were criticised for advancing candidates with

too little time, either to become acquainted with the lectures of the preceding degree, or for a strict enquiry into the character of the applicants.

The committee offered two resolutions which were adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge disapproves of the practice of advancing candidates to any degree until they shall have acquired a competent knowledge of the preceeding degree.

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Frontier Lodge No. 13 and to Illion Lodge No. 12.

An application was made for a charter for a lodge at Kaskaskia but this was refused. This was during the time that said lodge was in trouble with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania over non-payment of dues.

To legalize the failure to meet in 1825 the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the Grand Annual Communication of this R. Worshipful Grand Lodge, was not held in conformity with the provisions of its by-laws; and whereas, an election of Grand Officers has not been held as by them contemplated: Therefore,

Resolved, That the by-laws of this Grand Lodge be dispensed with, and that this Grand Lodge proceed to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year to-morrow evening.

A petition was received from "certain brethren residing in Pike, Adams and Calhoun counties" asking for a charter for a lodge to be located at Atlas in Pike County. This petition was granted January 7, 1826.

The second day two more lodges were represented and fifteen more members and visitors attended. Some of them were busy during the day attending the legislature.

Transactions had been received from other jurisdictions but the first to officially recognize the Grand Lodge was by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky:

Your Committee on Foreign Communications, beg leave to report, that they find a communication, giving information of the formation of a Grand Lodge for the State of Illinois, located at Vandalia, requesting a recognition and interchange of Brotherly Communications, and requesting from this Grand Lodge a transfer of its dues from lodges in that State, for reason stated in their Communications, but at the same time assuring this Grand Lodge that their claims shall be sacredly respected. Your Committee recommends the recognition of and the interchange of Brotherly and friendly offices with said Grand Lodge; and submit to the Grand Lodge, the determination of the question of the remission of the dues.

On motion:

Resolved, that this Grand Lodge recognize the M.W. Grand Lodge of Illinois and that Brother Grand Secretary correspond with the said M.W. Grand Lodge and transmit regularly an abstract of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

A letter was reported from the Grand Lodge of New York expressing surprise that no communication had been received stating the causes and events that led to the organization of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and requesting such information.

Reports from other jurisdictions showed that

active exertions are in operation among the craft, to obtain subscriptions for the erection of a Masonic Monument to the memory of Washington, and that several of the Grand Lodges of the U.S., have adopted measures to effect this object. Your committee noticing this subject, cannot withhold the expression of their entire approbation of any measure which may evince our respect for the virtues, and affection for the name of the illustrious chief, whom we have been proud to number among our brothers, and submit the further consideration thereof to the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge disapproved the resolution adopted by Olive Branch Lodge which allowed visitors to vote during the election of officers.

The Constitution and By-Laws was ordered printed and a copy sent to each Grand Lodge in the United States and the British Provinces in North America, to each of our subordinate lodges, and to each of our Grand Officers.

Again the thanks of the Grand Lodge were given to the Honorable Senate for the use of the senate chamber.

## 1826

This session was held in the State House beginning Monday, December 3. James Hall, Grand Master, presided. Six lodges were represented. Eleven visitors were present, all from Illinois lodges.

The Grand Secretary was directed to purchase one hundred diplomas to be issued to individuals requesting same

A petition from Western Star Lodge was taken up and the Grand Master directed to issue a charter when he shall be assured that the lodge has made satisfactory arrangements with the Grand Lodge of Pa. and has been released by that body.

The committee to which was referred the communications from

other Grand Lodges made an extensive report. This was the forerunner of the present committee on correspondence. Guy W. Smith was elected Grand Master. The Grand Lodge was then closed on the third degree and Phillip Aylesworth was installed Master of Illion Lodge by the Grand Master.

On December 20 a petition was received asking for a dispensation to organize a lodge at Fever River (Galena). The petition was recommended by Frontier Lodge. The Grand Lodge was then closed to meet the following Monday evening. On January 1, 1827 the session was opened by Benjamin Mills, Grand Master, Pro Tem, and four other Grand Officers pro tem. Only two regular officers were present.

Brother Henry H. Snow was authorized to install the first officers of the Lodge at Fever River. This was Strangers Union No. 14. A charter was also granted to Cincinnatus Lodge No. 16.

Here ends the known record of the first Grand Lodge. It was a very small organization in numbers but the influence of its individual members had much to do with the state business. The list of names includes those of two governors, Bond and Ewing; four United States Senators, Elias Kent Kane, Richard M. Young, Samuel McRoberts, and Ewing; Ewing was also Lieutenant Governor; Secretary of State, Elias Kent Kane, David Blackwell; Auditor of Public Accounts, E. C. Berry; State Treasurer, James Hall; Attorney General, James Turney; Supreme Court, Thomas C. Browne, Thomas Reynolds; Circuit Court of 1824, John Y. Sawyer, Samuel McRoberts, Richard M. Young, James Hall, James O. Wattles. Some of the above named members did not hold office during the life of the Grand Lodge but they were prominent in the affairs of state. This list does not include state senators and representatives of which there were several.

Of the lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge some are little known while others have records that are known today.

## Chapter 6

# LODGES CHARTERED BY THE FIRST GRAND LODGE

### Palestine Lodge No. 10

The Government Land Office was established in Palestine on May 11, 1820. This made it one of the most important towns in the state with, perhaps, the state capitol excepted. The minute book of this lodge has been found and is in the Grand Secretary's office. The book is in poor condition having been used as a scrap book with newspaper clippings pasted over the record. The Grand Lodge record (1824) reads:

Brother Guy W. Smith presented the dispensation granted in vacation to certain brethren residing in Palestine, also a return from said lodge which was received. On motion of Bro. Hart, Grand Treasurer, a charter was granted to Palestine Lodge and time was given them until the next Grand Communication to pay the fees due for said charter.

The Grand Lodge was then adjourned "till the first day of January next" and a lodge of Past Masters opened when brother Guy W. Smith was introduced and duly installed Master of Palestine Lodge in ample form.

The first minutes of the old book are dated September 2, 1824. Brother Isaac Edwards acted as Master pro tem and Brother Robert Smith as Secretary. The record reads:

The petition of David W. Tuttle was presented by the Secretary without the usual fee required by our by-laws. On motion the following resolution was adopted—Resolved, in-as-much as we have a very favorable opinion of David W. Tuttle who has applied to become a member of this lodge, we will dispense with the by-laws and receive said Tuttle as a member by his pledging himself to make use of all proper exertions to pay to the lodge the usual fees for initiation.

On motion it was unanimously adopted

that in consequence of the death of the Worshipful Charles E. Whittlesy each member shall wear black crape on the left arm and a

piece of blue ribbon in the buttonhole on the left breast for thirty days, and the lodge adjourned until their next regular meeting.

At the next meeting Tuttle was elected and:

That in consequence of the infancy of the lodge the petitions of Alexander M. Houston and John Houston being such, that every member must have an intimate knowledge of their character and qualifications to become Masons, that the usual order of inquiry shall be dispensed with and these petitions be immediately acted upon.

Both petitioners and Tuttle received the first degree.

also Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed to return thanks to Brother Davis for his eulogy and to William Babson for his address at the funeral of our late Worshipful Master Charles E. Whittlesy.

J. T. Moffat presided as Master on October 11, 1824

Nov. 4: Ordered that the Secretary draw from the funds of the treasury \$10.00 to pay for publishing the oration delivered at the installation of this lodge by Brother L. S. Shuler and other expenses, after which the meeting was closed.

On December 2, 1824, Guy W. Smith was elected Master. That night

Bro. Smith was duly appointed to transact all or any business for this Lodge at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge at Vandalia and to have all reasonable expenses paid to him by the lodge.

The next meeting was held on December 27, 1824. There is no mention of the attendance of Brother Smith at the Grand Lodge when he was installed and the charter granted unless it is covered by the following:

After the benefit of a lecture in the first degree, the lodge closed in due form.

Dec. 30, On motion the lodge assumed to pay brother J. P. Moffat's Expenses in travelling to and from this lodge.

Could this have been the Master of Vincennes Lodge No. 1?

On February 3, 1825 a committee was appointed

to obtain the best terms for a room to hold lodge.

On April 2, 1825 the sum of \$5 was paid to Mrs. Hannah Wilson, evidently for hall rent.

In 1826 the lodge contracted to pay Mrs. Hannah Wilson for the

current year at \$12 per annum, to be paid quarterly, which no doubt was for rent of the hall.

On June 17, 1826 Isaac Edwards was again elected Master and Guy W. Smith, Secretary.

On June 24 the lodge called to refreshment to listen to a sermon for two hours when a Masonic sermon was preached by Brother Job M. Baker.

On October 16, 1826 Arnold B. Dake visited.

On December 9, 1826 Edwards was again elected Master and Guy W. Smith, Secretary. The last record in the old book is February 14, 1829.

A partial list of members is

Jesse Barlow, Secy.	Wheeler Mallet
John W. Barlow	Isaac Meeks
E. Boudmoth	James F. Moffat
G. W. Bratton	Joel Phelps
John Cochran	David Porter
Elijah O. Dodson	A. M. Robertson
Isaac Edwards, P.M.	Robert Smith, Secy.
Phillip Edwards	Peleg Spencer
Peter Harrison, Secy.	Pendleton Strothers
Alexander Grant	Guy W. Smith, P.M. also Secy.
Andrew Harris	David K. Tuttle, P.M.
Alexander M. Houston, Secy.	Jacob Weaver
John Houston, Secy.	Charles E. Whittlesey, P.M.
	Edward Yegg

Guy W. Smith was the third Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, being elected on December 11, 1826.

The by-laws were found with the record book. They were adopted on August 7, 1824. There are five articles containing sixteen sections. A fee of five dollars was required with each petition and the same amount for each degree. Quarterly dues were 75c. A petition only needed the recommendation of one member but candidates to be passed or raised required the avouchment of two Master Masons or to be examined by a committee appointed by the Master, when the propriety of his being passed or raised shall be decided as in case of initiation. Petitioners for affiliation were required to present a dimit or other evidence of good standing.

Visitors not members of any lodge were required to pay twenty-five cents for each meeting after the first.

### **Greene Lodge No. 11**

On December 7, 1824 the record shows a dispensation was issued to Hart Fellows and others to form and open a lodge at Carrollton, in the county of Greene, during vacation, with orders to return it to the Grand Communication.

Ordered, That the dispensation heretofore granted to brethren residing at Carrollton be renewed, and continued in force until the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge. Charter granted January 1, 1826.

The lodge made a return showing eleven members but no work had been done.

The only known members of this lodge were Hart Fellows, to whom the dispensation was issued, and Samuel C. Pierce, who represented the lodge at the 1826 communication of the Grand Lodge.

A few years ago the by-laws of this lodge were found among the papers of Henry G. Griswold who lived a few miles from Whitehall. There are thirteen sections, some different from those of today. The lodge met on the Saturday preceding the full moon at twelve o'clock. The Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, Steward and Tyler were elected. The Senior Deacon was appointed by the Master and the Junior Deacon by the Senior Warden. The fee for the degrees was two dollars to accompany the petition as deposit money, and five dollars when the degree was conferred; Fellowcraft fee was two dollars and that for the third degree three dollars. Fee for affiliation was one dollar. Each member was required to pay the Secretary twelve and one half cents at each meeting and visitors (after the first visit) the same amount. The by-laws were very strict about drinking intoxicating liquor: for the first offense, reprimand in open lodge; for the second suspension; for the third expulsion. Every candidate was required to pass an examination to be conducted "as the master may direct." A member three months in arrears could not vote at the election of officers and no member in arrears could participate in the St. John's Day celebrations.

The only record of membership was in 1824 when the eleven members were reported to the Grand Lodge.

### **Illion Lodge No. 12**

The first record of this lodge is in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, January 3, 1826:

A communication from brother Phillip Aylesworth, Worshipful Master of Illion Lodge No. 12, with a copy of the proceedings of said Lodge, and a return of their dispensation.

There is no record of when the dispensation was issued. The Grand Lodge of January 10, 1826, in the report of the committee on subordinate Lodges, said the return of their proceedings was satisfactory and directed that charter be issued to Illion Lodge No. 12. This was adopted.

On December 3, 1826 Brother Aylesworth represented Illion Lodge No. 12. Again the committee on returns approved the records of this lodge. At this session Brother Aylesworth was elected Junior Grand Warden. The Grand Master and Senior Grand Warden were installed but there is nothing to show that Brother Aylesworth was installed. This was the last known session of the Grand Lodge.

Illion Lodge No. 12 was located in Jacksonville. In 1826 Moses Atwood wrote that he assisted in a Masonic Lodge which met at the northwest corner of the square in Jacksonville. William Sewall, in his diary under date of June 15, 1830, mentions an interment "according to the notions of Masonry." George Hackett a Mason, kept a store along the Mauvaise Terre northwest of the site of Jacksonville before the town was founded. When Jacksonville was laid out on April 26, 1825, Hackett moved his store to the northwest corner of the square and in it Moses Atwood attended the Masonic Lodge. Diligent search has revealed no record of where and when Brother Aylesworth received his degrees. The records of Morgan County were burned on December 7, 1827 and it is possible that the lodge records were kept in the court house by some officer and were lost with the building.

### **Frontier Lodge No. 13**

In the year 1822 the town of Lewistown was laid out by Ossian M. Ross. One year later it was commissioned a county seat. Fulton County at that time took in nearly all the territory from near Pike County to Chicago. When Ross laid out the town he specified where certain buildings were to be located and the first building erected was on the spot where now stands the Presbyterian church. Ross designated the top floor for a Masonic Lodge hall and the first floor for a school. He did not succeed in getting a lodge established until the Grand Lodge granted a dispensation some time in 1825. The first meeting was held on December 3, 1825. The committee on returns of the Grand Lodge on January 10, 1826 reported:

That the dispensation granted Illion Lodge No. 12 and Frontier Lodge No. 13, in the recess, have been returned, together with their by-laws, and copies of their proceedings under that dispensation; that their by-laws and proceedings appear to have been correct, with one exception. It is the opinion of your committee, that the brethren of that lodge, have advanced candidates from one degree to another, and even for initiation with too much rapidity; thereby leaving too little time, either to become acquainted with the lectures in the preceding degree, or for a strict inquiry into the character of the applicants. They therefore, beg leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge disapproves of the practice of advancing candidates to any degree until they shall have acquired a competent knowledge of the preceding degree.

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Frontier Lodge No. 13.

A charter was granted on January 10, 1826 upon payment of the sum due for the charter.

On December 20, 1826 the lodge recommended the formation of Stranger's Union Lodge at Galena. At the 1826 communication of the Grand Lodge in January, S. Dewey and Ossian M. Ross were present as delegates from Frontier Lodge.

On January 1, 1827 the committee on returns found the records of this lodge in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and the Principles of Masonry.

At the session of December, 1826 the lodge was represented by Ossian M. Ross who was appointed one of a committee to examine the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer. No further reference to this lodge has been found. Harmon G. Reynolds said it became defunct in 1827.

#### **Strangers Union Lodge No. 14**

On December 20, 1826 the Grand Lodge Proceedings show that:

The petition of sundry brethren residing at Fever River (Galena) for a charter for a lodge at that place, recommended by Frontier Lodge, was received, and, on motion of Bro. Mills, referred to a select committee.

On January 1, 1827 it was

Ordered, That the committee to which was referred the petition of sundry brethren on Fever River be discharged from further consideration thereof, and that a charter be issued by this Grand Lodge agreeable to the prayer of said petitioners.

The record of the organization meeting is not in existence but another dated April 21 reads:

Galena, April 21st, A.L. 5827

Strangers Union Lodge No. 14 met pursuant to adjournment.

Members present, Chas. Gear, W.M.; James Harris, S.W., pt.; Benson Hunt, J.W.; L. P. Vansburg, Treas.; G. W. Brittin, Sec.; M. Meeker, S.D.; M. Faucette, J.D.; W. Spear, Tyler; and Daniel Moore.

On motion of Bro. Harris:

Resolved, That the sum of ten dollars be paid for the first or Entered Apprentice degree, five dollars for the Fellow Craft degree, and ten dollars for the Master Mason degree.

Bro. Sec. presented the petition of John D. Chandler, which was read and referred to a Committee of Bros. Meeker, Morris and Vansburg.

On motion of Bro. Harris:

Resolved, That Bro. Meeker be authorized to procure a suitable Lodge room.

On motion of Bro. Harris:

Resolved, That the regular communication of this Lodge be held on the Thursday of or preceeding the full moon in each month.

On motion of Bro. Harris:

Resolved, that Bro. Sec. be authorized to procure necessary stationery for the Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Britton:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to examine petitions and applications for membership.

Bros. Harris, Hunt and Vansburg were appointed the committee.

On motion of Bro. Britton:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to revise our By-Laws and report amendments at our next regular communication.

Bros. C. Gear, M. Meeker and G. W. Britton were appointed to the committee.

Lodge closed in harmony.

Brother H. H. Gear said: "we had no regular place of meeting; the Lodge was poor and rents high." On May 28, 1828 Moses Meeker was elected Master and a committee appointed "to procure a suitable room for our next regular communication." This committee failed to report and another was appointed on July 24 to rent a room for "four months or a year." Another record reads:

Monday, Dec. 2d, A.L. 5828, 9 o'clock.

Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Lodge then proceeded to take charge of the funeral of Bro. Thos. H. January, who was buried according to the Ancient Masonic custom.

Visiting brethren: Abner Fields, A. T. Crow, H. H. Gear, Jas. Douglas, of Davis Lodge No. 22, Lexington (Ky) — Woodbridge, L. Franklin, Union Lodge No. 7, Mo. and Morris Holmes of Morning Lodge, Albany.

Moved and seconded, that a committee of five be appointed to remove the body of our deceased brother's wife to the place of his interment. The following were the committee: Bros. A. T. Crow, A. Philleo, Jas. Harris, Abner Fields and M. Faucette.

Lodge closed in harmony.

J. J. Chandler Sec.

M. Meeker, Master.

This was the first Masonic funeral in the northwestern part of the State.

On December 12 the Master read an address relative to surrendering the charter. However, it was "Resolved, that the charter be retained and G.L. dues paid for 1827-28" and another committee was appointed to procure a suitable lodge room. On December 20th a committee was appointed to make arrangements for celebrating the twenty-seventh by providing a "dinner, and *obliging* some brother to deliver an address."

On the twenty-seventh

Lodge met pursuant to adjournment, when the brethren proceeded to celebrate this day in due and ancient form.

On motion of Bro. Chandler and seconded by Bro. Hunt, that Bros A — B be not permitted to walk in procession to-day. Carried by a unanimous vote of the Lodge.

Why these two were not permitted to join the procession has never been made known.

Dec. 27th On motion

Bros. Chandler, Holmes and Faucette were appointed a committee to get Bro. Chas Gear to lecture from day to day, until the brethren had made such advance as would enable them to work.

March 22, 1829 two candidates

were examined in open Lodge as to their proficiency in the first two degrees of Masonry, which proved satisfactory.

This is the first record of a candidate's examination.

On April 18 the committee appointed to procure a Tyler reported:

The committee appointed to procure a Tyler, reported that Bro. James Harris would accept the station and perform the duties on the following terms: One dollar for each meeting, 50 cents for summoning members in town to special meetings and serving process from the Lodge, the same fees as the sheriff is allowed for serving summons. His duties will be to tile the Lodge, keep the room in order, have wood and candles

supplied at the expense of the Lodge, and when the clothing wants washing, he is to procure it done the Lodge to pay on his order for the same.

On June 11, 1829 it was voted to postpone the election of officers. This resolution was offered:

Resolved, That we return our charter to the G.M. or D.G.M. of Illinois, and apply to the G.L. of Mo. for a new one.

Here ends the record of the first lodge in the northwestern part of the State. The lodge had thirty-five members. Sixty visitors were recorded.

### **Galena Lodge U.D.**

This lodge worked under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The first meeting was held on July 17, A.L. 5830.

Officers and members present, Bro. Benjamin Mills, W.M.; Daniel Wann, S.W.; Moses Meeker, J.W. pt; Wm. Hempstead, S.D.; Samuel Smoker, Sec. Visitors:—Bros. Jas. A. Clark, Jas. Burns and Lewis M. Morse. Lodge opened in the third Degree. Committee on by-laws reported, and report recommitted.

The next meeting was held on the 22nd and was entirely taken up with considering the by-laws. Only one other is recorded, the 29th. These three meetings close the record of Galena Lodge U.D.

### **LaFayette Lodge No. 15**

The first mention of this lodge is in the proceedings of January 3, 1825.

A petition from certain brethren residing in Pike, Adams and Calhoun, for a charter for a Lodge, to be located at Atlas, was read and referred to the committee on reports from Lodges.

For January 7 we read from the report of the committee on subordinate lodges:

The application of brethren residing in and near the county of Pike, for a charter, made a report that the prayer of the petitioners ought to be granted; which report was concurred in.

No names were given in the proceedings as members of this lodge, but from the Chapman and Massie Histories of Pike County we learn that

The first Masonic Lodge was held up-stairs, at the house of Col. Ross, in Atlas, between 1830 and 1834. The desk used on the occasion

is still in the possession of Marcellus Ross. It is a plain box, strongly built, fifteen inches square and two and one-half feet high, and contains two shelves. In one side is a door swung on hinges.

William Ross had the title of Colonel by appointment in the Illinois militia. It is on record that Nicholas Hanson, Levi Roberts, James W. Whitney, Ossian N. Ross, Belus Jones and Hampton Wade were members of this lodge.

In the minutes of Bodley Lodge U.D. under date of November 3, 1835 we find:

Meeting was held Nov. 3rd, at which J. W. Whitney was introduced as a member of LaFayette Lodge and appointed S. W. pt.

*A fire destroyed the early county records in 1829. Possibly the lodge records were in that building. No early records have ever been found.*

### **Cincinnatus Lodge No. 16**

All that is known of this lodge is the short record in the 1826 proceedings of the Grand Lodge:

A petition was received from a number of brethren asking for a dispensation to organize a new lodge at Shawneetown but permission was granted to withdraw the petition as the petitioners had not settled their accounts with the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, to which they had formerly been a subordinate body, and that they were not recommended by a lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

The vote on the petition of the brethren of Shawneetown was reconsidered and a charter ordered issued on January 1, 1827. It was resolved:

That Bro. James Hall be, and is hereby, authorized to install the first officers of Cincinnatus Lodge.

This completes the known information about this lodge. No names were mentioned. The Kentucky record shows that Lawrence Lodge was dropped from their list of member lodges in 1824. The reference in 1826 about dues owed to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky is not understood.

## Chapter 7

# LODGES 1835-1840

### Bodley Lodge No. 97

On December 6, 1834 Daniel Harrison, Daniel Whipple, Henry King, Samuel W. Rogers, J. N. Ralston, Joshua Streeter, John Wood, Hiram Rogers, H. L. Montandon, A. Miller, Henry Asbury, J. T. Holmes, Nathaniel Pease, Michael Most, Salmon Cogswell, Richard M. Young, and Samuel Alexander met at Quincy to consider the advisability of establishing a lodge. It was resolved:

That a petition be sent to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, praying the grant of a Dispensation, or a Charter for a Lodge, and that Brother Daniel Harrison be recommended as Master, Bros. Daniel Whipple and H. King as Wardens.

It was decided to name the lodge "Bodley," after Thomas Bodley who was one of the clerks of the convention which met on December 13, 1793. This convention recommended to the United States government the seizure and control of the Mississippi river alleging that as Spain was then engaged in a war which taxed all her energies, the seizure of the Spanish country might be easily made, and easily held. He was one of the three representatives of Lexington Lodge No. 1 in the convention of September 8, 1800 which organized the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and was clerk of the convention. He was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge in 1800-01-02.

In connection with the filing of the petition for the dispensation it was resolved:

That each Brother pay to Daniel Harrison the sum of two dollars, to be appropriated towards paying the expenses of said Dispensation or Charter.

Nothing further was done until October 19, 1835. That day the record reads:

Notice having been given that the Grand Lodge of Kentucky had at their annual communication, held in Louisville, on the 31st day of

August, A.L. 5835, granted a Dispensation for a Lodge to be held in Quincy, Ill., to be styled Bodley Lodge U.D., to continue one year, and that the R. W. Richard Apperson G.M. G.L. Ky. had deputised Bro. H. H. Snow to install the several officers named in the said warrant of Dispensation, to set the craft to work, &c; and that October 19th A.L. 5835, had been appointed for that purpose, the brethren met agreeably to appointment.

On July 2, 1836 Harrison Dills petitioned for the degrees. Brother Dills became Grand Master in 1857 and then served as Grand Treasurer from 1863 to 1875.

May 1, 1837

Resolved, That the members of this lodge celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, and that Bros. James Murphy, James McClain, S. W. Rogers, J. N. Ralston, and Thomas Carter be the committee on arrangements, with full power to provide a dinner, an orator and a preacher to officiate on said occasion; to invite our brothers of Palmyra (Mo.) and elsewhere to attend, and most respectfully to invite the ladies, to partake of the festivities of the occasion; in short, all acts for the comfort, convenience and good order of the occasion.

This year was the first reference to forming a Grand Lodge when a committee was appointed to ascertain how many lodges there were in the state.

On October 3, 1838 a committee was appointed to procure a "lot of ground" for the purpose of building a lodge room thereon; and it was resolved that they should immediately build a hall.

On November 3 a petition for a lodge at Columbus was recommended. That year some of the members became discouraged and a resolution was introduced that it was expedient to return the charter to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. Fortunately it was not adopted.

On December 1 three members were expelled from the lodge "for taking leave without notifying their creditors of their intention to do so." One was described as being by occupation "a blacksmith and a Methodist."

On December 27 the building committee reported that a building 20 by 35 feet, two stories high, would cost \$1,600.00. The committee reported subscriptions amounting to \$600.00. Nothing further was done about constructing the building. On April 2, 1839 the question of a building was again brought up and an adverse report was made. However, twenty dollars was voted to the Trustees of the Methodist church which evidently was for permission to use the "garret" of the

church. On June 4 the committee reported suitable arrangements with Brother Most to use his two story building on the square for \$60.

Here ends the history of this lodge while under dispensation. The Grand Lodge of Illinois was organized in 1840 and No. 97 became No. 1.

### **Equality Lodge No. 102**

Kaskaskia raised grain and stock; Equality made salt. We are told that as early as 1685 an expedition came to

establish a traffic in salt in order that the subjects of His Majesty King Louis XIV might have a regular supply of aforesaid commodity.

In 1810 the Post Office Department established a post office at Saline; in 1827 the name was changed to Equality from the French word "Égalité" meaning Equality. Ten years later the Grand Lodge of Kentucky issued a dispensation for Equality Lodge U.D. The first meeting was held on April 7, 1837. The date of the petition for the dispensation is unknown. The first meeting was in charge of James C. Weller, of Clinton Lodge No. 82, Kentucky, who acted as Master, assisted by the following officers: H. P. Williams, Senior Warden; Arnold B. Dake, Junior Warden; Absolom Ashby, Secretary; Willis Hargrave, Treasurer; Israel D. Towles, Senior Deacon; C. C. Lockett, Junior Deacon; Thomas Pruett, Steward; and Edward Jones, Tyler.

The lodge was opened on the third degree after which it moved in procession to the court house in Equality where the following officers were installed: Arnold B. Dake, Worshipful Master; William Siddall, Senior Warden; Edward Levell, Junior Warden; Absolom Ashby, Secretary; Willis Hargrave, Treasurer; Israel D. Towles, Senior Deacon; William Burnett, Junior Deacon; S. D. Hawke, Steward and Tyler.

The first business was to conduct the funeral of a brother. The record reads:

The Rev James Alexander, by previous appointment and request, proceeded to pronounce the funeral service of our departed and much lamented worthy brother, Tyler D. Hewitt, after which a procession was formed and proceeded to the grave, where the usual ceremonies observed on such occasions were performed by the Worshipful Master.

The Lodge from thence proceeded to Mr. Lane's to partake of a collation prepared for the occasion, and then proceeded to the lodge room.

The next meeting was held April 11th, at which time six petitions were read. June 24th with twenty-one members present the Lodge

elected officers for a six months term. The officers were installed, lodge called from labor to refreshment and the brethren repaired to the house of Mr. S. R. Rowan where they were again called on and a procession formed according to ancient usage. The lodge then proceeded to the court house and heard a sermon by Rev. James Alexander and prayer by Rev. Benjamin Bruce, after which they proceeded to the house of Mr. Lewis Reed, joined by the clergy and ladies where they partook of an excellent collation prepared for the occasion.

The dispensation was returned to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky accompanied by the following letter:

Equality Lodge U.D.

Saturday, August 5, A.D. 1837, A.L. 5837.

Phillip Swigert, Gd. Secy. of Kentucky:

Sir: Accompanying this communication please receive the return of Equality Lodge U.D. held in Equality, Gallatin county, State of Illinois.

It will be perceived from the return that since the 7th of April last, the date of the installation of this Lodge, many new members have been made, and much business done, and that with almost unprecedented rapidity; but I am instructed to say that this appearance will not, it is hoped, prejudice the application of this Lodge to the G.L. of Kentucky for a charter.

The long suspension of almost all Lodges in the western country from labor, occasioned by a circumstance occurring several years since in one of the eastern States, and well known to Masons, has just so long left many friendly to Masonry without the means of becoming members until the opening of this Lodge; and it is believed that this will furnish sufficient apology, if any be needed, for the celerity with which work has been done here.

I am instructed also to state that in every instance of a deviation from the bye-laws, they have been formally and by unanimous vote dispensed with, and, also, that in all cases of new members, they have long been intimately acquainted with the elders; and, further, that in almost every instance, when the bye-laws have been dispensed with, it has appeared to be a case of some emergency.

Not knowing whether it be necessary to send with this return a copy of the bye-laws of this lodge, it is not sent; but this Lodge works under a literal copy of the bye-laws of Clinton Lodge No. 82, Kentucky.

Please also receive enclosed fifteen dollars for the dispensation, and balance remitted for charter of this Lodge.

I am also instructed to make direct application to the G.L. of Kentucky, in this mode, for a charter to this Lodge, by the name of Equality Lodge No.—

It is supposed that the sum remitted will be sufficient, if not, the remainder will be sent on the first notice.

It would be acknowledged as a favor if you would inform the Secretary of this Lodge what would be the probable cost of jewels, well made and reasonably heavy, for a Master's Lodge.

With sentiments of great respect, and due consideration, I am, respectfully, your obedient servant.

Wm. J. Gatewood,  
Sec. Equality Lodge U.D.

P.S. The Lodge was installed April 7th, 1837. by J. C. Weller, of Clinton Lodge No. 82, Kentucky.

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Kentucky, August 29, 1837: Brother Apperson, from the Committee on Lodges U.D., made the following report, which was read and concurred in, viz.:

The Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, would beg leave to further report that Equality Lodge U. D., at the town of Equality, county of Gallatin, and state of Illinois, has forwarded a letter to the Grand Lodge accompanied by a letter from Brother J. C. Waller, who was the proxy of the Grand Master, in installing the officers of the said Lodge, and setting them to work, which communications are satisfactory. By the return of the said Lodge, it appears that there has been some irregularity in their works, and although their records have not been forwarded, yet one member of your committee has examined the records of the Lodge and found them generally correct, with some slight irregularities; but the officers of the Lodge had taken the pains to visit an older Lodge than theirs, to learn more perfectly how to work, and to inspect the proceeding thereof; the dispensation is returned, and a charter prayed for. Your committee would submit the following resolution:

Resolved, that the prayer of said Lodge, for a charter, is reasonable, and that it be designated by the name of Equality Lodge No. 102.

The committee on Lodges U.D. found the records satisfactory and

Resolved, that the prayer of said Lodge, for a charter, is reasonable, and that it be designated by the name Equality Lodge No. 102.

The return for the year 1839 reads:

Stated meetings—1st Saturdays

Officers

A. B. Dake, Master	Robert T. Hopper, Treasurer
T. Dunn, S. Warden	Joseph E. Watkins, S. Dea.
Thos H. Leavell, Jr. Warden	S. S. Scudder Jr. Dea.
E. Jones, Secretary	Thos. J. Lindsey, S., & Tyler

Past Masters

A. B. Dake	A. W. Pool
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Master Masons

Lee Hargrave	Wm. J. Gatewood
Willis Hargrave	Jos Choisser
James W. Hamilton	Abraham Irvin
Israel D. Towle	John M. Barnet
Hampton Weed	B. C. Crow

E. H. Gatewood  
 Wm. Liddale  
 L. W. Hargrave  
 E. Dobbins  
 E. Leavell  
 Absolom Ashby  
 Wm. Burnet

Wm. F. Hewitt  
 Harrison Wilson  
 B. R. Young  
 Samuel Gairy  
 James H. Bennet  
 S. D. Hawke

## Fellow Crafts

V. F. Evans  
 Wm. Forrester

Jas. Williams  
 Solomon Holt

## Entered Apprentices

S. R. Rowan  
 B. Rice  
 John Young

Thomas Pickering  
 John Howard  
 Wm. Chrissier

## Dead

A. B. Dake, Master

Wm. F. Hewitt, M.M.

## Expelled

Moses Thompson E.A.

7 initiations.

Dues \$28 not paid.

In 1838 the lodge laid the cornerstone of the Public Works at Shawneetown, a full account of which will be found in another chapter. On July 20, 1839 a request was received from the "Bank of Illinois" at Shawneetown, asking the lodge to lay the cornerstone of their "New Banking House," which was done "according to ancient form." In a history written in 1887 the building was thus described:

A massive stone structure, four stories high, with five massive corrugated Doric columns in front, built at a cost of \$80,000.00

Aug. 31st, 1842:

Brother Secretary submitted to the Grand Lodge two communications from a committee of Equality Lodge No. 102, praying a remission of their dues, and leave to surrender their Charter, with a view to attach themselves to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, which communication being read:—

Brother Swigert offered the following preamble and resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Whereas, since the establishment of Equality Lodge, No. 102, in the State of Illinois, by this Grand Lodge, there has been formed, in that State, a Grand Lodge; and, whereas, the members composing said Lodge having expressed a desire (on account of convenience to them), to withdraw from under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, with a view to attach themselves to the Grand Lodge of Illinois—therefore,

Resolved, that this Grand Lodge will cheerfully surrender their jurisdiction over said Lodge, and accept the surrender of the Charter of the same, whenever tendered, and recommend to the said Lodge to remit the dues of its members so far as their situation will permit.

Thus was started the lodge that is now No. 2 on the Grand Lodge rolls. It has faithfully made returns and paid per capita tax with one notable exception, which was in 1847:

Whereas, This Grand Lodge has been satisfactorily informed that Equality Lodge No. 2, has been unable to enjoy Masonic privileges during the past year, from the absence of her officers and most of her members in Mexico and elsewhere, therefore,

Resolved, That the dues of Equality Lodge No. 2, be remitted for the past year.

According to tradition Arnold B. Dake, the first Master, was a nephew of Benedict Arnold and reversed his first and middle names because of the stigma attached to his uncle's disgraceful act. He was described as a very retiring man and a "highly respected old gentleman." He was Junior Deacon in Lawrence Lodge No. 34 in 1824; Junior Warden of Albion Lodge No. 9 in 1822; and Grand Marshall of the Grand Lodge in 1827.

In later years Equality Lodge recommended the formation of Eldorado Lodge No. 730, Ridgeway Lodge No. 816 and Iola Lodge No. 691.

### Harmony Lodge No. 24

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, October 4, 1837:

A petition from sundry brethren Master Masons, praying for a dispensation to hold a Lodge at Jacksonville, Illinois, was read, and on motion, the prayer of the petitioners was granted; whereupon the Most Worshipful Grand Master ordered a dispensation to be issued.

The petition was signed by thirteen brethren and had been presented to St. Louis Lodge No. 20 for recommendation, which was granted.

The signers were:—John T. Jones, late of Miami No. 45, Ohio; W. B. Warren, late of Mt Vernon No. 14, Ky.; A. Dunlap, late of Murray No. 35, Ky.; Wm. S. Vance, late of Murray No. 35, Ky.; P. Coffman, late of Davis No. 22, Lex., Ky.; James L. James, late of Brearly Lodge No. 9, New Jersey; Samuel M. Prosser late of Mt. Olivet, Va.; George Henry late of Lexington No. 1, Ky.; Mat. Stacy late of Hopkinsville, Ky.; George Hackett, Illion No. 12; Benj. Harvey, late of Lexington No. 1, Ky.; Richard Henry, late of Lexington No. 1, Ky.; Dennis Rockwell, Illion No. 12, Illinois.

John T. Jones was named Master, W. B. Warren, S.W. and Alexander Dunlap, J.W., Oct 2, 1838. (G.L. Mo. Pro).

The committee on work and credentials reported:

They have also examined the records of the Jacksonville Harmony Lodge, working under a dispensation, and find their work generally correct. It appears, however, that on the 18th August, John Gregory, a candidate for the Master's degree was balloted for in a Lodge of Entered Apprentices, the candidate himself being present. They have also failed to send a copy of their By-Laws, or a transcript of their Proceedings, but have sent us the Secretary's books in which the committee find their By-Laws, which they have examined, and in which they find nothing inconsistent with the Constitution or the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge.

The committee recommended the following resolution:

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Jacksonville Harmony Lodge.

In 1839 the lodge paid dues in full—\$14.25 to the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Charity was early recognized by the lodge. February 4, 1839:

On motion, it was voted that twenty dollars be appropriated out of the funds of this Lodge for the relief of a Mr. Elder, a poor person, who has had the misfortune to have his legs broken.

At a private subscription ten more dollars were raised for his benefit.

This lodge took the leading part in organizing the Grand Lodge of Illinois but it did not inform the Grand Lodge of Missouri of that fact. At the 1840 communication of that Grand Lodge, Harmony Lodge No. 24 was not represented. However, Springfield Lodge No. 26 sent a communication announcing its withdrawal to join the Grand Lodge of Illinois. This caused the following resolution:

Resolved, That the communication from Springfield Lodge be referred to the Grand Secretary, that he open a correspondence with said Lodge, for the purpose of ascertaining what Lodges working under Charters from this Grand Lodge, have united and formed themselves into a Grand Lodge, and designated the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

### **Franklin Lodge No. 22**

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, October 3, 1837:

The Grand Secretary announced that a dispensation had been granted during recess of the Grand Lodge for Franklin Lodge No. 22 Alton, Illinois, Nov. 9, A.L. 5836. Twenty dollars was received with the petition for the dispensation. The charter was granted Oct. 5, 1838. (Hist. of M. in Ill. J.C.R.)

Franklin Lodge, Alton Illinois,  
April 18th, A.D. 1837, A.L. 5837.

In open Lodge working on the third degree of Masonry.  
Brother Worshipful Alexander Hart tendered his resignation as

Master of this Lodge, which was accepted, subject to the consent of the M.W.G. Lodge. Brother Benjamin Walker, Senior Warden, tendered his resignation, which was accepted, subject to the consent of the M.W.G. Lodge.

On motion:

Resolved, That the Lodge now proceed to the election of Worshipful Master and Senior Warden, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Bros. Hart and Walker.

Whereupon a ballot was taken and Brother Charles Howard was duly elected Worshipful Master, and brother Henry P. Rundle was duly elected Senior Warden.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to transmit to the officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge at St. Louis, respectfully soliciting their advice and consent to the appointment of Brother Charles Howard, Worshipful Master, Brother Henry P. Rundel, Senior Warden, and that Brother Jacob C. Brunner be continued Junior Warden of their Lodge.

I, Samuel C. Pierce, Secretary of Franklin Lodge, at Alton, Illinois, working under a dispensation from the M.W. Grand Lodge of the State of Missouri, do certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the proceedings of said Lodge.

Given under my hand and private seal, as Secretary, this 19th day of April, A.D. 1837, A.L. 5837.

S. C. Pierce. Secy.

Upon receipt of this letter a new dispensation, signed by S. W. B. Carnegy, Grand Master, and Richard B. Dallam, Grand Secretary, was issued bearing date of May 10, 1837, in which Charles Howard was named Master, Henry P. Rundel, Senior Warden and Jacob C. Bruner, Junior Warden. The lodge was represented at the Grand Lodge of Missouri in 1837 by S. C. Pierce. In 1838, at the October communication Henry P. Rundel represented the lodge. Brother Rundel was a member of the committee on "Communications from Grand and Foreign Lodges." Brother Melody, Grand Treasurer, reported that he had installed the officers of Franklin Lodge No. 22. The returns were so full of errors that the committee:

Resolved, That Franklin Lodge No. 22, have leave to withdraw their returns with instructions to send up to the Grand Secretary, with as little delay as possible, a more perfect transcript of their proceedings.

The lodge held no meetings during 1839-40. On September 1, a petition was forwarded to the Grand Lodge of Missouri:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and brethren of the G. L. of Missouri:

Brethren:—The undersigned the only remaining members of Franklin Lodge No. 22, now residing in Alton, beg leave to make a plain and

unvarnished statement of the facts in regard to our Lodge, which is now under the censure of the Grand Lodge:

We sent a delegate to the Grand Lodge, at its regular communication in October, 1838, with a transcript of our work for the preceeding year. Also the amount of our Grand Lodge dues up to that time. That transcript was made out by an aged and paralytic (but very worthy) brother, hence its illegibility. The dues, it appears, were not paid. As our work was not received, we presume our delegate thought it best to retain the money.

We have done no work since Nov. 1838, owing to the death of several of our most efficient members, the removal of others, and the entire pecuniary prostration of all. We have nothing left to work upon. Nothing but zeal for the cause, and love for the fraternity. And we respectfully ask of the Grand Lodge that they will not hold the few who remain, and who are poor, accountable for the past dues of our Lodge. Brethren, in all frankness and sincerity, we say we are not able to pay you without serious injury to our families.

We therefore, beseech you brethren, by your bowels of—charity to forgive the past.

We are now ready to go to work again, and under favorable circumstances and trust that hereafter no just cause of complaint will be found against us.

Charles Howard  
Robert McFarland  
Jabez Carter  
J. C. Bruner  
William Lowe Jr.  
John A. Maxey  
Harvey S. Summers  
William Stein  
Wesley Noland  
J. W. Collett.

Sep. 1st A.L. 5841, A.D. 1841

The lodge had been ordered to return a transcript of its proceedings for the years 1838 and 1839 and show cause why their charter should not be revoked, but, as no report was received it was

Resolved, That said lodge be required to transmit to the Grand Secretary, a full and complete transcript of her Proceedings for the years 1838, 1839, 1840; also her dues up to this time, by the first day of January, 1841, and in default thereof, that her charter be revoked and she be required to return her charter, together with the jewels, and furniture of her lodge, to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge.

On September 7, 1842 the lodge moved to Upper Alton.

On October 7, 1843 a communication was sent to the Grand Lodge of Missouri reading:

Resolved, That our delegation to the grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, to be holden on the second Monday in October next, are hereby instructed to apply to said Grand Lodge for permission for this Lodge to report to, and join the Grand Lodge of Illinois at its grand annual communication in A.L. 5844.

Resolved, That we feel grateful to the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Missouri for the many acts of kindness which they have conferred upon us, and that we tender them our fraternal acknowledgements for the same.

In 1844 the committee on returns and work reported having examined the records of Franklin Lodge No. 25 at Upper Alton, and finding said returns correct and the dues paid. This is the beginning of the record of this lodge under the Grand Lodge of Illinois and with this we close the record for this history.

### Far West Lodge No. 29

On December 28, 1838, pursuant to a public notice, the following Master Masons met in the "Chamber of Commerce": Chas. Gear, H. H. Gear, S. McLean, A. T. Crow, M. Faucette, John Sherman, T. B. Farnsworth, E. W. Turner, John E. Smith, R. Pattison and Jas. A. Clark. A lodge was organized with the following officers: Chas. Gear, Worshipful Master; E. W. Turner, Senior Warden; S. McLean, Junior Warden; T. B. Farnsworth, Treasurer; John E. Smith, Secretary; A. T. Crow, Senior Deacon; H. H. Gear, Junior Deacon; and M. Faucette, Tyler.

A petition for a dispensation was drawn up and signed by all those named and three others—Daniel Wann, George M. Mitchell and Samuel Smoker. One well known citizen and member was prevented from signing on account of the following resolution:

Resolved, That owing to the atheistical opinions, as publicly expressed by A.B. he is unworthy of being taken by the hand as a Mason.  
Which was unanimously adopted.

A committee reported on January 5, 1839 that a room had been secured and each member contributed five dollars towards fitting up the lodge.

A committee to look up the jewels of the old lodge reported that only the Senior and Junior Wardens' columns could be found.

The dispensation was received on March 23, 1839.

George M. Mitchell made the long journey from Galena to St. Louis to represent the lodge and get the charter. The committee on work reported:

Your committee on work have had submitted to them the work of Far West Lodge, held at Galena, Illinois, working under a dispensation, and respectfully report:

That their work conforms generally to the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge. They have, however, like many others of the subordinate Lodges, fallen into the erroneous practice of doing most of their work in a lodge of Entered Apprentices.

Resolved, That the practice of working in a lodge of Entered Apprentices is an innovation on the ancient usage and practice of Masonry.

Resolved, That a Charter be granted to Far West Lodge, in accordance with their prayer.

The officers were installed on November 16, 1839 in the stone building on the east side of Main Street, opposite Diagonally, then used as a Court House, by Past Master William R. Smith of Pennsylvania. He delivered an oration on that occasion which was so highly appreciated that 500 copies were ordered printed.

The Secretary reported twenty-seven Master Masons and three Entered Apprentices; also cash received, \$353.87; paid out \$352.75; leaving a balance on hand of \$1.12.

On May 16 the lodge recommended the petition of "certain Master Masons for a Lodge to be located at Mineral Point, Wisconsin."

On August 22 petitions were recommended for lodges at Dubuque, Iowa Territory, and Platteville, Wisconsin.

After meeting in the Court House for a year the lodge moved to

the commodious stone house on the east side of the river owned by Bro. John P. DeZoya, where they met in regular communication in the years 1843-4.

On March 21, 1840 the Secretary was instructed to inquire of the

Grand Secretary of Illinois on what terms a charter can be procured.

On December 26, 1844 a resolution was adopted that

application be made to the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin for a Charter, and, if granted, that the name be Galena Lodge.

Action of Grand Lodge of Wisconsin:

Jan. 8, 1845—A communication was presented from Far West Lodge

of Galena, Illinois, and a copy of a resolution making application for a charter from this Grand Lodge. This communication was read and referred to a committee of three members of the Grand Lodge.

The report of the committee was:

Resolved, That a charter be issued to the Far West Lodge, at Galena, under and by the name of Galena Lodge, as prayed for; that the said Charter be issued with its date and number blank and kept by the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge until the said Far West Lodge shall place in his hands the proper legal evidence of its dimission from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, when he shall date, number and deliver said Charter to the said Lodge from and after which time, if accepted by Galena Lodge, it shall be taken to remain under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That no other fee shall be demanded for said Charter than the regular fees of the Grand Secretary.

At the third annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin the Grand Secretary referred to the granting of a dispensation for the lodge at Galena, Illinois as follows:

I have, on the 23rd December last, by and under the order of R.W. G.M. Moses Meeker, made out and delivered a dispensation for a Lodge in Galena, Illinois. I was not certain at that time, neither am I now, that this Grand Lodge had the power or authority to do so; or that the R.W.G.M. had the authority to act in the premises. I submit to the G. Lodge the propriety of specifying plainly in whom this authority of M.W. Grand Master is vested, when that person or officer is absent; whether in the Deputy Grand Master or the Senior Grand Warden. There seems to have been some difference of opinion on this subject, which it would seem, proves that there is ambiguity in the constitution on that subject.

At the fourth annual communication the Grand Master reported:

In regard to Kavanaugh and Galena Lodges, whose dispensations were continued at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge, it is presumed that all controversy is at an end. Soon after the adjournment I communicated to the M.W.G.M. of Illinois the action of this Grand Lodge, and sometime afterwards, I had a personal interview with him during which the subject was at large and fraternally discussed. He deemed the assertion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Illinois as essential to the best interests of the craft in that State. But at the same time gave frequent expression to those kind and truly Masonic feelings which so distinguish him, at the same time intimating his intention of visiting the region of country in which those Lodges are situated.

In July Kavanaugh Lodge returned her dispensation and announced

the fact that she had taken authority from Illinois, and soon after the Galena Lodge returned her dispensation, but whether to continue her existence under the jurisdiction of Illinois or to go out altogether I am not informed. As these Lodges, therefore, have voluntarily relinquished their claim for protection upon this Grand Lodge and attached themselves to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, no further action is necessary but to discharge them from the books of the Secretary with our best wishes for their prosperity and happiness.

On June 22, 1846 Grand Master W. F. Walker was present and presided. The Lodge was opened in ample form when it was resolved that

We accept a Charter from the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and return our present Charter to the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

Grand Master Walker reported:

In June I had the happiness to terminate the then pending controversy between our Grand Lodge and that of Wisconsin on the subject of an infringement by that Grand Lodge of our jurisdiction at Galena and Elizabeth, by granting to Far West Lodge a charter, and to Kavanaugh Lodge, at Elizabeth, a dispensation in place of the authority under which each had before worked.

At Galena a second Lodge had been constituted by the Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin; but this irregular organization was speedily abandoned, and now all are united in Far West Lodge No. 5, working under the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

The reason for asking a charter from the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin was on account of the great distance to the Grand Lodges of Missouri and Illinois. Then the members were intimately connected with the lead mines in southwestern Wisconsin.

In 1846 a charter was issued to Far West Lodge No. 41; and a resolution

Resolved, unanimously, That the truly Masonic course of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, in relation to the disputed jurisdiction in the cases of Far West and Kavanaugh Lodges, demands the expression of the most cordial approbation of this Grand Lodge.

This brings the history of Far West Lodge up to the time it became a member of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. It ceased to exist in 1852.

### **Springfield Lodge No. 26**

On January 27, 1839 the following brethren signed a petition to the Grand Lodge of Missouri, asking for a dispensation to open and hold a Lodge at Springfield, namely: J. Adams, late member of the lodge at Skaneateles, New York; James R. Gray, late member of Vesper

Lodge, Kentucky; Alex'r Lindsay, late member of Star Lodge No. 197, Pennsylvania; Philo Beers, Montgomery Lodge, New York; Henry Colestock, Perseverance Lodge, No. 21, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; L. S. Cornwell, Bowling Green No. 73, Kentucky; Martin Doyle, Lodge No. 39, Ireland; J. R. Braucher, Lodge No. 33, Circleville, Ohio; Bela Webster, Whitesboro Lodge No. 315, New York; James Maxcy, Bowling Green Lodge No. 73, Kentucky.

The petition being recommended by Harmony Lodge No. 24, a dispensation, dated February 25, 1839, and signed by S. W. B. Carnegie, Grand Master, attested by Richard B. Dallam, Grand Secretary, was issued. Brother Adams was named Master; James R. Gray, Senior Warden; and Alexander Lindsay, Junior Warden. Brother Adams was a visitor at the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1826, and Brother Beers was a charter member of Eden Lodge No. 11.

The minutes of the first meeting read:

At a meeting of Master, Wardens and Brethren of Springfield Lodge, No. — held at the "American House," on Saturday evening, April 20th, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839.

Opened on the Master's Degree.

Brethren present: James Adams, W.M.  
James R. Gray, S.W.  
Alexander Lindsay, J.W.

M. Doyle, James Maxcy, Samuel L. Hesser, James Zwisler Jr., Joseph Firey, M. A. Kelly, Wm. Cudmore, and Love S. Cornwell.

Bro. Adams, M. in chair.

On motion of Bro. Lindsay.

Resolved, That the members present now organize, so far as to elect their officers for the ensuing year.

On motion of Bro. Firey,

That the officers be elected *viva voce*

Whereupon the following were elected unanimously:

Love S. Cornwell, Secretary,  
Maurice Doyle, Treasurer,  
James Maxcy, Tyler.  
and appointed by W.M.  
Philo Beers, S.D.  
Wm Cudmore, J.D.  
M. Helm, 1st M.C.  
M. A. Kelly, 2d, M.C.

On motion of Bro. Lindsay,

Resolved, That we invite Bro. Helm to install the officers of this Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Gray,

That we meet Thursday evening (25th inst) at half past 6 o'clock, for the purpose of installing the officers.

On motion, adjourned.

J. Adams, Master

L. S. Cornwell, Secretary.

### The report to the Grand Lodge of Missouri reads:

From the abstract furnished by the Springfield Lodge of their work, it appears that their proceedings have all been done regularly, and in conformity with the By-Laws and Constitution of the Grand Lodge of this State, except in the practice of taking ballots in a lodge of Entered Apprentices.

Oct 28th, the lodge was duly constituted, the following brethren being present: A. B. Chambers, G.M.; Wm. B. Warren, D.G.M.; Wm S. Vance, S.G.W.; M. Helm, J.G.W.; M. J. Kelly, S.G.D.; W. Cudmore, J.G.D.; James Zwisler, G. Tyler; James Adams, James R. Gray; J. B. Braucher, R. C. Webster, S. L. Hesser, J. Wickersham, W. Briggs, J. S. Killaly, and J. F. Reed.

Oct. 7, 1840: The committee on petitions and memorials reported:

A memorial from Springfield Lodge, Ill., has also been laid before them. This memorial respectfully represents that as a Grand Lodge has been formed in the State of Illinois, they wish, for the sake of greater convenience, to Dissolve their connection with this Grand Lodge and attach themselves to that of Illinois. It appears to your committee that the said Lodge has acted in good faith toward this Grand Lodge, and have returned their Charter, together with a transcript of their Proceedings up to the time of their connection with the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

Resolved, Therefore, that the said memorial and charter be received, and that they have permission to determine their connection with this Grand Lodge.

### On April 19, 1841 Brother Helm offered the following resolution:

Whereas, In the judgment of this Lodge, circumstances which are incompatible with the peace, harmony, and well-being of the Lodge, and which are otherwise incurable; therefore be it

Resolved, That Springfield Lodge No. 4 be and it is hereby dissolved, and that it cease to exist, work, or act in any manner or form from and after the close of the present meeting.

Resolved, 2d. That the Secretary be directed to return to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge our charter, together with a copy of the foregoing resolutions, signed by the Master, and countersigned by the Secretary.

### The resolution was not adopted and a substitute was offered:

Moved, That if the brethren, members of this Lodge who are willing

to withdraw and form a new Lodge, shall do so, this Lodge hereby agrees to recommend the petition of said brethren for a dispensation, and to pay them seventy-five dollars out of the funds of this Lodge to assist them in the formation of a new Lodge.

This was carried and on April 26 the following brethren asked leave to withdraw: Alexander Lindsay, Morris Lindsay, Alexander Shields, J. R. Braucher, George R. Webber, L. B. Adams, and W. T. Pride. A petition for a dispensation was then presented and, on motion:

Resolved, That this Lodge recommend said petition to the favorable consideration of the Grand Master,

Resolved, That so much of the first section of the 9th Art. of the by-laws as requires members withdrawing from the Lodge to pay dues for the quarter current, be suspended, and that they, the brethren who have withdrawn tonight, be remitted their dues for the present quarter.

Whereupon the Deputy Grand Master (M. Helm) addressed the Lodge, and after having given the Lodge various wholesome advice, concluded by assuring them that in future he would refrain altogether from taking part in the ordinary business of the Lodge.

On June 24, Bro. M. Helm resigned as Master and Love S. Cornwell was elected to fill the vacancy. The dispensation for the new lodge was not granted.

### Columbus Lodge

The dispensation was granted on June 3, 1839 and named Abraham Jonas, Master, Daniel Harrison, Senior Warden, and John G. Driskill, Junior Warden. Accompanying the dispensation was the following letter from the Grand Master S. W. B. Carnegy, Missouri:

Palmyra, 3d June, 1839.

To Bros. Jonas, Harrison, Driskill, Clarkson, Neil, Touzalin, McGorian, and Griffin

Gentlemen:—The dispensation for which you have petitioned is herewith enclosed, and I avail myself at the same time of this opportunity to express to you my brothers, and through you to those who may in future be associated with you in the glorious undertaking in which you have embarked, the very heartfelt pleasure which I have in contributing my little aid for the advancement of the ancient fraternity of Masons. Allow me, my brothers, at the same time to express my great solicitude for the honor and happiness of the Craft. Those that bear the high honor of being members among those who have entered into covenant with the fraternity, passed the square, and seen suspended the initial of the name of our celestial G.M., and been raised to the honor of bearing the emblem of power, and of using the trowel—those, permit me to say, should be holy, harmless and undefiled. Having separated themselves

from the common mass of men, and taken their stand in front ranks of those who would be useful, charitable, and moral, let me urge you by every consideration, the honor of the name of Mason—the claims of our fellow-men upon us, for examples of charity, frugality, temperance, fortitude, justice, and patriotism—by our high and holy origin—our honorable connections here, and our glorious destiny hereafter—to guard well the entering in of the sanctuary, and house of Masonry. Let no one that is immoral, or in the least degree predisposed to intemperance, so much as enter even the outer courts of your glorious temple. There are but very few in the world worthy of a knowledge of our art, and there ought to be but few Masons, therefore, and so long as we are but few in number, and consist of the true, the moral, and temperate, we are safe, and may be happy. The best evidence of speedy ruin to any Lodge, is that they increase very fast—that they are very numerous.

Hoping that none but the worthy will ever receive from your Lodge admission into our mysteries, and that you may now in this far western hemisphere and newly settled country, in this favored region, far removed from the storm of anti-Masonry which has with so much bigotry, hatred, and zeal swept over the eastern Lodges, so lay the foundation of the edifice, deep and strong, that in due time we may “bring forth the cape stone with shouting and praise,” that we may receive the appellation of “good Master” each for himself, that may at last in that character “lay aside the level and plumbline, the gavel and trowel, the compass and square,” and be greeted and welcomed to the Temple of God, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, is the anxious wish of your friend and brother.

S. W. B. Carnegy.

The lodge continued to exist but never prospered and in 1846 a letter from Past Grand Master Jonas said:

The few brethren who live at Columbus intend to surrender their charter, as they number too few to carry on a lodge.

The charter was surrendered in 1847. Membership in 1841 was 12; in 1842, 25; in 1843, 19. No further reports.

### Temperance Lodge No. 27

On June 30, 1838 a dispensation was issued by the Grand Lodge of Missouri to William Hodge, Master, John D. Gorin, Senior Warden, Nathaniel M. McCurdy, Junior Warden and others to open and hold a lodge to be known as Temperance Lodge U.D. in Vandalia. The lodge did no work under this dispensation and at the meeting of the Grand Lodge in October stated the reasons why they had not been able to send a copy of their proceedings and asked for a renewal of their dispensation. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Dispensation authorizing the opening of a Lodge at Vandalia be renewed, and that said Lodge be required to send up to the next Grand Annual Communication, a complete copy of their Proceedings, with a copy of their By-Laws, all of which is respectfully submitted.

Alex. T. Douglas  
Thomas Andrews

In 1839 the committee on work examined the proceedings of Temperance Lodge and found them conforming generally to the Constitution and by-laws of the Grand Lodge but some errors were noted:

such as receiving petitions and referring them to committees; receiving reports of committees on petitions; and other business of the Lodge by Entered Apprentices; reading the proceedings of previous meetings to Entered Apprentices, even when a part of those proceedings related to the transactions of the lodge as Master Masons; such mode of work having heretofore often met the marked disapprobation of the Grand Lodge, your committee deem further comment unnecessary.

Your committee refrain from the expression of any opinion as to the propriety of permitting petitions to be withdrawn after presentation and reference, but before final action had, as has been allowed by that lodge. Your committee submit the following resolution, and recommend its adoption:

Resolved, That a Charter be issued to Temperance Lodge, at Vandalia, Ill.

P. H. McBride  
W. S. Vance  
Th. Douglas

In 1843 the Grand Master said:

I am gratified at being able to inform you that the lodge at Vandalia, availing itself of the invitation extended to it and others by resolution of the last session, and of the permission granted through the courtesy of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, has accepted a charter from this Grand Lodge, and is now working under our authority.

This lodge was given the number "16" by the Grand Lodge of Illinois. The action of the Grand Lodge of Missouri reads:

Resolved, That Temperance Lodge No. 27, be permitted to withdraw from this Grand Lodge and attach itself to the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

1843: The lodge planned to celebrate St. John's Day and made arrangements with Brother Thomas Bayse to furnish dinner for one hundred persons for forty dollars, which amount they pledged themselves to raise. They arranged with W. B. Herrick of Mount Moriah

Lodge, who was Grand Master twelve years later, to deliver an oration. The Odd Fellows Lodge of Greenville desired to participate with them and to have one of their members speak. This was agreed to. All the neighboring lodges were invited to be present for the exercises. Among the visitors were W. B. Warren and J. R. Gorin, both future Grand Masters. The lodge formed under the direction of Brother Alexander and "left the hall preceeded by a band of music." At Gallatin Street the procession was joined by Clark Lodge of Odd Fellows and at the residence of "Col. Black" a large number of ladies joined. The procession proceeded to the Methodist Church where J. M. Davis delivered an oration on behalf of the Odd Fellows. Brother Warren then installed the officers, after which Brother Herrick addressed the audience.

June 10: A committee appointed at a previous meeting to procure a hall, reported that they had

procured from the trustees of the town of Vandalia, the perpetual lease of the old Representatives Hall, rent free.

November 12: sundry brethren at Greenville were recommended to the Grand Master for a dispensation for a new lodge.

### Friendship Lodge No. 7

On August 21, 1840 the Kentucky record reads:

Brother Phillip Swigert, Grand Secretary, presented the petition of Sundry Brothers residing on Rock River, State of Illinois, praying for a dispensation to permit them to hold, alternately, a lodge in the towns of Dixon and Harrisburg — recommended by Ottawa Lodge U.D. Also a petition of Sundry Brothers residing in the town of Juliet and State of Ill. — praying for a dispensation to permit them to hold a lodge in said town — recommended by Ottawa Lodge U.D. The reading of which petitions being dispensed with, they were severally referred to the Committee on Lodges under Dispensation.

Sept. 1, 1840.

#### DISPENSATIONS, ROCK RIVER, (DICKSON'S FERRY) AND JOLIET, ILL.

Your committee on Lodges U.D. find two petitions to this Grand Lodge — one from brethren residing on Rock River, Ill. and another from certain brethren residing in Juliet, State of Ill. — praying for Dispensations to work under the authority of this W. Grand Lodge — they would, therefore, offer for consideration of this body, the following resolutions:

Resolved that this Grand Lodge consider the application of the brethren reasonable and that a dispensation issue, provided the usual customs are complied with by said brethren.

Samuel D. McCullough  
Wm. Caldwell  
Jas. G. Caldwell.

The first meeting of the lodge was held with Samuel Johnson, Worshipful Master, presiding. The record reads:

At a meeting of Ancient York Masons, held in the town of Dixon, on the 6th of November, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, in the Phoenix Hotel, nine brethren were present. A committee was appointed to draft by-laws and a resolution was adopted

that the Regular Communication of the Lodge shall be held on Thursday, on or before the next full moon, at one o'clock P.M.

Another resolution was that

if any Brother chose to advance, or loan, money for the purpose of buying indispensable materials, that said money would be returned to the creditors from the first received—if required.

Whereupon two brothers advanced seven dollars which money placed the lodge on a solvent basis and the meeting was closed "in Peace and Harmony." The first petition was that of William Wilkin-son on February 11, 1841. On May 8, 1841, \$8.00 was sent to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky to pay for the dispensation and \$39.87 was voted to purchase silver lodge jewels. Each member was instructed to provide himself with "a neat, white cambric apron," and twelve aprons were purchased to accommodate visiting brothers.

These articles were ordered for lodge furniture: "three wood candlesticks, one wood mallet, one wood altar, one square and level, two wood columns and four rods." This equipment was made by John Dixon, the first settler and founder of the city of Dixon. He was paid \$28.87 for his work. On August 29, 1841, a petition was filed with the Grand Lodge of Illinois for a charter which was granted on October 6, 1841 to "Friendship Lodge No. 7."

The minutes show this lodge as No. 8 until January 4, 1844, when the number was changed to "7." This closes the pre-Grand Lodge record of this lodge. Its record is complete to 1950, when 465 members were reported.

Harrisburg mentioned in the above was in Whiteside County and about twelve miles west of Dixon. It is now the east side of Sterling. This information was found after a long and tedious search in a history of Whiteside County written by Charles Bent in 1887.

### **Ottawa Lodge No. 114**

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Kentucky, August 21, 1840:

A dispensation was granted to form a new lodge at Ottawa, Ill, to be

called "Ottawa"—Henry D. Gerbet, Master, Benj. Thurston, S. Warden, and Andrew Kirkpatrick, Jr. Warden, on the 19th day of December 1839.

Sep. 1. 1840

Your committee on Lodges U.D. has examined the records of Ottawa Lodge U.D. Illinois, and find the work to be in accordance with ancient usages and would therefore offer for consideration of the Grand Lodge, the following Resolution:

Resolved, that a Charter issue to Ottawa Lodge, No. 114, Ottawa, Ill.

Sep. 2, 1840.

Brother Stephens offered the following Resolution, which was read and adopted: Resolved, that the Grand Secretary furnish Ottawa Lodge No. 114, with her Charter, giving time to said Lodge to pay for the same—together with the remainder of the dues of said Lodge, at the present convocation; said amount to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary within sixty days from this time.

The meetings of the lodge were held on Thursday preceding the full moon.

Henry J. Reid, who lived on the Dayton road about two miles from Ottawa, rode horseback from Ottawa to Louisville, Kentucky to attend the Grand Lodge in August 1840. He returned with the charter which was dated September 1, 1840. The lodge started with a much larger membership than most others, having thirty-one members under the dispensation.

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, September 1, 1841:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do absolve Ottawa Lodge No. 114 from all allegiance to this Grand Lodge, and with pleasure recommend said Lodge to the favorable care and protection of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Illinois; said Ottawa Lodge having conformed to all the regulations of this Grand Lodge while under its jurisdiction.

This lodge did not petition for admission to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, but in 1842 the Grand Master issued a dispensation for a lodge at Vermillionville, La Salle County, to Luther Woodward, Master, Andrew K. Patrick, Senior Warden, \* \* \* \* \* Junior Warden. Both were members of Ottawa Lodge.

The reason assigned for revoking the dispensation of Ottawa Lodge was

for having justly forfeited its being by non-use of its powers and a non-fulfillment of its duties.

Here ends the record of Ottawa Lodge. It was succeeded by Occi-

dental Lodge No. 40 which has been successful and now has 643 members.

### Juliet Lodge U.D.

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Kentucky, August 21, 1840:

Brother Phillip Swigert, Grand Secretary, presented the petition of Sundry Brothers residing in the town of Juliet and State of Illinois praying for a dispensation to permit them to hold a lodge in said town—to work under the authority of this Grand Lodge.

The committee on Lodges U.D. reported:

Resolved, that this Grand Lodge consider the application of the brethren reasonable and that a dispensation issue, provided the usual customs are complied with by said brethren.

The committee also reported that they

find some part of their work very irregular, and portions of their by-laws in contravention of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. That to which your committee more particularly objects, is the violation of the old established usage of admitting candidates to the degrees without the necessary time of enquiry. In a great many instances this has been the case. In some cases the candidate has been received in about one week from the date of the petition, and some dozen brothers admitted on the same day of the presentation of the petition. This matter more particularly belongs to the committee on Returns, but it having been referred to this committee they deem it necessary to notice these innovations. In extenuation of this course, it is proper that the committee should inform this Grand Lodge that the brethren of Juliet Lodge U.D. have never received a copy of the Constitution or By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

Juliet Lodge U.D. ask to be dismissed from the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and recommended to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, lately organized, and ask a specified time to pay the remainder of their dues. All this your committee deem reasonable. Under the circumstances and representations made to this Grand Lodge; they would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That said Lodge (it being their desire), be dismissed from the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, so soon as they shall be received and acknowledged by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, to which Grand Lodge they are recommended by this Grand Lodge.

In 1841 Joliet Lodge U.D. presented a petition to the Grand Lodge of Illinois asking for a charter. The committee on petitions reported:

Resolved, That a Charter be granted to the members of Joliet Lodge, as soon as they shall comply with the 6th section of the By-Laws.

The charter was issued as Juliet Lodge No. 10. After the close of the Grand Lodge in 1845 this charter was revoked and a dispensation issued for a new lodge to be known as "Mount Joliet Lodge."

Jacob Patrick was the first Master of Joliet Lodge. He was made a Mason in New York State in 1833, and soon after arrived in Joliet. He was instrumental in getting a petition for a dispensation signed and rode horseback to Lexington, Kentucky to present his petition and receive the dispensation. William H. Zarley, who was Deputy Grand Master in 1831-32 was his grandson. The apron presented to Brother Patrick when he was raised is still in possession of the family.

The returns for 1841 showed thirty-nine members; one of whom was Joel A. Matteson who was inaugurated Governor of Illinois in 1853.

### **Rock River Lodge U.D.**

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Kentucky, August 30, 1841:

The Grand Master reported that since the last annual convocation of the Grand Lodge, the following Dispensation for the formation of a new lodge has been granted.

To William J. Mix, as Master, James J. Beatty as Sr. Warden, and Emanuel Morrison as Jr. Warden. to form a lodge in the town of Oregon City, County of Ogle and State of Illinois, to be known as Rock River, on the 26th of November, 1840.

Diligent search in old county histories and inquiries among old residents have failed to furnish any information about this lodge or the names of the Master and Wardens. Jerusalem Lodge No. 62 was chartered in 1846 but the names of officers are different from those in the first dispensation.

## Chapter 8

# THE SECOND GRAND LODGE

### Preliminary Action

Bodley Lodge May 1, 1837.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to ascertain how many Lodges in this State are organized, preparatory to organizing a Grand Lodge of Illinois, to be held in the town of Quincy.

It was in the office of Alexander Dunlap that the movement to organize the Grand Lodge was started. In 1854, W. B. Warren said:

It was in his room, and in his presence, that the first pen was put to paper towards the organization of the Grand Lodge. It was then that the ball was put in motion. Little did the two individuals who started the enterprise anticipate that the Grand Lodge they were then endeavoring to establish would, in the short space of fourteen years, number, under its jurisdiction, 148 lodges with 5,500 members.

Here is the evidence that Alexander Dunlap and William B. Warren were the two to whom all honor must be given for founding the Grand Lodge.

For June 24, 1839, the minutes of Bodley Lodge No. 97 records the following:

Bro. Ralston read a letter from Harmony Lodge No. 24, at Jacksonville, relative (to) forming a Grand Lodge in this State. The following resolution was, after some discussion, passed: Resolved, That we deem it expedient to form a Grand Lodge in this State, and Bros. Ralston and Rogers were appointed a committee to answer said letter on the subject of the Grand Lodge.

On October 28, 1839, Springfield Lodge No. 26 was constituted. At that session on motion:

Bros. Helm, Adams and Lindsay were appointed a committee to represent this Lodge at a convention of the Lodges of this State, to be held in Jacksonville, on the 27th day of December proximo, for the purpose of conferring together as to the propriety of establishing a Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois and determining the place of holding the same.

November 19, 1839, Equality Lodge No. 102:

Resolved, That a committee of Brothers William J. Gatewood, Edmund Jones and Tarlton Dunn, be appointed to correspond with all the subordinate lodges in this State, with a view to reorganizing the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois.

Temperance Lodge No. 27, Vandalia June 10, 1839:

The Worshipful Master laid before the Lodge a communication from a committee of Harmony Lodge No. 24, at Jacksonville, Illinois, on the subject of forming a Grand Lodge in this State, which was read, and on motion, ordered to be laid on the table.

On July 8 the communication was taken from the table, and referred to Brothers Gorin, McCurdy and McLaughlin.

On September 4 the following action was had:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a memorial or address to the several Lodges held in this State, inviting them to send delegates to a Masonic Convention, to be held at Vandalia, on the 27th day of December next, for the purpose of forming a Grand Lodge for the State of Illinois, and report the same to this Lodge, at the adjourned meeting to be held on Friday next.

November 11, 1839, Temperance Lodge No. 27:

The committee to whom was referred the resolution "to correspond with several Lodges held in this State, inviting them to send delegates to a Masonic Convention, to be held at Vandalia on the 27th December next for the purpose of forming a Grand Lodge for the State of Illinois," asked to be discharged from further consideration thereof; and the Bro. Worshipful moved that Vandalia be stricken out, and Jacksonville be inserted instead thereof. Agreed to. The chair appointed Bro. Worshipful a committee of one to perform the duties of the above named committee, and he was also appointed a delegate to the convention to be held at Jacksonville, on the 27th December next.

June 22, 1839, Columbus Lodge U.D.:

A communication was produced by the W.M. from the Jacksonville Lodge of Illinois, on the subject of the formation of a Grand Lodge for this State, which having been read, was referred to a committee of the W. Master, Treasurer and Junior Deacon.

The committee were Brothers Jonas, W. D. McCann, and J. Magorian. On July 27 the committee reported as follows:

The committee on the Jacksonville communication reported that they agree in opinion of their brethren of Harmony Lodge, as to the propriety of forming a Grand Lodge for the State of Illinois, and your

committee trust that on that subject, so important to the interests of Masonry, there will be no diversity of opinion among the Craft. At the same time your committee would suggest, that the final location of the Grand Lodge should be determined on by the delegates from different Lodges, after consultation on the subject. Your committee believe that Jacksonville would be a favorable point for the first meeting, and organization of the Grand Lodge, but differ with the members of Harmony Lodge as to the time of the meeting—the 27th of December is an unpleasant season of the year for travelling, and your committee believe that but few could be induced to attend at Jacksonville at that time, and your committee believe that the meeting should either take place earlier in the fall, or be postponed until next spring.

Entertaining those views your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this lodge approve of the views expressed by their committee, and will co-operate with the other Lodges of this State in the design of forming a Grand Lodge, and will appoint delegates to the same, as soon as the time and place is determined on.

Resolved, That the Secretary transmit to Harmony Lodge No. 24, a copy of this report and resolutions.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. Jonas  
W. D. McCann  
Jas. Magorian  
committee.

### **Far West Lodge No. 29**

March 21st, 5840.—In answer to a communication from Bodley Lodge No. 1, at Quincy, Ill., relative to the formation of a new Grand Lodge, Bros. James L. James and Dennis Rockwell were appointed proxies to represent Far West Lodge in the proposed convention to be held at Jacksonville the first Monday in April, and recommended that the G.L. be located at Springfield.

From a report made to Springfield Lodge No. 26 we learn that on December 27, 1839, a convention was held at Jacksonville, to take into consideration the subject of the formation of a Grand Lodge. The report is here given:

That they attended the sittings of the convention, and participated in the deliberations, at the time and place appointed. There was not a general attendance of delegates from the different Lodges of the State, though letters were read from nearly all not represented, approving the object of the convention. After consultation it was unanimously determined that a Grand Lodge should be formed for the State of Illinois. The first Monday of April next was fixed upon as the day for the assembling of another convention at Jacksonville, when it is expected the Lodges

generally will be represented, the place for the permanent location of the Grand Lodge will be selected, the officers elected, and the Grand Lodge finally constituted. all of which is respectfully submitted,

M. Helm  
A. Lindsay  
J. Adams.

committee

For some reason not now apparent another convention was held at Jacksonville on January 20, 1840 and it was unanimously resolved,

That it is expedient and proper that a Grand Lodge for the State of Illinois be established upon principles consistent with, and subordinate to, the general regulations and ancient constitutions of Freemasonry, and that Brothers W. B. Warren and W. S. Vance of Jacksonville and J. Adams and M. Helm of Springfield be a Committee to correspond with the several Lodges in this State and ask their co-operation and assistance and request their attendance by representative or proxy at a convention to be holden at Jacksonville on the 6th day of April A.D. 1840, for the purpose of discussing the propriety of establishing a Grand Lodge for the State of Illinois, and determining the best place for locating the same.

#### Again Springfield Lodge No. 26:

Whereas, at a meeting of delegates from various Lodges of this State, held at Jacksonville in December last, to consider and decide upon the propriety and expediency of forming a Grand Lodge for the State of Illinois, and to adopt such preliminary measures as might be deemed necessary towards the organization of a Grand Lodge, it is unanimously agreed that the permanent location of said Grand Lodge should be determined by a majority of the subordinate Lodges in this State, each Lodge having one vote; and

Whereas, At the subsequent meeting of delegates in April last, which constituted the present Grand Lodge, its location was decided upon in a manner different from that agreed upon at the preliminary meeting aforesaid, and giving to some Lodges an undue preponderance over others in said decision; and

Whereas, This Lodge believes that the only fair and equitable mode of settling that question, involving convenience and interest of all the subordinate Lodges, and of each equally, is by the vote of said Lodges, as such, each Lodge having one vote; and

Whereas, This Lodge will never be satisfied with, or silently acquiese in the decision of said question, not procured in this or some similar way; therefore;

Resolved, That this Lodge does hereby protest against the decision aforesaid, and instructs its delegates to the approaching annual communication to have said decision annulled, and the question of permanent

location of the Grand Lodge to be determined by a majority of the votes of all subordinate Lodges, or in some other mode equally calculated to secure to each Lodge its due share of influence.

On September 15 the above named preamble and resolutions were passed. The Secretary was directed to write to the Lodges at Hillsboro and Vandalia, and request them to withdraw from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and unite with the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

### Grand Lodge Organized

A convocation was held at Mason's Hall, in the town of Jacksonville, on the 6th day of April, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840.

Present.

J. T. Jones, W.M.

W. B. Warren, S.W.

A. Dunlap, J.W.

A. V. Putman, Secy.

S. W. Lucas, Treasurer

W. S. Vance, S.D.

J. N. Lucas, J.D.

A. C. Dixon, S. & T.

Brother Adams appeared as representative of Springfield Lodge No. 26

H. Rogers and H. Dills of Bodley Lodge No. 29

W. D. McCann, Columbus Lodge No. 20

J. T. Jones, proxy, Equality Lodge No. 102

D. Rockwell, proxy, Far West Lodge No. 29

W. B. Warren and A. Dunlap, Harmony Lodge No. 24

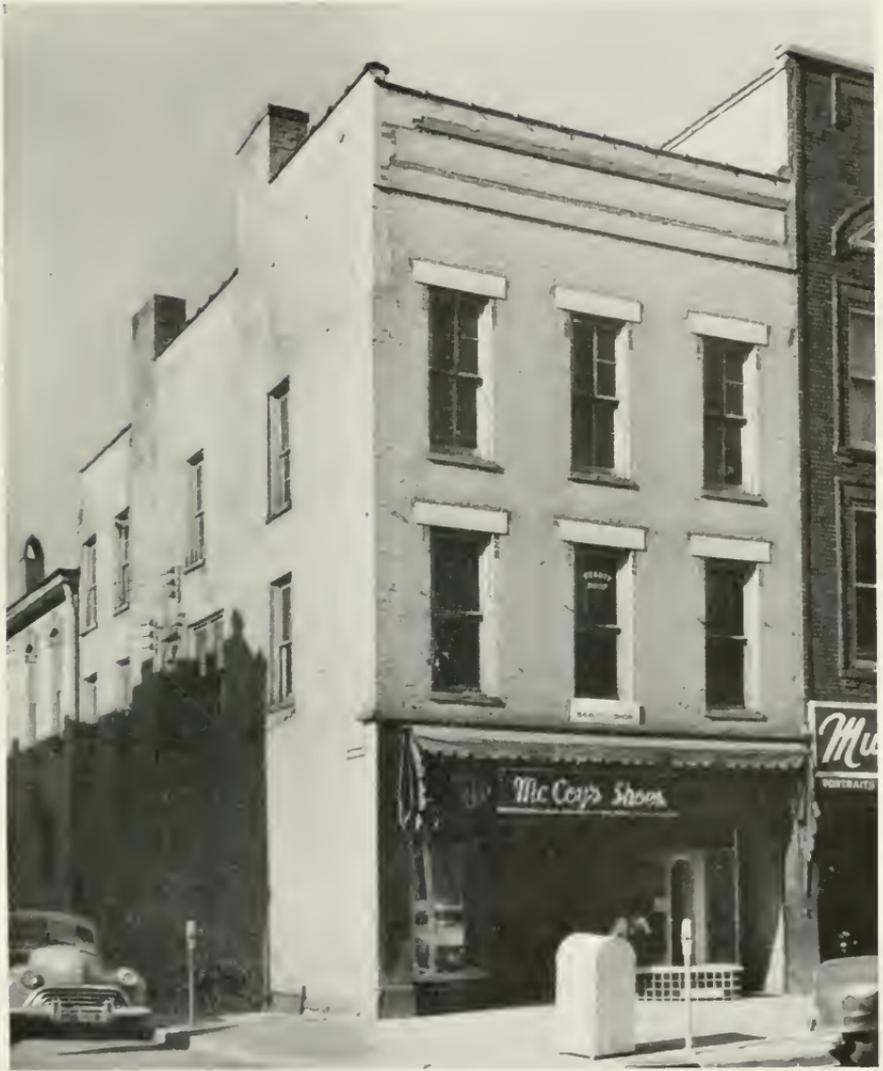
A lodge of Master Masons was then opened according to ancient form and usage. The object of the meeting having been fully considered, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the several subordinate Lodges of Ancient Freemasonry in the State of Illinois here assembled, represented by delegates and proxies properly authorized, consider it as a matter of right and as conducive to the general benefit of Masonry, that a Grand Lodge be established in the State of Illinois, and that they now proceed to establish, organize and locate the same accordingly, to be known and designated by the name of the GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS.

On motion, Brothers Warren, Jones and McCann were appointed a committee to draft and report a Constitution and By-laws for the government of the Grand Lodge.

On motion, a ballot was held for the purpose of locating the Grand Lodge which resulted in no choice.

On motion, the Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment. 3 o'clock P.M. — The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor; present, same officers and brethren as in the morning.



Where the Grand Lodge was organized in 1840.  
Mason's Hall, Jacksonville.



The committee to draft a Constitution and By-laws reported that they had performed that duty.

The Constitution and By-laws having been read and amended, were adopted.

A ballot was then had upon the location of the Grand Lodge, which was decided in favor of Jacksonville.

On motion, The Grand Lodge then went into a ballot for officers, whereupon the following officers were elected viz;

M.W. Abraham Jonas, G.M.

R.W. James Adams, D.G.M.

W. W. S. Vance, G.S.W.

H. Rogers G.J.W.

W. B. Warren, G. Secy.

A. Dunlap, G. Treas.

On motion, Brothers Warren, Vance and Dunlap were appointed a committee to have the Constitution and By-laws printed.

On motion, the Grand Secretary was authorized to procure a seal for the Grand Lodge; when

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until the last Tuesday in April, 2 o'clock P.M.

Tuesday April 28th A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor. Present

R.W. James Adams, D.G.M.

W. W. S. Vance, G.S.W.

Samuel W. Lucas, G.J.W.

W. B. Warren, G.S.

A. Dunlap, G.T.

P. Coffman, G.S.D.

A.V. Putnam, G.J.D.

A. S. Dixon, G.S. & T.

The following representatives appeared and took their seats, viz: Brothers James Adams, of Springfield Lodge

W. B. Warren and A. Dunlap, Harmony Lodge

J. T. Jones, Equality Lodge; W. S. Vance and D. Roekwell, proxy Far West Lodge. Visting brethren — J. T. Sigler, C. Ludlum, J. Gregory of Harmony Lodge, and — Dawson, Saint Louis Lodge No. 20.

On motion, all but Past Masters having retired, a convocation of Past Masters was declared and the M.W. Grand Master was installed by proxy. and the Grand Honors paid him agreeably to Ancient Form and usage. The convocation was then dissolved, and the W. Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until tomorrow morning, 8 o'clock.

The installation was by authority of Article 36 of the General Regulations of 1722.

“But if the Brother whom the present Grand Master shall nominate as his successor, or whom the Grand Lodge shall choose by ballot, as above, is by sickness, or other necessary occasion, absent, he cannot be proclaimed Grand Master, unless the old Grand Master, or some of the Masters and Wardens of Lodges, can vouch upon the honor of a Brother,

that the said person so nominated or chosen, will readily accept the office."

The Grand Lodge was called to labor again. Present, the same officers and members as yesterday.

The R.W. Grand Master appointed brothers

P. Coffman, of Jacksonville, G.S.D.

I. R. Gray, of Springfield, G.J.D.

Rev. H. W. Osborn, Morgan Co., G.C.

M. Helm, of Springfield, G.M.

A. C. Dixon, of Jacksonville, G.S. & T.

The officers were then installed agreeably to ancient form and usage. Springfield Lodge then surrendered the charter under which she had been working and received one under this Grand Lodge as No. 4. Harmony Lodge surrendered her charter and received one as No. 3.

On motion, Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue charters to the following Lodges, Viz: To Bodley as No. 1; Equality Lodge as No. 2; Far West as No. 5; and Columbus as No. 6.

Resolved, That brother Grand Secretary be directed to make inquiry of the Officers of the late Grand Lodge of Illinois, what disposition was made of the jewels and furniture of said Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have the proceedings of this convocation printed, and transmit copies to the several Grand Lodges in the United States, the Canadas and Texas, and request a correspondence with them.

No further business appearing the Grand Lodge was closed in form and harmony.

Attest W. B. Warren  
Grand Secretary.

James Adams, D.G.M.

In addition to the first four Grand Officers, Secretary and Treasurer, the By-laws provided for the election of the Grand Orator, Grand Chaplain and Grand Tyler.

Franklin Lodge No. 22, Temperance Lodge No. 27 and Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 33 remained under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Ottawa Lodge No. 114 and Friendship Lodge U.D. were under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. In 1842 the Grand Lodge of Missouri chartered Marion Lodge No. 59 and St. Clair Lodge No. 60. All these lodges have since affiliated with the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

## Chapter 9

# ILLINOIS LODGES UNDER MISSOURI

In October 1842 W. B. Warren, Grand Secretary, visited the Grand Lodge of Missouri at St. Louis. He took with him a document to that Grand Lodge reading:

Whereas, it has been represented to this Grand Lodge of Illinois that several subordinate Lodges in this State are working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and, whereas, this Grand Lodge being in a state of infancy, whilst the Grand Lodge of Missouri is in a state of affluence, and not doubting their willingness to extend the hand of friendship and assistance to her sister Grand Lodge, and believing, moreover, that it would be conducive to the interest and well being of Masonry that the Grand Lodges of the several States should govern and control the Masonic family within their bounds. Therefore,

Resolved, That Brother G. Secretary be requested to visit the Grand Lodge of Missouri at its next grand annual communication, and respectfully request said Grand Lodge (as the Grand Lodge of Kentucky has done) to dissolve their connexion with the subordinate Lodges in this state. And further, that Brother G. Secretary tender to said Grand Lodge the best wishes of the Grand Lodge of Illinois for her Masonic prosperity and success, and the desire of this Grand Lodge for a continuance and interchange of those social relations which characterize our Fraternity for so many ages.

W. B. Warren, B. Secretary.

The reply to this, after some preliminary remarks was:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Missouri, while she will at all times cherish those Lodges which choose to remain under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge will at the same time cordially approve the act of any subordinate Lodge working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge within the State of Illinois, that may find it convenient and desirable to withdraw from our jurisdiction and place herself under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

Yet, your committee cannot see upon what grounds this Grand Lodge would be justifiable in absolving its connexion with those Lodges contrary to their wish, unless they establish the principle that in every case, upon the establishment of a Grand Lodge in a State, the whole of the Lodges in that State would thereby be forced either to surrender their charters or attach themselves to that Grand Lodge. To show, there-

fore, how unjust the establishment of such a principle would be, it will only be necessary to examine the practical effect it would produce.

Suppose, for instance, that there are fifty Lodges in the State of Illinois working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and that some three or five of these Lodges determined to form a Grand Lodge, they would, under the above principle, force the whole of the other Lodges into a connexion with them, thereby making a very small minority rule a very large majority — thereby producing an effect contrary to the spirit and every principle of Masonry. Your committee, with these views, therefore, think this Grand Lodge cannot comply with the petition of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and can only say to those subordinate Lodges that they affectionately attach themselves to the Grand Lodge in Illinois, at the same time expressing the great regret in severing the ties which have so long bound us together.

In 1843 we read in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Missouri:

We find some resolutions by our brethren in Illinois relative to a withdrawal from this and uniting with the Grand Lodge of Illinois. We would respectfully suggest that this Grand Lodge recommend them to the care and protection of that Grand Lodge, and earnestly hope that their union may be blessed to the prosperity and happiness of all.

However, it was some time before all the lodges joined the Grand Lodge of Illinois. In 1845 we find Henderson P. Boyakin as District Deputy for the Seventh District of the Grand Lodge of Missouri in charge of the Illinois lodges.

### **Mount Moriah Lodge No. 33**

On July 26, 1839, a petition was signed by C. B. Blockberger, Temperance U.D., Illinois; M. P. Nicholson, Mount Moriah No. 27, North Carolina; Martin Kinsley, Union No. 10, Providence, Rhode Island; Hail Kingsley, Washington No. 3, New York; Aaron Knapp, Homer No. 137, New York; M. L. Stinson, Vale of Tempe No. 45, Tennessee; Stephen Abbott, Genessee Union No. 332; Harry Wilton, Eden No. 7, Illinois, last Worshipful Master, asking for a dispensation to open a Lodge at Hillsboro, to be called Mount Moriah.

The dispensation was granted on August 17, 1839, and is signed by A. B. Chambers, Grand Senior Warden, and attested by Richard B. Dallam, Grand Secretary. C. B. Blockberger was named Master, Hail Kingsley, Senior Warden, and Martin Kinsley, Junior Warden. Brother Blockberger was raised in Temperance Lodge.

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, 1840:

Whereas, Brother C. B. Blockberger, W.M. of Mount Moriah Lodge,

was, with others recommended to this Grand Lodge, in 1839, by Temperance Lodge No. 27, for a letter of Dispensation, to form and open said Mount Moriah Lodge; and

Whereas, the name of the said Brother does not appear upon the return of said Temperance Lodge, at the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge as a member thereof; and,

Whereas, also at the present Communication, on the returns of said Temperance Lodge, appears the name of Brother C. B. Blockberger, with the following entry annexed, "name was stricken from the roll of membership for non-payment of dues." Therefore,

Resolved, That Temperance Lodge be directed to correct said entry by allowing said Brother (upon payment of his dues) regularly to dimit.

The lodge raised six candidates between its organization and December 27. The Grand Lodge reported having

a return from Mount Moriah Lodge, Ill.; informally appointing Brother G. H. C. Melody their proxy, and asking a continuance of their Dispensation until the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

On October 7, 1840, A. B. Chambers, Grand Senior Warden, reported:

I visited Hillsboro in that State (Ill.) and saw and conversed with the Master and some of the members of Mount Moriah Lodge.

The charter for this lodge was granted on October 8, 1840 but was not received until November 4. The lodge was constituted on the same day.

On January 18 the lodge allowed sundry bills and ordered the Master to send to St. Louis for a "box of candles, if there is sufficient funds in the treasury to pay for the same." At this meeting it was resolved, to build a hall "over the shop of the W.M." (He was a blacksmith.) An entry indicates that the hall was built, since at the meeting of December 2 the Lodge was not opened "owning to the inclemency of the weather and the unfinished condition of the hall."

During the year 1841 the lodge raised twenty candidates. On February 22 the Lodge

at the desire of the citizens of Hillsboro and vicinity, joined in the celebration of the birthday of George Washington.

Mo. Pro. 1841 — From the transcript of Hillsborough Lodge it appears that they, on various occasions, conferred the first and second degrees in a Master's Lodge, and the third in a Lodge of Apprentices.

The Missouri returns show this lodge had forty members in 1842 and forty-four in 1843.

1842: On August 18, Brother Blockberger, Worshipful Master, tendered his resignation, and asked a dimit. Both the resignation and request were laid on the table until August 25, and a committee was appointed to take the matter into consideration. On August 25, the matter was taken up, when "the charge given the Master at his installation was read," whereupon Brother Blockberger (who had refused to take the East), withdrew his resignation and request for a dimit, and assumed his place. The lodge continued under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Missouri until 1846 when the charter was arrested.

#### Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, 1846:

Resolved, That the Charter of Mount Moriah Lodge No. 33, at Hillsboro, Ills., be, and the same is hereby forfeited; and that what property she may possess be donated to her by the Grand Lodge.

In 1848: — The brethren of Mount Moriah Lodge at Hillsboro, having previously been at work under a charter granted by the M.W. Grand Lodge of Missouri, made application to me for authority to reorganize and work under their old charter, at the suggestion and on the recommendation of the aforesaid Grand Lodge, a certified copy of which was presented to me with their application, and is as follows:

In Grand Lodge of Missouri, Oct. 12, 1847, A.L. 5847.

Whereas, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 33, at Hillsboro, Illinois, was chartered by this Grand Lodge anterior to the forming of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and for some years faithfully performed the duties of the Craft and Whereas this Grand Lodge did, at its last annual communication, declare the charter of said Lodge forfeited, granted to said Lodge all the property and effects it then had; and Whereas the members of said Lodge have made known a desire to be reorganized under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, without the necessity of again undergoing the usual probation; therefore

Resolved, that this Grand Lodge cheerfully recommend the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois to authorize said members to reorganize under the aforesaid charter and report their work and proceedings to said Grand Lodge at its next annual communication.

Frede, L. Billon, Gr. Sec'y.

#### The report of the Grand Master of Illinois reads:

Not being able to understand by what Masonic rule of usage the Grand Master of our Grand Lodge could resuscitate the charter once granted by another Grand Lodge and by it subsequently *declared forfeited*, and authorize the members of such defunct Lodge to reorganize and work under it; and not feeling disposed to countenance in any man-

ner whatever, the continued infringement upon our territorial jurisdiction, as assumed and exercised by the M.W. Grand Lodge of Missouri, in still holding on to other lodges in our State with so much pertinacity as she continues to do, notwithstanding the repeated efforts on the part of this Grand Lodge to have our sister Missouri withdraw her entire jurisdiction from our rightful territory; after stating by objection to the brethren of Hillsboro, against granting their request or complying with the recommendation of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Missouri, I tendered them the aforesaid dispensation, under which they might organize, and have a legal existence as a lodge until the present meeting of our Grand Lodge, not requiring any fee therefor at the time, which dispensation they accepted.

In this way Mount Moriah Lodge No. 51 became a constituent of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

### **Clinton Lodge No. 39**

This lodge received its dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Missouri in January 1841; which dispensation was continued until 1842.

In 1841 there were fourteen Master Masons, six Fellowcraft and five Entered Apprentices; in 1842 there were thirty-one members, having raised eleven. In 1842 the dues of Brother Thos. Moon were remitted, and it was

Ordered, That he pay no further dues, owing to his indigent circumstances, age, and respectability as a worthy ancient Mason.

On February 14 the Lodge took early action on the St. John's Day celebration and invited Brother N. M. McCurdy of Vandalia to deliver an oration.

May 9 on motion:

Resolved, By the Lodge, that we deem the drinking of ardent spirits unmasonic and should not be tolerated among Masons.

St. John's Day was celebrated with seventeen members being present and thirteen visitors from seven other lodges.

On July 11 a petition, signed by eight Master Masons asking for a recommendation to form a new lodge at Salem, Illinois, was granted. The only other record of this lodge is in the Missouri Proceedings for 1846:

Clinton Lodge No. 39 of Carlyle — it appears from the documents in the office of Brother Grand Secretary, that that Lodge has ceased to meet. No returns have been received from her since 1843; nor have her dues been paid for the last three years. This Lodge is in our sister

State of Illinois, in which a Grand Lodge has been organized. Clinton Lodge existed but a few years under our jurisdiction, and worked faithfully for a time, until, by removals and other causes, her numbers were very much reduced.

### **St. Clair Lodge No. 60**

On November 19, 1841 a petition signed by eleven Master Masons, praying for a dispensation to form and open a Lodge at Belleville, Illinois, was presented to Naphthali Lodge of St. Louis for a recommendation. The first signer was John Hay who was one of the early petitioners to Western Star Lodge No. 107 at Kaskaskia. The dispensation was granted on February 12, 1842. Joseph Bennett was appointed Worshipful Master; J. C. Theill, Senior Warden; and Herman Cox, Junior Warden. "A committee was appointed to prepare by-laws, and the petition of J. L. D. Morrison, an Entered Apprentice of Western Star Lodge was received and referred."

On March 9, 1842 Brother C. G. Y. Taylor was raised. He was elected Grand Master in 1850 when the Grand Lodge met at Shawneetown.

On October 25 the Lodge was duly constituted as No. 60 by A. T. Douglas, Grand Visitor, Grand Lodge of Missouri, and the officers installed.

On February 21, 1843 the following was adopted:

Resolved, That no Brother Master Mason ought to sue another brother in a court of law.

On September 19 the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, St. Clair Lodge No. 60 is located within the limits of the State of Illinois, and the Grand Lodge to which she owes her jurisdiction is situated in another State; and,

Whereas, Every interest and inducement, as well as fraternal feeling, prompts this Lodge to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Missouri and become subject to the Grand Lodge in our own State; therefore, be it

Resolved, That St. Clair Lodge No. 60 respectfully intimate to the Grand Lodge of Missouri their wish to withdraw from her jurisdiction for the purpose of becoming subject to the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

### **Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Missouri, 1843:**

We find some resolutions by our brethren in Illinois, relative to a withdrawal from this and uniting with the Grand Lodge of Illinois. We would respectfully suggest that this Grand Lodge recommend them to

the care and protection of that Grand Lodge, and earnestly hope that their union may be blessed to the prosperity and happiness of all.

On December 26, the Master presented

a new charter from the M.W. Grand Lodge of Illinois, giving the Lodge authority to work under the name and style of St. Clair Lodge No. 24, which was read.

### **Marion Lodge No. 59**

On July 7, 1842 a petition was prepared by a number of brethren residing in the town of Salem, Illinois, asking for a dispensation to form and open a lodge at that place. This petition was recommended by Clinton Lodge No. 39 at Carlyle. This petition was recommended on July 11 and the dispensation granted on July 14 by Joab Bernard, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, attested by Richard B. Dallam, Grand Secretary. There were eight signers. On October 27 Brother Douglas constituted the Lodge as No. 59 and installed John A. Goudy as Worshipful Master, W. H. H. Barnes, Senior Warden, Alexander H. Barnes, Junior Warden, Matthew W. Hall, Treasurer. August 14, Brother Bradley, District Deputy Grand Master presided. The semi-annual election was held and the record is so unusual that we give it as recorded.

The gavel was placed in the hands of Bro. H. P. Boyaken. Bro. A. H. Barnes was commanded to "look well to the West," and Bro. M. W. Hall received a like command to "look well to the South." The keys were intrusted to Bro. W. H. H. Barnes, while Bro. H. S. Mills was condemned to another six months as "cacoths scribendi." Justice R. Ruman was placed between the Master and treasurer, and Ira Potter placed at the elbow of the "Pillar of Strength." J. Cooper was placed outside the door, and A. K. King appointed to conduct the devotional exercises of the Lodge.

On November 11 Brothers King, W. H. H. Barnes and Hall, were appointed a committee to inquire into and report to this Lodge on the expediency of this Lodge demitting from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and joining the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

In 1844 the lodge held three elections, March 11, July 8, and November 11.

It was unanimously resolved, That we do believe it to be the duty of this Lodge to guard especially the Minor children of deceased Bro. Isaac G. Barr, and to see that they are properly educated.

This was the last record of this lodge.

## Chapter 10

# TITLE OF THE GRAND LODGE

The Constitution of 1841 designated the title as "The Grand Lodge of Illinois, of Free and Accepted Masons."

In 1846 it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to apply to the next General Assembly of the State of Illinois, for a charter of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Illinois, giving it a legal existence.

The next year the charter from the State was presented:

### AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

*Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:*

SECTION 1. That the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of Illinois be and the same is hereby declared and constituted a body politic and corporate by the name, style and description of the "Grand Lodge of Illinois of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons."

SEC. 2. The said corporation, by the name and style aforesaid, shall have full power to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, prosecute and defend, in all manner of actions at law, or in equity, in all places whatever, where legal or equitable proceedings are had. The said corporation shall have power to make such constitution and by-laws as may be deemed proper. *Provided*, that such constitution and by-laws shall not conflict with the Constitution and Laws of this State and of the United States.

SEC. 3. Said corporation shall have power to loan money belonging to the same and take promissory notes or other evidences for the money so loaned, which may be received in their corporate name aforesaid in all courts and places whatever where judicial proceedings are had.

SEC. 4. The said corporation by the name and style aforesaid shall be capable in law of purchasing, holding and conveying real estate for the benefit of said corporation and for no other use or benefit whatever; *Provided*, that said corporation shall not at any one time hold property to an amount exceeding fifty thousand dollars nor real estate to an amount exceeding one thousand acres of land.

SEC. 5. For the purpose of carrying into effect the objects of this

act the members of this corporation shall have power and are hereby authorized to appoint out of their number three trustees to hold their offices for the term of one year and until their successors are elected.

Approved February 20, 1847.

AUG. FRENCH,

NEWTON CLOUD,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOSEPH B. WILLS,  
Speaker of the Senate.

This Act gave the name as

GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS OF ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

The Act was not satisfactory in several particulars and an amended Act was passed in 1855.

AN ACT

TO AMEND AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS."

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That the Grand Master, deputy grand master, grand wardens, grand secretary, and grand treasurer for the time being, and their successors in office, of the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, together with the masters and wardens of the several lodges subordinate to [constituents of] said Grand Lodge, while holding said offices, shall be and the same are hereby forever declared to be a body politic and corporate, by the name, style, and description of "The Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons."

SEC. 2. The said corporation, by the name and style aforesaid, shall have full power to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, prosecute and defend in all manner of actions at law or in equity, in all places where legal or equitable proceedings are had. The said corporation shall have power to make such constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations for its own government, and the management of its concerns and government of its subordinates [constituents] as shall be deemed advisable, and to alter and amend the same at pleasure. *Provided*, that such constitution, by-laws, rules, and regulations shall not conflict with the constitution and laws of this State and of the United States.

SEC. 3. The said corporation, by name and style aforesaid, shall be capable in law of purchasing, holding and conveying real and personal estate for the benefit of said corporation, to create a charity and educational fund, a representative fund, a library fund, and a Grand Lodge fund, and for no other use or benefits whatever: *Provided*, that said corporation shall not at any one time hold personal or mixed property to an amount exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, nor real estate to an amount exceeding two thousand acres of land.

SEC. 4. The said corporation shall have power to loan money belonging to the same, and take promissory notes or other evidences of debt for the money so loaned or any property sold, which may be recovered in their corporate name aforesaid, in all courts or places where judicial proceedings are held.

SEC. 5. The said corporation is also authorized to borrow money in sums not exceeding one thousand dollars at any one time, and at a rate of interest not exceeding ten per cent per annum.

SEC. 6. In the management of its business concerns, said corporation is hereby authorized to appoint such agents, officers, and attorneys for that purpose as from time to time may be deemed proper.

SEC. 7. Each subordinate [constituent] lodge under the jurisdiction of the aforesaid Grand Lodge, now in existence or which may hereafter be chartered by the same, is also hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate by and under the name, style, and number set forth in their respective charters, and by such designation they may respectively sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, prosecute and defend against all suits arising in law or chancery, in all the courts of this state. The said subordinate [constituent] lodges respectively shall be capable in law of purchasing or receiving, by purchase, gift, or otherwise, and of selling and conveying, real and personal estate for the benefit of said subordinate [constituent] lodges respectively: *Provided*, that neither of said lodges shall at any one time hold real estate exceeding in value thirty thousand dollars.

SEC. 8. So far as applicable the provisions of sections four, five, and six of this act shall be applicable to each of said subordinate [constituent] lodges.

SEC. 9. In case any subordinate [constituent] lodge under the jurisdiction of said Grand Lodge shall cease to exist or forfeit its charter, then all the estate, real and personal, together with all the records, books, papers, vouchers, furniture, jewels, seals, and fixtures belonging to such lodge shall immediately vest in said Grand Lodge; and all personal property, books, records, papers, vouchers, jewels, seals, furniture, deeds, money, evidence of debt, leases, or mortgages belonging to said lodge forfeiting its charter or ceasing to exist shall be delivered over by its last secretary or treasurer of the same, or other person having custody of them, to the proper officer or agent of said Grand Lodge, on demand, and on failing to do so each and every member of such delinquent lodge shall be liable to said Grand Lodge in an action of debt for the full value of the same.

SEC. 10. This act shall be deemed a public act and shall be liberally construed by all courts for the benefit of the corporation herein created.

SEC. 11. So much of the eleventh section of an act entitled "An act to incorporate the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois and subordinate chapters under its jurisdiction," approved February 9, 1853, as required a printed copy of the proceedings of said Grand Chapter, together with a list of its officers, a list of subordinate chapters, their

officers and members, to be filed annually with the secretary of state, is hereby repealed.

SEC. 12. All acts and parts of acts conflicting with this act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 13. This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved February 14, 1855.

This Act provided for the incorporation of every subordinate lodge with the same power and authority as the Grand Lodge in legal matters. By curious mischance the word "Ancient" was omitted from the title of the Grand Lodge. This caused much trouble in later years when a former Grand Secretary was charged with embezzling the funds of the Grand Lodge. The defense challenged the indictment by saying that the corporate name of the Grand Lodge was "Free and Accepted Masons" while the suit was brought by the Grand Lodge of "Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons." This forced the prosecution to prepare a long brief covering the whole history of the Grand Lodge, in which it was shown that the Grand Lodge charter of 1855 was merely a mistake, that the Grand Lodge had always been known as "Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons," that there was no other organization of that name and could be none. The judge ruled in favor of the prosecution but nothing was done about correcting the charter until 1908 when Alexander H. Bell, Grand Master, took appropriate action. This was done to avoid future questions about the correct title in case of donations to the Masonic Homes. The 1871 constitution changed the wording of the title to "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois." The complete transaction is hereby given:

The correct corporate name of this Grand Lodge is as follows:

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of  
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons  
of the State of Illinois

ACTION OF THE GRAND LODGE CHANGING THE CORPORATE NAME OF THE  
GRAND LODGE TO "THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF  
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE  
STATE OF ILLINOIS."

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }  
County of Adams, } ss.

I, the undersigned Isaac Cutter, as R.W. grand secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons, do hereby certify that at the annual meeting of the said Grand Lodge,

held in the city of Chicago, in the state of Illinois, on the sixth day of October, A.D. 1908, at ten o'clock a.m. on that date, pursuant to the constitution and by-laws of said corporation, the following resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of all of the representatives of lodges there present, being the representatives of more than seven hundred lodges out of a total of seven hundred and sixty-one lodges under the jurisdiction of such Grand Lodge. Such resolution there adopted, being as follows:

WHEREAS, By act of the general assembly of the state of Illinois approved February 20, 1847, there was incorporated the "Grand Lodge of Illinois of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons"; and

WHEREAS, Also by an amendatory act of the general assembly of Illinois approved February 14, 1855, the said "Grand Lodge of Illinois of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons" was in effect reincorporated by the name of "The Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons"; and

WHEREAS, This Most Worshipful Grand Lodge has in all of its doings excepting its official corporate acts preserved the use of the word Ancient in its corporate name and desires to so do hereafter; and has declared in its constitution that "This Grand Lodge shall hereafter be known by the name and style of 'The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois'"; be it therefore

*Resolved*, That the name of this corporation incorporated by an act of the general assembly of Illinois entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An Act to incorporate the Grand Lodge of Illinois of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons,'" approved February 14, A.D. 1855, be changed from the name of "The Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons," as given it in such amendatory act, to the name, style and description of "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois," and that this corporation be now and hereafter known, named and described by the name, style and description of "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois."

ISAAC CUTTER,  
*Grand Secretary.*

(Grand Lodge Seal.)

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }  
Macoupin County, } ss.

I, Alexander H. Bell, being first duly sworn, declare on oath that I am the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons, whose name is to be changed as above set forth; that I am the presiding officer of such Grand Lodge and its principal executive officer; and that I was such and was presiding as such at said stated annual meeting of such Grand Lodge held on the sixth day of October, A.D. 1908, mentioned in the foregoing certificate.

I state that said corporation has no president and no board of trustees and no stockholders, and I further state that the statements in the foregoing certificate made by the R.W. grand secretary of said Grand Lodge, are true in substance and in fact.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of said corporation to be affixed this 15th day of October, A.D. 1908.

ALEXANDER H. BELL,  
Grand Master.

(Seal.)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of October, A.D. 1908.

JOHN WESTERMEIER,  
Notary Public.

(Notarial Seal.)

I, James A. Rose, as secretary of state of the state of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of papers showing the action taken changing the name of the corporation above mentioned as therein fully set forth, and of the affidavit of Alexander H. Bell thereto attached as a part thereof.

I hereby certify that the original, of which the above is a true copy, was filed in my office on the eleventh day of November, A.D. 1908, and that the name of said corporation is thereby changed as therein set forth from the name and description of "The Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons," by which said corporation has been heretofore known, to the name, style and description of "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois."

Given under my hand and the great seal of state at my office at Springfield, Illinois, on this eleventh day of November, A.D. 1908.

JAMES A. ROSE,  
Secretary of State.

(Great Seal of State.)

The corporate charter placed a limitation upon the amount of money, securities and land holdings the Grand Lodge might have. In 1900 the Grand Lodge had money in excess of the legal amount. It was voted to return all in excess to the lodges in proportion to their membership, the money to be the nucleus of a Charity Fund. The total returned was \$85,344.22.

In 1911 the State Legislature passed an Act for the benefit of Fraternal and Benevolent Societies under Special Acts. This took off all limitations on the amount of funds.

FRATERNAL AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES UNDER  
SPECIAL ACTS.

(Senate Bill No. 10. Approved June 2, 1911.)

AN ACT to enable fraternal and benevolent societies incorporated by special acts of the general assembly to take and hold property and

borrow money needful and proper to serve and accomplish the purposes of their organization to the same extent as similar societies incorporated not for pecuniary profit under the general incorporation laws of this state.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the people of the state of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly: That in any case where any fraternal or benevolent society or association has been incorporated by any special act of the general assembly of Illinois, and where in the special act under which the same is incorporated or in any amendment thereto there is any limitation as to the amount of value of real estate or personal property which such incorporated body or any of its constituent or subordinate bodies may hold or any limitation as to the amount of money which such fraternal or benevolent society or association may borrow, that notwithstanding any such limitation, such incorporated body or any of its constituent or subordinate bodies may hold real or personal property and may borrow money of whatever amount or value may be needful, suitable and proper to serve and accomplish the purpose of its organization, and to provide for them respectively suitable places of meeting and entertainment and accommodations for their officers and members to the same extent that societies for similar purposes and organized not for pecuniary profit under the general incorporation laws of the state may own and hold property, both real and personal.

## Chapter 11

# MORMON LODGES

A dispensation was issued on October 15, 1841 to George Miller, Worshipful Master, John D. Parker, Senior Warden and L. N. Scovill, Junior Warden to form a new lodge in the city of Nauvoo, county of Hancock, Illinois.

In the journal of Joseph Smith, under date of March 15, 1842 he said:

I officiated as Grand Chaplain at the installation of the Nauvoo Lodge of Freemasons at the Grove near the Temple. Grand Master Jonas, of Columbus, being present, a large number of people assembled for the occasion. The day was exceedingly fine; all things were done in order. In the evening I received the first degree in Freemasonry in Nauvoo Lodge, assembled in my general business office.

The following day, he wrote:

I was with the Masonic Lodge and rose to the sublime degree.

On May 2 a letter was received by Bodley Lodge from Nauvoo:

Inviting Bodley Lodge to participate with them in celebrating the anniversary of St. John, the 24th of June; and on motion it was resolved that the Secretary be directed to answer the communication declining to accept the invitation, on account of the great distance, and of our pecuniary exigence, and that the Secretary also say in his letter, that Bodley Lodge regrets that anything extraneous from pure Masonry, should be coupled with this communication, it having been throughout all ages, the peculiar characteristic of Masonry, that she has sent forth her pure flame of living light, before the world, uncontaminated by political doings, and untinged by religious distinctions.

On July 15 Bodley Lodge held a special meeting to consider charges against Nauvoo Lodge:

Whereas, it has come to the knowledge of Bodley Lodge, No. 1, Quincy, from sources of information which cannot be doubted, That Nauvoo Lodge U.D. have, since the granting of their dispensation, conducted in a manner unMasonic, and highly dangerous and injurious to

our beloved institution, to subvert and destroy the great, good, and beneficial influence of Masonic principles; therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of this State, be requested and is hereby requested, to suspend the authority which has been granted the Nauvoo Lodge by the Grand Master of this State, without delay, and continue said suspension until the Grand Lodge of this State take the subject of said charges into consideration and dispose of the same in such manner as they shall deem essential to the ends of justice, and the welfare and prosperity of the institution of Masonry.

This was unanimously adopted together with another resolution reading:

Resolved, That Bodley Lodge No. 1, of Quincy, request of the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, that a committee be appointed at the next meeting of said Lodge, to make inquiry into the manner the officers of Nauvoo Lodge U.D., were installed by the Grand Master of this State, and by what authority the Grand Master initiated, passed and raised Messers Smith and Rigdon to the degree of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, at one and the same time, and that the proceedings of the committee be reported for the benefit of this Lodge.

From the statement made above it is plain that Joseph Smith acted as Grand Chaplain before he was a Mason. The resolution of Bodley Lodge had the desired effect and the Grand Master suspended work of Nauvoo Lodge on August 11. In nearly five months that lodge initiated 256 candidates and raised 243. A special committee was appointed to visit Nauvoo and inspect the records and work. The committee recommended that the lodge be permitted to resume labor. They did so much work that it became necessary to establish two more lodges in Nauvoo—Nye and Helm. A dispensation was issued for a lodge in Montrose, Iowa in 1842. This was chartered as Rising Sun No. 12. Another dispensation was issued for a lodge at Keokuk, Iowa. But complaints continued to be made. The lodges balloted upon several petitions collectively and conferred all the degrees on the same day that candidates were elected.

The committee was refused access to the minutes and, after a thorough discussion, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the charter of Rising Sun Lodge No. 12, be suspended, and that the Master and Wardens be cited to appear at the next Grand Annual Communication of this Lodge, to show cause, if they have any, why their charter should not be revoked.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it is inexpedient and prejudicial to the interests of Freemasonry, longer to sustain a lodge

in Nauvoo, and the disrespect and contempt that Nauvoo Lodge and Helm Lodge have shown in refusing to present the records of their Work to the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That their dispensations be and they are hereby revoked and charters refused.

Resolved, That for irregular work and disregard of the resolutions and instructions of this Grand Lodge, the dispensation of Keokuk Lodge and Nye Lodge are hereby revoked and charters refused.

To further protect legitimate Masonry from these clandestine members, the special committee on Grand Lodge certificates reported:

1st Resolved, That this M.W. Grand Lodge recommend to the subordinate lodges working under her jurisdiction, that they acknowledge no certificates presented by strange brethren, but such as have emanated from the respective Grand Lodges from which they hail; and further that they admit no strange brethren within their Charities or Visitors but such as present certificates as above.

2nd Resolved, That this R.W. Grand Lodge request other Grand and Subordinate Lodges throughout the Globe to pay no attention to Certificates purporting to come from subordinate lodges working under this Grand Lodge, nor permit any Mason hailing from under their jurisdiction, to visit their lodges or partake of their Charities, unless they present a certificate from this Grand Lodge, signed by M.W. Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary, and the seal of the Grand Lodge.

3rd Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to furnish subordinate lodges with a sufficient number of Blank Certificates as soon as practicable, that the subordinate lodges may be prepared to furnish their members without delay.

4th Resolved, That the Secretaries of the subordinate lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be required to register the names of those to whom certificates may be issued, and report same in their annual returns to this Grand Lodge.

This was evidently to prevent members of the Mormon lodges from gaining admission to regular lodges.

The Mormon lodges paid no attention to the order declaring them clandestine but continued to work, as will be seen by the report of Bodley Lodge:

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to inform the Grand Master of this State that the Nauvoo, Keokuk and other Lodges in and about Nauvoo continue to work, and they have given notice in a public paper of their intention to consecrate their Masonic Hall, on the 5th inst., and that the said Masons pretend not to be in possession of official notice that they were deprived of their charter and dispensation.

The notice of the forthcoming dedication of the Masonic Hall was published in the *Nauvoo Neighbor* on March 13, 1844 and following dates until April 5.

Masonic Notice.

The Officers and brethren of Nauvoo Lodge would hereby make known to the Masonic world that they have fixed on Friday the 5th day of April, for the dedication of their Masonic Hall, to take place at 1 o'clock P.M. All worthy brethren of the Fraternity who feel interested in the cause, are requested to participate with us in the ceremonies of dedication. Done by order of the Lodge, Wm. Clayton, Secretary, March 13th, 1844.

In the "History of the Church" Joseph Smith said that he attended the ceremonies, that about 550 Masons from various parts of the world were present and took part in a procession that was formed, accompanied by the Nauvoo brass band, that the exercises were in charge of Hiram Smith, Worshipful Master, that the principal address of the occasion was delivered by Apostle Erastus Snow, that he, Joseph Smith, and Dr. Goforth also addressed the assembly, and that all visiting Masons were given dinner in the Masonic Hall at the expense of Nauvoo Lodge.

An after effect of the dedication was the trial and conviction of a member of St. Clair Lodge for marching in the procession. The charge was

Holding Masonic communion with clandestine Masons, which fact is received from Bro. ---'s letter to Bro. Helm of Springfield and to G. S. at Jacksonville.

His letter reads:

With the Masons of Nauvoo I associated in procession (not in work) attended their dedication ceremonies of the Masonic Hall of Nauvoo as a Mason.

The lodge held it was not a Masonic procession unless the lodge had been previously opened.

If the above reasoning is correct, and we think it is, then it follows that Bro. --- associated with those individuals in their Lodge capacity, and of course involved himself in their pretended Masonic labor, of whatsoever character it was, and also by his presence and association gave countenance to their illegal and contumelious operations.

After a long report in which his action is clearly stated and shown to have been illegal, the report ended by saying:

The committee do not wish to indulge in mere conjecture, but it does seem that Bro. ——— was determined to participate in the Nauvoo display, though he should do it in contravention of the usages of Masonry, if so he could not escape the expressed condemnation of the Order. We think it is evident from the fact that he stated to several before he left Belleville that he proposed going to Nauvoo to participate in the dedication of the Masonic Hall erecting there, and also from the fact that he took his Masonic regalia with him for the occasion. Your committee are aware that no good end would be answered by inflicting punishment upon an individual who had acted innocently or ignorantly in the premises, yet where there is a flagrant violation of the principles of the institution, it should be met with rigor and severity. We feel, from the facts which have been stated, that Bro. ——— acted knowingly in the case, and most wilfully violated Ancient Masonic usage. In view of the above, your committee feel it their duty to offer the following resolutions:

1st Resolved, That Bro. ———, by participating with the Nauvoo Lodge, in procession &c., treated the authorities of the G. Lodge with contempt and violated an ancient established principle of the Fraternity.

2nd Resolved, That as Bro. ——— has acted unmasonically as is shown, by the above report, and expressed in the resolution preceeding this, the Lodge deal with him according to Masonic usages in the Fraternity.

Dated June 14, 1844

C. B. Y. Taylor  
G. W. Hook  
J. Mace  
committee.

The sentence as passed, was then carried into execution.

As late as 1848 the Grand Master received letters from individuals who joined the Mormon lodges asking about their status. In one case the individual joined before the sentence of suspension was issued; in others the writer was told to present his case to his local lodge for such action as they desired to take.

In 1845 the legislature cancelled the charter of the city of Nauvoo and the Mormons then began preparations to leave the state. The Grand Lodge had no further trouble with them.

## Chapter 12

# RITUAL

In 1843 Grand Master Helm said concerning the Baltimore Convention:

It is regretted that owing to the comparatively recent organization of this Grand Lodge, and our consequent inability to spare sufficient funds for that purpose we were unrepresented in that Convention. We should not hesitate, however, to avail ourselves as far as possible, of the benefits to accrue from their valuable labors; particularly such as were directed to the establishing of a uniform mode of work. In no State, perhaps, is some authoritative standard and exposition of the Lectures and Work more needed than in this. Coming as we do from all parts of the United States and of Europe, each bringing with him his peculiarity of mode, and a strong predilection in favor of that mode to which he has been accustomed, we necessarily differ among ourselves in many things unessential, but in some things materially. Even when these differences are not essential, and refer only to the most trifling minutia, the beauty, regularity and harmony of the work are marred, and its facility impeded by the want of uniformity, an inconvenience which will continue to be seen and felt until the defect, slight though it be, shall be remedied. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend that you appoint at your present session a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be as soon after this convocation as may be, to proceed, at the expense of this Grand Lodge to St. Louis, to confer with the delegates from Missouri to the Baltimore Convention, to become thoroughly instructed by them in the lectures and work as adopted by said Convention, and report the same to this Grand Lodge at its next annual convocation, for their approval or rejection.

Levi Lusk was elected Grand Lecturer and a resolution adopted authorizing him to go to St. Louis at the expense of the Grand Lodge and perfect himself in the ritual as above mentioned.

The next year Brother Lusk reported that he had carried out the instructions received and had met with Brothers Carnegy and Foster, had obtained the lectures and was now ready to report at the convenience of the Grand Lodge. No report appears to have been made that year but in 1845 we find that Brothers Walker and Stuart were invited to rehearse the lectures on the first three degrees in Masonry.

The brethren named did rehearse the lectures on the first and second degrees but lack of time prevented the rehearsal of the third degree lecture. Their lectures were unanimously approved by the delegates.

No funds were appropriated for the Grand Lecturer as he was only required to visit such lodges as sent for him. Grand Lecturers continued to be appointed but were confined to such lodges as desired their assistance. In 1858 Grand Master Dills divided the state into three districts with a grand lecturer in charge of each and Levi Lusk as Grand Lecturer at large.

The first intimation of the impending storm over the ritual was in 1860 when a resolution was introduced reading:

Resolved, That section 33 of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be amended by adding the words:

And the work known as the Webb-Preston work, promulgated by Bros. Samuel Willson and Phillip C. Tucker of Vermont, and Bro. Rob. Morris, of Kentucky, is hereby recognized as the original and only work of this jurisdiction, and this Grand Lodge hereby affirms it in every particular as binding upon its subordinate Lodges.

The resolution was not adopted but the effect would have been to declare the work of the Conservators' Association the Illinois work. This question caused serious trouble and almost split the Grand Lodge.

The history of the Conservators' Association will be treated in a separate chapter. In 1862 Grand Master Blair divided the state into seventeen districts with a Grand Lecturer in charge of each and Harmon G. Reynolds as Grand Lecturer at large. A resolution was adopted unanimously reading:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge has never, either directly or indirectly, authorized the publication of any part of the Work, or pretended Key to the same; and that the publication and dispensation of the Work in this form, or of the use of Cypher, meets with the condemnation of this Grand Lodge, and therefore is contrary to our obligations as Masons.

In 1863 a bitter contest was fought in Grand Lodge and the Conservators' Association outlawed. Grand Master Turner issued an order declaring

The manner of opening and closing a Lodge as taught by Bro. Morris and the leading Brethren who taught his Work, is strictly and positively forbidden. Let there be no more calling from labor to refreshment in opening up or closing down. Let there be no joining of hands in opening or closing either the second or third degrees. Masters and

Wardens may exceed the standard opening in no way whatever, except in extending the lectures, which they have a right to do.

Let there be no further lecturing of candidates when taking degrees in Lodge, by questions and answers, but let the lectures be given in a clear and narrative form.

I expect every Master and every Warden upon receiving this address to conform at once to the above orders and edicts; a failure to do so will probably result in the closing of their lodge until the next Grand Communication.

The next year two Masters were cited to appear and explain why they refused to abide by the edict of the Grand Master. The result was that it was

Resolved, That Bro. Joseph Robbins W.M. of Quincy Lodge No. 296, be suspended from all the rights and benefits of Freemasonry for the period of twelve months, for contumacy, and disobedience of the resolutions of this Grand Lodge, and the lawful edict of the Grand Master; and that Quincy Lodge No. 296 be ordered strictly to conform to said resolution and edict; and that, in case of persistence in disobedience, the Grand Master be directed to demand their charter and records.

In the afternoon, by unanimous consent, Brother Joseph Robbins appeared in the presence of the Grand Lodge and made suitable explanations and acknowledgement; whereupon, on motion of Past Grand Master Turner, all the portion of the resolution which relates to punishment to be inflicted upon Brother Robbins was stricken out. But the case of James C. Luckey was different. The report on his case was:

Bro. James C. Luckey, W.M. of Mystic Tie Lodge No. 187, having in writing, refused to comply with the resolutions of this Grand Lodge and the lawful edict of the Grand Master, is hereby expelled from all the rights, benefits and privileges of Masonry. The M.W. Grand Master is directed to call upon Mystic Tie Lodge No. 187, for the charter, jewels and other records; and in case the said Lodge shall not, within fifteen days thereafter, deliver the same to the Grand Master, or his Deputy, by him appointed, the said Grand Master is directed to declare said Mystic Tie Lodge No. 187 a clandestine Lodge, and all Masons adhering to said Lodge, clandestine Masons.

Brother Luckey was not present at Grand Lodge, neither was his lodge represented. The following year Brother Luckey requested a hearing on the penalty inflicted upon him at the preceding session and the committee report was:

In regard to the communication of James C. Luckey your committee report that they have had the same under consideration, and after mature deliberation, having heard his personal explanation of his whole course and his utter disavowal and denial of any refractory disposition or intentional wrong or contempt towards the M.W. Grand Lodge or any of its officers, recommend that no further proceedings be had in his case, but that he be recognized as fully restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

The report was adopted and all trouble over unauthorized ritual ceased.

Further progress was made in ritualistic proficiency by the adoption of the following resolution in 1869:

Resolved, That a Board of four Examiners, to be nominated by the Most Worshipful Grand Master and confirmed by the Grand Lodge, be appointed, who, with the Grand Master, shall critically examine all applicants for commissions as Grand Lecturers, and appoint none who are not thoroughly conversant with the work of this State.

The Grand Master appointed M. D. Chamberlain, T. J. Wade, and T. J. Prickett as Overseers of the Work. This proved satisfactory for several years and ritualistic matters moved along without objection. In 1870 two meetings of a "Grand Lodge of Instruction" were held. Both were highly successful and much interest was manifest. In speaking of the school at Odin many years afterwards, Brother Barnard, one of the Grand Examiners, said all they tried to teach was the unwritten work and some floor movements; that Masters were permitted to use any standard monitor. In 1877 when Joseph Robbins was Grand Master no schools were held. His argument for not holding them was:

No schools of instruction have been held by the Grand Examiners during the year, as I could see no warrant in equity for requiring or permitting it at the expense of the Grand Lodge, whereby the lodges who have perfected themselves in the work at their own expense, are further taxed for the benefit of those who make no effort for proficiency. Nor is it in my judgment either just or desirable that anything which tends to keep an authoritative knowledge of the work within a close corporation should be encouraged. Such a knowledge is the birthright of every lodge and every Mason; and while retaining, in the exercise of my constitutional authority, the Board of Examiners as a standard of reference, and for assistance in determining the competency of those desiring to teach, I do not favor a course that shall tend to give the Board what I am sure none of its members desire, — a monopoly of teaching. I have, therefore, in response to inquiries on the subject, uniformly said that I should be glad, on the recommendation of any one of its members

in each case, to give authority to teach, to a sufficient number of competent brethren to place a correct knowledge of the work within easy and economical reach of every portion of the jurisdiction.

In 1878 and 1879 Grand Master Gurney did not call any schools but Charles F. Tenney held a school at Bement at his own expense in 1880.

As time went on there was a demand for a standard ritual approved by the Grand Lodge, one that could not be changed except by action of the Grand Lodge. Grand Master D. D. Darrah appointed a special committee of nine members with himself as chairman to consider and report at the session of 1913. The changes were exemplified at the schools. The committee recommended that

The ritual or "work" as thus exemplified at said schools of instruction be adopted and established as the ritual or "work" of this Grand Jurisdiction, and that the same shall be subject to change hereafter only by formal affirmative action of the Grand Lodge by two-thirds vote at an annual meeting.

The report was adopted and all doubt about a correct ritual was ended.

In 1913 a committee was appointed to prepare suitable vocal music for use in conferring degrees. This committee reported in 1914 and the list of songs is part of the report. The committee recommended that if vocal music be used that the words above mentioned should be sung with suitable musical setting. Also, that any other set of words appropriate may be used if approved by the Grand Master; that the Grand Lodge publish the report and supply copies to lodges at cost of publication.

The committee also recommended that a suitable musical service be prepared for instituting and constituting lodges, cornerstone layings, dedications, installations and funeral services; these arrangements to be used in conjunction with the Book of Ceremonials.

During the early days of ritualistic instruction Masters were permitted to use any standard monitor that suited them. However, as ritualistic perfection increased it was seen that many monitors did not fit into the Illinois work. Therefore Edward Cook prepared a monitor which was adopted as the standard monitor of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. Brother Cook had his monitor copyrighted and received a commission on all sales. Brother Cook died in 1915. The Grand Lodge then decided to take over the publication of the monitor and offered to buy the plates and rights from the publishing house that controlled

them but was unable to secure the plates. In addition to handling the monitor the publisher sold cypher rituals. Complaints were made that when members wrote for monitors they would be offered a cypher ritual. To dispose of this source of trouble the Grand Lodge determined to print its own monitor. The issue of the monitor of 1876 was free from all copyright protection. This edition the committee took as a basis for writing a new monitor. A few slight changes were made and the committee recommended its adoption, that the monitor be copyrighted by the Grand Lodge and that the printing and distribution be under the control of the Grand Lodge. The complete text of the official monitor was published in the proceedings of 1916. After years of dispute about ritual from 1845 to 1916 the question was finally settled and today no change can be made in wording without formal action by the Grand Lodge.

From the first meeting of a lodge in Illinois Masters-elect have been required to take the degree of Past Master before being eligible to have the title of Past Master. This was a general custom in all states.

In 1847 (Grand Lodge proceedings page 397) we read:

The usages of various Grand Lodges have hitherto been different, some Grand Lodges restricting the degree only to those who had been elected to preside over a regular lodge, others authorizing and some requiring it to be conferred on Wardens-elect, while others permitted or perhaps authorized it to be conferred on any worthy Master Mason who wished it. Your committee deem it unnecessary to discuss the matter at present. The practice of conferring the degree on any but Masters-elect is giving way, and the usage of Grand Lodges is generally settling down upon the original doctrine that the degree belongs of right to none but such as have been elected to preside over a regular lodge, so far as the Grand Lodge is concerned. A Chapter has control of the degree only so far as to confer it on such as have been elected candidates for the Royal Arch Degree, and should not confer the degree upon any one as Master of a lodge subordinate to the Grand Lodge. Yet one who has received the degree in a Chapter may be elected and installed to preside over a regular lodge, and be entitled to all the privileges of Past Master of a lodge. Your committee concur in the opinion expressed by the Grand Lodge of Florida, that a Grand Lodge has not the right to confer the degree; and we also concur with the views of the Grand Lodge of Maryland endorsed by the Grand Lodge of New York, that the Master-elect must be qualified to preside by his predecessor or some other who has actually presided as Master.

The above quotation expresses the views held by our Grand Lodge until the law which read:

No brother shall be installed Master of a Lodge until he shall have received the degree of Past Master at the hands of at least three actual Past Masters.

was declared unnecessary and repealed in 1880. The degree of Past Master had no standing as part of the official ritual of the three degrees. The ceremony was left to the inventive genius of those who had charge of the ceremony.

## Chapter 13

# THE CONSERVATORS' ASSOCIATION

Robert Morris, Past Grand Master of Kentucky, was the originator of the Conservators' Association. It was designed to institute a uniform ritual in all the States. Morris was raised at the age of 26 and immediately became interested in the ritual. He determined to discover the "pure and genuine work," and, to that end visited all over the United States, attending about 2,000 lodges in his effort to discover the original Webb-Preston work. With the death of Webb succeeding lecturers began to *improve* the work by adding expressions of their own. Consequently there came about great confusion and many variations of wording. This was helped by the Anti-Masonic excitement of 1826-36 which caused many to forget the exact wording that had been in use before that date.

Words meaning much the same thing were subjected to scientific scrutiny by Morris. He made use of the writings of Spencer, Bunyan and Shakespeare; the Bible; the oldest Masonic writings and the memory of aged and experienced Masons. For several years Morris travelled and lectured almost constantly in his search for the original ritual. He was a most prolific writer, being the first to publish an American Masonic Jurisprudence; Biographical sketches of prominent Masons; to establish Masonic Schools of Instruction. He was the author of the ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star and on two occasions visited the Holy Land to study localities having particular reference to Masonry. In 1884 he was elected Poet-Laureate of Masonry.

The result of his study was the printing of what he called "Mnemonics." This book had letters on the left page and figures on the right page. It needed two keys to properly interpret it. Part was read from the top downwards, others from the bottom up and still others from left to right. All monitorial references were taken from Webb's monitor.

He wrote a secret ritual for a degree which was to be conferred upon all who accepted his leadership. Each state had a Vice-Chief Conservator with a deputy in each lodge that accepted his leadership.

The fact that he printed a ritual in characters aroused violent opposition in several states, notably Illinois. Harmon G. Reynolds was the leader in the fight to preserve the ritual adopted in 1845. Reynolds' activity caused the Grand Master to feel that his authority was set aside. The result was a bitter feud between the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary. Reynolds based his acts on the words of Section 32 which was adopted in 1858:

The delivery or teaching of any Masonic Lectures not authorized or which have not received the sanction of the Grand Lodge or of its lawful authority, is forbidden. Nor shall any person be permitted to give lectures to the several Lodges of this State, but such as may be duly appointed by the Grand Master.

The conservator ritual was promulgated in secret and, therefore, illegal. In 1862 a resolution was adopted reading:

In relation to that part of the address, which refers to Work and Ritual your committee most cheerfully endorse the positions taken; and recommend that there be no further legislation upon this subject.

This left the whole question of teaching the ritual in the hands of the Grand Master. Reynolds persisted in teaching what he claimed was the original work of Illinois. This brought about several acts by the Grand Master which were extraordinary to say the least. He sent a set of charges to the lodge at Aurora against Past Grand Master Buck and ordered them received and Buck placed on trial. This the lodge refused to do. He did the same thing against Reynolds at Springfield; this lodge also refused to receive them. He then went to Springfield and presided in person over the lodge, ordered the charges read and again the lodge declined to receive them, although the Grand Master was presiding. He then suspended the Springfield Lodge until the Grand Lodge met. He also suspended Jackson Lodge No. 53 and deposed Bromwell as Master of the lodge at Charleston.

On July 4 he had notice served on Grand Secretary Reynolds to surrender his office. The text of his order is:

Office of the M.W.G.M. of the Gr. L. of Illinois, Chicago, July 4, 1863.  
Harmon G. Reynolds Esq., Grand Secretary of the G. L. F. and A. M.

Springfield, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

For good and sufficient reasons, as I verily believe, and for the good of the Craft in this jurisdiction, I do, by the authority in me vested, remove you from the office of Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, F. and A. Masons, and hereby direct and order you to deliver

all the books, papers, vouchers, documents and all property belonging to the Grand Lodge of Illinois to Bro. George W. Deering, whom I have appointed to fill such vacancy, and who has filed his bond which has been approved by me. You will take due notice and govern yourself accordingly.

Fraternally

F. M. Blair, Grand Master

[ATTEST SEAL]

Now Reynolds tells the story:

I at once said to Br. Deering, "I will surrender nothing." He then demanded the records, books, property of the Grand Lodge. Deering then made formal demand in the presence of W. E. Owen and B. F. Patrick who were with him. Deering then said he would take the seal, I seized it, and replied he could not have it. Deering seized the seal, I seized it, then Bros. Owen and Patrick seized it. I dragged them to the window and shouted "murder" when Deering said he had done all he wished, I had resisted, and that was all he wanted. Owen quit but Deering and Patrick held on. By this time Capt. Bailhache, Messers. Francis, Shepherd, Speillre and several others thronged the office. In another room I put the seal, closed the door and returned to my office. At this time the City Marshall appeared and at his suggestion I was inclined to have them arrested, but reflected a moment that I was in a close place, and sent for Bros. Lavelly and Miner. I consulted with them and concluded not to make any complaint. The Marshall cleared the office.

In an attempt to vindicate his authority the Grand Master called a special meeting of the Grand Lodge at Chicago on August 12, believing that would prevent many from attending from down state; however, 253 lodges outside of Chicago were represented by 370 delegates. Just before the day set for the meetings Reynolds and several others signed a petition for an injunction to prevent the meeting. This petition reads:

Harmon G. Reynolds, vs. F. M. Blair, John C. Baker, and the Grand Lodge of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons.

Bill for Injunction.

The bill sets forth that the complainant was duly elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, with a salary of \$1,000 and upwards. That the By-Laws require all "regular communications" to be held at the city of Springfield.

That such "Grand Lodge" was a corporation created by law. That F. M. Blair as Grand Master, had called a special meeting of the Grand Lodge at Chicago. That it would occasion additional and great expense to members in remote parts of the state, to attend there. That the Secre-

tary is required by the By-Laws "to be present with the records and library at each session of the Grand Lodge." That they were voluminous and would require great expense to transport them. That he had no authority to appropriate money of the Grand Lodge for such a purpose. That the Grand Master had attempted to depose him from his office, and that by calling such meeting in Chicago a full attendance of members could not be had, and the right of complainant to his said office was in danger of being injured by an attempted recognition of the acts of the Grand Master by a part only of the members, acting as Grand Lodge. Praying the injunction etc.

Haines and Story for complainant.

From the facts, His Honor, Judge Williams granted an injunction, restraining said Blair and Baker from opening the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge from convening at any other place than Springfield.

As no Grand Lodge could be held a convention of Masons was called. After considerable discussion an agreement was reached and the trouble ended.

#### AGREEMENT BETWEEN BLAIR AND REYNOLDS

AUG. 12, 1863.

1 — All orders, decrees, edicts and commands contained in any of his circulars or addresses to the Brethren and Lodges in anywise relating to lecturers, lectures, work or usages, are hereby revoked, and the whole matter is referred to the Grand Lodge. No brother will be commissioned, authorized or permitted to lecture the Craft upon the work and lectures during the remainder of this Masonic year.

2 — All orders, decrees, mandates and commands contained in any of his circulars or addresses to the Brethren and Lodges, and more particularly in those of date June 23, July 4, July 18 and July 28th, 1863, deposing the Grand Secretary, deposing Masters of Lodges, arresting charters, and depriving brethren of their right of visit, are hereby revoked and considered as never having been made.

3 — The charges now pending against Harmon C. Reynolds, in Tyrian Lodge No. 333 are hereby dismissed.

4 — All offensive expressions in regard to any brother made, either personally or in writing are withdrawn.

1 — It is now also agreed, on the part of Harmon C. Reynolds, and others acting with him, that all offensive expressions, of either a personal or private character, either in the Trowel, by circular or otherwise, in anywise relating to the Grand Master, are withdrawn and retracted.

2 — The said Reynolds and others acting with him, shall discontinue all suits in any of the courts, in this State, in anywise relating to the matters now in controversy.

And it is mutually agreed that this stipulation shall be signed by the Grand Master, Harmon C. Reynolds as Grand Secretary, be printed,

and under the seal of the Grand Lodge be sent to every Master, Warden, and Secretary, in this jurisdiction, and that all concerned take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Wm. Lavelly, P.G.M.  
T. J. Pickett, P.G.M.  
Jas. L. Anderson, P.G.M.  
Harrison Dills, P.G.M.  
Ira A. W. Buck, P.G.M.  
Allen C. Fuller, P.M., 60  
H. W. Hubbard, G.S.D.  
W. A. Hacker, W.M., Ind.  
J. D. Park, W.M., 246  
O. H. Miner, W.M., 333  
Nichols F. Cook, S.W., 308  
J. W. Smull, Sec., 111

We, the undersigned, hereby congratulate the Craft of Illinois, upon the happy adjustment of past difficulties, and recommend the same to the favorable endorsement of all good Masons.

Wm. Hacker, G.M., Ind.  
S. D. Bayless, P.G.M., Ind.  
E. A. Guilbert, G. M., Iowa  
J. Adams Zullen, P.G.M., Mich.

Another statement was printed and sent out to all lodges.

Chicago, August 12th, 1863.

To the Worshipful Masters, Wardens, and brethren of Free and Accepted Masons in Illinois, we send fraternally love, greeting:

Whereas, there has, this day, been a settlement of all personal matters and disputes, of every kind between M.W. F. M. Blair, Grand Master, and R.W. H. G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary, We do therefore earnestly implore you, brethren, to let all partisan feeling cease between you and let us manifest to the world, that notwithstanding all the ebullition of all feeling that has been manifested, yet, guided by the pure principles of our Order, we yet can and will harmonize and show to each other that no principle shall guide us but that emulation of who best can work and best agree. Therefore, we do recommend to you that from this time forth let all bickering cease, and all unkind feeling toward one another, and let us as in times past, regain that proud eminence as a Grand Lodge that we occupied before these unfortunate difficulties became manifest among us.

Fraternally yours,

F. M. Blair, G. M.  
Wm. Lavelly, P.G.M.  
T. J. Pickett, P.G.M.  
James L. Anderson, P.G.M.  
Harrison Dills, P.G.M.  
Ira A. W. Buck, P.G.M.  
Wm. Hacker, G.M., Ind.  
S. D. Bayless, P.G.M., Ind.  
E. A. Guilbert, G.M., Iowa.

The Grand Lodge met on October 6. The printed page is a cold, clear record of what came before the Grand Lodge and the resultant action but it does not show the intense feeling, anxiety, nervousness and worry; it does not show the bitter rivalry between the two factions about the all-absorbing question of the hour—ritual. When Harmon G. Reynolds presented his report on ritual there was careful attention and all were silent, determined not to miss a word of his report. He told how in 1859 at the meeting of the General Grand Chapter R.A.M. Morris held a "Lodge of Instruction" in Chicago in defiance of the edict of the Grand Lodge that only the original ritual brought from St. Louis in 1845 by Levi Lusk was permitted in Illinois. He quoted from a letter from Morris to him dated January 28, 1861:

One of my Illinois correspondents says you will oppose the Webb work. I hope not. I want you neutral. Your position would be damaged by taking sides *against* us, and we don't need you for us. In other words the battle is to be fought out *non-officially* — and on its merits.

Here is an early adaptation of control by a minority of influential members who intended to force the adoption of the Conservators' ritual regardless of the rulings of the Grand Lodge. Brother Reynolds then followed the action of the Grand Lodge regarding ritual from 1845 to date. Afterwards he explained the organization and purpose of the Conservators' Association. He showed that what Morris claimed was the original Webb-Preston ritual had more than fifty mistakes. This was proved by letters from the living lecturers from whom Morris claimed to have received his ritual. His report was referred to a special committee composed of all the Past Grand Masters present. Their report wholly sustained Brother Reynolds. The report reads:

1 — Resolved, That the acts of Right Worshipful H. G. Reynolds in protecting the rights of the Grand Lodge, and his bold and fearless exposure of the conspiracy which endangered the very existence of this Grand Lodge, and the fundamental principles of Masonry, is entitled to and will receive the thanks of every loyal Mason in this jurisdiction.

2 — Resolved, That the acts of the so-called Conservators in this jurisdiction, by introducing discord and strife among us, and the mercenary motives which have governed their chiefs, merits the condemnation of this Grand Lodge.

3 — Resolved, That the prerogatives, as claimed and exercised by our M.W. Grand Master, during the last Masonic year are not war-

ranted by the Constitution of this Grand Lodge or the Ancient Constitutions of Masonry, and that a new regulation guarding against the usurpation of a Grand Master ought to be incorporated into our Constitution.

4 — Resolved, That the old established work of this Grand Lodge, as ordered to be taught by the Grand Lodge, and as taught by Grand Lecturers John Barney, James H. Luce, Carding Jackson and William A. Dickey, be affirmed as the regularly established work of this Grand Lodge, and all other forms of work and lectures are hereby prohibited.

These resolutions were signed by seven Past Grand Masters. It must have been a great relief to Brother Reynolds to know that the Past Grand Masters were solidly behind him in his fight to protect the original ritual. Reynolds, in his anxiety to carry his objective had a bill presented to the legislature to curb the powers of the Grand Master. The bill was

that certain able, well-tried Past Grand Masters — men of character among the Craft — should constitute a certain Board of Review — that in case the Grand Master should be guilty of usurpation, oppression, corruption, or bad character, the said board might try and remove him, and that their expenses should be paid.

This was done in the heat of passion and being ill-advised was promptly condemned by cooler heads.

Past Grand Master Buck introduced a series of resolutions, the sum of which was that no Mason adhering to the Conservators' Association be allowed to sit in any lodge until he had renounced his connection with said association and that every officer-elect, before installation, should be required to take an obligation that he had no connection with the proscribed association.

The committee on that part of the Grand Secretary's report concerning his personal character said that

during the whole time he was with us, whether as a citizen or public officer, acted acceptably to us, that he faithfully performed his duties as a citizen and officially we believe him to be an honest, upright man.

The report was signed by eighteen members from fifteen lodges.

The Conservators were an early adaptation of the principles of rule by a closely bound minority of influential members. The membership shows 228 names in Illinois. John C. Baker, the Chief Conservator, was the Deputy Grand Master. Others were two Past Grand Masters, two Past Junior Grand Wardens, some Grand Lecturers and

several who were prominent in other Grand Bodies. Also four future Grand Masters.

At the election of officers Thomas J. Turner was elected Grand Master from the floor. His opponent was John C. Baker. The vote was Turner 644, Baker 253. For Grand Secretary Reynolds received 557 votes; Blakesley, a Conservator, 334.

The rout of the Conservators was complete. This was the most serious trouble that ever came before the Grand Lodge and most of those connected with the illegal ritual cheerfully abided by the decision of the Grand Lodge but there were two notable exceptions which are given under the heading "RITUAL."

## Chapter 14

# THE NEGRO QUESTION

In 1845 a report was circulated that negroes were being admitted to certain Chicago lodges. This caused great excitement and several lodges adopted resolutions on the subject. The first was printed and mailed to the other lodges by Harmony No. 3. The full text is:

Whereas, it has been represented to us by a worthy brother, in whom all confidence can be placed, that a negro is admitted to all the privileges of our Fraternity in the Lodges in Chicago; and

Whereas, We are also informed that the Lodge in Chicago over which the G. M. of the G. L. presides as Master, has now before it for action petitions from two or more negroes; and

Whereas, We have learned that the M.W. G.M. of the G. L. of Illinois is urgent in favor of the admission of negroes into our ancient and honorable Fraternity; therefore,

Resolved, That it is with deep and unfeigned regret that we have learned these facts, and that we deem it our imperative duty to remonstrate, in the strongest terms, against this innovation on the rules, regulations, and obligations of the Fraternity.

Resolved, That we cannot recognize any individual of the African race as being "free-born," as they are, by the constitution and laws of our country, denied the rights and privileges of citizens. Neither can we extend to them the hand of fellowship and brotherly love, believing that by so acting we would be trampling upon all of the landmarks of the institution.

Resolved, That the course pursued by the M.W. G.M. of the G. L. of this State, in this matter, is, in our opinion, unworthy of the high office to which he has been promoted, and, if persisted in, will inevitably lead to the destruction, not only of the harmony of the G. L. of this State, but will be destructive of the Institution itself; and that unless he desists from the effort to introduce negroes into the Institution, we must, as members of the G. L., solemnly protest against his conduct, as being derogatory to and unbecoming the presiding officer of any Lodge, much more so as G. M.

Resolved, That we deem it highly derogatory to the Institution for a blue Lodge even to receive a petition from an individual not recognized as a "free-man," much more so to entertain and act upon it, and if such course is persisted in, we shall deem it our imperative duty to

disconnect our Lodge from said Lodge, as well as the Grand Lodge, which will permit one of its subordinate Lodges so to act.

Resolved, That if negroes are admitted into the Lodge at Chicago, or other places under the jurisdiction of our G. L., we shall at the next regular meeting of our Lodge, after learning said fact, tender our charter to the G. L., and thus dissolve our connection with such un-masonic conduct.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be forwarded to each Lodge in this State, with the request that they take immediate action thereon, and inform us thereof, and that a copy be sent to the G.M., that he may see the estimation in which his efforts are held by a part of the Fraternity, and also a copy be forwarded to the G. Lodges of Missouri and Kentucky.

Bodley No. 1 appointed a committee to ascertain the facts on the subject and report.

Springfield No. 4 condemned the action of Harmony No. 3, saying:

We are most happy to state that the communication received is satisfactory in the highest degree, establishing beyond all doubt, that the charges preferred against him (G.M.) by our brethren of Harmony Lodge are false in fact, and should not for a moment disturb the peace and harmony of our Order, nor interfere to any extent with the private feeling of any individual brother, whatever may be his feeling of opposition to the admission of "negros" into our ancient and honorable Order. We beg leave to remark that we regret most deeply the course pursued in this matter, by our brethren of Harmony Lodge, as being calculated to produce much mischief — to interfere most seriously with that spirit of charity and Masonic confidence so indispensably necessary to our prosperity as an Order, as well as to our respect and esteem in public consideration.

The report closed with a few statements from the Grand Master;

The first charge is false, to-wit; "a negro is admitted to all the privileges of the Fraternity in the Lodges at Chicago: to which our G. M. replies:

This is false — for that no "negro" is a member of any Lodge in Chicago or is in the enjoyment of any such privileges now, nor ever has been.

2d charge: The Lodge in Chicago over which the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge presides as Master has now before it for action, petitions from two or more negroes.

Reply, — This is false — for that, first, I am not now Master of any Lodge in Chicago; and second, in that no Lodge over which I ever did preside as Master ever received, or had offered to it to be received, a petition from any negro or negroes.

3d charge: The M.W. G.M. of Illinois is urgent in favor of the admission of negroes into our ancient and honorable Fraternity.

Reply, — This is false — for that I have never in any Lodge whatever either urged, recommended, or said one word in favor of the admission of negroes into our ancient and honorable Order. Thus brethren, do I plead; is not this sufficient?

This report was adopted, ordered printed and distributed generally. St. Clair Lodge No. 24 accepted the statements in the Harmony resolution as being the facts, approved them and:

That we respectfully request all the subordinate Lodges (at Peoria) to send one delegate, to meet on the first Tuesday in April, 1846, to determine what course it would be most proper to pursue, so that we may be purged from this great evil, and again hold a place in the affections of the Masonic bosom.

Friendship No. 7 approved the resolution by St. Clair for a convention with the proviso, "if the information received by us is correct."

Macon No. 8 expressed itself forcibly on the subject but qualified action by the little word "IF." Only two letters but it stayed action until a fair and complete investigation could be had. The investigation brought forth the following:

Resolved, That we deeply regret that Harmony Lodge No. 3 should have taken so hasty action upon a matter so highly important to the Masonic world, without the highest and most unquestionable authority. While we are happy to find that the charges made by said Lodge are unfounded in fact, and that the Lodge at Chicago and the W.G.M. stand exculpated before the Masonic world.

Several other lodges passed resolutions, all opposed to the admission of negroes but all waiting for the facts before committing themselves further.

The report of the Chicago lodges gave the facts which are:

A. B. Lewis, a well bred mulatto man, musician by profession, reputedly of Cherokee aboriginal blood maternally, and paternally of African blood, now, and for a year or two past, a resident of Chicago, is undoubtedly the individual alluded to. Hailing, as a Master Mason, from within the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, whose diploma, duly signed, he exhibited, he has been admitted a few times, as a visitor, to the Lodges in this city, but is not a member of either. That this individual, then, half Indian and half negro, has visited Lodges in Chicago and been admitted to the privileges of a visiting brother, is true; that he is an undoubted brother Mason, a modest, worthy man, and "of good report" is equally true. And how his exclusion from any Lodge where he might apply and exhibit his credentials, would comport with the respect due to the Grand Lodge whose diploma he presented here, one of the most intelligent and respectable bodies of Masons in the

United States, is a question left to Harmony Lodge, and others adopting her action, to answer, should the brother in question seek admission among them.

To the charge that the lodge over which the Grand Master presided as Master received petitions from negroes, the reply was:

that the Lodge over which the Grand Master was for a time Master, never received a petition from any negro or negroes; but that Apollo Lodge No. 32 of this city, over which the M.W.G. Master may have occasionally presided, as over any other Lodge, but of which he never was Master, did, at a regular communication on the 2d day of May last, W.M. Wm. Stuart presiding, receive and refer the petitions of two men, residents of this city, by name Johnson and Davidson, by trade barbers, of mixed Anglo Saxon and African blood, though the proportion of African blood is evidently small, reputed "freeborn," certainly of good report, and one or both entitled to vote by the laws of this State.

On the 5th day of May, at a special meeting of said Lodge, a resolution was adopted, instructing the committee on said petitions, not to report until after the next meeting of the Grand Lodge in October then following; in order, as was stated, previously to procure an expression of the Grand Lodge on the subject.

The committee on the petitions reported favorably but the petitioners were asked to withdraw the petitions. So the tempest in a teapot, caused by unfounded rumors, ended after stirring up much excitement. Grand Master Walker stated:

I have never either in any one of your Lodges, or in any other, either urged, recommended, or said one word, in favor of the admission of negroes into our ancient and honorable Fraternity.

That statement cleared the Grand Master completely. Harmony Lodge received much unfavorable comment upon its precipitancy of action without first securing the facts.

The report of the Grand Lodge investigating committee said:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge have the utmost confidence in the Rev. W. F. Walker, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, believing him a true brother at heart, alone actuated by a desire to advance the prosperity of the Craft.

However, to make sure there was no doubt as to their attitude, the Grand Lodge, in 1852, adopted resolution No. 44, which later became Sections 81 and 82 of the By-laws:

Resolved, That all subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction be in-

structed to admit no negro or mulatto, as visitor or otherwise, under any circumstances whatever.

2 — That if any Lodges under this jurisdiction hereafter violate this expressed will of this Grand Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of this State at once to arrest their charter.

In 1865 a motion was made to repeal these sections. No report was made but in the constitution and by-laws printed in 1871 both sections were marked "repealed."

## Chapter 15

# THE MEXICAN WAR YEARS

1847. A petition was presented to the Grand Master:

Your petitioners, George C. Lanphere, George W. Palmer, John H. Mitchell, Daniel T. Denman, Wyatt B. Stapp, Ezekiel Kent and James Townsley, would respectfully represent that they are all Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, and belong to a company of mounted volunteers received into the service of the United States and known as Company B; that they are about to depart for Vera Cruz, in Mexico, to operate against the enemy there; that they are desirous of being authorized by dispensation to work under the authority of said Grand Lodge, and do respectfully recommend George C. Lanphere to be Worshipful Master, George W. Palmer to be Senior Warden, and John H. Mitchell to be Junior Warden; and they will, as in duty bound, ever pray, &c.

George C. Lanphere  
George W. Palmer  
John H. Mitchell  
Ezekiel Kent Jr.  
D. T. Denman  
Wyatt B. Stapp  
James Townsley

(Vouched for and recommended by Hiram Lodge No. 26.)

This was referred to a special committee which reported:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to grant the prayer of Bro. Lanphere and others praying for a dispensation to a company of mounted volunteers.

The next day another resolution was presented and adopted:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master be authorized to grant dispensations for travelling lodges attached to Illinois regiments in Mexico, to work in the territory thereof, to any brethren qualified, who may be engaged in the service of the United States in that country; provided they shall not initiate, pass or raise, any persons but residents of the State of Illinois; that such lodge shall in all cases comply with the requisitions of the constitution and by-laws of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and shall return such dispensations at the expiration of their term of service.

The vote on the report was 17 for; 11 against. There is no record showing that this dispensation was ever issued.

Another resolution was adopted:

Whereas, This Grand Lodge has been satisfactorily informed that Equality Lodge No. 2, has been unable to enjoy Masonic privileges during the past year, from the absence of her officers and most of her members in Mexico and elsewhere; therefore;

Resolved, That the dues of Equality Lodge No. 2, be remitted for the past year.

In the return of Piasa Lodge No. 27 appears the name of John J. Hardin, raised. In March 27, 1847:

The Lodge having received news of the battle fought in Mexico, near Saltillo, (Buena Vista), and that many worthy brethren had fallen therein, closed the Lodge without transacting business.

April 2 — The Lodge having received news of the death of John J. Hardin — Col. of the First Regiment ——— passed resolutions appropriate to the occasion.

The Grand Lodge also adopted a preamble and resolutions regarding the loss of Brother Hardin and it was

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of mourning during the present session as a mark of respect for their lamented Brother John J. Hardin.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the family of our late brother.

While the Grand Lodge of Illinois did not grant any dispensations for military lodges during the Mexican War, there was a lodge in the First Illinois Regiment while it was stationed at Santa Fe, New Mexico. John Ralls, Colonel of the Third Missouri Volunteer Militia was also Grand Master of Masons. There being a number of Masons in his regiment he issued a dispensation for Missouri Military Lodge No. 86. The first meeting was held at Independence, Missouri, but no more were held until the 900 miles march to Santa Fe was completed. When the Masons in the First Illinois Regiment learned of this lodge they became regular attendants. The first meeting of the lodge in Santa Fe was in the quarters of the Grand Master. Lieutenant Colonel Henderson P. Boyakins acted as Senior Deacon. Colonel Boyakins was raised in Clinton Lodge U.D. at Carlyle, Illinois, on August 9, 1842. The following year, August 14, he was elected and installed Master of Marion Lodge at Salem, Illinois. At least once he presided over

Missouri Military Lodge and at other times filled different stations. About October 1 it became known that the Third Missouri Regiment had been ordered to Mexico. As the lodge had several petitions for action and degrees to be conferred, a meeting was held every night from the third to the nineteenth, inclusive. The Illinois members petitioned for a dispensation for a military lodge under the name of Hardin Military Lodge. It was named for Colonel John J. Hardin of the First Illinois Regiment who was killed at the battle of Buena Vista some months previous. The moving spirit in securing the dispensation was Vantrump Turner, Captain of Co. C., First Illinois Regiment. Turner was raised in Clinton Lodge U.D. at Carlyle on August 5, 1843 and was Treasurer of Marion Lodge at Salem in 1844.

### **The Dispensation.**

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL  
JOHN RALLS

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri.

Whereas, a petition has been presented to me by Vantrump Turner, George W. Hook, James R. Hugunin, Simon Lundry, D. Turner, Henry J. Reed, I. B. Donalson, Joseph Wham, all Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, praying that they, with such others as shall hereafter join them, may be erected and constituted into a regular lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, which petition appearing to me as tending to the advancement of Masonry and the good of the Craft;—

Know Ye, therefore, that I, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge aforesaid, reposing special trust and confidence in the prudence and fidelity of our beloved brethren above named, presents the said Vantrump Turner, George W. Hook, James R. Hugunin, Simon Lundry, D. Turner, Henry J. Reed, I. B. Donalson, Joseph Wham, a regular lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the title and distinction of

#### THE HARDIN LODGE NO. 87

hereby giving and granting unto them and their successors full power and authority to convene as Masons and as a regular travelling lodge at such time and places as may be suitable for the transaction of business in Masonry, within the Regiment of Volunteers from the State of Illinois, known as the First Regiment, now lying at Santa Fe in New Mexico, formed under the requisition of the War Department of the State of Illinois of the 19th April A.D. 1847, and to receive and enter Apprentices, pass Fellow Crafts and raise Master Masons, upon the payment of such moderate sums for the same as may be determined by the said Lodge, also to make choice of a Master, Wardens, and other office bearers, annually or otherwise as they shall see cause, to receive and

collect funds for relief of the poor and distressed brethren, their widows and children, and in general to transact all matters relating to Masonry which may to them appear to be for the good of the Craft according to ancient usages and customs of Masonry.

And we do hereby require the said constituted brethren to keep a fair and regular record of all their proceedings and to lay them before the Grand Lodge when required, and that they in all respects conduct themselves as good Masons.

And it is hereby declared that said lodge take precedence in the Grand Lodge and elsewhere to commence on the 9th day of October A.L. 5847, A.D. 1847, and this charter and all the power and authority under the same shall cease and determine within six months after the close of the present war with Mexico, unless the regiment is sooner discharged.

In testimony whereof, I, John Ralls, Grand Master aforesaid, by virtue of the power and authority to me committed, have hereunto set my hand and caused a scroll to hereunto be affixed, in place of the seal of the Grand Lodge of the State, the said seal of the Grand Lodge being with the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge in his office in the City of St. Louis.

Given at the City of Santa Fe, in the State of New Mexico, this 9th day of October, A.L. 5847, A.D. 1847.

[SEAL]

JOHN RALLS, Grd, Master,  
Grand Lodge of Missouri.

Attest JAMES R. HUGUNIN  
Grand Secretary P.T.

The term of the Grand Master expired on October 11.

In separating the lodges unfinished business relating to Hardin Lodge was transferred to that lodge. There were three petitions for degrees, one of which was from E. W. B. Newby, Colonel, First Illinois Regiment, also five Entered Apprentices. The minutes of this lodge were never turned in so it is impossible to tell how many candidates were raised. Neither is there anything to tell how long the lodge functioned.

Partial list of members of Hardin Lodge No. 87.

Colonel E. W. B. Newby  
Lieutenant Colonel Henderson P. Boyakins  
Major Israel B. Donalson  
Surgeon Daniel Turner

Captains  
Vantrump Turner Co. C  
George W. Hook Co. F  
Henry J. Reed Co. G

## Lieutenants

Isham N. Haynie Co. C

Levi Wright Co. C

Simon Lundry Co. G

## Sergeant Joseph Wham

## Privates

B. Wham Co. C

James R. Hugunin, Co. F.

## Chapter 16

# CALIFORNIA LODGES

In 1849 Grand Master William Lively granted dispensations for two lodges in California:

To Bro. N. D. Morse as Master, Bro. Alexander Ewing as Senior Warden, Bro. L. D. Montgomery as Junior Warden, and other brethren to form and open a Travelling Lodge in the Territory of California by the name of "Pacific Lodge."

To Bro. John R. Crandall as Master, Bro. A. O. Garrett as Senior Warden, Bro. J. W. Moffit as Junior Warden, and other brethren to form and open a Travelling Lodge in the Territory of California by the name of "Lively Lodge."

The Grand Master said:

In granting dispensations to the two lodges in California, as the petitioners could not designate any particular place in the territory where they might remain while there, I gave them authority to open their lodge and hold their meetings at any place they might sojourn where no G. Lodge was established. And in view of the great distance they would be from us, and the impossibility of their being enabled to make returns of their work, &C, to our present communication, as required in ordinary cases, the dispensations were so granted as to continue in full force until the return of the respective Masters named therein, unless sooner revoked by the Grand Lodge. This act may be considered an assumption of power on my part, as in ordinary cases it is understood that the Grand Master cannot in recess of the Grand Lodge, grant a dispensation for a new lodge to extend beyond the next annual communication. But all the circumstances in connection with these two lodges and their destination, seemed to justify some deviation from the general rule, and as the dispensations were intrusted to such brethren and members of our Grand Lodge as P.G.M. Morse, and P.D.G.M. Crandall, I could not hesitate in drafting their dispensations to give them such powers as the emergency of their cases actually required, being well assured that the trust would not be abused in their hands, wherever their lots might be cast. It is with you, however, to ratify or annul my proceedings in the matter, and take such further action as may seem right and proper, as to the continuation of those two lodges.

### Pacific Lodge

Pacific Lodge was located at Long's Bar, Butte County, about two and one-half miles north of Oroville, and was organized in 1850. Among the distinguished gentlemen who were initiated into the mysteries of Masonry in that Lodge were Charles F. Lott and John Bidwell. Brother Lott, who died on September 4, 1918 at the ripe age of 94, described the Lodge room as being a log house rising about four feet above the ground, with a dirt floor excavated sufficiently to permit one to stand in the room. The altar and pedestals were stumps of trees, the lights were candles, and the jewels cut from tin cans. Primitive, yes, but the "work" was impressive and much good for the community came forth from that rude cabin. Judge Lott received his third degree in Pacific Lodge on December 15, 1850.

John Bidwell, in a letter written August 11, 1897, gave a side light on early-day procedure that is interesting. He wrote that

You ask me to send the name of the Lodge where I took the degrees. In the winter of 1850-51 a friend persuaded me to take the first degree in San Jose — the name I do not remember. A few years later at Hamilton, which was then the county seat of Butte County, the two following degrees. There was no lodge there — no lodge room — but the man who acted as Master had authority, as I understand to confer such degrees. Think his name was Morse or Moss. It might have been Butte Lodge. The exact years I do not recall.

The returns of San Jose Lodge No. 10 for November 1, 1851, report the name of John Bidwell as an Entered Apprentice. The Master referred to was Nelson D. Morse, Past Grand Master of Illinois, who had authority to form a Lodge under the dispensation (dated March, 1849) for Pacific Lodge. In Grand Lodge, (California) November 6, 1851, "a communication from Brother J. R. Crandall in reference to Pacific Lodge U.D. was received and referred to a committee of three." And on May 5, 1852, "the committee on the affairs of Pacific Lodge, at Long's Bar, reported that said Lodge had closed and dissolved before the committee had time to communicate with it."

It was

Resolved, That all Masons made in Pacific Lodge, under dispensation from Illinois, be received and acknowledged by the Lodges under this jurisdiction.

Brother Morse was a member of the legislature in 1852 representing Butte County. He died in 1854 and the resolutions of respect said:

That as agent of this Grand Lodge (Illinois) Brother Morse did much to exemplify the principles of our time-honored institution in California, and was able to contribute much material aid and comfort to many distressed and suffering brethren.

### Lavely Lodge

Lavely Lodge was organized by Brother Crandall at Marysville in the early months of 1850, with about thirty members, and continued in operation until the formation of Grand Lodge of California in April, when the brethren petitioned for and, in November, 1850, received a charter as Marysville Lodge No. 9. Brother Crandall, who had removed to Trinity River in May 1850, left the Lodge in charge of Brother Garrett, the Senior Warden. For quite a while the Lodge held its meetings in a tent located near the corner of Fourth and East Streets.

Brother Crandall was very active in Masonic work. In addition to his labors in establishing the first Lodge at Marysville, he assisted in organizing LaFayette Lodge at Nevada, and was the first Master of Nevada Lodge No. 13. He was Senior Grand Warden in 1853.

The above information is from the history of Masonry in California by John Whicher, one time Grand Secretary. The title is "Masonic Beginnings in California and Hawaii."

In "Fifty Years of Masonry in California," by Edwin A. Sherman we find:

In the spring of 1850, Bro. Crandall, being in Marysville, was desirous of locating a lodge there under the Illinois dispensation, and issued a general notice to all Master Masons who were in town, stating his intentions. In pursuance of this notice about thirty Master Masons assembled and organized (Laville) Lavely ? Lodge, with J. R. Crandall, as W.M., A. O. Garrett, S.W., and W. Moffett, J.W. On May 1, 1850, Bro. Crandall having moved to Trinity River, the Lodge was left in charge of the Senior Warden, and for some time was held in a tent near the corner of Fourth and E. Streets. The Grand Lodge of California having been organized, this Lodge reported its proceedings under the Illinois dispensation, and petitioned for a charter, which was granted November 27, 1850, but it reported its work and transmitted its dues to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, under whose jurisdiction it had acted up to that time.

Dr. John R. Crandall, the father of Masonry in Yuba county, received the degrees in 1836 in Pekin Lodge No. 29. In 1842 he was a charter member of Temple Lodge No. 46 at Peoria, Ill. Besides establishing Marysville Lodge U.D., he assisted in organizing Lafayette Lodge, afterward Nevada Lodge No. 13, at Nevada City, and was its first master in 1851, and in 1852 he became a charter member and subsequent

Master of Eureka Lodge No. 15 at Auburn, Placer County, and Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of California in 1853.

In discussing the difficulty of uniformity in work in the lodges, and naming the persons who gave their versions of the true work he said

Every Master Mason and Past Master who came from every other Grand Lodge Jurisdiction claimed to have been made under and to have the only true and perfect work, no matter how much they might differ. Worshipful Brother John R. Crandall taught the Illinois work in California Lodge No. 1, in 1850, and exemplified it as he received it, giving it to the Lodges at Marysville and Nevada City, as well as elsewhere in California.

The California history quoted has made a serious mistake in dates when Brother Crandall took his degrees. Pekin Lodge was not chartered until 1845 and Brother Crandall's name is shown as Master in 1845 and Junior Grand Warden. He was Senior Deacon in Temple Lodge No. 46 but that lodge was not chartered until 1847. He was Deputy Grand Master of Illinois in 1847.

## Chapter 17

# LODGES OUTSIDE OF THE STATE

On June 12, 1843 Grand Master Meredith Helm granted a dispensation to Lemuel B. Hull, Worshipful Master; Abram D. Smith, Senior Warden; and David Merrill, Junior Warden, to form and open Milwaukee Lodge at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The report from this lodge in 1843 showed fifteen members. When the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin was organized the lodge was transferred to that jurisdiction.

On February 8, 1852 a dispensation was issued by Grand Master Pickett for Cataract Lodge at St. Anthony's Falls, Minnesota with Dr. Alfred E. Ames as Master. This lodge was instrumental in forming the Grand Lodge of Minnesota and its Master, A. E. Ames, was elected first Grand Master.

On April 3, 1855 a petition was filed with the Deputy Grand Master, T. O. Wilson, for a dispensation to open and hold a lodge at Bellvue, Nebraska. The Deputy Grand Master issued the dispensation and, in a letter to Grand Master Anderson admitted his doubt as to his action. The reply of the Grand Master was

I know of no authority for your granting them either by law or precedent in our Grand Lodge, nor in any other where the power is not expressly delegated.

The committee on Lodges U.D. reported:

They are of opinion that in granting a dispensation for a Lodge to be called "Nebraska Lodge," the R.W. Dep. Gr. Master transcended his rights and powers.

However the charter was granted to "Nebraska Lodge" No. 184 with I. B. Kinney as Worshipful Master; P. J. McMahon, as Senior Warden; and George Hepner as Junior Warden.

Grand Master Hibbard reported in 1857:

Last July I received a letter from Bro. Ira A. W. Buck, from Omaha City, N.T., informing me that Nebraska Lodge at Bellvue chartered by this Grand Lodge in 1855, had never been constituted, nor their officers installed. They had done no work, but were anxious to be constituted,

and set to work properly. He suggested the propriety of sending my proxy in the matter to him, as he expected to remain there long enough to receive it, and perform the duty. I acted upon his suggestion, and a few days since I received a letter from Robert C. Jordan, enclosing my proxy sent to Bro. Buck, informing me that he (Bro. Buck) not being able to perform the duty, had deputized him in his place, and that on the 22nd of August last, he performed the duty set forth in said proxy. He also enclosed the return of Nebraska Lodge, and the sum of ten (\$10) dollars, as Grand Lodge dues, notifying me that in a few days from that time, the Lodges there anticipated forming a Grand Lodge for the Territory of Nebraska.

When the lodge participated in forming the Grand Lodge of Nebraska in 1857 it reported twelve members. This was the first lodge in Nebraska Territory.

In 1853 Grand Master Ames issued a dispensation:

To R.W. Brother Daniel C. McNeill as Master, Bro. George A. Blakeslee as Senior Warden and Bro. George Bennett as Junior Warden, and the requisite number of additional brethren to form and open a travelling lodge across the plains to Oregon by the name of Pilgrim Lodge.

The Grand Master said in his annual report:

The dispensation granted to R.W. Bro. McNeill and others for Pilgrim Lodge was returned to me from Iowa — the sickness of the Master prevented him from journeying farther. Not getting out of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, they never used the dispensation granted them.

In 1865 Grand Master Turner reported:

I also granted a dispensation, on the twenty-eighth day of August, to the requisite number of brethren, to open a new lodge at Nevada City, in the Territory of Montana.

There is no further mention of this dispensation in the Illinois records.

## Chapter 18

# MILITARY LODGES

1862

To Brother W. D. Craig and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Ninth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, by the name of Dick Oglesby Lodge.

To Brother Albion F. Taylor and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Fortieth Illinois Regiment by the name of Egyptian Military Lodge.

To Brother John N. Niglas and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Sixth Cavalry Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, by the name of Governor Yates Military Lodge.

To Brother Silas C. Toler and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Sixtieth Illinois Regiment by the name of Douglas Military Lodge.

To Brother Edwin H. Smith and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Second Artillery Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, by the name of Halleck Military Lodge.

1863

To Brother Joseph Fogue and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Sixty-sixth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, to be named Justice Military Lodge.

To Brother W. W. Jackson and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Sixteenth Army Corps, to be named Metamora Lodge.

To Brother Stedman Hatch and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Sixteenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, to be named Sixteenth Illinois Volunteer Regiment Lodge.

To Brother George Broad and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Forty-seventh Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, to be named William A. Thrush Military Lodge.

To Brother D. D. Irons and the requisite number of brethren to

form and open a Military Lodge in the Eighty-sixth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, to be named Wallace Military Lodge.

To Brother W. S. Post and the requisite number of brethren to form and open a Military Lodge in the Eighty-first Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, to be named Union Lodge.

Most of these lodges did little or no work on account of the conditions under which they labored but there was one notable exception. This was Halleck Military Lodge, which was located at a division point where soldiers rested before going south and those on the way home rested a few days. This lodge was under the control of Silas O. Vaughn, not a soldier but connected with the Ordnance Department through his friend John A. Ladd who was Master of Transportation. The first officers of the lodge resigned and Brother Vaughn was sent by the Grand Master to take charge of the lodge. This information was furnished by his son, William Vaughn, who was at Columbus, Kentucky as a boy and saw the life there.

Halleck Military Lodge reported 145 initiated; 137 passed; 123 raised; nine rejected. In 1864 the lodge paid \$63 in dues and asked to have the dispensation continued, which was granted. Brother William Vaughn is responsible for a statement that his father told him that General U. S. Grant had been elected to receive the degrees and arrangements had been made to confer all three the same night but shortly before the date set he received an order to go south to Vicksburg and never came back so the degrees were not conferred.

Another lodge whose record is lost was Justice Military Lodge which in 1864 paid \$100 of dues. Evidently this lodge did considerable work to account for the large remittance for dues.

In 1864 the Grand Secretary published a list of Illinois army officers and men who were Masons. It included five Major Generals, eight Brigadier Generals; one Inspector General of the Army of the Cumberland; forty-one Colonels; forty-two Lieutenant Colonels; thirty-five Majors; three Paymasters; ten Chaplains; twenty-seven Quartermasters; 278 Captains; six Assistant Surgeons; six Adjutants; five Assistant Paymasters; 264 Lieutenants; nine Hospital Stewards; one Sergeant Major; 135 Sergeants; two Color Bearers; one Ensign; four Musicians; twelve Corporals; 545 Privates; one Second Eng. of gun boat; one Pilot; one Lieutenant Commander; one Farrier; four Teamsters; one Forage Master; one Saddler; four Clerks; twenty-three whose positions were not given.

1864

Grand Master Turner issued dispensations for four military lodges: Washington, One hundred-second Regiment, Illinois Infantry; Fuller, Thirty-ninth Regiment, Illinois Infantry; Illinois Second Cavalry; Smith D'Atkins Ninety-second Regiment, Illinois Infantry.

In 1865 Grand Master Turner said:

Previous to my installation several dispensations had been granted, by my predecessor, to open Military Lodges in the army then in the field. I have never been fully informed as to the extent of the powers granted by these dispensations; but I suppose they did not confer any authority to invade foreign jurisdictions, and make Masons from the citizen soldiery of other States. In all the dispensations for military lodges granted by me, jurisdiction was limited to the single regiment of Illinois troops to which the dispensation was granted. I am led to believe that some of the military lodges, working under dispensation from our jurisdiction, have greatly abused their privileges and brought reproach upon our Order. Instead of confining their operations to Illinois regiments and troops exclusively, as they should have done, they made Masons indiscriminately from soldiers and citizens of other states, with very little regard for the kind of material used. Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri have especial cause to complain in that respect.

Grand Masters of those jurisdictions called his attention to the fact that the military lodges were admitting members

whose characters wholly disqualified them from becoming Masons.

About that time the war ended and these lodges ceased to exist, "having done some good and much mischief." Grand Lodge adopted two resolutions regarding members made in military lodges:

Resolved, That all Masons made in Military Lodges, under dispensations from this Grand Lodge, should upon the best evidence that can be procured of that fact, be acknowledged and received as such, and, if found worthy, should become members of subordinate Lodges where they reside, and be advanced if incomplete.

That our sister Grand Lodges are fraternally requested to take into their charge such Masons within their jurisdiction as have been made under these dispensations, and if found worthy, incorporate them into the Fraternity where they reside.

The experience of Union Military Lodge was reported in the Masonic Trowel on June 17, 1863:

Quarterly report of Union Military Lodge with 81st regiment.

Our Masonic book with everything taken on expedition to Baldwin, Miss. June 10th was captured. Records had been left with the books of Co. I, and they are, therefore, gone with them.

Then follows a list of seventeen names made from memory.

In 1916 the Grand Master received some applications for dispensations for military lodges but all were refused.

In 1862 Barrington Lodge No. 370 returned its charter because they were unable to hold meetings in consequence of enlistment of members in the army.

While the military lodges came in for severe criticism it is well to mention something in their favor. Asboth Military Chapter was established at Columbus, Kentucky in connection with Halleck Military Lodge. What applies to one equally applies to the other. On October 24, 1863 the Grand High Priest, Hiram W. Hubbard visited Columbus to ascertain its condition. His report reads:

I went there strongly prejudiced against Military Lodges or Chapters; made the acquaintance of officers and members, examined their work and assisted in conferring degrees; and from the short acquaintance and general conduct of its members, the frequent rejection of petitions, I was forced to the conclusion that the interest and prosperity of the Royal Craft could be promoted in the armies of our country, as well as in our peaceful and quiet retreats at home. Most of their members are officers in the army and navy, some high in rank — and where, I ask, could they better spend their lesiure hours (surrounded as they are, with the vices and allurements which a soldier's life is heir to) than in that sacred retreat where there is not heard the sound of axe, hammer, or any tool of iron? Their hands are ever open; to them no worthy brother need apply in vain; they have fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and bound up the wounds of the afflicted; they have performed the last sad office of laying in the grave the remains of some of those dear ones who were bravely fighting for our glorious stars and stripes, and the sprig of acacia marks their last resting place.

In July, 1872 the Grand Master reported:

I received from our representative near the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, M.W. Bro. Charles F. Stanbury, a package of papers, being the records of "Justice Military Lodge" 66th Regiment, Illinois Volunteers. Said Lodge worked under a dispensation from this jurisdiction issued by M.W. F. M. Blair. These papers fell into the hands of Bro. Stanbury by mere accident. He immediately forwarded them to me, and remarked in his letter that the records may be of great value in determining the history of some of the brethren made therein.

The only reports of any of these lodges were made by the following: Governor Yates Military Lodge: initiated 46; passed 42; rejected 7; died 2. Wallace Military Lodge: initiated 16; passed 8; rejected 2; died 1. Metamora Military Lodge: initiated 8; passed 1; raised 1.

Halleck Military Lodge was reported above. The names of fifty-four members of this lodge are contained in the record of Asboth Military Chapter.

At the beginning of the war of 1917-18 the Grand Master was asked by several members for dispensations to form lodges in the military forces; some to act as regular lodges and perform all the functions of a lodge while others merely were to have special authority to meet socially and confer degrees when lodges requested such action. After consultation with Grand Masters in other jurisdictions the Grand Master decided the best way to handle such situations was to have members organize Masonic clubs for social purposes only. No dispensations were granted, the experience of the Civil War lodges having caused so much trouble by lodges exceeding their authority over petitions from other states.

## Chapter 19

# PEACE CELEBRATIONS

With the close of the Civil War there was general rejoicing over the cessation of hostilities. Grand Master Bromwell, in his address to the Grand Lodge in 1866, said:

As the voice of harmony comes to us from every jurisdiction, while in our own a signal degree of concord has taken the place of former divisions and disturbances, I venture to suggest, respectfully, but earnestly, to this Grand Lodge that a day of special celebration in honor of reconciliation and harmony be proclaimed throughout this jurisdiction, to be observed by the Grand Lodge and all subordinate lodges — gathered together by districts according to convenience — with appropriate ceremonies.

The Grand Lodge agreed to his recommendation, whereupon the Grand Master issued a proclamation setting aside St. John's Day, June 24, as the day for the celebrations, but this falling on Sunday caused the celebrations to be on the twenty-third. Many large celebrations were held where hundreds of Masons gathered at some central point for a day of good cheer and festivities. A long list of towns where such celebrations were held is recorded. Inspired by the success of these meetings Grand Master Gorin, the next year, called for similar St. John's Day celebrations; several were held but there was not as much interest as in the year before.

Perhaps the largest was at Ottawa where the home of every Mason and many store buildings were decorated with some Masonic emblem made of evergreen. At one corner of the public square was a broken column with a young girl standing before it; behind her was an aged man counting her hair. An abundance of food had been prepared and more than a thousand ate at the Masonic hall while other hundreds were entertained at private homes. In the afternoon there was a band concert and speaking; at night, a ball.

The end of the war brought prosperity in another way. That year the Grand Master issued dispensations for forty-eight new lodges.

## Chapter 20

# GENERAL U. S. GRANT AND MASONRY

It will be noted that the General was prepared to receive the three degrees in one night from Halleck Military Lodge at Columbus, Kentucky but was prevented by military orders. Here is the account of his attempt to join at Galena as written by John C. Smith, Past Grand Master, a resident of Galena at the time.

In July 1865, the writer, who had also been absent from home, returned from the military service to Galena, and in August of the same year General Grant was publicly received by the citizens of Galena on his return home "by reason of the close of the war." Following this, and but a few days later, General Grant and a few friends went by steamer to Dubuque, Iowa, where the General was warmly welcomed by the citizens. On that excursion Jesse R. Grant and the writer were of the company. During much of the time going and returning, "Uncle Jesse" and myself were together, and the conversation was of the General and Freemasonry. It was then that the General's father told me that he would like his son to become a member of the craft, and said "General Smith, I wish that you would present a petition for initiation into your lodge to Ulysses, for I know that he would like to become a mason." To this I said: "Uncle Jesse, I would not like to present a petition to the General, but I will get one and you can give to him, as he will take it more kindly from his father than he would from me." The father replied: "I don't think it would be right in me to do so, as I am his father. I would rather you should present it, as I know that he would like to become a member of your lodge." Such in substance, was the conversation between us on the excursion to Dubuque, Iowa, in the autumn of 1865. This matter was the subject of conversation between the General's father, his brother Orville and myself, at subsequent times.

Galena Commandery No. 40, Knights Templar, was instituted in 1871, with the writer as eminent Commander, General Grant, President of the United States, being then at home. At 9 o'clock p.m. a recess was taken, and by appointment with the writer, President Grant received the Sir Knights, who were fully uniformed, at the house of Mr. L. S. Felt, whose guest he then was. A pleasant hour was spent in conversation with General Grant, after which the Sir Knights returned to their asylum.

At that reception the subject of masonry and the General's favorable opinion of it was spoken of, and it was then agreed that at the first favorable opportunity the General would sign a petition for initiation, and, if

accepted, would become a member of Miners' Lodge No. 273, of which the writer was then the Master.

During the political contest for the President's re-election (1872) the General visited his home, in Galena, and the subject was again mentioned. At this time I had a conversation with Brother James A. Hawley (M.W. Grand Master) and informed him of General Grant's intention to petition my Lodge and that for reasons not necessary to mention I would like to have the Grand Master visit my Lodge at such time as I should name and exercise his prerogative of "making a Mason at sight" — that is, without his being subject to a ballot, M.W. Bro. Hawley said it would give him pleasure to do so. Brothers Dr. N. F. Prentice, Robert Little, Loyal L. Munn and others, of Freeport; Dr. General Fred W. Byers of Lena, and other brethren along the line of the Illinois Central Railway, having expressed a desire to be present on such an occasion, and having learned that I could have a special train at any time on a few hours' notice to run from Dixon (the home of Grand Master Hawley) to Galena, I felt fully provided for the event. When the General next visited his home, preparations were made, when some affairs of state recalled him to Washington earlier than anticipated and there the matter dropped.

My own ill-health and subsequent removal from Galena to Chicago, prevented my ever making any further effort to bring about the accomplishment of the most ardent wish or desire of "Uncle Jesse" R. Grant, the father of the General.

## Chapter 21

# EDUCATION

### Education of Children

A resolution was adopted in 1844:

Resolved, That we esteem the "Masonic College of Missouri," recently established in Monroe, County, Missouri, by the Grand Lodge of that State, an institution worthy of our highest regard, and claiming our deep interest and solicitude for its success.

Resolved, That we recommend the attention of every brother of the Fraternity, and of the friends of education generally to the facility which the institution affords for the acquisition of a thorough education.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by this Grand Lodge to ascertain whether beneficiaries will be received into the institution from this State, and also to recommend what further action, if any, shall be taken by the Grand Lodge of this State for the purpose of advancing the cause and facilitating the means of acquiring an education, and that said committee make their report to this Grand Lodge at the next Grand Annual Communication.

The delegate to the Grand Lodge of Missouri reported in 1847:

In compliance with your appointment hereto annexed, I attended the M.W. Grand Lodge of Missouri, held in St. Louis, on the 16th of March last, and as your proxy, in writing presented a request that said Grand Lodge should make such propositions, through me, to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, as they should deem proper, relative to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, acquiring by purchase an interest in the Masonic College of Missouri, and also requesting any communication said Grand Lodge might see fit to make on the subject of education. Shortly after presenting my communication, I deemed it proper to withdraw the same until the question, then pending, of the final location of said college, should be disposed of, fearing that an influence might be produced on that question not intended on my part.

The Grand Lodge located the college at Lexington.

From 1844 to 1847 the college was located at Philadelphia, Missouri, which is near Hannibal and convenient for Illinois students. With the removal to Lexington, which is in the western part of the

State, the location of the school for Illinois students was not so convenient.

After withdrawing the first communication another was presented in which he said:

The Grand Lodge of Illinois and the fraternity desire to co-operate with their brethren of Missouri, in any practicable measures consistent with the spirit of Masonry, and tending to the public good. He therefore requests such action as your Grand Lodge deems proper to take, on the subject of establishing a Masonic and Educational Journal, jointly by the Grand Lodges of Missouri and Illinois.

He also suggests, that should your Most Worshipful Grand Lodge see fit to contribute by way of subscription to such journal, the Grand Lodge of Illinois, would in his opinion, provide means to establish the same at her next annual communication. He therefore takes the liberty of presenting the following resolution for such action as your M.W. Grand Lodge may take on the same, at the same time requesting any other action of your Most Worshipful Grand Lodge may feel disposed to take, relating to the subject matter of said resolution, or the subject of education.

Resolved, That should the Grand Lodge of Illinois appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars in money, to the establishment and support of a weekly, monthly or semi-monthly Masonic and educational journal, which shall be free to Masonic intelligence from the Grand Lodge of Missouri and the brethren, members of the several lodges in Missouri, and which shall be located and published at some point on the Mississippi River, in the State of Illinois, and which shall be devoted 1st, to Masonic intelligence; 2nd, to information and communications concerning the Masonic College of Missouri; 3rd, to general intelligence and literature; and 4thly, and *principally*, to the subject of common schools and common school education, and to the dissemination of intelligence, knowledge and information, the tendency and object of which shall be the establishment of an uniform and permanent system of common school education in the Western States by the people and several State Governments thereof; said journal to be issued at a price not exceeding \$2 per annum; that in such case the Grand Lodge of Missouri will take ——— copies of the same for one year; half of the said subscription the said Grand Lodge will pay to the order of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, on the appearance of the first number of said journal, and the balance in six months thereafter; said ——— copies to be subject to the order of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and to be distributed, sent, and disposed of in such manner as said Grand Lodge of Missouri shall direct.

1848. The committee was discharged and a new committee appointed

to report a plan for three schools, one to be located at the place of holding the Supreme Courts of the State in each grand division, or

some other more suitable places; said plan to be prepared with reference to economy and the greatest amount of usefulness, and the teaching of such elementary branches only as are necessary to an English education.

This committee reported at great length, the salient points were:

A high school or college education would be uncalled for, but that a good academy would be all that is necessary.

The committee then recommended

that the grand lodge purchase a farm situated at some point contiguous to its place of meeting, containing not less than 150 nor more than 200 acres, the cost of which will be from \$2,000 to \$2,500 with good dwellings. Begin by having one large family house for the reception of family boarders. Employ a respectable man with family, to take charge of the entire concern and act as steward. Let it be his business to direct the management so that it shall sustain the school. Begin with a plain school house, sufficient to accommodate fifty scholars which will cost three to five hundred dollars. Employ at first a young man as teacher, who will board in the family and take charge of the school, who can be engaged at a salary of \$300 per annum, including his board. The school to be at first devoted entirely to English studies.

For commencing an establishment of this kind an outlay of \$2,500 will be necessary at the beginning. The yearly expense will be as follows:

For Steward and family	\$400.
For teacher	300.
For family stores	500.
For stationery etc.	100.

Showing an expenditure of	\$1,300.
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Against this it is fair to conclude that there may be realized as follows:

Say hay produced on fifty acres of ground, 100 tons, which in case the establishment is properly located will be worth \$4 per ton.	\$400.
For fruit produced on premises	100.
For paying students	300.

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\$800.

From which deduct expenses for field labor, &c., one man the entire year, and another six months in the year	\$225.
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\$575.

Which, against the annual expenses of \$1,300, leaves \$725 to be raised by the Grand Lodge,

Your committee are persuaded that a school established on this plan, and properly conducted, would in a few years support itself.

Your committee would further recommend that a Female School be opened at a place to be designated by the Grand Lodge.

Employ an efficient instructress, either the wife or daughter of a Master Mason; and let this, as the other, be opened for the reception of destitute orphan children of deceased Master Masons and of such others as may patronize it. A suitable building has already been gratuitously offered, which will provide for its immediate organization; but in case the Grand Lodge should deem it preferable to build, the expense would not exceed five hundred dollars. The annual expenditure of this school would be about as follows.

For salary of instructress	\$300.
For fuel	25.
For stationery	50.
	<hr/>
	\$375.

Against this we may calculate a regular income of  
from paying scholars of

	\$200.
Leaving to be defrayed by the Grand Lodge	\$175.

Your committee doubt not that an institution of this kind would be instrumental of much good in providing for the education of many, having just claims upon the Craft, who would otherwise pine in degrading ignorance.

1850 brought forth another proposition for a school. Macomb Lodge No. 17 sent a resolution to the Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That if the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois at the next annual communication shall determine to establish an institution of learning in this State, and the institution is a college, then and in that case, Macomb Lodge will donate to said Grand Lodge, the College Building and grounds known as "McDonough College," on the conditions and terms proposed in the annexed printed circular.

The college was a two-story brick house, sixty feet in length and forty in width, located on four acres of ground on a high eminence near the town of Macomb. If the offer were accepted the lodge agreed to repair the building in a substantial manner and without delay.

Franklin Lodge No. 25 at Alton had a different idea. That lodge had been running a school for their own children and believed that every lodge should adopt the same plan.

We have an excellent school room in the first story of our Masonic Hall; finished off, and furnished in superior style, and is capable of accommodating nearly one hundred students, and in it we have had, for the last year a most flourishing female school, where has been taught all the requisite branches of a female English education.

We contemplate ere long, establishing a male school of the same order, and upon the same principles.

Piasa Lodge No. 27 concurred in the report and joined with Franklin Lodge in the communication to the Grand Lodge. These communications appear to have settled the question of Grand Lodge participating in educational matters. The Committee on Education reported:

That, in their opinion, it is inexpedient and impolitic in an eminent degree, for the Grand Lodge of Illinois, at this time, to hold, establish, endow, or support, any distinctive and specific literary institution whatever — that to do so, would in a great measure, prevent the amiable object intended; and cannot be otherwise, than an unequal and inefficient distribution of the munificence of your most worshipful body.

However the question came up again in a communication from the Grand Chapter R.A.M. in 1852.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Illinois, at its late Annual Convocation, held at Jacksonville, appointed Comps. M. J. Noyes; Wm. H. Turner and A. W. Blakesley a Committee on Education, and directed me, on behalf of said Grand Chapter, to request your Most Worshipful Body to appoint a suitable Committee to confer with the above named Brethren, with authority to mature and report some plan to raise an Educational Fund for the benefit of children of deceased and indigent Masons; and, in obedience to that order, I now most respectfully make that request, and would urge that one of the great ends and aims of Masonic Charity may be earnestly and zealously entered upon by your Grand Lodge.

The next year the committee reported being greatly interested in the welfare of the children but placed the responsibility of their education upon the individual lodges and hoped that each would take necessary steps to provide for the children in its own vicinity.

This ended the educational questions until the Grand Lodge took over the Childrens' Home at La Grange, where, after a contest through to the Supreme Court, the children were declared residents of the city of La Grange and entitled to admission to the city schools.

The decision of the Supreme Court will be found on page 144, Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1916.

### Education of Members

The Grand Lodge early recognized the need of education for the membership

In 1843: — Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to purchase a Library of ancient authority, for the use of the R.W. Grand Lodge.

This was done and additions were made from time to time.

In 1852 — Resolved, That the sum of \$30 be appropriated, to be used by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary in the purchase of standard Masonic works, for the use of the Grand Master and Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, and to form the commencement of a library.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to subscribe for three copies of Moore's Magazine, of Boston, three copies of the Signet and three of the Mirror and Keystone, for the use of the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

In 1856 the library had increased until it became necessary to have a librarian to look after it. That year it was

Resolved, That a Librarian for this Grand Lodge shall be appointed annually by the Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to have charge of the Grand Lodge Library, and who shall have the library at each and every session of the Grand Lodge for the use of the same.

The next year the library committee suggested the Masonic Ashlar as a suitable magazine for the patronage of the brethren, and an efficient auxiliary for the diffusion of Masonic knowledge. This paper was published in Chicago.

Because the library was kept in the office of the Grand Secretary it was found more convenient to have that officer assume the duties of librarian. In 1859 the Grand Secretary valued the library at \$752.

In 1855 Grand Lodge voted to purchase the Universal Masonic Library published by Robert Morris of Kentucky, consisting of thirty volumes. Two sets were ordered and it was recommended that every lodge purchase a set. The library was continued for several years but gradually it was neglected and the fire in the Grand Secretary's office damaged it.

On October 26, 1868, Grand Master Reynolds did, upon the recommendation of Oriental Lodge No. 33, Garden City No. 141, Waubansia No. 160, Germania No. 182, William B. Warren No. 209, Ashlar No. 308, Dearborn No. 310 and Blair No. 303, issue a dispensation, without fee,

to W. Bro. George W. Pettee, P.M. of W. B. Warren Lodge as W.M.; R.W. Gil W. Barnard P.M. of Garden City; as S.W. R.W. D. A.

Cashman, P.M. Thomas J. Turner as J.W. and to thirty other Worshipful brethren, Masters and Past Masters of various Lodges in Chicago, to form and open a Masters Lodge by the name of *Masters*, with authority to hold Lodges of Instruction, to deliberate on landmarks, laws, usages, ceremonies, etiquette and amenities; to confer the secrets of the Chair upon Masters-elect; to confer degrees for Lodges at request, and to elect Past Masters and Worshipful Masters to membership.

Again on July 26th he granted a similar dispensation to M.W. Brother William Lavelly, Past Grand Master as W.M.; R.W. Bro. Charles Fisher, Past Deputy Grand Master, as S.W.; R.W. Orlin H. Miner, Grand Secretary, as J.W., and to fourteen other Worshipful Brethren, Masters and Past Masters of Lodges in Springfield, for a Past Master's Lodge, with powers and restrictions similar to those in the case of Master's Lodge.

There is no further information about these attempts to start what today are known as research lodges.

At times Grand Masters called attention to the need of educating brethren but nothing definite was done until 1948 when Grand Master Mills recommended the appointment of a committee to explore the possibilities of a definite plan of education of those who are not interested in the routine ritual and business transactions.

In 1949 that committee made several recommendations. One was the publication of "The Enlightener," others were pamphlets of various kinds calling attention to history, charities of the Grand Lodge, and many other important activities, such as study clubs, and that each lodge should establish a library for the use of the members. It called attention to the library started by the committee and housed in the Evanston Masonic Temple with books to loan and sell. The committee presented a very ambitious program which, if it can be carried out will prove of great benefit to the rank and file of the craft. However, the value of the study clubs will depend entirely upon the ability of the instructors. An active, well informed instructor can conduct a successful club but one who is indifferent and has only average information will not hold his club very long. The only thing that can be done at present is to wait for the future results.

## Chapter 22

# REGALIA AND PARAPHERNALIA

In 1844, when money was available the Grand Lodge authorized the purchase of a set of jewels and collars for the Grand Officers at a cost of not to exceed \$100. In 1846 it was

Ordered, That a tin case be procured for the Master's carpet, recently presented to the Grand Lodge.

In 1856 the Grand Stewards were ordered to purchase

six appropriate aprons, collars and jewels for the use of the Past Grand Masters.

To improve the appearance of the Grand Lodge and make its deliberations more impressive the Grand Masters of 1866 and 1867 recommended:

That all Masters, Wardens and their proxies, be ordered to appear in Grand Lodge wearing the respective jewels of their office.

To repair some of the damage done by the ravages of the war, in 1867 Grand Master Gorin reported:

In the early part of last winter I was informed by a Brother that a certain jeweller was in possession of a very valuable gold Masonic jewel, purchased by him of a soldier who became possessed of it while on duty in the South. This jewel is evidently a relic highly prized by the rightful owners. It was presented to R.W. Charles Jones Colcott by the R.W. Grand Lodge of South Carolina, as appears from the inscription on one side of it. In behalf of the Grand Lodge of Illinois I purchased it at the price demanded by the possessor, \$53.75, and immediately wrote to Bro. Mackey, giving him a full description of it, asking him to take some pains to ascertain if any of the family of the distinguished brother to whom it was presented were living, in order that I might return it to them. Bro. Mackey failing to reply a letter was directed to the office of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina. He being absent the brother in charge of the office promptly replied saying, that the family of Bro. Colcott resided in Charleston. After procuring a photograph of the jewel, I sent it by express to the Grand Secretary.

In 1873 when Brother Cregier retired from the office of Grand Master he was presented with a solid gold, diamond studded jewel valued at \$1,000. An account of this jewel appears in another chapter.

In 1875 a resolution was adopted

That the committee on Installation service be instructed to report to this Grand Lodge a suitable form of Masonic regalia and jewel for District Deputy Grand Masters.

However, there is nothing to show that these instructions were carried out in regard to purchasing the jewels.

In 1886 Past Grand Master Buck was unable to leave his home to attend Grand Lodge. He was the only Grand Master to serve three terms and was a very powerful member of the Grand Lodge. In recognition of his services and his inability to attend it was voted to present him with a Past Grand Master's jewel. He did not enjoy it because he passed away one week after the beginning of the session.

In 1896 the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Arizona presented the Grand Lodge with a gavel. The handle was of Arizona ironwood and the head of onyx stone.

The Grand Master and Grand Treasurer were requested to procure a new regalia for the Grand Officers. The next year the Grand Officers appeared in new aprons and jewels. There were twenty jewels with hangers and an equal number of aprons.

In 1900 a resolution was adopted:

Whereas, This Grand Lodge having established a chart setting forth the symbols of Masonry, and upon which are portrayed characters represented in the ritual, attired in costumes and ornaments appropriate to their rank, therefore be it:

Resolved, That such costumes and paraphernalia as are symbolic of the dress of the characters represented in, and illustrative of the ritual, are appropriate in the exemplification of work, and are in accordance with the ancient traditions of the Craft.

Another set of resolutions was presented in which the writer declared that the Grand Lodge had never adopted any such chart and asked that the chart mentioned be presented so that the particular robes and paraphernalia named be designated so that uniformity in the work would be had by all lodges. This was sent to the Board of Grand Examiners but those gentlemen declined to commit themselves.

In 1909 a resolution to purchase jewels for all Past Grand Masters was adopted with a proviso that Brother Wright be given the sum of

one hundred dollars in place of a jewel, he having purchased one at his own expense. The following year jewels were presented to twelve Past Grand Masters. Since that date every retiring Grand Master has received a jewel.

**Presentation of Setting Maul by R. T. Spencer  
October 8, 1896**

M.W. Grand Master and brethren:

During the past summer I had the pleasure of visiting some of the Masonic lodges in England, Ireland and Scotland, and at all of them was received in the most cordial manner. I was especially well pleased with my reception at Mother Kilwinning Lodge, situated at Kilwinning, Scotland. This lodge is unique in several particulars. It claims to be the oldest lodge in existence; it is the only constituent lodge in the world that has no number; and its presiding officer has the title of M.W. Grand Master.

The lodge room is built within the precincts of the ruined abbey of Kilwinning which was erected in 1140, and which was the handiwork of a body of operative Masons, from whom are descended some of the speculative Masons who now form Mother Kilwinning Lodge.

One of the officers kindly gave me this setting maul, an implement which in Scottish Lodges is used by the presiding officer instead of the common gavel. This maul is of historic interest. The oak of which it is made, grew centuries ago, upon the hills of sunny Spain. It formed part of one of the ships of the Spanish Armada, that ill-fated squadron which in 1588 sailed across the Bay of Biscay and up the English Channel for the purpose of attacking Great Britain. This ship was wrecked upon the coast and dashed to pieces, and its remains were afterwards used in part of the room of the lodge room of Mother Kilwinning. Two years ago, when their new hall was built, those ancient timbers were made into Masonic implements in order that they might be preserved as souvenirs of the oldest lodge room in the world.

M.W. Grand Master, I take great pleasure in presenting you this maul for the use of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master:

R.W. Brother Spencer, I am sure this Grand Lodge is greatly indebted to you, not only for the presentation of this handiwork and souvenir but for the valuable information that you have given us concerning this matter, and on behalf of the Grand Lodge I accept this maul, and extend to you the thanks of this Grand Lodge for your thoughtfulness in presenting it to us.

## Chapter 23

# THE CHICAGO FIRE

The Grand Lodge closed on October 5, 1871. The fire raged on October 8 and 9, night and day.

Blackened and bleeding, helpless, panting, prone,  
On the charred fragments of her shattered throne,  
Lies she who stood but yesterday alone.

The fire covered 2,100 acres and destroyed more than 17,000 buildings, including principal stores, many private residences, 32 hotels, 41 churches, 10 theaters and halls, and all the national banks but one. The fire was of unusual character; it melted the hardest building, stone considered fireproof. Iron, glass, granite were fused into a mass as if they had been put through a blast-furnace. Huge stone and brick structures melted before the fierceness of the flames as a snow-flake melts and disappears in water, and almost as quickly. Six story buildings took fire and disappeared in five minutes.

The fire was accompanied by the fiercest tornado of wind ever known to blow here.

A gale which blew a perfect tornado, and in which no vessel could have lived on the lake.

In the yard of one of the largest implement factories was stacked some hundred tons of pig iron. This iron was 200 feet from any building. Yet so great was the heat that this pile of iron melted and run, and is now in one large and nearly solid mass.

The above noted quotations were taken from the "History of the Great Fire."

Not only Chicago but 400 square miles in northern Wisconsin on the lake front and a large territory in eastern Michigan were destroyed at the same hour, 9:30 P.M., October 8. It is believed that the fire was caused by large amounts of inflammable gas from the tail of a comet. At the same time fire broke out in Iowa, Minnesota, Indiana and Illinois. Also on the Alleghenies, the Sierras of the Pacific Coast, and the Rocky Mountains and in the region of the Red River of the North.

Fortunately Illinois had a Grand Master, Dewitt C. Cregier, wholly competent to look after the needs of the craft. His report for 1872 reads:

Ere many of you had reached your homes, Chicago was overtaken by one of the most appalling calamities in the history of mankind. More than 2,000 acres were burned and nearly 100,000 people left homeless, including many hundreds of your brethren. It destroyed more than 20,000 buildings.

The suffering on the part of the community owing to the well-nigh total destruction of the Water Works, was little less than that occasioned by the fire.

The turmoil and confusion which ensued immediately subsequent to the fire, can be better imagined than described.

Nearly all our brethren were more or less in distress, their families scattered, and their domestic and Masonic homes gone, nevertheless, within a few hours the brethren were engaged in the high and holy cause of charity. A few of them had something left, which they promptly shared with those less fortunate, and those Lodges that escaped the ravages of the fire, held meetings and appointed committees to relieve the distress in their immediate neighborhood. Thus passed the 9th, 10th and 11th of October.

Tidings of the great calamity were flashed throughout the land, and the mighty current — without the aid of which, what untold suffering would have been the lot of our people — unlocked the hearts of true humanity and returned to us laden with the glad tidings of the unbounded charity and sympathy of a generous world.

Soon a little band of faithful Masons formed themselves into a relief committee and secured a room in the West Masonic Temple. They applied to and received supplies from the Louisville (Kentucky) Relief Committee, and also from the General Relief and Aid Society. However, aid from these sources was needed but a short time, as the fraternity of our own State and elsewhere, sent an abundance of supplies and money to meet the demand.

The Grand Master immediately appointed a Board of Relief, the members of which did valiant work and are entitled to have their names written upon the Roll of Honor. They were:

H. F. HOLCOMB, *Vice-President*,  
 W. M. EGAN, *Treasurer*,  
 HARRY DUVALL, *Recording Secretary*,  
 ED. J. HILL, *Corresponding Secretary*,  
 JAMES MORISON, *Superintendent*.

The other members were:

T. T. GURNEY	GEORGE R. McCLELLEN
D. J. AVERY	C. J. FRANKS
JOHN FELDCAMP	J. H. MILES
E. POWELL	JOHN SUTTON
D. H. KILMORE	J. E. CHURCH
A. M. THOMPSON	L. W. CONGDON
E. RUNAYNE	

The Grand Master said:

Of this body I assumed the Presidency, and during eight months I was in daily attendance at the Relief rooms, with some of the above named brethren.

RECEIPTS

The total amount received in cash was.....	\$83,089.06
The value of goods donated was.....	7,545.44
<hr/>	
Total . . . . .	\$90,634.50
These contributions came from eight Grand Lodges.....	\$16,385.25
696 lodges . . . . .	58,772.74
One Grand Council R. & S. M. . . . .	200.00
Two councils . . . . .	118.75
36 Chapters R.A.M. . . . .	1,086.00
Craft of 28 cities . . . . .	9,436.68
Two chapters O.E.S. . . . .	289.60
One Masonic quartette club . . . . .	25.00
33 individuals . . . . .	1,778.30
Ten parties unknown . . . . .	422.58
R. R. Companies, transportation . . . . .	2,035.85
<hr/>	
	° \$90,550.75

DISBURSEMENTS

For relief of brethren and their families.....	\$35,502.04
Divided among city lodges . . . . .	25,412.00
For establishment of permanent Board of Relief . . . . .	6,500.00
Returned to lodges which sent more than one donation....	2,205.89

° There is a mistake in the Grand Lodge report.

Returned to Grand Charity Fund of those jurisdictions which sent \$400 and upwards . . . . .	18,109.64
Returned to lodges which donated \$400 and upwards. . . . .	1,510.36
Reserved for printing report and expense incident to mail- ing and auditing commissions . . . . .	1,394.57
	\$90,634.50

Eighteen lodges were burned out; each was allowed \$6 to \$12 per their membership list. Thirteen were not burned out, these received half the amount given the others. These donations were conditional on each lodge creating a Charity Fund. This requirement was complied with in every instance.

Among the donors outside of the United States was the Grand Lodge of England and the brethren of British India, Panama, Quebec and Newfoundland.

The contributions from Illinois bodies were: 222 lodges, Craft of various cities 17, individuals 4, unknown 2, Royal Arch Chapters 3.

In order that all the acts and proceedings connected with relief matters might be investigated and reported upon by gentlemen from abroad, entirely free from partiality, I, with the concurrence of my associates, invited Most Worshipful Samuel C. Perkins, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, Most Worshipful Charles F. Stanbury, Grand Master of District of Columbia and Most Worshipful Ozias P. Waters, Grand Master of Iowa, to visit Chicago, and act as a commission for that purpose, and after a thorough and critical investigation gave to the world their opinion of the justice and correctness of the important and delicate work. The commission made a long report and ended by saying:

The undersigned find that a careful, exact and clear record has been kept of every transaction, that the money received and disbursed is accurately accounted for, and that the disbursements are supported by vouchers, which present, in minutest detail, the exact history of every charity bestowed, and allow every transaction to be reviewed in all its attendant circumstances. Every precaution which prudence could suggest has been taken to secure the faithful application of the fund to the beneficiaries for whom it was designed by the donors.

It would be impossible to speak too highly of the character of the record which has been preserved of transactions so multifarious and minute, and the undersigned would do injustice to the impression made upon them by the examination, should they fail to express their un-

qualified approbation of the manner in which the Board have administered the trust confided to them by the Fraternity.

Respectfully and Fraternally submitted

Sam'l C. Perkins

Grand Master of Penn.

Chas. F. Stanbury

Grand Master District of Columbia

O. P. Waters

Grand Master of Iowa.

Chas. P. Kingston

Secretary to G. M. of Penn.

Grand Master Cregier said:

During the trials and afflictions which the brethren of Chicago were destined to endure, owing to the great fire, I am happy to say that Masonry in our midst has not been permitted to languish; next to their families and homes, the welfare of their Lodges held the next place in the hearts of the brethren.

Many of the beautiful halls being destroyed, it was a matter of great difficulty to secure accommodations. Halls that escaped the ravages of the fire were freely tendered to the homeless Lodges. Some found shelter in the "West Masonic Temple," in rooms temporarily fitted for the purpose.

The progress made during the past year in re-building Chicago, created in the minds of those who are cognizant of the magnitude and character a wonder and admiration, equalled only by the extent of the shock and amazement produced by its destruction.

One year since you met in Metropolitan Hall, a few hours after adjournment so complete was the destruction that it was difficult to determine the spot whereon the building had stood. To-day its place is occupied by one of the finest structures in the city. Less than five months since a chaotic waste marked the area on which this magnificent building is erected, in which we are today permitted to assemble through the fraternal kindness of its energetic and persevering owner, Bro. J. H. McVicker.

Such is the story of the greatest calamity that ever befell the people of Illinois.

On October 30, 1872, Dewitt C. Creiger, P.G.M., as proxy for the Grand Master, laid the cornerstone of the "Fire Monument" in the presence of a large number of Masons and citizens of Chicago. Chicago Commandery No. 19 acted as escort to the Grand Lodge. This monument was erected as a memorial of the whirlwind of fire that swept over the city the year before and was therefore of unusual interest to the citizens of Chicago.

Upon retiring from office Grand Master Cregier was presented with a jewel made of solid gold and studded with many diamonds. It was valued at \$1,000 at the time. In his will he presented the jewel to the Grand Lodge and asked that it be worn by every Grand Master. In 1943 Grand Master Pierson had the jewel appraised and then insured it for \$1,600.

Another Grand Officer that received special mention for services during the fire was the Grand Tyler, when the Grand Lodge adopted the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. John P. Ferns, Grand Tyler, for preserving the jewels of this Grand Lodge, during the terrible conflagration immediately succeeding its last annual communication.

## Chapter 24

# CORNERSTONES

### First Cornerstone in Illinois

At the time Illinois was admitted as a State and for several years thereafter, Shawneetown was one of the most important points on the Ohio river. It was the most important place below Louisville. The Government maintained an army post there. It was the place where settlers from the Eastern States first came in contact with the soil of Illinois. Owing to the great need of adequate facilities to accomodate the river traffic, the Government took over the water front and main street and laid a cobblestone pavement from the north-east corner of the town to the river, a distance of several blocks. This was known as the PUBLIC WORK.

To commemorate the beginning of this important improvement the members of Equality Lodge No. 102, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, laid the cornerstone with Masonic ceremonies.

Equality Lodge received its dispensation in 1836 and held the first meeting in the Court House, April 7, 1837. The first Master was Arnold B. Dake, a nephew of Benedict Arnold. The first known record of Brother Dake is as Junior Warden of Albion Lodge No. 9 in 1822. Later he was a member of Lawrence Lodge No. 34 at Shawneetown under the jurisdiction of Kentucky. He was a physician and died in Equality where his monument may still be seen. To make arrangements for the cornerstone laying the lodge was opened at Equality, on February 19, 1838, on the first degree, closed and then opened on the third degree in regular form; later it was called from labor to refreshment until Friday the twenty-third, to meet at Shawneetown at eight o'clock. On the twenty-third the lodge was called from refreshment to labor in the lodge room at Shawnectown and again "called off until tomorrow at 11 o'clock."

The record of the meeting on the twenty-fourth shows those present: A. B. Dake, Worshipful Master; A. W. Pool, Senior Warden; visiting Brother Calvin Gold, Junior Warden; W. J. Gatewood, Secre-

tary; R. T. Hopper, Treasurer; William Burnett, Senior Deacon; I. D. Towles, Junior Deacon; visiting Brethren A. Kirkpatrick, John Marshall and Edward Savill, bearers of corn, wine and oil; Brother J. Choisser and visiting Brother Anderson of Ohio, Stewards with black rods; Brethren Flanders, Towles and Hewitt, Master Masons, and Bennett, Entered Apprentice, Musicians; E. H. Gatewood, Marshall; White, bearer of Bible; Brother Fellowcrafts Lindsay and Geary; Brothers Entered Apprentices William Choisser, S. Scudder and John M. Burnett. After forming, the procession proceeded to the upper end of the Work, and there laid the cornerstone of the Public Work in due and ancient form, after which they repaired to the hotel of Mr. Waggoner for the occasion. The lodge then proceeded to the lodge room in Shawneetown and was called from labor to refreshment, to meet at the lodge room in Equality on February 26.

Tradition states that Brother Dake acted as proxy for the Grand Master of Kentucky but the records of that time are so incomplete that no record of such a dispensation can be found. A. B. Dake was installed as Grand Marshal of the first Grand Lodge of Illinois, January 1, 1827.

Letters from the Librarian of Congress and Librarian of the War Department state that those offices contain nothing to show how or by whom the Public Work was constructed.

The cornerstone was removed in the Eighties and placed in the lodge room of Warren Lodge No. 14 where it still reposes as an honored relic of the time when Shawneetown was one of the most important towns in the state.

The stone is a rough Ashlar with one smooth face, on which is the following inscription: "C.S. laid by Equality Lodge No. 102, Feb. 21, 1838, A.L. 5838." (Note—the inscription reads February 21, while the record states February 24 as the date the ceremony was performed?)

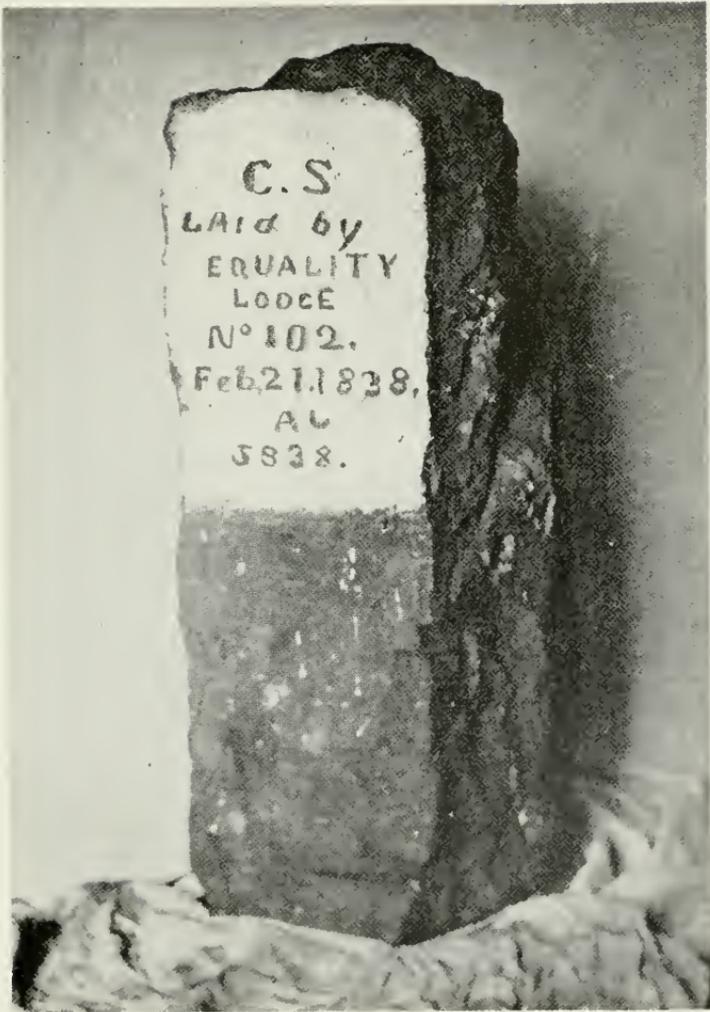
When this writer visited the Shawneetown lodge room some years ago the stone was safely ensconced behind the piano.

In 1839 Equality lodge laid the cornerstone of the State Bank of Illinois at Shawneetown. The minutes do not contain an account of the ceremony.

### **Cornerstone of the Water Works at Chicago**

Among the most prominent cornerstones laid by Grand Master Gorin was that of the Water Works Tower, March 25, 1867.

The Water Works consisted of a crib which was sunk 76 feet below



Cornerstone of Public Works in Shawneetown in 1838.



the level of the lake. The tunnel was five feet high and  $2\frac{1}{8}$  miles long. The tower was 150 feet high, with power to force water to the tops of the highest buildings.

The Grand Lodge was invited by the Board of Public Works to lay the cornerstone of the tower. Several lodges were present; the Grand Chapter under command of O. H. Miner and the Grand Council under M. D. Chamberlain were in the line of march. The escort consisted of Apollo and Chicago Commanderies under the command of Wiley M. Egan. The account written at the time said:

Their magnificent dress and martial bearing made them the pride and admiration of every citizen of Chicago. The civic societies and municipal authorities were in the procession in full force, and several bands of music gave life to the ceremonies. The streets were lined with thousands of men, women and children, from the temple to the tunnel – one mile and a half.

Dewitt C. Cregier introduced the Grand Master and the ceremonies were conducted according to ancient custom.

In 1913 the attention of Grand Master Darrah was called to the fact that the old water tower was being rehabilitated for preservation as one of the historical landmarks of the city and that the inscription on the cornerstone was almost obliterated. It was suggested that a bronze reproduction of the inscription on the stone be prepared and set in the stone. The committee reported on June 30, 1913:

A bronze tablet bearing the inscription "Laid by the Masonic Fraternity March 25, 1867, Jerome R. Gorin Most Worshipful Grand Master" was prepared and placed in position on the stone today. Behind the tablet a parchment was placed on which was engrossed the following:

"To all Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons Greeting:

"In the year A.D. 1912 the authorities of the city were seriously considering the question of destroying this water tower, a relic of early Chicago, because it had become useless in the system of waterworks and for the additional reason that the masonry was crumbling under the influence of the elements, when on the earnest appeal of the Chicago Historical Society the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars was voted by the City Council for the purpose of repairing it as one of the historical buildings of the city."

Worshipful Brother Martin G. Seifert, Past Master of Constantia Lodge No. 783, was assigned as architect for the city to superintend the work, and he discovered the faint outlines of an inscription upon this stone showing that it had been laid by the Masonic fraternity.

This fact was brought to the attention of Most Worshipful Grand Master Brother Delmar D. Darrah, by Right Worshipful Brother William Arens, Past Master of Germania Lodge No. 181, and District Deputy for the German speaking lodges, with a recommendation that in view of the fact that the inscription had become nearly obliterated by the elements, a bronze tablet be prepared and inserted in the stone. The Grand Master referred the matter to Right Worshipful Brother Ralph H. Wheeler, Senior Grand Warden, who upon investigation concurred in the above recommendation.

The bronze tablet was prepared and set in place on June 30, 1913 in the presence of a small number of members. The report to the Grand Master said:

I would have arranged for a more auspicious occasion, but at the request of the architect for the city, Bro. Martin G. Seifert, all display was omitted, and simply a few of the prominent members of the craft were asked to be present to witness the setting of the tablet.

### **Douglas Monument Cornerstone Laying 1866**

BY HARMON G. REYNOLDS

No such display of eminent abilities, worth, distinction, and force, has ever graced the proud metropolitan home, the Empire State of the Mississippi Valley, and the giant Northwest, like that which occurred at the laying of the cornerstone of the monument to the memory of the orator, magistrate, and Freemason—the most heroic and renowned statesman of the age—STEPHEN ARNOLD DOUGLAS. If our space and the character of our journal would permit, we would give up all our columns as a tribute to the worth of our first Grand Orator, but we must content ourself with a brief outline of events, and the Masonic portion of the ceremonies.

Large preparations were made and numerous invitations given. Andrew Johnson, President of the United States; W. H. Seward, Secretary of State; Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy; Governor Randall, Post Master General; Ulysses S. Grant, General; Admiral Farragut; Major General Meade; Major General Rosecrans; Henry L. Palmer, Grand Master of Templars; A. B. Alden, Grand Commander of Templars, Wisconsin; Salathiel Coffinberry, Grand Master of Michigan; M. L. Youngs, Grand Master of Wisconsin; Thomas J. Pickett, Past Grand Master; L. L. Munn, Grand High Priest of Illinois; D. H. Wright, Grand High Priest of Wisconsin; and O. H. Miner, Deputy Grand High Priest.

On the sixth of September, the Grand Lodge convened at the Mercantile Association Rooms, and was constituted as follows: H. P. H. Bromwell, Most Worshipful Grand Master; J. R. Gorin, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master; N. W. Huntley, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden; Charles Fisher, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden; M. J. Noyes, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer; H. G. Reynolds, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary; Rev. O. H. Tiffany, Doctor of Divinity, Right Worshipful Grand Chaplain; Rev. W. M. Willis, Right Worshipful Grand Orator; Rev. A. Gross, Worshipful Grand Pursuivant; S. B. Dugger, Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer; M. D. Chamberlain, Worshipful Grand Sword Bearer; D. C. Cregier, Worshipful Grand Marshal; James Lowe, Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon; Rodney Ashley, Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon; John W. Burnett and Paul B. Ring, Grand Stewards; J. P. Ferns, Grand Tyler.

#### OFFICERS OF THE DAY

His Honor, Mayor Rice, President; Daniel A. Gage, Chief Marshal; General A. C. Ducat, Grand Marshal, Masonic Division; D. C. Cregier, Grand Marshal, Grand Lodge.

The preparations, programmes and arrangements were most ample, and the Committee of Arrangements, C. R. Starkweather, Chairman, with the Chief Marshal and others, had taken every possible pains to have everything in complete order and harmony. About nine o'clock the procession began to form, the Masonic Fraternity forming the first division on the right.

#### COMMANDERIES AND CHIEFS

Henry C. Ranney, Grand Commander; Peoria, J. H. Thompson; Joliet, Edmund Wilcox; Sycamore, Daniel Dustin; Dixon, James A. Hawley; Crusader, Rockford, W. D. E. Andrus; Peru Masonic Band; Chicago, W. M. Egan; Michigan of Detroit, T. H. Armstrong, 73 Knights; Wisconsin of Milwaukee, A. V. H. Carpenter, 165 Knights; Janesville, Erastus Lewis, 30 Knights; embracing in all, 274, in full costume, and followed by the Garden City Band.

At this point the Craft not appearing as Lodges were formed as follows: Worshipful Masters, Senior Wardens, Junior Wardens, Treasurers, Secretaries, Senior Deacons, Junior Deacons, Tylers.

#### LODGES AND MASTERS

Oriental No. 33, J. W. Clyde, Acting; Garden City No. 141, Ed-

ward Addy; W. B. Warren No. 209, Ira S. Younglove; Blaney No. 271, D. C. Cregier; Blair No. 393, W. D. Stevens; Friendship No. 7, E. B. Baker, Acting; Monmouth No. 37, A. H. Swain; Occidental No. 40, W. S. Easton; Mt. Joliet No. 42, Uri Osgood; Unity No. 48, A. H. Barry; Lacon No. 61, O. J. Cutler; Euclid No. 65, J. J. Hunt; Rockton No. 74, D. Whitney; Vitruvius No. 81, M. Mitchell; Mitchell No. 85, S. M. Carter; Sycamore No. 134, F. Ellwood; Horicon No. 244, John Comstock; Channahon No. 262, Thomas Willard; Jo Daviess No. 278, A. Robbins; Forreston No. 413, T. J. Hewett.

We have not the means at hand to say that all the above are actual Masters. Such as are not represented them. Then came the Northwestern Band.

At this point came Elwood Commandery, of Springfield, A. J. Dunning, Commander, as escort of Springfield Lodge No. 4, John L. Davis, Master. This is the Lodge in which the lamented Douglas first joined the brethren of the Mystic Tie, having been raised in 1840.

Borne at the head of this Lodge, which occupied the place of honor on account of its having numbered amongst its members that great brother, DOUGLAS, was a banner, plain and simple, of white, bound with blue, and inscribed on one side the words:

Douglas  
raised in  
Springfield Lodge No. 4.

And on the other the following appropriate and Masonic language, referring to Douglas as a brother of the Craft, and as a man and a member of the great brotherhood of the world.

He was our brother, the fearless leader, and the ornament of his age. After his labors were done he lay down to rest, fearing no evil; for he knew in whom he trusted and that he should rise up in the morning refreshed and approved. His virtues are enshrined in the hearts of his brethren; so let their praises illumine and become his perpetual memorial.

This banner was prepared by Professor George F. Wright, gubernatorial artist, and the inscriptions were all designed by him.

After Springfield Lodge followed the oldest and most numerous commandery in the west, Apollo No. 1 of Chicago, commanded by B. F. Patrick, assisted by V. L. Hurlbut, Grand Generalissimo, and Charles L. Brower, Captain General. This fine body of men acted as escort to the Grand Lodge. The remainder of the procession will be found described in the secular papers.

Arriving upon the ground, the platform over the base of the monument and near the grave of the lamented Douglas, was occupied by the Presidential party, the Grand Lodge, the two sons and the sister of the immortal dead. The Grand Lodge ceremonies were as follows:

After the President and invited guests had ascended the platform the ceremonies of the occasion were commenced. Some little time was occupied in the arrangement and disposition of the company, and when all was in readiness Mayor Rice proceeded to the front of the platform and said:

#### OPENING REMARKS OF MAYOR RICE

Your Excellency, Fellow-citizens of the United States of America. We have assembled here today to record our appreciation of the life and services of an able and faithful statesman. Under yon slight covering lies the dust of STEPHEN ARNOLD DOUGLAS. That his burial place may be known to generations yet to come, we propose to mark the spot with an endearing mark of our remembrance and our affection; and that we may do so the State of Illinois, his adopted mother, hath opened her bosom and given forth the material of strength and beauty to aid us in this proper work. Here, on this spot, selected by himself for his home, will we raise a shaft that shall speak to future ages our gratitude and our remembrance of a life devoted to the cause of our common country, and we will indulge the hope that each morning sun, for centuries yet to come, when it shall awaken to life and greatness, yon vast and beautiful American sea, shall gild with his blessed beams the pile to be erected here, and cast a halo of protection around this spot made sacred by the dust of an American statesman.

First, in the order of exercises to-day, will be the laying of the corner-stone, by the Order of Free and Accepted Masons, under the direction of the Grand Master of the State of Illinois.

#### REMARKS OF THE GRAND MASTER

The Grand Master, Bromwell, followed, with the following remarks, during which the cornerstone was raised and held above the place:

Fellow-citizens, Masters, Wardens and Brethren: Through the great courtesy of the Association having charge of the erection of this structure, we are assembled today, on their invitation to assist in laying the corner-stone according to our ancient ceremonies.

This work we enter upon with cordial earnestness, not only as citizens desiring to honor the memory of one of the most distinguished statesmen of our country, but as brothers of that ancient craft whose Grand Masters have settled the foundations and set up the cap-stones, according to certain ancient and significant observances, of temples, pal-

aces and monuments in all ages, in every land, though more especially as brothers of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, who have long been proud to preserve, in the rolls of the most distinguished names of our Fraternity, that of our illustrious late brother, STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, Past Grand Orator, and for many years until his death, a prominent and active member of our Grand Lodge, and companion of our Holy Royal Arch. But of his deeds and virtues I will not speak, for that grateful task and the high honor to represent the sentiments of regard for him which swell the hearts of these accumulated thousands, has been justly reserved for a distinguished orator of the state of his boyhood, whose eloquence will recall, in your presence, that ancient spirit which flamed upon your souls in the masterly oratory of our departed brother. Yet I will speak, so far as to acknowledge that this Fraternity have received this day from the orator of the occasion, a mark of courtesy for which I can make no adequate return, nor indeed any, except to assure him of the cordial remembrance of the 25,000 Masons in the State of Illinois.

Now, may the enterprise and liberality of those who have undertaken this work be so crowned with success that this monument may rise to bear the chiseled form of DOUGLAS in the sight of voyagers, upon these great inland seas of the Northwest, as long as star-light and sun beam shall love to dance upon the crested billows. Ages and ages upon ages, may the patriot and statesman and lover of American institutions come on holy pilgrimage to the soil of Illinois marked, as it will be, by two such monuments to her distinguished sons as already the magnates of the Nation have twice done, to bow over the ashes of one who was once their Master.

But as the ancient Craft faithfully teaches, that no important undertaking should be begun without first invoking the blessing of the Grand Architect of the Universe and Lord of all; therefore, I request all of you now here assembled, to join with the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chaplain in humble invocation to the throne of Divine Grace.

Brother Chaplain, perform your duty.

#### PRAYER BY GRAND CHAPLAIN

Almighty Father, we invoke Thy blessings upon us, and upon the people of our land. We give Thee heartfelt thanks for the good example of Thy servants who have finished their course, and do now rest from their labors; and for the ability Thou hast given us to labor to reproduce their good deeds. We place this corner-stone steadfast and sure on which to raise a monumental tribute to honor our illustrious brother. May the lesson of his life be read aright by us, and all those who shall come after us. May his virtues be held in future remembrance, and his noble deeds be imitated to the latest generation. May this column arise till, crowned with beauty, it shall record the honor and glory of a great life, and be the proud monument of an affectionate and grateful people. May this work be completed without hurt or accident to any

person; and may all our lives be dedicated to Thee, and our abilities used for Thy glory, so that when all earthly things shall pass away, and these blocks of stone decay, our souls may dwell with Thee forevermore. Amen and amen.

Response; So mote it be.

Grand Chaplain; Amen.

### THE GRAND MASTER

The right worshipful Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge will now proceed to deposit in the cavity in the cornerstone the coins and other mementoes there to be placed, first reading the list of articles to be deposited.

The Grand Treasurer then read the list of articles laid in the stone, embracing coins, speeches of DOUGLAS, public documents, etc.

### THE LAYING OF THE STONE

The Grand Treasurer then placed in the stone the articles prepared for that purpose, and while the guns were fired from a vessel on the lake, and solemn strains of music were played by the band, the stone was lowered gradually into its place. The Grand Master was then presented with the working tools, when, handing the square to his deputy, he said:

Brother Deputy Grand Master. You will apply the square to the stone, to see that the workmen have performed their duty.

The Deputy Grand Master, after applying the square, responded:

Most Worshipful Grand Master—I find the workmen have performed their duty. I have examined the stone and found it true and square.

The Grand Master then said:

Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden—You will apply the implement of your office to the stone, and see if it is true and level.

After performing this service the Senior Warden replied:

Most Worshipful Grand Master—I have applied the level to the stone and I find it true and level. The workmen have faithfully performed their duty.

The Grand Master then said:

Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden: You will apply the plumb to the stone, and see if the workmen have performed their duty.

Having proved the stone the Junior Warden replied:

Most Worshipful Grand Master—I have applied the plumb to the stone and find it is true and plumb. The workmen have discharged their duty.

The Deputy Grand Master then presented the Grand Master with the vessel of corn who scattered it upon the stone. The Senior Grand Warden then presented him with the cup of wine, which he poured upon the stone. The Junior Grand Warden then presented him with a vessel of oil, which he poured upon the stone saying:

May the Grand Architect of the Universe bless the inhabitants of this place, and provide them with all the necessaries, comforts, and conveniences of life, and all with the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy, and may He assist in the erection of this monument, and protect the workmen against accident, and long preserve this monument from decay. Amen.

Response—So Mote it Be.

The Grand Master—Amen.

#### CONCLUSION OF THE CEREMONY

The Grand Master after striking the stone three times with his hiram, said:

The Masonic ceremonies should here conclude with an appropriate ode, but that will be omitted. I beg leave, however, to congratulate those present, and particularly the Craft, upon the fact that no less a personage than the President of the United States, and many other distinguished heads of departments (the President himself being, as I am informed and believe, a member of the ancient Craft), have been present, honoring and participating in the ceremonies of this occasion.

A beautiful prayer was then offered by Rev. W. H. Milburn, followed by an eloquent oration by Major General Dix, and remarks by President Johnson and Secretary Seward. The Grand Lodge and Templars then retired to a large building near by, and partook of refreshments, furnished in abundance and good order by Apollo Commandery. The Grand Lodge returned under their escort to the association rooms, when the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. C. R. Starkweather and the Committee of Arrangements for the facilities and accommodations provided for the use of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Em. Sir. B. F. Patrick, and the Knights of Apollo Commandery No. 1, for their courtesy shown in performing escort duty and for the refreshment provided for our use.

After some eloquent remarks by Grand Master Coffinberry and Grand Master Pickett, the Grand Lodge closed.

The number of Knights already enumerated with those of Apollo and Elwood Commanderies, exceeded five hundred, and were all in uniform. General Ducat estimates the whole number in the Masonic procession at upwards of 3,500. The number of people who witnessed the ceremonies must have numbered from 25,000 to 50,000.

### Cornerstone of the Railroad Bridge at Quincy, Illinois

A most complete and interesting account of this unusual cornerstone was published in the Daily Quincy Herald. The oration delivered by Joseph Robbins on that occasion is so valuable and such a splendid exposition of the principles of Masonry that it has been thought wise to publish it in its entirety for the information and guidance of the craft in Illinois.

The mention of this event is contained in one line in the proceedings.

DAILY QUINCY HERALD.

QUINCY, ILLINOIS, SEPTEMBER 26, 1867.

RAILROAD BRIDGE!  
LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE  
IMPOSING CEREMONIES!

Address of the Grand Orator.  
2,500 People Present.

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Yesterday was a day long to be remembered by the Masonic fraternity of Illinois and Missouri, as well as by the citizens of Quincy. Early in the morning delegations commenced pouring in from Lodges at Palmyra, Hannibal and towns along the line of the Hannibal and St. Joseph R. R. in Missouri, as well as from Chicago, Mt. Sterling, Mound Station, Galesburg, La Prairie, Augusta and towns along the lines of roads leading into Quincy, to witness the imposing ceremonies attendant upon laying the corner stone of the Railroad Bridge across the Mississippi at this place. The delegations from the different commanderies of Sir Knights were under the charge of Sir Knight W. E. Owen, and Sir Knight C. W. Mead, General Superintendent of the H. & St. Jo. R. R., officiating as Grand Marshal. The Sir Knights, numbering about 125, met at the Court House at 2 o'clock, and preceded by the Quincy brass band and an excellent brass band from Hannibal, marched to the Masonic Hall, corner of 4th and Hampshire Street, where they were joined by the Grand Lodge officers and members of the fraternity from home and abroad, to the number of about four hundred, making it one of the

most imposing processions ever seen in our city, who were accompanied by our worthy city officials and invited guests, continued the line of march down Hampshire Street to Front, then up Front Street to the foot of Maine, where the Bridge Company had, through its energetic General Agent, Capt. Flagg, placed at the disposal of the fraternity the ferry-boat Quincy, and the steamers Huron and Jesse. A short trip and all were landed safely at pier No. 5, of the bridge, already partially crowded with eager ones, who had preceded us, making full 2,500 present in Mississippi mid-water, of which there were about 1000 Masons, to witness the ceremonies attendant upon the greatest work of the kind entered upon along this magnificent stream.

At a quarter past three P.M., the vessels were made fast to the pier and the Sir Knights leading the way followed by the Master Masons, disembarked on the barge platforms already arranged, and the ceremonies commenced with a brief and beautiful address by Jerome R. Gorin, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, and an impressive prayer from Grand Chaplain S. S. Hunting. Grand Treasurer H. Dills, then came with the following articles to deposit as archives in the corner stone, prefacing the deposit with "by authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, I, as Grand Treasurer deposit in this corner stone of the Quincy Railroad Bridge

The city charter and ordinances of the city of Quincy, together with a list of the city officers for 1867; also the State officers for the same year.

Coins of various denomination.

Postal currency — a greenback and a national bank bill.

A copy of each paper published in Quincy, as well as Langdon's "State Fair."

By-laws of each Masonic Lodge in Quincy, and an inscription plate.

During this impressive ceremony the immense audience remained hushed — silent — attentive, at the close of which the Sir Knights at bugle call repaired on board the steamer Quincy, followed by the Master Masons and visitors, and on board their respective boats steamed back again to shore, where the procession was again formed and marched to the depot of the C. B. & Q. Railroad, where Orator Sir Knight Joseph Robbins delivered the following address:

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER, BRETHREN AND FRIENDS: — The occasion which calls us together to-day is one of no common interest.

We meet here on the broad bosom of this beautiful river, to lay the foundation stone of a mighty structure, which is to supply a link in the iron chain that binds together the Atlantic and Pacific slopes of a continent. — a structure that is to stand through all coming time, a monument to the sagacity and enterprise of the capitalists of the country in opening a path through this great natural gateway to the mighty West, and giving outlet to the restless energy of a people who build cities in a day, and create an empire in a decade.

Almost within the memory of some now before me, the placid surface of this upper river was broken only by the canoe of the savage. To-day it is alive with the commerce of States whose unified influence can mould the policy of a nation.

The pioneer who then saw here only an Indian village, whose wilderness scarce broke the solitude of primeval Nature, sees now a beautiful city, alive with the busy hum of labor, and just awakening to the possibilities of an assured and magnificent future.

The growing civilization of the far West, with its rapidly increasing wants, will tolerate no obstacle to increased facility of supply. This broad river which has so long been a barrier, must be so no longer, and this great structure creeps over it like some huge saurian insect, striking its antennae of timber from the forest and stone from the quarry, deep into its hidden bed.

The energies, aroused to intensity by the whirl and tumult of war, are turned into peaceful channels, and engineering skill, sharpened in the same school of destruction, now rears to Peace its most enduring monuments.

It is altogether fit and proper that a society, whose every inculcation is peace, should participate in the inauguration of this work, this giant stride in the progress of a people toward that facility of communication which secures community of interest, the strongest bond of public tranquillity.

It is an auspicious occasion that permits the Grand Lodges of Illinois and Missouri to join hands in promoting the work which is to span the natural barrier between these two great States, and big with the promise of that coming hour when the whole people shall know in their hearts no dividing lines, remembering only that theirs is a common lot, a common interest and a common destiny.

The custom of laying foundation stones of public works with appropriate ceremonies is an ancient one and the performance of these ceremonies by the Grand Master of Masons is perhaps as ancient as the custom itself. It is therefore proper that we should recur briefly to the nature and design of this institution, venerable with antiquity, and having its ramifications in every quarter of the civilized world.

Institutions grow. They are not made to order, but are slowly evolved out of the needs of humanity, and exist to conserve some truth — some essential principle — to give it expression and make it a vital force; and just in proportion to their power to meet these needs and conserve these truths is their permanent existence insured.

The highway that leads down to the Present out of the misty Past, is strewn with the crumbling debris of what were intended for permanent institutions by their founders, who had so carefully elaborated them to serve as receptacles for ideas. The error of their protectors was a fundamental one. They attempted to build that which could only grow. Man may build a city, but not a tree. He may plant the seed, and if it contains the living germ and falls in congenial soil, it will grow, taking and appropriating to its own uses from the surrounding earth and

air, those elements which are essential to its development, but it is in vain that he chisels out the semblance of a tree and commands it to live.

So if he possesses those qualities which together make up what we call inspiration — the perception to discern, and the prescience to grasp new truths or truth in new relations — he may found an institution that by the accretion of centuries may assure proportions of colossal grandeur, and encircle the earth with its influence, but it is in vain that he works out — though never so perfectly — the machinery of an institution which after all lacks the animating soul of principle. Having no vitality, it is smitten, even in its first inception, with the effacing fingers of decay.

History abounds in illustration of the truth of this position. Out of the great central truth that God is, has grown up, as an expression of man's reverential adoration, the institution of the Church, and so long as there exists finite beings to adore an infinite God, so long will the Church — using the word in its large sense — endure. But men have often confounded their own theological dogmas with the essential verities of religion, and from the earliest ages to the present have been projecting institutions for the conservation of their particular opinions. Where are they to-day? Having their foundation in no essential truths, their wrecks lie stranded all along the shores of time.

From the necessity of public peace and individual security, has grown up the institution of Government, and so long as man is an imperfect being, governments must exist. But peculiar governmental forms have been established, whose founders have either lost sight of, or made secondary to their own selfish purposes, the great primal purpose of all governments, the security of the individual; and these institutions have either disappeared through their inherent tendency to decay, or crumble and go down as in our own day in the blood and flame of Gettysburg and Sadowa.

From the affectionate side of man's nature has grown up the Home; an institution comprehending all that we hold most dear, and whose name — whether it brings to us memories of joy or sorrow — is the sweetest word, save mother, that falls from the English tongue. This institution being the natural outgrowth of that affection which binds together kindred or congenial souls, must continue while love endures. But men have projected institutions which were to supercede this. All were to live in a community, with a community of purpose, for a common good; and so practicable have these plans appeared that many earnest, wise and good men have been full of faith in their success. They were laid with great care, and all supposed sources of error and failure so carefully eliminated that success seemed inevitable. Perhaps there never was a more careful and systematical effort to build an institution, nor a better illustration of the futility of such efforts. The system contained some of the elements of truth, and these are being conserved and made available in the co-operative associations of the present day, but all efforts to organize and erect socialism into a permanent institution have utterly failed, and must ever fail so long as its plan ignores

the isolated home, founded as it is on the sanctity of the family relation, and that love which will tolerate no profanation of its Holy of Holies. Having seen that institutions can only exist as they involve some central truth, or answer some human need, let us turn to Masonry and ascertain if we may what warrant it has for existence. It is not my purpose to attempt to solve the question of the origin of Masonry, whether it is indeed a modification of the mysteries of the Ancient Greeks or Egyptians, or grew wholly out of the guilds or lodges of operative Masons which existed in Europe from the earlier centuries of our present era, down to a period long subsequent to the earliest written history of the order, but while it still continued to be both a Speculative Science and an Operative Art. We know that these builders whose magnificent architecture is seen in those wonderful ministers of the middle ages, brought Masonry down to us substantially in its present form; but we can only say of its origin that it is lost in the obscurity of bygone centuries. That the institution has so long maintained its hold on human hearts, is of itself sufficient evidence that it somehow ministers to their wants and aspirations. What then are its peculiar features, and whence the vitality that has preserved it, enabling it to withstand alike the disintegrating influences of time, the anathemas and persecutions of the Romish Church, the prejudices of the ignorant, and the wiles of kingcraft and statecraft which have vainly sought to use it for their own selfish ends? The answer is that Masonry is founded on essential truths, whence naturally flow that great moral lesson it inculcates, and that it recognizes and provides for that yearning desire for human sympathy which is implanted in every heart. The starting point—the Alpha of Masonry—is that God lives and governs the world, at once the Supreme Architect and Universal Father; that all mankind are his children, the objects of his love, and entitled to our consideration as members of the same great family. What wonder then, that in the long weary centuries through which mankind has struggled on toward the goal of a common equality, an institution of which was the central idea, should command the devotion of those who recognize the brotherhood of man as a truth, and felt it as one of the soul's primal needs. Masonry views man separated from his accidents. It looks through the trappings of wealth and luxury, the insignia of rank, and the humble garb of honest poverty, and sees beneath them all the man.

Within its charmed circle all are equal. Whether coming from the cottage of the peasant or the palace of the prince, all leave at its portals their worldly distinctions, and meet upon the level of the checkered floor as men and brothers. The humblest and the proudest must travel the same paths to attain Masonic knowledge, are bound to the order and to each other by the same sacred ties, like the equal covenants of all are made in the presence of the same Almighty Father. From this perfect equality of all Masons we naturally deduce those duties which we owe to our fellow-men; all summed up in the injunction: "Do unto others, as you would that they should do unto you."

At the very top of the Masonic ladder is placed charity or brotherly

love. That charity which should lead us to seek a brother's welfare equally with our own; to be very tender of his reputation; to be ready to go out of our way to succor him if he be in need; to stretch forth our hands to support him if he be falling; to keep sacred in our own breasts those confidences which he gives us only because we are his brethren; and to whisper tenderly in his ear alone that counsel which his errors and the purpose of his reformation may require. It is the knowledge that a Mason will do all this — and more — for his brother, that hallows his memory in the hearts of his brethren, even when he dies among them a stranger, and they see him, perchance, for the first time as they gather about his newly-made grave. It casts also a halo of sanctity about his widow and orphans, and makes their future care the legacy of his survivors.

As the greater includes the less, so this broad charity includes the lesser charity of alms-giving. Thus Masonry recognizes and teaches the claims of every human being upon our sympathies, but particularly those who have taken upon themselves the solemn vows of our order and added another to the ties which bind us together. It has been objected that Masonic charity is exclusive. It is true only in the technical sense that its revenues as an institution are usually applied to Masonic uses within the order. But millions outside its pale may bless the order whose subtle sympathies have first roused the slumbering benevolence of the heart — made it sensitive to the cry of distress, and quick to respond, come from what quarter it may. Its own members can never compute the beneficent influence of Masonry in this direction. Still less can those who have never drawn from its fountain of inspiration, fully comprehend it.

The sanctity of Truth is one of the essentials of Masonry; a necessity growing out of the nature of the institution, and so indispensable that without it, it would be but a dead form, without vitality enough to preserve it from putrefaction. So carefully is this regard for truth inculcated, and so universally accepted, that where two strangers meet and find each other to be Masons, each relies instinctively on the other's word. Each instinctively trusts to the influence of Masonry on the life of the other. Moreover, each brings to the other the recommendation that some lodge has, by admitting him to its privileges, unanimously endorsed him as a man of honor and veracity.

Human equality, Charity, Truth, being fundamental principles whose influence on the hearts of men conduces to their highest good, and constituting as they do the very essence of Masonic ethics, we can partially discern what it is that gives it vitality, and comprehend its hold on the affectionate devotion of so many of the great and good whose names shed lustre on the pages of its history.

But not the least as an element of strength in Masonry is its mysticism. The incorporation of this feature into its body is a practical recognition of a metaphysical fact of which all are conscious: That a secret held between two or more persons is a bond of sympathy between them. It brings them nearer together by giving them a point of common in-

terest. This aim is apparent in the whole plan of Masonry. It seeks attractions and not repulsions. It seeks unity and harmony, by carefully eliminating all causes of diversity and discord. It asks no man to yield his convictions of right, but does demand that he shall not attempt to make Masonry an engine of propagandism. When I speak of the secrecy of the institution, you will not misunderstand me. I allude simply to the forms, the rites, the ceremonial, the apporeta of our order, constituting that universal language, spoken by every tongue and kindred, which enables one brother to recognize another anywhere under the wide arch of Heaven. The grand aim and purpose—the principles of the order, are fully and freely declared. True its charities are not paraded before the world, for it is too tender of the feelings of the recipients of its bounty to add another to the stings of that misfortune which impels them to ask it.

It does not give to be seen by men, but clings to the injunction of its own "Great Light," the Bible: "When thou givest alms, give them in secret; let not thy right hand know what thy left hand doeth."

Another reason why it seeks not the meretricious popularity which follows in the wake of trumpeted charities, is that it would attract to its fold a class of minds whose affiliation would prove injurious. Mercenary conceptions are antagonistic to the whole genius of Masonry.

The subtle, indefinable influence, the quick, apprehensive sympathy, engendered by the possession of a common secret which the world without knows not of, can never be fully appreciated by those who have not themselves felt its mystic power.

It quickens the impulses of Charity; it softens the asperity of political warfare, and tones down the dogmatic acrimony of theological discussion; it mitigates the horrors of war, and prompts to deeds of truest chivalry.

Hundreds of tombstones which mark the paths blazed by raging pestilence through crowded cities, are but monumental records of its self-sacrificing spirit.

A year or two since, in a neighboring town, a Mason fell sick with small pox. Those about him fled in terror from the loathsome presence. A young man, a brother Mason, repaired to his bedside, watched tenderly over him, closed his eyes when Death had claimed his own, and followed him to the grave. A few days after he came to me suffering with the initial fever of the disease and asked me to take him to the pest house where he could remain until he could mingle with his friends without danger of communicating the infection. In answer to my questions he told me how he had contracted the disease, remarking, that "the man was a Mason and he couldn't see him lie there and suffer without care." He made no ado about it, and yet it was a noble instance of self-sacrificing devotion, requiring a steadier courage than which prompts a man to risk his life amid the excitement of battle, having none of the pomp and circumstance which casts its glamour over the career of the soldier. This young man's surroundings—the atmosphere of his daily life—had not been of an elevating character. More than likely he neg-

lected the "mint, anise, and cummin" of the law, and perhaps would have been termed a reprobate by those who adhere rather to the letter which killeth, than to the Spirit which giveth life. But this compelling spirit of Masonry had taken root in his heart, and blossomed into deeds redolent of the sweet odors of Charity, and blessed in the sight of Heaven.

The influence of this spirit — I might almost say this instinct of Brotherhood, in mitigating the horrors of war is attested by hundreds of well known instances, and thousands more are known only to those who were parties to them. It snatched Putnam from the torturing hands of his captors in the old French war. It more than once un-nerved the arm of the relentless Brandt, when he and his savage followers swept with fire and sword the lovely valley of Wyoming.

It ministered to the necessities of our brave defenders who languished in Southern prisons, snatching them from their living death, or, failing in that, smoothing the pathway that leads down the valley of the shadow, for many a brother who offered

"The last libation that liberty draws,

From the hearts that bleed and break in her cause."

It was this spirit that sent the heroic Kane on his crusade against the elements, far up in the regions of eternal ice, in the vain attempt to rescue his brother, Sir John Franklin; a forlorn hope whose sad record shines on the page of history with a brilliancy paling the rays of the Aurora which beckoned him as the crowning chivalry of a century more prolific of noble deeds than any in the annals of recorded time.

It is this spirit that makes it possible for Masonry to overcome the antipathies engendered by partisan, sectarian, and national jealousies, and brings men of every country, sect, and opinion, into one common fold. It knits men together as with hooks of steel, and bids them cling to their common mother through evil and through good report. Thus in the days of the Anti-Mason crusade, that anomaly of the century which lacked not the spirit, but only the power that lighted the fires of Smithfield, a persecution the bitterness of which you and I can scarcely conceive, Masonry still claimed the devoted allegiance of thousands of her children. They endured every form of obloquy, ostracism by society and church, and wanton destruction of their property by their insane opponents, yet conscious of their own rectitude, calmly and patiently waited for the dawning of that better day which was sure to follow the dreamy night.

From all this I think I am justified in saying that the mysticism of our Institution is one of its strongest elements. I have endeavored to give you some idea — to enable you to apprehend, if you cannot fully understand its potency in developing that instinctive sympathy of Brotherhood — that Love which is the Key Stone of the Masonic Arch. I feel the difficulty of making myself intelligible, because to be appreciated it must be experienced. But if you grasp the idea with sufficient clearness to comprehend, measurably, its vivifying power, you can see how it would vitalize an institution based on the principles I have enu-

merated; deeper in the hearts of its votaries that reverence for God, and order and law, which it inculcates; quicken and make real, living impelling forces, appearing in the life — what would otherwise exist only as a sentiment in the heart — the doctrines of the equality of all of God's children; charity for all mankind and truth, sacred, immutable as the Almighty, whose attribute it is.

These then are the great underlying principles, the central idea out of which the institution of Masonry has grown, which have preserved it intact, and made it a gigantic moral lever whose elevating and beneficent influence has been felt wherever civilization has given it a fulcrum.

It has come down to us from out of the dark womb of the dim, receding past, crowned with the benedictions of the widows and orphans of buried centuries. It has witnessed the rise and fall of dynasties, nations, and peoples, and yet is to-day apparently in the full vigor of lusty youth!

Whether it shall continue to exist, an aid and a solace to man in ages yet to come, is to be answered by Masons themselves. Already proved to be secure against all assaults from without, its principles eternal, it can only fall into decadence when its individual constituents shall have become hopelessly corrupt.

Brethren, the future of Masonry is in our hands. Let us see to it that by no unfaithfulness of ours it is placed in jeopardy. I have alluded to the time scarce forty years since, when, close reefed, Masonry was beating up — holding her own, thank God! — against the storm of adversity. Now she has again struck the trade wind of prosperity, and with full canvas holds steadily on, wafted by favoring gales. Let us take heed: lest the sense of security lull the watch on deck into listlessness, and ere we are aware of it, the cyclone burst upon us.

"Remember now thy Creator while the evil days come not." Now, while all is peace, while the popularity of the Institution is attracting so many to our fold let us double the watch lest the evil days come again.

So long as the great cardinal principles — the landmarks of Masonry — are faithfully observed, the Institution is secure. It is these that have determined its form and development, and given it its stability, preserving it substantially unchanged through the sweep of centuries.

To-day we lay the foundation for a mighty superstructure that we trust is to endure for ages. So these great fundamental principles which we hold sacred, are the broad, deep, immovable foundations on which the superstructure of our Order rests. Nay, more! They are at the same time its Supreme Law, which is above all constitutions and regulations, and against which the united voice of all the Grand Lodges of earth would be but an empty sound. And as against the massive pillars of this monument of engineering skill the waves of this great river shall not prevail, so against the landmarks of Masonry — in the future as in the past — the tide of passion and prejudice shall beat in vain. True, its flood has sometimes obscured them with its blinding spray, but its ebb has again revealed them, standing out clearer for the storm that has

washed them free from their moss-grown coverings of error, and swept from their firm-set bases the burying sands of Time.

They are inscribed now, as in the beginning, with God's holy name; fitly symbolize his immutable Truth and Love; and, as they are the common legacy of us all, remind us ever of that equality of all Masons which, next to Charity, is the crowning glory of our Order.

Let us then, my Brothers, ever cherish these great principles as the brightest jewels in the crown of our Alma Mater, remembering ever, that in all our intercourse with each other and with our fellow men, we are to be guided by the plumb-line of Justice, and, that as we meet upon the level, so we should part upon the square.

The procession was then re-formed, and after marching through the principal streets repaired to the Lodge Room, where the Sir Knights adjourned to the Tremont House to partake of a grand banquet.

We regret our limited space this morning is inadequate for a full description of one of not only the most impressive ceremonies of this undertaking, but of importance to the Masonic fraternity. Without an accident and with universal kindly feeling the day passed.

### State House Cornerstone

BY HARMON G. REYNOLDS

At an early hour the city was full. The Grand Lodge convened and opened at the State House, the Templars at Elwood Hall, and the Craft in general at the Masonic Hall. Chicago Commandery was received and entertained by Elwood Commandery, and the Ellsworth Zouaves of Chicago by the Springfield Zouaves, at their respective halls.

At twelve o'clock the procession began to form, consisting of the Grand Lodge about four hundred strong, and the Grand Chapter under the charge of Wiley M. Egan, Grand Marshal.

The escort duty was performed by Chicago and Elwood Commanderies, with delegations from several others. Their beautiful costumes elicited universal admiration, and they were full two hundred in number. The Master Masons formed with Springfield Lodge No. 4, in the usual dress, and were estimated at over one thousand. General Cook had charge of the Masonic Fraternity, while Captain John S. Bradford, in beautiful uniform, commanded the line as Chief Marshal. Having arrived at the stand, the Grand Marshal proclaimed silence, the Grand Master briefly addressed the audience, prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain, and the band discoursed good music. The Grand Treasurer announced that he had made a deposit in the stone, and the list of articles was read by the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master then announced that it was his will and pleasure that the cornerstone be now laid, which was proclaimed to the Masons.

The Grand Master then said:

R.W. Bro. Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, you will proceed with me to the stone and assist in laying the stone.

They descended, the Grand Sword Bearer and Grand Marshal preceding; following them, the Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, then the Grand Master, followed by the Grand Senior and Junior Deacons. The Deputy Grand Master bore the square, the Senior Grand Warden the level, the Junior Grand Warden the plumb, the Senior Grand Deacon the trowel, and the Junior Grand Deacon the gavel.

The Grand Master then spread the cement, and the stone was lowered to its bed.

The cornerstone is an immense block from the Hamilton quarries, eight feet long, four feet wide, and three feet thick, very handsomely dressed, and bearing the following inscription:

Erected under an Act of the General Assembly. approved  
February 25, 1867.  
Commissioners.

Jacob Bunn, President,  
John W. Smith,  
James C. Robinson,  
James H. Beveridge,  
Phillip Wadsworth,  
William L. Hambleton,  
William L. Vandever,  
J. C. Webber, Secretary,  
John C. Cochrane, Architect and Superintendent,  
William D. Clarke, Assistant Superintendent.

State Officers.

Richard J. Oglesby, Governor,  
William Bross, Lieutenant Governor,  
Sharon Tyndale, Secretary of State,  
Orlin H. Miner, Auditor,  
George W. Smith, Treasurer,  
Robert G. Ingersoll, Attorney General,  
Newton Bateman, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Laid by the Masonic Fraternity, A.D. 1868, A.L. 5868.  
Jerome R. Gorin, M.W. G.M.

The time of lowering the stone was divided into three parts, repre-

sending the three degrees of Masonry; the first announced by one gun from the artillery, second by two guns, the third by three guns; the band meanwhile playing "Auld Lang Syne."

The stone having reached its proper position, it was, by order of the Grand Master, tried with the plumb, the level and the square, and the Grand Master then said:

This corner-stone has been tested by the proper instruments of Masonry; I find that the craftsmen have skillfully and faithfully performed their duty; therefore, I pronounce this, the corner-stone of the new State House, tried, true and trusty, plumb, level and square, and as such it is approved; the craftsmen have faithfully performed the duties assigned to them.

Then, the officers resuming their proper positions, the Grand Master proclaimed as follows:

I, Jerome R. Gorin, Grand Master of Masons of the State of Illinois, declare this stone plumb, level and square, and being so, duly laid according to the ancient usages, customs and landmarks of Freemasonry; and may the Grand Architect of Heaven and Earth bless the work here begun, and make it memorable to the last generations.

After music, the Grand Master then proceeded, according to the ancient usages of Masonry, to pour the vessels of corn, wine and oil, emblems each respectively of plenty, refreshment and joy, upon the stone, and concluded by saying:

May the All-bounteous Author of Nature, the Supreme and ever Living God, bless the inhabitants of this place with all the necessities, comforts, and conveniences of life, assist in the erection and completion of this building, protect the workmen against every accident, and long preserve from decay the structure which will here arise. And may He grant to us, in needful supply, the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy.

The Grand Master then presented Mr. J. C. Cochrane, the architect, and W. D. Clarke, the superintendent of the work, with the designs upon the trestle-board and the tools of the workmen.

The Grand Marshal then faced the audience and said:

Take notice that M.W. Bro. Jerome R. Gorin, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, has this day, at this place, laid the corner-stone of the new State House. Wisdom, Strength, Beauty and Fraternity.

The procession then proceeded to the Springfield skating rink, corner of Walnut and Market streets, where a magnificent banquet had been arranged by Messrs. Leland.

## Chicago Custom House and Post Office Cornerstone Laid June 24, 1874

BY GEORGE W. WARVELLE

Soon after ten o'clock the Federal, State, County and Municipal officers, the employees of the custom house and postal departments of the Government, Military, Masonic Fraternity and other civic organizations, moved through several of the principal thoroughfares to the place of rendezvous at the northeast corner of Dearborn and Adams Streets; but it was not until one o'clock that the ceremonies commenced. The display was one of the finest ever witnessed in Chicago and for an occasion of this kind probably the largest in point of numbers that has ever occurred. The anti-Masonic element were out in force and large placards, borne aloft on poles and containing expressions derogatory to the fraternity, were carried after the procession.

When the Masonic portion of the procession finally reached the building the officers of the Grand Lodge who were to actively participate in the ceremonies took their stations around the stone. Grand Master Hawley and Deputy Grand Master Lounsbury in the East, Senior Grand Warden Robbins in the West, and Junior Grand Warden De Lancey in the South.

The cornerstone itself was a simple-looking affair. It weighed a little over five tons, and a couple of iron shafts were placed in the upper surface, to allow the hooks of the derrick to grapple with the immense weight and lift it into position. The engineer, in order to accomplish this task, put on a pressure of sixty pounds of steam, which raised the mass like a feather. Previous to its elevation three tall candles were laid upon it, and Mr. Edgar Sanders strewed it with a wealth of beautiful flowers, so that it looked like a conquerer crowned with the laurels of victory and the roses of love. Beyond this there was nothing of the romantic in the appearance of the now historic boulder.

The principal architect, J. C. Rankin, Esq., stepped toward Grand Master Hawley and said:

Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Illinois, in behalf of the National Treasury Department and in the name of the President of the United States of America, I now request you to lay the cornerstone of the building to be erected on this spot in accordance with the formalities of your ancient and honorable institution.

The Grand Master replied:

From time immemorial it has been the custom of the Fraternity of Freemasons, when invited to do so, to lay with ancient ceremonies the cornerstones of buildings erected for the worship of God, for public charity, or for the purpose of administering justice and free government. By invitation of the United States authorities, I am here on behalf of the Free and Accepted Masons, and on the part of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, to lay with ancient ceremonies this stone, and thereby to attest our patriotism and our respect for the National Government. We will accordingly proceed in conformity with one of the cardinal virtues of our order, which teaches that in all our works, great or small, begun and finished, we should seek the aid and favor of Almighty God. It is our first duty, then, to invoke the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe upon the work in which we are about to engage. I therefore command the utmost silence, and call upon all to unite with our Grand Chaplain in an address to the Throne of grace.

The Grand Chaplain, Rev. J. E. Forrester, offered an appropriate prayer.

The Apollo Musical Club then chanted an invocation composed for the occasion. The Grand Master then called upon the Grand Treasurer to deposit certain articles within the cavity in the stone as memorials of the period at which it was erected, so that, if the lapse of ages, the fury of the elements or the slow but certain ravages of time, should lay bare the foundation, an enduring record might be found by succeeding generations, to bear testimony to the energy, industry and culture of the time. The Grand Master then called upon the Grand Secretary to read the list of the contents of the casket.

The contents consisted of:

1 — A memorial plate of pure native copper, inscribed with the names of the principal United States, State and municipal officers present, or who had signified their intention to be present on the occasion. A parchment roll, inscribed with the names of the principal officers of the organizations taking part in the ceremonies.

2 — Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, Acts of Congress making appropriations for the purchase of the site and the erection of the building.

3 — Constitution of the State of Illinois, map of the State of Illinois, list of the State Officers, engraving of the new State House.

4 — List of county officers.

4 — Picture of the proposed building.

6 — Proceedings, for 1873, of Grand Lodge of Masons, Grand Chapter of Masons, Illinois; Grand Council of Masons, Illinois; Grand Commandery of Masons, Illinois; General Grand Chapter of Masons, U.S.; General Grand Encampment of Masons, U.S.; Supreme Council.

7 — Proceedings of the Grand Lodge and Encampment of Odd Fellows; Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias.

8 — Directory of Chicago; account of first post office in Chicago; map of Chicago, 1874; map of Chicago 1820; proceedings of the Board of Public Works, Education, Police, Parks, Board of Trade, Relief Committee, Comptroller's report.

9 — Copy of the programme, and all papers connected with laying the corner-stone; daily papers of Chicago; list of organizations attending ceremonies. Copies United States Bonds, all denominations unsigned; United States Treasury Notes, all denominations unsigned; United States gold, silver and copper coinage.

The Grand Master then took the trowel and spread the cement which covered the box. The Grand Master, addressing Judge Blodgett:

On behalf of the Free and Accepted Masons of Illinois, I invite your honor, as one of the Judges of the United States Courts, to assist in these ceremonies by spreading a portion of the cement.

The stone was then lowered while the Apollo Musical Club sang another original ode composed for the occasion. When the stone was in place the grand honors were given, amid a salvo of artillery.

After the Wardens had tested the stone with their implements the consecration ceremony followed in the usual form.

The working tools were then returned to the architect who, in turn, presented the trowel to the Grand Master; the square to the Deputy Grand Master; the level to the Senior Grand Warden and the plumb to the Junior Grand Warden, as mementoes of the occasion.

The Grand Master then delivered an appropriate oration, the Grand Marshal proclaimed the stone duly laid according to old customs, three guns were fired; the Apollo Club sang America, and the benediction by the Grand Chaplain closed the ceremony.

Grand Master James A. Hawley in company with Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens laid the cornerstone on June 24, 1874. His report reads (Pto. 1874, page 18):

It was an occasion of universal interest, not only to the Craft of this and adjoining States, but also to the public at large, especially to the citizens of Chicago, which was made manifest by their presence in numbers unsurpassed by any similar event of our time. In view of the national character of the building, the magnitude, and completeness of the arrangements on the part of the United States officials, as well as the Craft of this city, I may be pardoned for adverting to the event somewhat more fully than is customary in an official report. Especially is this proper, since the opportunity was seized upon by the enemies of Freemasonry, and to a great extent, by the press of this city, to misrepresent the action and intentions of the Masonic Fraternity, thereby creating in the minds of those outside the Institution, an unwarranted prejudice towards a society that never seeks, in any manner, to foist its

ancient and universally respected ceremonies before the public, unless especially invited to do so; but, notwithstanding this well-known characteristic of our society, the misrepresentations were carried to such an extent that many, even of the Craft, were led to believe that the dignity and honor of our ancient Institution had been, or would be, compromised by yielding to the importunities of a few fanatical bigots who may be well-informed on other subjects, but whose ignorance and misconception of the design and claims of Freemasonry is entitled to pity; yet in the face of this, they have the effrontery to assume the roll of the three men of Hooley street, and represent themselves as "we, the people," by anticipating the occasion by a year to display their venom, by forwarding to the authorities at Washington remonstrances against the Masons being permitted to perform these ceremonies. Notwithstanding this action, the National Government, through its proper officers, without any solicitation on the part of the Masonic Fraternity, formally invited the Grand Master of Masons in this State to lay the corner-stone of this national edifice, thereby recognizing the antiquity of our Masonic Institution, perpetuating the customs pertaining thereto, and acknowledging the appropriateness of its ceremonies.

This invitation was accepted in the same courteous spirit in which it was given, and I desire to bear testimony to the fact that the Masonic Fraternity, throughout the entire affair, were treated with the utmost consideration and respect by the representatives of the National Government, and that they did not, at any time or in any manner, interfere with or seek to make any change in the ceremonies of the occasion as prepared by M.W. Bro. Cregier, who represented the Grand Master in arranging the same. Neither was this program thus prepared changed in any particular, except so far as to invite that distinguished gentleman and jurist, Hon. Henry W. Blodgett, Judge of the United States Supreme Court, to represent the National Government, and take such part in the ceremonies as the Grand Master assigned, and originally intended should have been performed by the President of the United States.

### **Masonic Fraternity Temple**

An emergent communication of the Grand Lodge was convened on November 6, 1890, in the asylum of Apollo Commandery No. 1, for the purpose of laying the cornerstone of the Masonic Fraternity Temple, State and Randolph Streets, Chicago. The Grand Lodge was opened at High Twelve.

The Grand Marshal, with the assistance of his Aids, formed the procession, headed by a platoon of fifty policemen.

First came the Templars to the number of 600 commanded by George M. Moulton and Staff. Then came 37 lodges numbering 2,277. Following them were visitors and the Grand Lodge Officers. There were 24 bands in the procession. The grand total was 3,724.

As the head of the column reached the Temple site, the Knights Templar formed a hollow square through which the Grand Lodge Officers passed to their places on the platform. There was also in the procession the youngest Entered Apprentice in Illinois, John C. Smith, Jr. He was initiated at an early hour on the morning of the day of laying the cornerstone.

Brother John C. Smith, Past Grand Master, Grand Master of Ceremonies, on behalf of the Officers and Trustees of the Temple Association, requested the Grand Master, John M. Pearson, to place the cornerstone in position in accordance with the customs of the Ancient Craft. The Grand Master then said:

It has ever been the custom, on occasions like the present, to deposit within the cavity in the stone, placed in the north-east corner of the edifice, certain memorials of the period at which it was erected; so that in the lapse of ages, if the fury of the elements, or the slow but certain ravages of time should lay bare the foundations, an enduring record may be found by succeeding generations to bear testimony to the energy, industry and culture of our time.

The deposit in the stone was very large, containing copies of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, 1889, 1890; Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, 1890; Proceedings of the Grand Council, 1890; Proceedings of the Grand Commandery, 1890; Medal souvenir of the Masonic Temple; silver and nickel coins, 5 cents up to one dollar; Proceedings of the Council of Deliberation of Illinois, 1890; City of Chicago Reports, Board of Public Works, Chief of Police, Finance, Etc.; Semi-centennial Medal of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, 1889; city newspapers; Masonic Veterans' Proceedings, 1888-89; Masonic Veteran Invitations, 1888-89; Masonic Veteran Badge, 1890; Menu Mystic Tie Club Banquet, Roster, etc.; Medinah Temple Mystic Shrine; Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, I.O.O.F. Illinois; Proceedings of Grand Encampment of Illinois, I.O.O.F.; Chicago Times, Sunday morning November 6, 1890; Copy of By-laws and Roster of members of (59) Lodges, four chapters R.A.M., one Council R. & S. M., eight Commanderies and one Consistory.

The Grand Master then directed the Grand Treasurer to deposit the casket in the cavity beneath the stone

and may the Great Architect of the Universe, in His wisdom, grant that ages on ages shall pass away ere it again be seen of men.

Little did the Grand Master and those associated with him know

of the tremendous changes that would take place in Chicago during succeeding years, changes that made it necessary to tear down the immense building to make way for different financial arrangements.

However, the ceremony continued by the architect of the building handing the Grand Master the working tools who presented them to the proper Grand Officers to be applied by them to the stone.

The Grand Master then spread a portion of the cement. The stone was slowly lowered one-third of the distance, when the stone was stopped and the Grand Honors given. The stone was again lowered as before, when it was stopped and the Grand Honors given twice. The stone was then lowered for the third time. When it was in place the Grand Honors were given thrice. There was appropriate music while the stone was being lowered.

The working tools, the square, level and plumb, were then applied to the stone. The Grand Master then struck the stone three times with his gavel and said:

This corner-stone has been tested by the proper implements of Masonry, and I find that the craftsmen have skillfully and faithfully done their duty; and I do declare the stone to be well formed and trusty, truly laid, and correctly proved according to the rules of our Ancient Craft. May the building be conducted and completed amid the blessings of Plenty, Health and Peace.

The Grand Master then consecrated the stone with corn, wine and oil; then, extending his hand, pronounced the invocation:

May Corn, Wine and Oil, and all the necessities of life, abound among men throughout the world. May the blessings of Almighty God be upon this undertaking. May he protect the workmen from every accident. May the structure here to be erected be planned with Wisdom, supported by Strength and adorned with Beauty, and may it be preserved to the latest ages, a monument to the energy and liberality of its founders.

The working tools were then returned to the architect, the usual proclamation made that the ancient custom had been carried out in full. Brother DeWitt C. Cregier was then introduced as Grand Orator and delivered a short address appropriate to the occasion. After the close of the ceremonies the Grand Lodge returned to the Asylum of Apollo Commandery where the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

At nine o'clock in the evening the Mystic Tie Club enjoyed a banquet. The menu card bore on the title page an illustration of the

laying of the cornerstone; on the back was a cut of the Temple as it would appear when completed. At the conclusion of the banquet several speakers were introduced, all of whom delivered eloquent remarks appropriate to the occasion.

### Leveling of the Cape-stone of the Masonic Temple

On November 6, 1891, exactly one year from the day the cornerstone was laid, the building was finished by the placing of the cape-stone. Brother John C. Smith, acting as proxy for the Grand Master, Monroe C. Crawford, opened the Grand Lodge in the Preceptory of Oriental Consistory at High Twelve. The procession was formed under the direction of Walter A. Stevens, Grand Marshal. It was led by two platoons of police numbering 76; followed by George M. Moulton, Past Grand Commander Knights Templar, Marshal-in-Chief and Aids. First came 65 members of Oriental Consistory, then seven Commanderies with 470 members, 23 lodges with 1,600 members, 100 visiting brethren and the Grand Lodge Officers. There were nine bands in the procession. A press account of the celebration said:

The ceremonies attending the leveling of the cape-stone of the new Masonic Temple yesterday marked the practical completion of the great building. In one year's time the big building has progressed from the corner-stone to the cape-stone, and it stands today a towering monument to the master minds that conceived it and to that fraternity, almost as old as history itself, which has caused it to be built.

Two years ago the plan of building a great temple, to be dedicated to the uses of Freemasonry, originated in the minds of Norman T. Gassette and others, their idea met the approval of their brother Masons, and the ground at State and Randolph streets was purchased for that purpose. To Burham and Root was given the work of drawing the plans, a work performed to the satisfaction of all interested. The corner-stone was laid one year from the time the plans were made public, and one year to the day the cape-stone was ready to be put in place.

A grander or more brilliant procession of Masons never marched along the streets of Chicago. More than 500 uniformed knights were in line, their white plumes waving and their highly burnished swords clanking as they marched along. Then the various lodges counter-marched and fell into the ranks, and soon 1,550 more men, ununiformed but bearing the various instruments of their order, were in motion.

After traversing several streets they arrived at the Temple Building where the lodge members were formed in open order, when the Grand Lodge Officers proceeded to the front, the lodges closing ranks and following regular order, the oldest lodge immediately after the

Grand Lodge. The Templars were drawn up in line on the west side of State Street.

A force of 200 police held back the great crowd which reached for blocks in every direction. The long procession countermarched and drew up in ranks before the speakers' stand. The officers of the Grand Lodge were assisted from their carriages and escorted to seats on the platform, the princes of Oriental Consistory and the Templars saluted with their swords.

The cape-stone rested on a table which had a flag of the United States for covering. A rope extending from a crane at the topmost point of the front wall was fastened to the stone, to be used in drawing it up to place. Past Grand Master John C. Smith sent a basket of flowers which almost hid the stone from view until the ceremonies were completed, when they were distributed among the women present, as mementos of the occasion.

The Oriental Quartette sang an anthem composed especially for the occasion by Rev. Henry G. Perry. Vice-president Amos Grannie, of the Masonic Fraternity Temple Association, then requested Brother John C. Smith to complete the building by placing the cape-stone according to the custom of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons. The principal architect of the building, D. H. Burnham, presented the working tools necessary to lay the stone. He said:

Having been entrusted with the duty of designing this edifice, and of supervising and directing the workmen in its erection, and having been enabled to witness its completion, I now, with due respect, present to you for inspection and approval the last stone that enters into its composition, and with it I now return to you the implements entrusted to me at the laying of the corner-stone, there being no further occasion for their use.

The Grand Master then had the working tools used to test the stone and it was found perfect. The Grand Master then said:

Mr. Burnham, I accept this work, assuring you of my hearty approval, and will forthwith proceed to consecrate it according to ancient usage.

The stone was then consecrated with the ancient elements of the Craft, corn, wine and oil. The stone was then elevated and placed in position and

the Grand Honors given three times. The Grand Marshal proclaimed

that the cape-stone of the Masonic Fraternity Temple has this day been celebrated according to the old customs of Free and Accepted Masons.

A suitable oration was delivered by Rev. Brother H. W. Thomas, after which Oriental Quartette sang a closing anthem, the audience was dismissed, the Templars and lodges returned to their various halls and the Grand Lodge to the Preceptory of Oriental Consistory where it was closed in ample form.

### Cornerstone of the Illinois Masonic Home June 24, 1903

The most notable ceremony and the one which will appeal to the heart of every Mason of this great Jurisdiction, was that which marked the practical inception of the great and glorious charitable work which you by your votes authorized at our last annual communication.

The laying of this cornerstone was most assuredly a memorable event, embodying as it does in the event and the results to follow those excellent tenets of our institution, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, in the highest degree. Fully three thousand brethren and as many more of the public, by their presence testified to the deep interest which this work has excited within and without the fraternity, and gives assurance of its lasting and generous support. Eight Commanderies of Knights Templar, with bands, combined to make the demonstration unequalled in the annals of our history. All the elective officers of the Grand Lodge were there together with the Grand Orator and Grand Tyler.

The interest in the consecration of the stone was enhanced by the fact that a portion of the corn, wine and oil that were used was the actual product of the Holy Land, presented for the occasion by Brother John C. Smith, P.G.M. The contents of the casket placed within the stone embraced the following: Proceedings of the Grand Lodge 1901-1902, Grand Orator's address at the laying of the corner-stone, Certified copy of the last will and testament of Robt. A. Miller and documents connected with its probate, Certified copy of the resolutions of the Grand Lodge, A.F. and A.M., of Illinois, and that part of the Grand Master's address pertaining to the bequest, Biography of Robert A. Miller, List of charter members and officers, and present members of the Sullivan lodge, History of the Illinois Masonic Home, Names of officers and Board of Trustees and name of architect, Copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, Card of W. F. Benson, contractor and builder of Home, Program of exercises, June 18, 1903, Coins of 1903.

The above is a copy of the address of William B. Wright, Grand Master.

### **Cornerstone of the Orphans' Home**

On April 30, 1910 the Grand Master laid the cornerstone for the Orphans' Home at La Grange in the presence of several thousand people. The exercises were set for three o'clock in the afternoon. The weather was unpropitious but in every other respect this historic event was conducted to a successful conclusion.

The stone was laid with a silver trowel specially made and suitably inscribed for the use of the M.W. Grand Master, the cement was spread whereby the chief stone of the corner found a secure and lasting resting place, marking the climax of more than twenty-five years of constant endeavor to provide a permanent Masonic Home for the orphan children of our deceased brethren whom fate would otherwise cast adrift on the troubled sea of life.

All the Masonic organizations of Cook County were invited to attend and participate in the ceremonies. The line of march was composed of 21 lodges, two chapters with 200 members and escorted by five Commanderies with 300 Knights in full uniform.

The program of exercises and a list of the contents of the stone will be found on page 74-80 of the proceedings of 1910.

The children of the Home in Chicago were present to witness the laying of the cornerstone of the building which was to be their future home. The children attracted much attention and made a most favorable impression. The rain cut short the oration of the Grand Orator which was greatly regretted. However, the event was imposing and will long be remembered by those who were present.

### **Cornerstone of the Royal Arch Memorial Hospital October 3, 1914**

BY HENRY T. BURNAP, *Grand Master*

The Grand Lodge function of most importance and general interest to the craft, at which I officiated during my term of office, was the laying of the cornerstone of the Royal Arch Memorial Hospital on the grounds of the Masonic Home at Sullivan which took place on Saturday, October 3.

This ceremony marked the official beginning of a much needed and long desired addition to the facilities for the proper administra-

tion of one of the great organized charities which is being conducted under the auspices of this Grand Lodge. All the elective officers of the Grand Lodge, with one exception, were present on this occasion and the ceremonies were witnessed by a large concourse of people from Sullivan and neighboring cities. Sullivan Lodge No. 764 attended in a body accompanied by a large delegation from Decatur who brought with them a band which furnished music for the ceremony. The thanks of the Grand Lodge are due to the brethren of Sullivan for the interest which they manifested in attending to preliminary details and in provision made for transportation and entertainment of the visitors.

### Other Cornerstones Laid by Grand Lodge

Masonic Temples	125
Schools	109
Hospitals	18
Churches	62
Court Houses	34
City Halls	13
Other buildings	35
	<hr/>
Total	396

### Dedications

The Grand Lodge has dedicated 297 lodge rooms.

#### Dedication of the Illinois Masonic Home

The most important dedication of the year as well as the most significant one in the history of the Grand Lodge occurred at Sullivan, Ill. where, on the 8th day of September, 1904, I convened an Occasional Grand Lodge and with appropriate ceremonies solemnly dedicated the Illinois Masonic Home to the purpose for which it is intended. A large number of Masons, Knights Templar and citizens graced the occasion with their presence.

Miss Winnie Titus, of Sullivan, rendered a beautiful and appropriate solo and a number of songs by the celebrated Lexington Quartette added much to the beauty and dignity of the ceremonies.

M.W. Owen Scott delivered an impressive and eloquent dedicatory address, which I believe, should be preserved of record.

(From the report of Grand Master Wright).

### Dedication of the Royal Arch Memorial Hospital

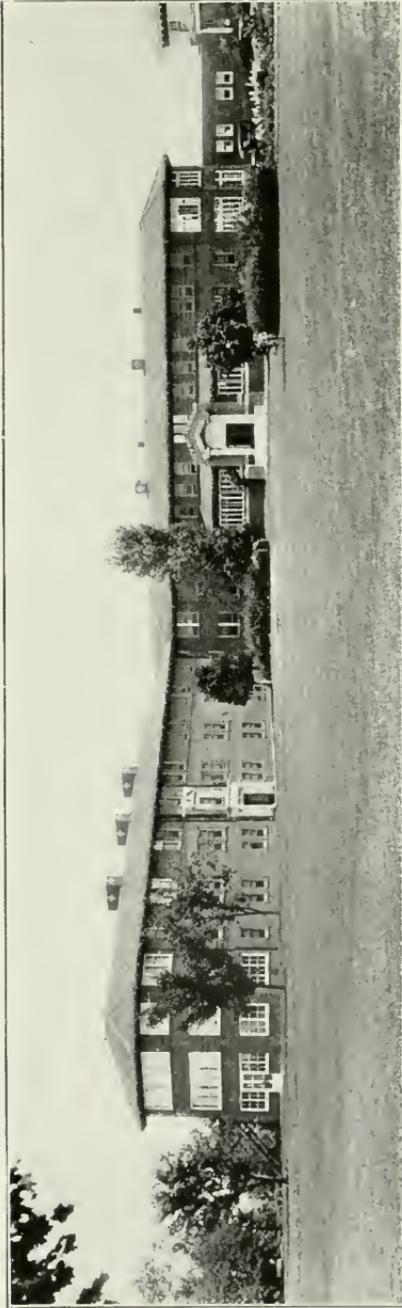
On April 11, 1915 a meeting of the Board of Managers was held at Sullivan at which Sir Knight Thomas A. Stevens, Grand Commander Knights Templar and Companion Everett R. Turnbull, Grand High Priest, were present. At this meeting a general committee on arrangements was selected consisting of Ralph H. Wheeler, president of the Board, the Grand Commander and Grand High Priest. The following were named chairmen of the sub-committees: Thomas H. Stevens, Escort and Marshal, Everett R. Turnbull, Local Arrangements, Louis L. Emmerson, Finance.

It was decided to make this a patriotic Fourth of July celebration but, as the fourth came on Sunday, the actual ceremony was on Monday the fifth. The day was bright and clear, the rain of the preceding night had cooled the air and the heat was not uncomfortable. Never before in the history of Masonry in Illinois had Lodge, Chapter and Commandery appeared in public in one procession; never before had the Grand Officers of the three Grand Bodies sat together on one platform. These three great organizations have a common object; to relieve the distressed, care for the sick and comfort poor and weary pilgrims traveling from afar.

The attendance far surpassed all expectations. All railroads ran special trains and the crowd was enormous. The procession, by actual count, showed more than 5,000 in line. The distance from the town to the Home is about two miles. When the head of the parade entered the grounds the end had not started from the city. About half the line was taken up by the lodges with members marching eight abreast. The procession was headed by Siloam Commandery band, an organization of Knights Templar only. Many other bands were in the line. The united quartettes numbering forty men under the leadership of George Kurzenknabe assisted materially in making the exercises a success. Nearly half of the lodges in the state were represented; 137 of the 153 lodges in Chicago were represented.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest Everett R. Turnbull, in a masterly and appropriate address formally presented the hospital to the Grand Lodge. In this he proved that Masons are conscious of and prepared to answer the age-old question that has come down through the ages, "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Most Worshipful Grand Master Henry T. Burnap, on behalf of the Grand Lodge, accepted the magnanimous gift in a pleasing and force-



Royal Arch Memorial Hospital, Sullivan.



ful manner, and his acceptance was supplemented by a short address by Ralph H. Wheeler, of the Board of Managers. Companion Henry H. Montgomery, Past Grand High Priest, delivered an eloquent oration on behalf of the Grand Chapter, which was responded to by George M. Moulton, Past Grand Master and former President of the Board of Managers of the Masonic Homes. The day was enlivened by band concerts and selections by the united quartettes, and all went home feeling that a great advance had been made in the usefulness of the Masonic fraternity in Illinois.

### The Illinois Masonic Hospital

In 1909 a small company of Masons interested in the welfare of needy members organized a hospital association to carry out one of the great teachings of the fraternity. The members of the first Board of Trustees deserve to have their names on permanent record. They were: J. A. Lyons, D. A. Payne, M.D., Howard R. Appleget, Frank A. West, James Hill, Otto F. Dannenberg, Edgar W. Chestermann, Vivian M. Scott, Dan E. Meyer, C. D. Pence, Andrew N. Engle, Robert J. Daly, Thomas J. McGrath, J. B. McFatrigh, Henry Steinbeck.

They had an abiding faith in the justice of their cause and went before the various Masonic organizations in Chicago asking for funds.

At first there were no funds available to furnish and maintain a hospital; extreme cases were farmed out to existing hospitals but this was far from satisfactory. As appeals for assistance grew in number the need for better and more adequate quarters could no longer be ignored.

In 1915 a number of prominent Masons in Chicago proceeded to form a corporation and obtained a charter, in which the objectives of the group were specified.

Some time prior to the incorporation of what was then known as the Gil. W. Barnard Hospital, various schemes were devised which provided the means for raising funds.

In 1921 the charter was amended and the name changed to the Illinois Masonic Hospital. The Chicago Union Hospital with a 60 bed capacity was purchased for \$100,000. This was the first institution operated in Illinois where Masonic charity cases could be treated exclusively under Masonic management. In three years the terrific demands made upon it for charity entirely outgrew the capacity of the hospital.

Following 1921, largely through the cooperation of Medinah Shrine, \$200,000 was collected which enabled the directors to com-

plete a new wing to the hospital. Following the fund raising campaign, immediate steps were taken to build a more modern structure, with facilities that were thought to be adequate to meet all charity needs for a long time to come.

However, the funds raised were far short of the cost of improvement and it became necessary to mortgage the property. Then came the great depression and the association was in a desperate condition for some years but the courageous and unfaltering faith of the directors and officers of the association finally brought the financial trouble to a satisfactory ending.

Since 1921 three additions have been built to the original building and five additional parcels of property contiguous to the main institution have been purchased.

The second wing was completed free from debt; a new addition was added as a home for student and trained nurses; additional improved property was used for housing hospital attendants, including internes and resident physicians.

A third addition will be completed this month (November 1951), which will give a total of 400 beds, 40 bassinets, new recovery rooms, new X-ray department which occupies an entire floor, new clinic and examining rooms, pharmacy and many other added facilities. The boiler and laundry rooms occupy a separate building on hospital property. The nurses' homes surround the hospital.

The cornerstone of the latest addition to the nurses' home was laid on November 25, 1944.

An average year's work is given in the 1947 Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Patients admitted	11,947,
Patients' visits to clinic	30,183,
Association cases in hospital	555.
Babies born in hospital	1,750.

This property has grown from a very small beginning to its vast proportions. It is valued at more than a million and a quarter dollars and is owned by the Masonic Bodies of Cook County. It is the largest hospital in the country that has the name "Masonic" attached to it.

The present officers are: Edgar A. Jonas, President; Charles W. Kaiser, First Vice President; Frank E. Hodek, Jr., Second Vice President; Fred P. Kirch, Treasurer; Watson Boyes, Secretary; William Tenney, Superintendent.

## Chapter 25

# CHARITY AND BENEVOLENCE

During the early years relief of members was a personal matter. A needy brother would apply directly to the Grand Lodge for help; that body, after investigation, would make a contribution. In those early days the Grand Lodge had no money to support an institution for permanent relief. As the membership grew in numbers and more cases were reported, especially children needing assistance, an attempt was made to have a plan for a Widows' and Orphans' Home adopted. However, the time was not ripe for such action and it was defeated. This was a resolution presented in 1875 and submitted to the lodges for a referendum vote. But there were those who felt that something must be done. Therefore a small band of courageous members decided to act as individuals. Accordingly George M. Moulton, Gorham B. Coffin and John A. Crawford applied for and received the following:

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION  
TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL  
COME, GREETING:

WHEREAS, a certificate, duly signed and acknowledged has been filed in the office of the Secretary of State, on the eleventh day of March, A.D. 1885, for the organization of "THE ILLINOIS MASONIC ORPHANS' HOME," under and in accordance with the provisions of "An Act Concerning Corporations," approved April 18, 1872, and in force July 1, 1872, a copy of which certificate is hereto attached:

Now, Therefore, I, Henry D. Dement, Secretary of State of the State of Illinois, by virtue of the powers and duties vested in me by law, do hereby certify that the said "THE ILLINOIS MASONIC ORPHANS' HOME" is a legally organized corporation under the laws of this State.

In testimony, whereof, I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed the great Seal of State.

Done at the City of Springfield, this eleventh day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and ninth.

HENRY D. DEMENT

Secretary of State.

[SEAL]

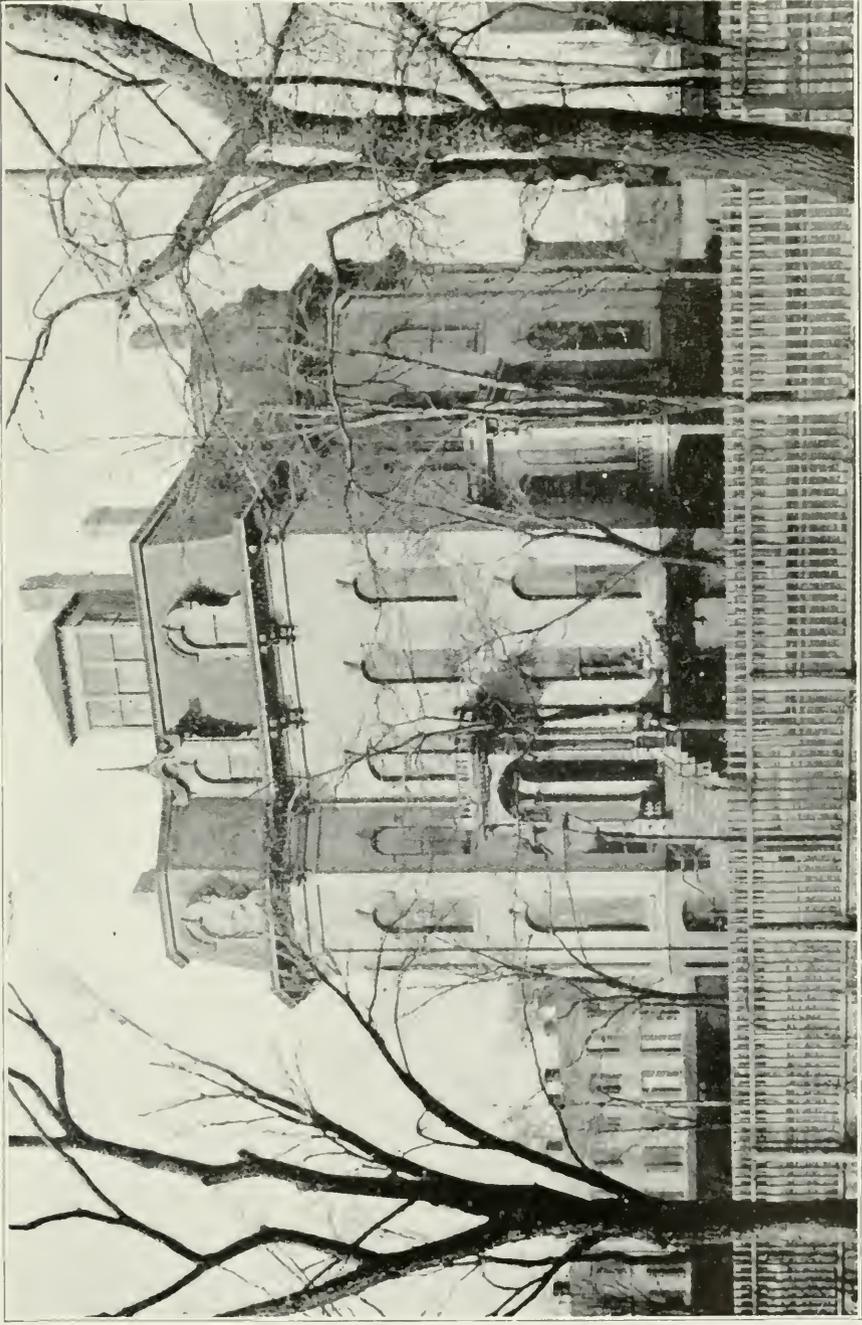
The object for which it was formed was to provide and maintain, at or near the City of Chicago, a home for the nurture, and intellectual, moral and physical culture of indigent children of deceased Freemasons of the State of Illinois; and a temporary shelter and asylum for sick and indigent widows of such deceased Freemasons.

George M. Moulton was elected the first president of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home; Henry Turner, Vice President; and George W. Warvelle, Counsel. Jno. A. Crawford, Jno. J. Badenoch, Gorham B. Coffin, Chas. A. Moses, Thos. E. Miller, S. T. Gunderson, D. H. McDanel, Herschel W. Dryer and Henson Robinson, with them composed the twelve original trustees, Gil W. Barnard was their secretary and Wiley M. Egan, treasurer.

Immediately facing these men was the tremendous task of devising means for raising sufficient funds to acquire a building suitable for use as an orphans' home. Another problem of equal importance was the matter of securing continual financial support to maintain the Home, year after year. It was agreed to accomplish both of these purposes by means of membership dues. Two classes of members were established, "active" and "life," the former paying annual dues of one dollar, the latter paying fifty dollars, either in one payment, or in not more than five annual installments. Twenty-five thousand pamphlets were printed and distributed, containing the by-laws and prospectus of the organization. The first annual report of the president disclosed the fact that over \$5,000 had actually been paid into the treasury of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home and about half as much more pledged, but not yet paid.

It is the judgment of your Board [said the report], that a practical start should be made, as soon as we may be assured of the continuous financial support of the brethren. We do not aspire to a lofty edifice elegantly furnished at first, but propose to make an humble beginning, trusting that our good works may be the means of attracting gradually the united and spontaneous support of the brethren, so that in time, the spacious and lofty edifice may be reared.

This first annual report, with its courageous forward look, was presented on March 9, 1886, and with such dispatch did the Board proceed that before three months had passed a suitable building had been found and on June 12 a special meeting of the Association authorized them to borrow a sum not to exceed \$10,000 to purchase "the grounds and buildings situated at the intersection of Carroll Avenue and Sheldon Street in the City of Chicago." Within the next few weeks



The first building of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home, Carroll Avenue and Sheldon Street, Chicago.



the property was purchased for \$15,000. Five brethren, A. B. Ashley, A. M. Eddy, C. H. Tebbets, J. J. Badenoch and George M. Moulton each advanced \$1,000 as temporary loans, which, with the money in the treasury, was sufficient to complete the purchase of the property at Carroll Avenue and Sheldon Street in Chicago.

A prospectus was immediately printed, bearing on the front a picture of the Home, and circulated among the Lodges. The following quotations from that circular show what enthusiasm and devotion marked the work of the trustees:

The Management of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home are much gratified at being able to announce to the Masonic fraternity of this State, that the practical establishment of a "Home" for the helpless and dependent Orphans of our deceased brethren is an assured fact in the near future. The view with which this circular is illustrated is an accurate reproduction of the premises lately secured for the purpose mentioned. By a combination of strangely fortuitous circumstances we have been enabled to secure this beautiful property, admirably adapted for the purposes intended, at a price far below its real value. This property is situated at the North-west corner of Carroll Avenue and Sheldon Street, in the West Division of the City of Chicago, on improved streets, in a retired, yet eminently respectable locality. The grounds are 203 x 164 feet.

The Home was dedicated by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge on Thursday, October 7, 1886, the "Order of Exercises" announcing that "The Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of Illinois, accompanied by its constituent Lodges, and under an escort tendered by the Chivalric orders of Knights Templar and Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, 32°, will leave the Grand Lodge Hall on Michigan Avenue at half past two o'clock." The dedicatory ceremonies included an address by Most Worshipful Brother A. T. Darrah, Grand Master, prayers by the Grand Chaplain, Worshipful Brother G. W. Scawthon, and Rt. Rev. Brother Samuel Fallows, and a sermon by Rev. Brother H. W. Thomas.

Chicago Council, Princes of Jerusalem, 16°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, presented to the Association the crockery, tableware, and banquet furniture formerly used by the Council.

The following resolution appears on the minutes of the meeting of October 29, 1886:

Whereas the ladies whose names are embodied in the following resolution did in the year 1885 prepare by their own hands a beautifully embroidered Slumber Quilt, which being disposed of by raffle

March 17, 1885, realizing thereby the sum of \$612.40, which sum was donated to the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home, being the first money that was received by the said organization, and was, in fact, the chief incentive to its organization, therefore, Resolved that the Mesdames George M. Moulton, Jno. J. Badenoch, G. B. Coffin, J. A. Crawford, T. E. Miller, Jno. Woodman, P. M. Bristol, D. H. McDanel, W. C. Lyman, J. S. Zimmerman, G. W. Marbel, J. E. Dickerson, P. Button, Miss Jessie A. Button, and Miss Grace L. Freeman be elected the first honorary members of this Association in recognition of their charitable efforts and the ultimate good that has resulted thereby.

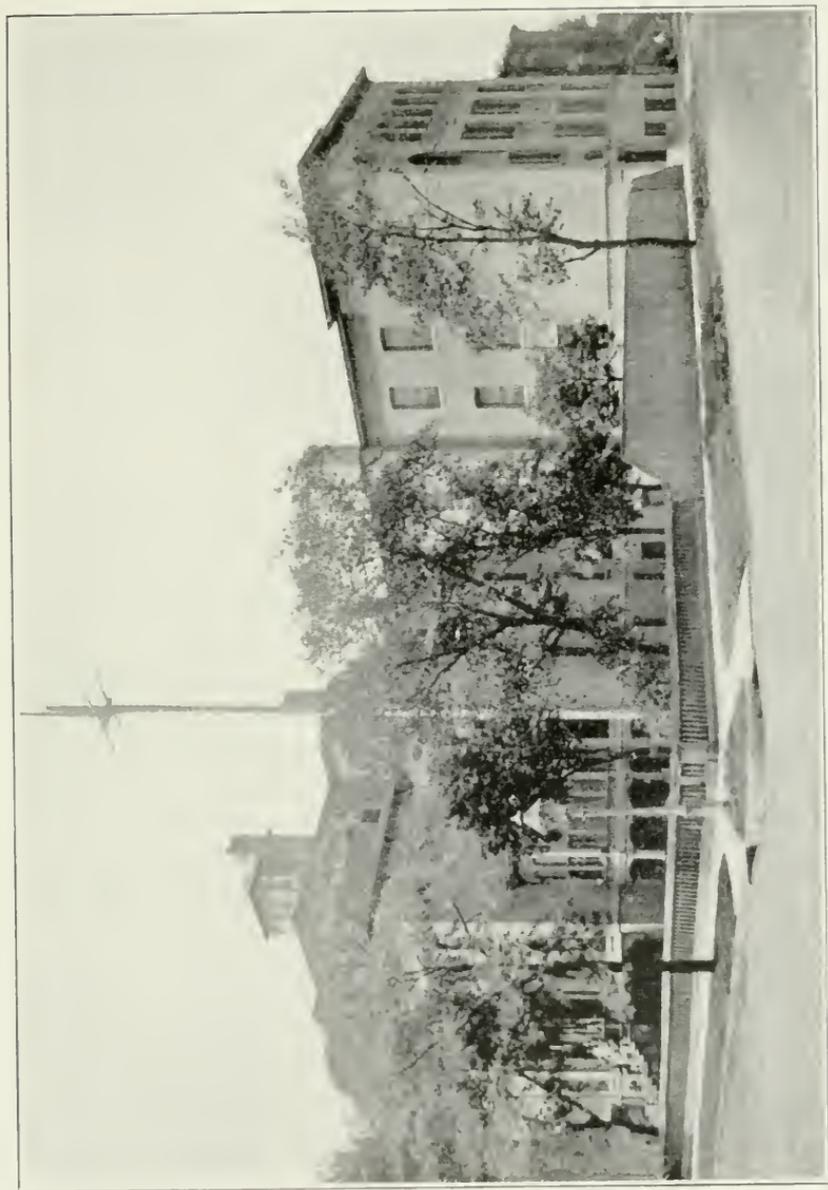
By a somewhat similar resolution Mr. and Mrs. Martin Losby, who donated the quilt to the Home, were elected to honorary membership in the Association.

The quilt referred to is displayed today, appropriately framed and inscribed, in a prominent location in the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home, and all who visit the Home are told of its history.

For more than twenty years the Home grew, both in the number of children in its care and in the esteem and interest of the brethren. By 1895 it had become necessary to build an addition to the Home to care for the growing number of children. This building cost somewhere about \$21,000 with its furnishings, and was in fact a new home, the original building being used thereafter as an annex to house the hospital, library, storeroom, and employees' rooms.

The first superintendent and matron, Brother and Mrs. E. N. Edwards, resigned after some six months of service and were replaced by Brother and Mrs. J. G. Stebbins, who for more than two decades were in charge of the Home. The most difficult problem facing the Trustees throughout all this period was that of enlisting the financial support necessary to meet an annually increasing budget, for while there were only four children in the Home the first year it was opened, the population increased steadily until there were more than sixty children under its roof at one time. Difficult as was this financial problem, it was met and met splendidly. Annual memberships, life memberships, an annual Knights Templar charity ball, picnics, donations from the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and other bodies and individuals, and a few bequests, brought in funds sufficient not only to care for the children in the Home, but to make necessary repairs and additions to the buildings. A finer acceptance of financial responsibility, and a more successful fulfilling of that responsibility by a voluntary Board of Trustees would be difficult to discover.

During the early years of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home there



The Old Home became the annex when this building (right) was added.



was growing among the members of the Lodges the feeling that there should be as definite a plan for the care of the aged brethren and their wives and widows as had been established for the orphans. In fact the question was under discussion twenty years before the orphans' home was founded. Grand Master Thomas J. Turner, in 1865, recommended that "steps be taken to found an asylum for aged, decrepit and decayed Masons," but his recommendation was not followed.

In 1901 a special committee was appointed by Grand Master Chas. H. Hitchcock to study and report upon the bequest and to this committee was referred the following momentous resolution proposed by Worshipful Brother Ralph H. Wheeler:

WHEREAS, The organized Masonic charities of the Jurisdiction of Illinois are now conducted wholly under private auspices and independent of Grand Lodge control or supervision, and

WHEREAS, It is highly desirable that said Masonic charities should be officially controlled and maintained by the Grand Lodge and under its immediate supervision; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Grand Lodge of Illinois, A.F. & A.M., upon a proper transfer to it of all the property and effects of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home and the Illinois Masonic Home for the Aged, will accept the trust of both these institutions and make suitable provisions for their maintenance.

A period of rapid growth and development followed for both Homes after they had been taken over by the Grand Lodge. It soon became evident that the Home at Carroll Avenue and Sheldon Street would not be large enough, nor was it designed for the increasing number of children in its care; so it was decided to sell the original home and use the proceeds for the purchase of a new site and the erection of a new building.

In 1909 the Grand Lodge approved the action of the special committee which had been authorized to select and purchase a site for the new Orphans' Home. The committee had secured for \$11,000 a tract of land comprising nearly four acres in the southeast part of the village of LaGrange, some fourteen miles from downtown Chicago.

The building operations were begun and carried on with remarkable dispatch, and the cornerstone was laid with Masonic honors by Grand Master Albert B. Ashley, who convened an Occasional Grand Lodge for that purpose on April 30, 1910. In the words of the annual report made in October, 1910, to the Grand Lodge,

The weather conditions were unpropitious, but in every other respect this historic event was conducted to a successful conclusion amid general

rejoicing and with glad acclaim. With a silver trowel specially made and suitably inscribed for the use of the M.W. Grand Master the cement was spread whereby the chief stone of the corner found a secure and lasting resting place, marking the climax of more than twenty-five years of constant endeavor to provide a permanent Masonic Home for the orphan children of our deceased brethren whom fate would otherwise cast adrift on the troubled sea of life.

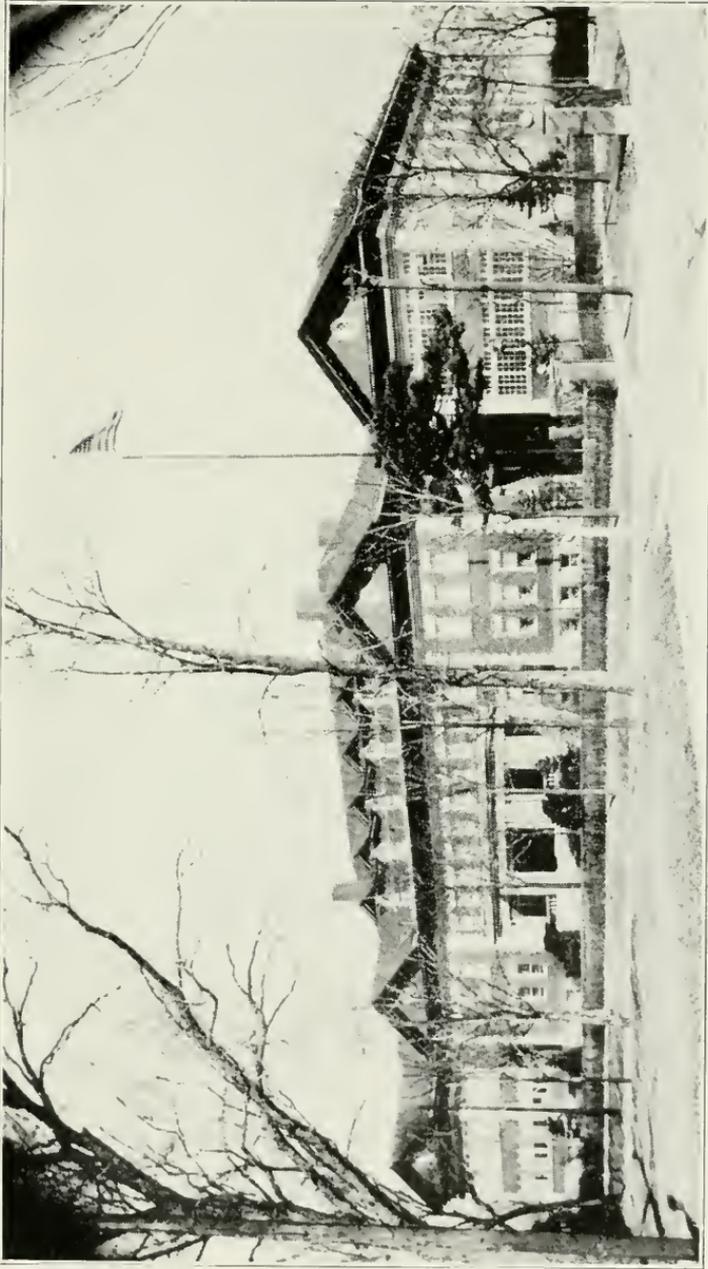
On March 15, 1911, 78 children said their last good-bye to their home at 23 Bishop Court and took up their residence in their beautiful new Home on South Ninth Avenue and Goodman Avenue, LaGrange.

Finally, on St. John's Day, June 24, 1911, with stirring music by several Commandery bands, a great parade of Masons from all over Cook County, including Oriental Consistory 32°, Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, Commanderies of Knights Templar, Councils of Royal and Select Masters, Chapters of Royal Arch Masons and a host of Lodges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the home was appropriately and impressively dedicated by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and Grand Master Albert B. Ashley. Brother William White Wilson was Right Worshipful Grand Orator and Brother H. V. Holt acted as Grand Chaplain.

Almost immediately upon the locating of the Home in LaGrange there arose a problem in connection with the education of the children. LaGrange was a village with a population of under six thousand, and it seemed to the taxpayers scarcely just to require them to pay for the education in the public schools of a large and growing group of children brought to the Village from all parts of the State of Illinois. The trustees of the Home and the Board of Education not being able to reach a satisfactory agreement, the courts were turned to for a solution of the problem. The decision was entirely in favor of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home, the court holding that all children are entitled to a public school education in the district where they live.

The Grand Lodge having proved its right to use the city public schools gave the school board \$6,000 to assist it in paying the expenses of the education of the children. This was continued until 1929 when the legislature provided for the payment from state school funds.

The number of children under care in LaGrange grew year by year from 78 in 1911 to 314 in 1931, and the original building was soon filled practically to capacity. In 1919 the Grand Lodge authorized the erection of two dormitories to adjoin the main building as wings on the north and south, and a boiler room on the east end of the property connected with the main building by a tunnel, all for the sum of



A recent picture of the Home at LaGrange showing the north and south wings and Hospital additions.



\$250,000. Adjoining the south dormitory and a part of that building, a hospital was erected which was made possible by the bequest of Brother John H. Millen, amounting to \$32,406.75. Oriental Consistory, 32° Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret donated \$16,000 at this time for the purchase of additional land adjoining the Home property, and three years later the entire block south of the Home was added through the generous donation of \$20,000 by Medinah Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. In 1927 another wing was added at a cost of approximately \$100,000, providing living rooms and sleeping accommodations for three groups of younger boys as well as quarters for several employees. There were several other smaller additions during these years of expansion such as the concrete wading pool and pavilion presented by the Grand Chapter of Illinois, Royal Arch Masons, additions to the boiler room, a small brick building for manual training shop, garden implements and garage, and a 100 ton coal storage silo with a spur from the Indiana Harbor Belt Railway.

Altogether the property of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home represents a total investment in land and buildings of over \$580,000. Today the appraised replacement value of the buildings and equipment is \$1,645,878.77.

The Village of LaGrange most generously vacated parts of two streets which ran through the property of the Home.

The number of children in the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home which had been steadily increasing from the very beginning, after reaching a peak of 314 in 1931, started to decrease. Each year thereafter for fourteen years more children graduated, or were removed from the Home for other reasons, than entered the Home until in 1945 only 52 remained. Then the trend turned upward again. The number under care on March 1, 1950 was 103.

#### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Benjamin E. Patton . . . . .	President
James Green . . . . .	Vice-President
Arthur I. Peters . . . . .	Treasurer
Richard C. Davenport . . . . .	Secretary
Carrol T. Hughes	
Milton T. Sonntag	

THE ILLINOIS MASONIC ORPHANS' HOME  
LaGrange, Illinois

## THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

Harry H. Talcott . . . . .	Chairman
Carl B. Dunlap . . . . .	Treasurer
Siegel C. Oxford . . . . .	Secretary
Robert J. Daly . . . . .	Chairman Emeritus
<hr/>	
Fred S. Lynn . . . . .	Superintendent

**The Illinois Masonic Home**

In 1888 Brother Robert A. Miller of Sullivan Lodge No. 764, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, provided in his will, that, at his death and the death of his wife, his farm of 264 acres should go to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Illinois to be used as a site for a home for needy, worthy Master Masons, their wives and widows. In 1891 Brother Miller passed to his reward and ten years later Mrs. Miller answered the summons. The will was then probated and the Grand Lodge accepted the farm.

In 1903 the cornerstone for the first building, now known as the Men's Building, was laid, and in 1904 this building was dedicated and the first members were admitted. Thus the beginning of what we know as the Illinois Masonic Home.

All the facilities of the Home were contained in the first building, the heating plant, light and water system, laundry, kitchen and dining room, office, reception rooms and superintendent's quarters.

It did not take long to find that this was inadequate, and in 1907 the cornerstone was laid for the second building, now known as the Administration Building. In this building the first floor was used for offices, dining room, kitchen and the superintendent's quarters and the second floor was used for living quarters. In the basement of this building was the first provision for hospital care of our members. At the same time the present heating plant and power house was erected.

In 1914 the cornerstone of the Royal Arch Memorial Hospital was laid and thus, through the generosity of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, was provided a modern hospital or infirmary with a capacity of fifty beds for the benefit of members of the Home. The hospital was dedicated on July 5, 1915, and this was probably the red-letter day in the history of the Home, as it was estimated that more than five thousand Masons visited the Home on that day.

In 1917 the cornerstone for the fourth building, the Ladies' Building, was laid. This was completed and occupied in 1918.



Men's Building



Administration Building



Women's Building

ILLINOIS MASONIC HOME, SULLIVAN



In 1925, again through the generosity of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, the forty-bed annex and auditorium was started and was completed and dedicated in 1926, bringing our hospital facilities to ninety beds. However, having no other facilities for nurses' quarters, we are compelled to use eleven of these for their quarters.

Soon after the erection of the Royal Arch Memorial Hospital our neighbor on the East and brother-in-law of Brother Miller, Edwin C. Swain, seeing the good that was being done, decided that he would like to contribute his farm of 200 acres to the cause. Not being a member of the Craft he made his wishes known to Brother William Irving Shuman and through him the transaction was completed and in due time the 200 acres was transferred to the Grand Lodge, making the 464 acres of land on which is located the Illinois Masonic Home.

The Home represents an investment of well over a million dollars and consists of the five main buildings, three of which we call the Home and two the Hospital, with the heating plant, water plant, garage and a greenhouse which was given by Medinah Temple of Chicago, as well as the well-improved farm buildings for dairy and stock raising and farming.

These are the material things of life and of the world and are seen and admired by all who pass this way, but back of all this and hidden from the eyes of many who pass, is that which makes it all worth while, service to mankind. In youth and in age we face a world that many times seems cold and cruel, but in youth we have the vim, vigor and will to fight, whereas in age these are lacking because it has been a long, hard battle well-fought. In youth it is words of encouragement that buoy us up and keep us going, but in age it is words of kindness and sympathy and a hand to steady our step, that makes the burden a little lighter and our day brighter at the close of the fight.

Since the opening of the Home, and the first guest was admitted in 1904, there have passed this way some 1,635 Brethren, their wives and widows. During that time and among that number there may have been some who did not appreciate the services that were theirs, but they were few. Our guests have come from all stations of life and from all parts of the world and by having passed this way, by far the majority have enjoyed a longer life, fuller and more pleasant years than would have otherwise been their lot. The length of their sojourn here has varied from a few days to many years, the longest stay being that of Mrs. Elizabeth Weddle, of Pana Lodge No. 266, Pana, Illinois, who lived in the Home for 35 years and 6 days.

Application No. 1 was filed by Louisville Lodge No. 196, Louisville, Illinois, for Mrs. Elizabeth Locke Cunningham. However, she was not the first arrival at the Home. Brother Henry Ryan Fuller of Kishwaukee Lodge No. 402, Kingston, Illinois, arrived December 1, 1904, and may have been the first member, and it is noted on his application that he was eleven times elected Worshipful Master of his lodge.

To give you some idea of the things that are done and the service rendered, recently one member was called to his reward. He arrived there February 8, 1924, and passed away January 17, 1948, lacking a few days of twenty-four years; nineteen years of this was spent in the hospital where someone fed him every bite he ate or held the glass for him to take a drink of water, yet through all this, no matter how small the deed that was done, he always had a thank-you for your kindness, always having a good word to his Brethren and for mankind. This is only one among many that could be mentioned, but this we hope will give some idea of what the Masonic fraternity is doing.

### The Ward Museum

During recent years an annual pilgrimage has been made to the Home for a basket lunch and inspection of the buildings and grounds and visits with the residents. The Ward Museum was the big attraction. The Grand Master's report in 1948 said:

More than a third of a century ago, Brother and Mrs. A. L. Ward, of Shelbyville, Illinois, entered upon an adventure which they thought would bring contentment and happiness to themselves. That adventure was to travel over this land of ours and discover places where objects that were rare and unusual were to be found, with the thought in mind of collecting such as could be purchased in order that they might enjoy them in their home.

Over a long period of time, never losing sight of their objective, they continued upon this adventure, each year adding item after item, their happiness increasing in like proportion as their collection grew; finally it became too large for their home, so as to continue the adventure they built an additional room in which to display their treasures, thus making it possible to share their pleasure with their friends.

As more years passed and the collection grew, again their space for display became too small; many items were stored and so could not be thoroughly enjoyed; then came restriction of travel which removed the joy of making their collection more extensive; they had succeeded well in their adventure as theirs is looked upon as being one of the most complete and comprehensive private museums in the land.



View of Masonic Home at Sullivan.



Realizing the uncertainty of life their minds turned to the future; what would become of their pride and joy; would it be scattered to the four winds after their days were done? Would the long years of collecting come to a commercial end?

Then the thought came to our good friends; The Illinois Masonic Home at Sullivan would be the ideal spot for the accomplishment of such a worthy objective; Conferences were held, agreements reached, plans formulated and carried through; a special room at the Home was constructed; the collection has been moved and is now on display. September 22 1948 it was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies as the Lincoln and Cora Ward Museum. Every lodge was invited to attend in order that our members might see for themselves this wonderful gift through the goodness and generosity of Brother and Mrs. Ward. The occasion also afforded an opportunity for hundreds of our members and friends to enjoy a picnic dinner and visit the Old Folks Home.

The collection, among other things, consists of over 10,000 sea shells of every known species, the largest such collection in the world; also one of the largest collections of unusual glassware, many of them rare antiques, and many other items found in a collector's stock. The value of the collection was placed at well over \$50,000 and in addition Brother Ward gave \$25,000 to build the additional building needed to contain the collection.

Now that the collection has been placed where it can be enjoyed by many hundreds, Brother Ward passed to the great majority and was buried on June 9, 1951 at Shelbyville, Illinois.

The trustees of the Home are having a sound movie made of scenes at the Home for use of the lodges, believing this would be of great help in letting the Craft know about the possibilities of the Home.

## Chapter 26

# FUNERAL OF STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS

On April 22, 1840 Stephen A. Douglas petitioned Springfield Lodge No. 26 for the degrees. The Grand Lodge was organized that year and No. 26 became No. 4. He received the degree of Entered Apprentice on June 11, Fellowcraft on June 24, and Master Mason on June 26, by Meredith Helm. His interest is evident from the record of his attendance: July 15; August 13, 24, 28; September 1; October 5; November 9, 16, 25, 30; December 7, 14, 21, 23 and 27, on which date he was elected Junior Warden. He filled his station on January 4, 13, 18; February 2, 23. On April 19, 1841 he resigned his office and moved to Quincy, having been elected judge of the Supreme Court in February, 1841, and stationed at Quincy.

On March 18, 1842, he petitioned Springfield Chapter No. 1 for the degrees and received the Mark degree from Meredith Helm on September 3, 1842. No other degrees were conferred in Springfield. On June 28, 1847 he petitioned Quincy Chapter No. 5 and was elected to receive the degrees on July 1. He received the Mark and Past Master degrees on August 30 and those of Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch on September 3, 1847. The degrees were conferred by Abram Jonas who was High Priest of the Chapter. He remained a member until his death.

He was elected Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge in 1840 but was unable to attend the 1841 session. He was present every day at the Grand Lodge session in Chicago in 1849. He was a frequent visitor at lodges while travelling the circuit on the Supreme Bench.

On May 1, 1861 he addressed the citizens of Chicago at the Wigwam. This proved to be his last speech. From the Wigwam he went to the Tremont House to rest but soon rheumatism attacked him and his malady took a typhoid form. On June 3 he breathed his last. He was unconscious and delirious but just before the end there was a lucid spell. His wife asked if he had any word to leave his sons. He replied: "Tell my sons to obey the laws and uphold the Constitution of the United States."

Thus ended the career of the greatest leader of his time. The day following his death the body was conveyed to Bryan Hall where it lay in state, and in care of a Masonic guard of honor, until the day of the funeral. The Chicago Tribune said about 70,000 people passed before the bier. On the evening preceding the funeral the Masonic funeral rites were performed.

A. W. Hitchcock, Master of LaFayette Lodge No. 18, called a meeting of the Craft to make arrangements for the services. Henry C. Ranney, Past Master, was appointed Grand Marshal and the Masters of the Chicago lodges, George F. Haines of Oriental No. 33; Charles Kauffield, Accordia No. 277; Gilbert E. Smith, Blaney No. 271; Nathan W. Huntley, Cleveland No. 211; Horatio N. Hurlbut, Dearborn No. 310; H. M. Wilcox, Garden City No. 141; H. M. Peters, Germania No. 182; J. E. Church, Wabansia No. 160; Charles Tunnicliff, W. B. Warren No. 209; were appointed Assistant Marshals.

In the words of Ira A. W. Buck, Grand Master, who on the evening of June 6

convened an Emergent Grand Lodge at Chicago to pay such last sad rites as were in our power to his memory.

Assisted by Past Deputy Grand Master Blaney, as Deputy, Hon. Brother William A. Richardson as S. G. Warden and Bro. Captain John M. Pitman as J. G. Warden, accompanied by Lodges and Brethren of Chicago and from abroad, we repaired to the Hall where the body lay in state, when the public ceremonies were performed, an oration was pronounced by Brother H. A. Johnson, and a procession formed which occupied over an hour depositing the evergreen upon the body, singing all the while the burial dirge, it was, for its majesty, significance, awe and solemnity, the most imposing funeral pageant I ever beheld. Every feature of the face was natural, majestic and imposing, even in death, one could hardly resist the solemn impression that his spirit hovered over, hushed and awed the vast throng into a mournful silence, to sobs, grief and tears. In the meridian of life he has gone; of his public career, I will not speak, for I should only repeat what you all know; his manners, talents and endowments it is unnecessary to describe, for who, in all Illinois, has not seen the peoples tribune, Stephen A. Douglas.

About three thousand sprigs of acacia were deposited on the body. He was buried on his estate at Okenwald, almost upon the spot he selected for the erection of his house overlooking Lake Michigan at Thirty-fifth Street.

Business was suspended the day of the funeral. At 10 o'clock the morning of June 7, the body was taken from Bryan Hall upon a special funeral car. It was carried a distance of nearly four miles to the place

of interment. Bells were tolled and from Dearborn Park cannon boomed.

The procession of ten divisions was composed of civic and military societies, United States troops, United States Senators, Representatives, Judges, Councilmen, members of the bar and citizens.

Around the grave was placed a guard of honor composed of students of Chicago University, of which Douglas was the founder. No religious services were held at the grave, but a eulogy was pronounced by the Rt. Rev. James Duggan, Catholic Bishop of Chicago, one of the dead senator's warmest friends.

The minutes of Springfield Lodge No. 4, July 15, 1861 read: .

Regular Communication.

Officers

Bros. Wm. Lavelly W.M.

R. C. McQuestion S.W.

W. D. Richardson J.W.

D. M. Bronson Secy.

W. Elkins J.D.

J. W. Watson Tyler

Lodge opened on 3rd degree.

The W.M. informed the Brethren that an invitation had been extended to all the Clergymen and Brethren from a distance to participate on the dinner of our esteemed Bro. S. A. Douglas.

Bro. Brayman made a motion that a Committee of 7 be appointed from the brethren present and form a board to draft Resolutions. W.M. appointed the following Bros.

M. Brayman

I. A. W. Buck, G.M.

C. Fisher

H. G. Reynolds

——— Bauker

W. M. Miner

A. Hickox

After an absence of a short space of time the following Resolutions were read:

The foundation of all good government is in the virtue and intelligence of the people.

Their voice finds expression in a generous Constitution and just laws.

In forming these, they speak through the great leading men whom they choose to represent them, who rise from the body of the people whenever fit occasion calls them.

In such men, the spirit, the temper, the intelligent decision and noble resolves of a whole nation are concentrated and individualized.

And when the solemn records of impartial history are made up these great men stand out like milestones by the highway of progress and civilization.

A nation that thus commemorates the services of its benefactors ennoble itself, for it is thus that genius and eloquence sanctified by virtue and patriotism are drawn from the humblest, as well as from the higher walks of life and consecrated to the defense of liberty and the happiness of mankind.

Illinois during a brief career has given to American History many illustrious names, but none more honored in life and mourned in death than that of our late departed Masonic Brother S. A. Douglas, Senator in Congress from this state and who departed this life in the city of Chicago on the third day of June.

Conceding that he at one period of his political life was a resident amongst us, during which time he received the degrees of Masonry within this lodge, that he remained until his death an honored and worthy Mason, that he lived and died in the highest service of this country; devoting his last days to the vindication of the Constitution and defense of the Union; we, the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge of Illinois, Master, Wardens and members of Springfield Lodge No. 4 and visiting brethren attending recognize the duty and the privilege on our part of solemnly uniting with our countrymen and brethren in placing upon the enduring records a fit testimony of our estimation of his character and services and our profound sorrow in view of the great loss which his family, his Masonic brethren, his beloved state and more than all his unhappy country have sustained and do therefore

Resolved, That in the death of Stephen A. Douglas, the American people are called to mourn one of the ablest and most patriotic statesmen; the Senate, an eloquent, devoted and useful member, a man who loved his country and her fine institutions with a devotion which was the ruling passion of his life—who, when he saw the overwhelming danger now besetting the Union, flew to the rescue and gave his dying efforts to its preservation.

Resolved, That the State of Illinois, in honoring him brought double honor to herself, again reflected from his many valuable services in her behalf, his jealousy of her honor, his defense of her right and his glorious fame, won as her representative in the council of the Nation;

Resolved, That Masonry will add S. A. Douglas to her list of venerated names, proudly cherishing the memory of his Masonic virtues and claiming a share in that enviable fame which makes his name a household word wherever patriotism is honored or liberty finds a home;

Resolved, That officially and as personal friends of our brother, we would offer to his mourning wife, children and family our most heartfelt sympathy, being assured that he whom all the world besides praised and honored was in all the most sacred relations of life, all the world to them.

Resolved, That in token of respect for the memory of our deceased brother, the usual badge of mourning be worn;

Resolved, That copies of these proceedings signed by the Master and bearing the seal of the lodge, duly attested, be transmitted to the family of our late Masonic brother.

No further business appearing Lodge closed.

D. M. Bronson.

On June 19, 1861 Quincy Chapter No. 5 adopted the following resolutions:

A nation this day mourns the loss of a noble patriot and illustrious statesman, and we as Masons mourn the loss of a beloved brother and Companion. Stephen A. Douglas here received the Chapter Degrees and 'twas our pleasure for many years to greet him around the Sacred Altar of this Lodge. The Supreme Architect of the Universe, our Great Grand Master on High, hath summoned him to his Celestial Lodge eternal in the heavens, and he has vanished from our sight forever. The statesman whose eloquence has so often thrilled our hearts, and whose manly devotion to every trust has bound us to him in strongest ties of love, now rests in the cold embrace of death.

As a slight testimony of our grief and sorrow, we do

Resolve, That we will emulate his noble example and manly virtues, and renewedly pledge to each our fraternal love, do vow so to improve this afflicting Dispensation of Providence, as that when the embers of our mortal life shall feebly glimmer in the socket of existence, we may be soothed and maintained by the joyful hope that beyond the silent tomb the bright light of a resurrection morn shall break on the opened scenes of eternity, wherein under the immutable love of our Divine Master, all faithful Masons shall meet to part no more, and there shall we be again joined with our beloved brother whose loss we mourn.

Resolved, That words can but feebly express the deep and tender sympathy which we would offer to the noble woman and true wife of our deceased Brother and Companion in her great bereavement.

Resolved, That in token of our sorrow we will wear the usual badge of mourning for 30 days, and that our Masonic Hall be draped in mourning.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of our Chapter and several lodges; that a copy be sent to his family, and that they be published in our city papers.

James Love  
Secretary

A. W. Blakesley  
High Priest

These resolutions show the esteem and respect held by those who were well acquainted with Brother Douglas. If he had remained in Springfield he would undoubtedly have been given the highest honors in Masonry and been invested with the purple of the fraternity.

Springfield April 27<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1840 A.D. 1840

To the W. Master, Wardens & Brethren of Springfield  
Lodge No. 26. of Free and Accepted Masons.

The subscriber residing in the City of Springfield  
State of Illinois of lawful age and by occupation  
a Lawyer, begs leave to state that unbiased by  
friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives  
he freely and voluntarily offers himself as a can-  
didate for the mysteries of Masonry, and that he is  
prompted to solicit this favour by a favourable  
opinion conceived of this Institution, a desire of  
knowledge and a sincere wish of being amicable  
to his fellow creatures. Should his petition be  
granted he will cheerfully conform to all the  
antient established usages & customs of the Fraternity.

S. A. Douglas

Recommended by  
L. S. Cornwell.  
J. S. Roberts

Cornwell  
Roberts  
Lodge  
26  
Springfield

Petition of Stephen A. Douglas for degrees in Springfield Lodge No. 26.



## Chapter 27

# FUNERAL OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

History has preserved the record of the progress of the funeral car which bore the remains of the dead President from the scene of his tragic death to their final resting place at his old home; but of the part sustained by the Masonic Fraternity in this sad pageant but little has been said. Yet no class of our citizens was more conspicuous than the ancient craft, and here, as elsewhere, it gave a most unequivocal public demonstration of one of its fundamental traits of character—loyalty.

From the columns of the Masonic Trowel (Harmon G. Reynolds, editor) we glean the following facts concerning the action of the fraternity before and at the interment.

At the time of the assassination it would seem that the Grand Master, Brother Turner, was absent from the jurisdiction, being then in Washington. With some difficulty his whereabouts was at length ascertained and a request was forwarded for a dispensation for the Craft to appear as Lodges and in Masonic clothing. To this request he telegraphed the Grand Secretary as follows:

The Free Masons of Illinois will attend the funeral of the late President A. Lincoln clothed as Masons.

Thomas J. Turner

This statement was sent by wire to all parts of the state.

On the Friday following (April 28) Brother Bromwell, Deputy Grand Master, arrived in Springfield, and, in the absence of the Grand Master, assumed direction of affairs, the first step being the issuance of the following proclamation:

To the Glory of the Grand Architect of the Universe.

From the East of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

To all Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of the State of Illinois, Health, Union and Peace:

Brethren: The funeral of Abraham Lincoln late President of the United States, gives occasion to all citizens, particularly to those of Illinois to express, by the most solemn public declarations, their own grief and that of the Nation. Stricken down by an assassination, which for awk-

wardness and brutality has had no parallel since the days of Cain, the noble hearted and merciful Chief Magistrate of our Nation, at the hour when the sun of his glory was at its meridian height, and just before completing the glorious work of his life, is left a lifeless corpse, to be cared for by all who loved him and his country.

As the principles of free government, and the laws of the land, no less than the precepts of true religion, are part of Ancient Craft Masonry, this is a most fitting time and occasion for all true Masons to remember the honor of the country, the dignity of the craft, and the duty of good men, by assembling in full regalia, according to rank and degree, to take part in the funeral ceremonies.

Accordingly, in the absence of the Most Worthy Grand Master, I hereby invoke a general meeting of the craft in Grand Lodge, at Masonic Hall, in Springfield, on Thursday, May 4th, 5865, to attend the funeral of the late President, at which time and place all Masons, of every degree are invited to be present.

“The will of God is accomplished.” So mote it be.

H. P. H. Bromwell,  
Acting Grand Master.

In response, a large number of the Craft from every part of the state repaired to Springfield to participate in the obsequies. What followed cannot be better told than in the language of Brother Reynolds. He says:

The three lodges, chapter and council of this city immediately appropriated the sum of one hundred dollars each, (being five hundred dollars) to provide such shelter and food for the weary and hungry Mason as propriety and necessity might justify. It proved, in the hands of Bro. Hickox and the several committees, to be both timely and sufficient. Bro. Bromwell devoted all his time and energies to the work before us. He assisted Bro. George F. Wright, the chairman of the committee on catafalque, canopy, decorations etc., by his mechanical genius and handy taste and application, and, like St. Paul, labored day and night with his hands. He also assisted us materially by his counsel and labor in preparing for the last sad rites.

On Wednesday morning, May 3, the State House and enclosure, under the general direction of Bro. Wright — the canopy and interior arrangements of the Representative Hall and rotunda under his special direction, the catafalque under the direction of Col. A. Schwartz, the exterior decorations of the State House and grounds under the direction of Bro. E. E. Myers. — were completed and ready to receive the honored remains of the illustrious dead.

A large platform had been erected on the west side and in the center of the hall. The catafalque was placed upon this, with the head to the west, with steps leading to the north-east corner of the platform, so that in passing around the head of the coffin the beholder had a full side and head view without stopping, and, passing around had a last glimpse while about to descend the steps at the south-east corner.

Over the whole were the following mottoes: On the south side Washington's portrait, "Washington the Father"; on the north side, "Lincoln the Savior"; on the circle of the gallery on the east side of the hall, and extending from the north to the south end, "Sooner Than Surrender These Principles I Would Be Assassinated On The Spot."

At nine o'clock, May 3rd, a large concourse had gathered together at the Chicago & Alton Depot. Soon the train arrived. Delegations from Chicago and other cities, Governors, dignitaries, foreign representatives, came forward and were decorously formed in lines. The beautiful car containing the remains stopped on the south line of Jefferson street, and the bearers, amid the weeping and tears of the people, such as we never witnessed before, amid profound silence, interrupted only by audible sobbings here and there, deposited the body in the hearse, and with mournful and touching music, the body was conveyed to the Representatives Hall and placed upon the catafalque, with a Major General at the head and another at the foot, and a line of double guards leading from the north gate to the body, and another from the body to the south gate. In the evening we went with our children to see him. Then we saw only Mr. Lincoln. We were unsatisfied. In the morning early we looked at him again. Silence reigned. Washington seemed to look upon his son. The dead seemed to be resting peacefully where he has so often convulsed his hearers by his drollness and wit, where he had enchanted them by his eloquence, where he had subdued them to tears by his pathos and tenderness. We went from that presence a better man. From ten o'clock in the morning of May 3, thousands thronged that guarded pass-way to the scene of death. It is estimated that not less than 75,000 viewed his remains, while nearly as many came too late for admittance, and the placid, pleasant and wellknown features were closed from mortal vision.

Acting Grand Master Bromwell opened an Emergent Grand Lodge or General Assembly of Masons in the first degree as follows:

H. P. H. Bromwell as Grand Master  
A. J. VanDeren, Grand Master, Colorado.  
J. R. Gorin, (8) Dep. Gr. Master P.T.  
E. F. Babcock, Sen. Gr. Warden,  
N. W. Huntley, Jun. Gr. Warden,  
B. F. Bristow (3) Grand Treasurer, P.T.  
J. J. Cook (333) Grand Secretary P.T.  
Rev. A. Bowers (344) Gr. Chaplain P.T.  
H. C. Dawson Gr. Senior Deacon P.T.  
William Nash (40) Gr. Jun. Deacon P.T.  
Wm. F. Elkin (71) Grand Steward  
D. H. Porter (110) Grand Steward P.T.  
H. C. Chockley (8) Grand Marshal P.T.  
Joseph Gage (312) Gr. Standard Bearer P.T.  
Daniel Wadsworth (154) Gr. Sword Bearer P.T.  
S. H. Claspil (333) Grand Tyler P.T.

Comp. L. L. Munn D. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, being present, improvised and clothed a Grand Chapter on the spot, as follows:

L. L. Munn as Grand High Priest  
 T. D. Sewell (62) D.G.H.P. PT  
 W. R. Phillips (16) G.K. pt  
 W. H. Taylor (59) G.S. pt.  
 F. P. Rose (1) G.C. of H. pt  
 D. M. Van Deren (1) G. Chap. pt  
 J. A. Brown (50) G. Treas pt  
 R. W. Hawley (1) G. Secy pt  
 L. T. Hewins ——— G.P.S. pt  
 W. Elstun (44) G.R.A.C. pt  
 John Quijlan (21) G.M. 3V pt  
 L. W. Faulkner (50) G.M. 2V pt  
 R. M. Epstein G.M. 1V pt. (50)  
 A. D. Wysong (50) G. Steward pt  
 James Mann (8) G. Tyler pt.

Elwood Commandery No. 6, and guests, in full dress, to the number of about 40 under the command of Past Commander Dorwin, assisted by Capt. George W. Hill, of the Regular Army. The Templars were the most attractive feature of the procession, and were just numerous enough to maneuver well and perform escort duty.

Then followed:

Grand Tyler with drawn sword,  
 Stewards with white rods,  
 Tylers of Lodges  
 Entered Apprentices eight abreast,  
 Fellow Crafts eight abreast,  
 Master Masons eight abreast,  
 Junior and Senior Deacons of Lodges,  
 Secretaries and Treasurers of Lodges,  
 Junior Wardens of Lodges,  
 Senior Wardens of Lodges,  
 Past Masters of Lodges,  
 Royal Arch Masons,  
 The Grand Chapter, formed as above,  
 Senior and Junior Grand Deacons,  
 Grand Sword and Standard Bearers,  
 Grand Marshal,  
 Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary,  
 Past Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens,  
 Past Deputy Grand Masters,  
 Deputy Grand Master and Grand Chaplain,  
 Grand Master,  
 Stewards with white rods.

This portion of the procession numbered between four and five hundred, and composed section one of the Seventh Division of the main column.

This section was under the immediate command of Grand Lecturer Fisher, assisted by Bro. Thos. C. Jewell, as aid, and Bro. W. H. Broadwell of Jacksonville; John W. Champion of Lincoln, John M. Pearson of Alton, E. Bergman, William F. Elkin, and C. H. Philbrick of Springfield, as Assistant Marshals. It constituted the right of the Division.

Of course there were no Masonic ceremonies of any kind, the demonstration being simply an overt manifestation of sympathy by a loyal and patriotic brotherhood, and for the exercises at the grave the reader is referred to general history.

### **Resolutions Adopted by Tyrian Lodge No. 333 Springfield, Illinois**

In Tyrian Lodge No. 333, A.F. & A.M. Springfield, Illinois, April 17, A.D. 1863, A.L. 5863.

The first thought of a Mason should be, as his duty is, to trust in God. This thought leads the true Mason to desire His aid and guidance. From this comes Faith; and then follows Hope, inciting to action, Trust and Hope inspire confidence in government and respect for law.

The true Mason never despairs; whatever may be his fortune, his faith remains.

The tragical and barbarous assassination of President Lincoln, our National head and representative, is well calculated to try our faith, to shake our hope, and prostrate our spirit. Governments are ordained of God, and are the ministers of His will. The administrators of government may change, but the government remains.

All good Masons are peaceable subjects to the powers that be, and never suffer themselves to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation, to behave undutifully to the lawful authorities, or countenance a brother in his rebellion, though he may be pitied as an unhappy man.

Masonry has flourished in these United States, with but rare exceptions at short intervals, as it has never flourished since the days of Solomon and Hiram.

Masonry has flourished under the protection of our Government, and Masons have supported, upheld, and maintained the Government. Washington founded the nation; Jefferson drew its declaration of principles, and Jackson brought its second war of independence to a successful termination.

The blood of Masons and patriots shed upon the battlefields of this Republic has cemented our Government with bonds and cords which no human arm can sever.

One whom we all loved, in the glory of his manhood, and in the zenith of his fame, has been cruelly and murderously slain. But shall we despair? Shall we cease to hope? Shall we basely cower and shrink and sulk because the assassin is at work; because the murderer seeks our life; because traitors seek to overthrow our Government? Never, no, never before God.

Let our faith be firmer and our hope brighter, for, as we trust in

God, so we hope by His favor to make a just and imperishable Government.

The members of Tyrian Lodge No. 333 A.F. & A.M., in regular communication convened, with Members of Springfield Lodge No. 4, Central Lodge No. 71, and other worthy visiting brethren, deem this a suitable occasion to express their opinions as Masons and citizens in this momentous crisis: therefore,

Resolved, That as the immediate friends and neighbors of our late beloved and now revered President Lincoln, we deeply and sorrowfully deplore his death.

Resolved, That the scrupulous honor and honesty of President Lincoln in all his private relations, his faithfulness and kindness as a husband and father, his fairness and ability as a lawyer, his wisdom and public spirit as citizen, and his patient, humane and honest career as a magistrate and statesman, furnish examples worthy of all praise and imitation.

Resolved, That we sincerely condole with the bereaved widow and fatherless children, in their terrible and irreparable loss.

Resolved, That the decision of President Lincoln to postpone his application for the honors of Masonry, lest his motives be misconstrued, is in the highest degree, honorable to his memory.

Resolved, That the murderer of President Lincoln, and the assassin of Secretary Seward, should be hunted with unceasing vigilance and vigor until found, and be brought to trial, judgment and punishment.

Resolved, That Masons should in all cases be subject to the law, abide by the law, be ready to assist in enforcing it, and should never connive at, tolerate or encourage disrespect for law, or any disobedience or infraction of it; for Masons hold themselves subject to rules; and the law of God, and of the land, should in all cases be the paramount rule of action.

Resolved, That we have an unshaken faith in the principles of free government, and while we tolerate the utmost freedom of opinion, and choice, we hold it to be our duty, and we hereby solemnly pledge ourselves to stand by the Government in all its lawful measures to preserve its vigor and maintain its integrity.

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and these resolutions be forwarded to every lodge in this State, with a request that the same be concurred in, and that the action of each lodge be communicated to the Grand Secretary.

Resolved, That the editor of the Masonic Trowel, and of the several papers published in this State, be requested to publish this preamble and these resolutions.

O. H. Miner, W.M.  
H. G. Reynolds  
Jesse K. Dubois  
J. R. Tyson  
T. R. King  
Pierson Roll

Committee  
John C. Reynolds, Secretary.

## Chapter 28

# JOHN F. BURRILL DEFALCATION

In 1878 there appeared to be a shortage in the account of the Grand Secretary. In 1881 Brother Burrill resigned as Grand Secretary. L. L. Munn was elected to succeed him and, being unable to satisfy himself as to the correctness of the books, asked the finance committee to make a thorough investigation. This developed the fact that there was a shortage of \$533.50 in 1878; in 1879 \$2,995; in 1880 \$4,101.75. It was the custom of several lodges to pay their dues during the session of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary presented his financial record to the finance committee before the annual session and the money that was collected at Grand Lodge was that which was not accounted for. The finance committee reported:

We desire to say we have recently learned that it was the practice of Bro. Burrill to take the reports passed upon by the finance committee (after the close of the Grand Lodge and before sending it to the printer insert other accounts, and thus increase the collections from lodges, but not foot the columns, and this against the protest of the brother engaged in reading the proof for him.

After a long and tedious investigation of the returns of every lodge a book was found with several entries that had never been presented for examination by the finance committee. This contained some missing accounts that had been received from the lodges during the session of the Grand Lodge. The committee was convinced:

that this defalcation was the result of deliberate intention, there can be no doubt — made in such a manner as to defy detection for a time. Entries of receipts from lodges for the current year were made in the cash book up to the session of this Grand Lodge; a large number were made at the session, a part of which Grand Secretary Burrill would enter in his cash book, a part in the printed proceedings and of the remainder no entry whatever.

Burrill resigned as Grand Secretary on September 1, 1881.

Brother John C. Smith, chairman of the finance committee reported to the Grand Master:

Your finance committee for some time found it difficult to learn the whereabouts of Bro. Burrill, hence their movements had to be very quiet. It was finally ascertained that he was in Minnesota — thought it doubtful if the report was correct, as he had been in Montana and Dakota, — but feeling sure, or thinking it probable that he was in Minnesota, your committee, under the instruction of the M.W. Grand Master, and by and with the consent of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, through their chairman, employed the firm of John M. Palmer and Co., of Springfield as their legal advisers. They prepared the necessary papers, and the Governor of Illinois issued a requisition on the Governor of Minnesota. It was placed in the hands of a messenger who proceeded to St. Paul, the chairman of your committee proceeded with him, to see that the papers were duly honored or explain any matter pertaining thereto. The Governor of Minnesota honored the requisition of the Governor of Illinois, and issued a warrant for the arrest of John F. Burrill. The messenger proceeded to Minneapolis, where he found him located, serving the warrant through the sheriff of that county, had the prisoner turned over to him, and brought back to the city of Springfield, where he waived examination, was held under \$10,000 bonds — which he was unable to furnish — and is, so far as known to your committee at this time, in the prison in the city of Springfield.

The grand jury returned three indictments against Burrill for embezzlement of the funds of the Grand Lodge for the years 1879, 1880, 1881, the statute of limitations prevented action for 1878. Burrill asked for a change of venue and the case was transferred to the Macoupin County Court. Attorneys for the prosecution were Robert H. Hazlett, States Attorney of Sangamon County, A. H. Bell, States Attorney of Macoupin County, John M. Palmer, S. T. Corn and R. B. Shirley; those for the defence were John A. McClernand, Charles A. Keys of Springfield and John I. Rinaker and C. A. Walker of Carlinville.

The trial was conducted on the returns for 1880 and lasted eleven days beginning March 13, 1883.

The defense claimed there was no such corporation as the Grand Lodge of Illinois Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. The Act of Incorporation for 1847 reads "Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons." The amended act of 1855 inadvertently omitted the word "Ancient" in the title of the Grand Lodge; however, the prosecution showed clearly that this was merely an omission and that it had no bearing on the case.

In 1883 the Grand Secretary reported:

I desire to say that Burrill never expressed to me nor to any other brother, so far as I am informed, a desire to examine any of the books or papers in the office of the Grand Secretary for the purpose of explain-

ing, nor did he in any way make an effort to explain nor show that the charges against him were not true, nor did he when on trial account for any money we had reported as received by him and not accounted for, and you will find from the report that will be submitted by the chairman of the finance committee that a larger sum was proven in court to have been embezzled by him than we charged him with converting to his own use at Grand Lodge one year ago, and there are other sums that appear to have been appropriated by Burrill of which legal proof was not secured.

The report of the jury was:

We, the jury, find the defendant guilty as charged in the indictment, and the funds embezzled as two thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight dollars (\$2,898) and fix the punishment at five years in the penitentiary.

Motion was made for a new trial and denied, sentence was then passed and the prisoner taken to the State's prison at Chester.

The Grand Secretary was instructed to secure for the Grand Lodge information in regard to the bond of Burrill. No such report was printed and there is nothing to show that any money was collected on the bond.

## Chapter 29

# 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAND LODGE

JOHN C. SMITH

On August 22, 1889 the Grand Master sent an invitation to every Grand Lodge in the world inviting them to send delegates to be present at the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Grand Lodge and at the placing of the Cape-stone of the Chicago Auditorium, which would take place during the session of the Grand Lodge commencing October 1, 1889. Several visitors were present and 77 sent regrets.

The celebration was held on the second day. At eleven o'clock the procession was formed under the direction of Brother W. A. Stevens, Grand Marshall. About 5,000 Masons were in line. The order of the march was:

Platoon of Police  
Brother General Charles Fitz Simmons, Marshall-in-Chief  
Alfred Russell, Chief of Staff and  
Assistant Marshalls  
Band

Templar escort under command of Right Eminent Sir Norman T. Gassette, Grand Commander, was composed of eight Chicago Commanderies.

Band

The several lodges that participated were formed according to numbers, the junior Lodge on the right.

The brethren appeared dressed in dark clothes and hats, white gloves and aprons. Officers wore their jewels, and the lodge furniture was carried.

Second Regiment Band  
Brother Walter A. Stevens, Grand Marshall; Brother Samuel H.

Smith, Aid. Masters and Wardens of lodges not represented in procession, according to rank; Officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois, Free and Accepted Masons; Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers of other jurisdictions in carriages.

The procession marched through the streets of Chicago to the Auditorium. The ceremonies were opened by an anthem by the Columbia Male Quartette. Ferd W. Peck, President of the Auditorium Association then addressed the Grand Master:

In behalf of the directors and stockholders of the Chicago Auditorium Association, under whose auspices this structure has been thus far completed, and in behalf of the citizens of Chicago, who feel a deep interest in this enterprise, I now respectfully request that you complete this building by the placing of the cape stone in accordance with the forms of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons.

After a response by the Grand Master the architect of the building said:

Most Worshipful Grand Master: Having been entrusted with the duty of designing this edifice, and of supervising and directing the workmen in its erection, and having been enabled to witness its completion, I now with due respect, present to you for inspection and approval the last stone that enters into its composition, and with it the implements of operative Masonry, there being no further occasion for their use.

The stone was placed in position on the top of the tower and the working tools handed to the Grand Officers who applied them and then pronounced the work perfect and that the workmen had performed their duty. The Grand Master then consecrated the stone with the traditional corn, wine and oil, and concluded by saying:

May corn, wine and oil, and all the necessities of life, abound among all men throughout the world. May the blessings of Almighty God be upon this undertaking, and may the structure here erected long remain.

I have the honor to report that in compliance with the request of the proper authorities, the cape stone of the Auditorium has been celebrated with the ancient ceremonies of the craft.

The Grand Marshall then made the usual proclamation. Brother Dewitt C. Cregier, Mayor of Chicago, was introduced and delivered an appropriate address in which he called attention to the fact that, while cornerstones have been laid from time immemorial this was the first time a cape-stone had been placed with Masonic ceremonies. The

procession was then reformed and the Grand Lodge returned to Central Music Hall where the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 10 o'clock Thursday morning.

At five in the afternoon the members and their families assembled at the Second Regiment Illinois National Guard Armory, to the number of about four thousand, where they listened to the oration by Rev. Brother George C. Lorimer, Doctor of Divinity, Grand Orator. His subject was "Masonry and the Dignity of Labor."

After the oration was ended the Craft to the number of about 600 assembled at "Battery D," where tables had been prepared for the banquet. The service started at seven o'clock and ended at ten-thirty P.M. Then came the banquet of oratory. The subjects were "The Grand Lodge of Illinois," "The City of Chicago," "The Mother Grand Lodge, Pennsylvania," "Freemasonry and Patriotism," "Woman," "Universality of Freemasonry," "The United States," "Masonic Veterans," "Our sister Grand Lodges."

During the meal the Columbia Quartette sang and the Second Regiment Band played.

One of the guests was Red Jacket, Chief of the Six Nations, whose grandfather was a friend of General Washington. He displayed a medal given his grandfather by Washington in 1792. One side shows Red Jacket and Washington exchanging the peace pipe; the other has the coat of arms of the United States. Another medal, a souvenir of the occasion was distributed. On the obverse is an altar with a refulgent sun above it, and the words "Semi Centennial Celebration." On the reverse, in a circle around the edge, are the words "Semi Centennial of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, F. & A. M., October 1, 1889. Within the circle is

1840  
Jacksonville  
Abraham Jonas  
Grand Master.

---

Chicago  
John C. Smith  
Grand Master  
1889.

Thus closed the celebration of fifty years of organized Freemasonry in Illinois.

## Chapter 30

# 75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAND LODGE

An invitation was sent inviting the Craft to attend the exercises at Medinah Temple, Chicago, October 13, 1914, at seven-thirty P.M. The Grand Master, Henry T. Burnap, presided. The program began with four selections by Siloam Commandery Band, of seventy pieces. This was followed by the Soldiers' Chorus from Faust by the ten united quartettes.

The Grand Master then introduced Leroy A. Goddard, Past Grand Master, who delivered the welcoming address. Three addresses were delivered: The Glorious Past, the Present, the Future. These were by Owen Scott, Alexander H. Bell and William B. Wright respectively. Between the addresses the quartettes sang. The ceremony closed with the audience joining with the quartettes in singing Auld Lang Syne. The story of this celebration is told in few words but the enthusiasm was great and the addresses of the Past Grand Masters gave the Craft much food for thought on how to plan to make the Grand Lodge more influential and helpful to its members.

## Chapter 31

# CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAND LODGE

On April 6, 1840 sixteen Masons met at Jacksonville and organized the Grand Lodge. On April 6, 1940 several hundred Masons came from all parts of the state to celebrate the centennial anniversary of that meeting. The Masons of Jacksonville under the leadership of Carroll T. Hughes, District Deputy Grand Master, made ample preparations for the event. Tuesday the fifth was devoted to the Rainbow Girls and Order of DeMolay. At 2 P.M. on the sixth, Harmony Lodge No. 3 was opened for the purpose of conferring the third degree. This was followed by an address by Frank I. Buckingham, Grand Orator for the Order of DeMolay.

At 6:30 P.M. the centennial dinner at MacMurray College was participated in by four hundred brethren. Frank J. Heintz, chairman of the centennial committee, presided at the banquet. The chairs at the speakers' table were those used one hundred years ago when the Grand Lodge was organized and the gavel used by the chairman was a coupling pin used by trainmen on the Northern Cross railroad one hundred years ago.

Arthur Mather, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Missouri was the first speaker. He reviewed the story of Masonry in the Middle West and gave the date of the charter issued to Harmony Lodge.

John T. Jones presided at the formation of the Grand Lodge. His grandson was introduced; also a great grandson of W. B. Warren, first Grand Secretary, who displayed the sword given his great grandfather by the State of Illinois.

Allen T. Gordon, Grand Orator, was next introduced and spoke of the activity of the past hundred years.

James B. Skelly of St. Louis, Past Grand Master, represented St. Louis Lodge No. 20 which recommended that a dispensation be issued to Harmony Lodge No. 24 on October 4, 1837.

The Grand Master Dan DeBaugh; Karl J. Mohr, Deputy Grand Master; Stuart E. Pierson, Senior Grand Warden; William Tinsley, Junior Grand Warden; Edward C. Mullen, Grand Treasurer; R. C.

Davenport, Grand Secretary; and twelve other Grand Lodge officers together with Past Grand Masters Beach, Emmerson, Stephens, McCloud and Lawrence were present.

The masters of the four lodges that formed the Grand Lodge were also present. The next day, the seventh, the officers of Hospitaller Commandery, Knights Templar, conferred the Order of the Temple in the Masonic Temple.

At 6 P.M. there was a dinner for the Knights and ladies followed by a dance in the Temple for Masons, DeMolays and their ladies.

The building where the Grand Lodge was organized was decorated. It was erected in 1839 and is still in use. Pictures of this building, the home of W. B. Warren, the present Masonic Temple and cuts of Warren and John T. Jones were published.

At the meeting of the Grand Lodge on October 8, 1940 another celebration was held.

This was a big event. Invitations were sent to all the Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada to send representatives to participate in the celebration on October 8, 1940. Forty-nine visitors were present, accompanied by 41 ladies. For the ladies there was a bus ride and luncheon at the Edgewater Beach Hotel and a banquet in Bal Tabarin, Hotel Sherman at 7:30 P.M. The celebration opened with a dinner at the Hotel Sherman when about 1,300 sat down to the tables. The same menu was served at both banquets. For the ladies there was music and a floor show.

Three members were to be the guests of honor but all were unable to attend; Ex-Governor Emmerson, Past Grand Master; Governor Horner who had died the preceding day and Ex-Governor Lowden, Honorary Member of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master then introduced Brother, the Count Oskar Waldemur Sederstrom of Copenhagen, Denmark, Past Worshipful Master of King Christian Lodge of Copenhagen who, after twenty minutes of fun and hilarity was found to be Axel W. Christianson of Oak Park Lodge No. 540.

Following him Miss Mary McCormic of the Chicago Opera Company was presented; she delighted the audience with her gifted voice and charming personality.

The ceremonies were brought to a close with the address of John B. Hubbard, Grand Chaplain, whose ability as a speaker is unexcelled. The first century of Masonry in Illinois ended and a new era began which, it was hoped, would far surpass the first century.

## Chapter 32

# MASONIC CONVENTION

CHICAGO, JUNE 22-24, 1887

To Theodore T. Gurney belongs the credit in a large sense for the call for the convention. He had advocated such a convention for years but did not live to see the consummation of his idea.

To Grand Master R. H. Gove, of Minnesota, is the credit for the initiative for the call. He drafted a letter to all the Grand Masters in the United States and, receiving many favorable replies, the Grand Masters of Illinois, Ohio, Iowa, Indian Territory and Minnesota signed the call. The Masonic press in general vigorously opposed the convention on the ground that out of it might come a General Grand Lodge. This was distinctly disavowed in the letter as will be seen by a perusal of it:

GENERAL MASONIC CONVENTION  
From the Grand East  
of the

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGES, A.F. & A. MASONS  
of the States of

MINNESOTA, ILLINOIS, OHIO, IOWA AND INDIAN  
TERRITORY.

To the Present and Past Grand Masters of Masons in the United States of America, the Territories thereof, the District of Columbia, Canada, Quebec, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, British Columbia, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Greeting: Health, Peace and Prosperity:

Most Worshipful Brethren:— In November last, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota addressed letters to all the Grand Masters in the above named Grand Jurisdictions, making inquiries of them as to their views on the subject of a General Masonic Convention for the purpose of consultation and advice on subjects of general interest to the Craft wheresoever dispersed. From the nearly unanimous favorable response to such interrogatory, and from the very great importance of such meeting, it has been thought to be wise and prudent to call such convention; not for the purpose of legislation, nor for the purpose

of forming a General Grand Lodge, as may be feared, but simply and solely for the purpose of consultation and advice.

The undersigned Grand Masters are jealous of the rights, integrity and perpetuity of Independent Grand Lodges, as the only lawful governing bodies over Ancient Craft Masonry, and under no circumstances would either consent that such lawful authority should be divorced from the proper source.

It is well known that there are associations, other than Sovereign Independent Grand Lodges, claiming the right to establish lodges and exercise authority over the first three degrees of Freemasonry, viz.: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, and this too, in total disregard of the fact that Grand Lodges, the only lawful source of authority, already exercise jurisdiction over the territory in which it is proposed to establish such unlawfully organized bodies.

This and many other subjects of general interest, including jurisprudence and Grand Representatives, may properly be discussed. In fact it is intended that the discussion shall take a wide range, and cover any and all subjects of genuine interest to the Craft.

It has been deemed best to fraternally invite you to attend such convention, for the purposes specified, to be held in the city of Chicago, Illinois, commencing on Wednesday, the 22nd day of June, A.D. 1887, A.L. 5887, at ten o'clock A.M., and to continue in session at least three days, including the Festival of St. John the Baptist June 24th. The convention to be governed by such rules and regulations as it may seem proper to adopt.

Now we do most cordially and fraternally invite you to be present to assist with your counsel and advice to the end that great good may be accomplished, a better understanding of many vexed questions arrived at and closer fraternal relations established. It is very desirable that all the American Grand Lodges be fully represented. In order that hotel and other accommodations may be provided for all those who attend, you are requested to advise M.W. Alexander T. Darrah, Bloomington, Illinois, on or before the first of May, of your intention, or otherwise to attend.

Alex. T. Darrah, Grand Master of Masons in Illinois

S. Stacker Williams, Grand Master of Masons in Ohio.

William P. Allen, Grand Master of Masons in Iowa,

Florin H. Nash, Grand Master of Masons in Indian Territory,

R. H. Gove, Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota.

When the time for the convention arrived, the committee on credentials reported jurisdictions represented by Grand Master or Past Grand Masters: Canada, Dakota, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Manitoba, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio. The officers elected were: Alex. T. Darrah, President, Rufus C. Hatheway, First Vice-President; Henry Robertson, Second Vice-President; H. R. Denney, Third Vice-

President; DeWitt C. Cregier, Treasurer; John H. Brown, Secretary; Moses N. Fuller, Doorkeeper.

The first subject discussed was:

Resolved, That no brother should be permitted to vouch for another brother as to his Masonic standing, unless he has sat in open lodge with him or duly appointed by the W.M. to re-examine the visiting brother, in accordance with the usual customs of the Fraternity.

The discussion of this subject was freely indulged in by many of the brothers present, many deprecating the loose methods practiced by and in the subordinate lodges, in the examination, avouchment and introduction of visitors among us. The opinion was generally expressed that our rules in this respect were entirely too lax, and should be made more stringent, to the end that but few unworthy characters gain admission into the sacred precincts of our lodge rooms. The resolution was concurred in.

The second question was, "The physical qualifications of candidates for the mysteries of Masonry—what they should be."

This question was warmly debated; widely different views were presented. Some believed in the literal perfect man interpretation, others leaned to the modern idea of what constitutes a perfect man—one with clean hands and a pure heart.

Topic number three was "Perpetual jurisdiction over Rejected Candidates."

Resolved, That in the opinion of this convention, what is generally termed perpetual jurisdiction of rejected candidates, is not Masonic law. But the rejecting lodge should be consulted when practicable upon any subsequent application to any other lodge.

This resolution was adopted.

The fourth topic was, "Grand Master and his prerogatives." This was widely discussed but no decision was made.

The next was "What shall be done to stay the progress of spurious and clandestine Masonry in our respective Grand Jurisdictions?"

The decision on this was:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. is the supreme governing power in and over Freemasonry within its territorial jurisdiction, and that the landmarks of Freemasonry, together with the laws, edicts, regulations and statutes of such Grand Lodge constitutes the only law and authority of Freemasonry within said jurisdiction and all constituent lodges, and all members thereof, and all Masons within said jurisdiction must obey and conform thereto.

Resolved, further, that there is no power or authority in or over Freemasonry above the legitimate and duly recognized Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M., nor is it within the power of any body, organization or collection of Masons to assume to exercise such powers or authority.

The Grand Master said the questions were ably discussed and much valuable information accumulated, much of which must of necessity be lost to the Fraternity for the reason that the full proceedings have not, and it is to be feared will not, be published. He closed by saying:

I feel perfectly free in saying that in point of interest and importance to the Craft, no such meeting of the Fraternity has been held since the Baltimore Convention of 1843.

## Chapter 33

# MASONIC CONGRESS

CHICAGO, AUGUST 14-18, 1893

The origin of the Congress was in a set of resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F. and A.M., is in favor of joining with other Grand Jurisdictions of the United States and other nations in holding a Fraternal Congress in the city of Chicago, Ill., at some time during the continuance of the World's Fair.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that said Fraternal Congress should not be held with a view to the formation of a General Grand Lodge, but for the interchange of fraternal sentiments conserving the general interests of Masonry throughout the world, and especially looking to a greater uniformity in the modes of recognition, and the fundamental features which characterize our system the world over.

Resolved, That in order to carry out the foregoing resolutions, the present Grand Master appoint five delegates who shall act in cooperation with other jurisdictions desirous of joining in the proposition, and if said congress shall be held, said delegates shall represent this Grand Lodge in the same.

Resolved, That the present Grand Master be ex-officio chairman of said delegates.

The Grand Master appointed Joseph Robbins, DeWitt C. Cregier and John C. Smith as a committee on the Fraternal Congress. The committee recommended six delegates to consist of the Grand Master and five to be appointed by him. In addition to the first committee he named Daniel M. Browning and Loyal L. Munn. Brother Browning, being Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was unable to serve and Leroy A. Goddard, Deputy Grand Master, was appointed in his place.

He also appointed an executive committee consisting of DeWitt C. Cregier, John C. Smith, Daniel J. Avery, Joseph H. Dixon and William K. Forsyth. To this committee was assigned the duty of entertainment of delegates. The sum of \$5,000 was appropriated to care for the expenses of the Congress.

The delegates assembled in the preceptory of Oriental Consistory in the Masonic Temple at ten A.M. and were called to order by Monroe C. Crawford, Grand Master of Masons of Illinois who said:

Brethren:

I am directed by the Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois to appear before you this morning for the purpose of calling to order the delegates who are appointed to meet here in this Masonic Congress. There were two reasons why I was designated for this purpose; one was that I had the honor, by reason of the suffrages of the constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, to be Grand Master, and the other was that I didn't know how to make a speech. In the name of the Grand Lodge of Illinois and of the thousands of Masons in this Grand Jurisdiction, brethren, I welcome you here this morning.

The first business was the election of Brother J. L. Power as secretary of the congress. Brother Power was serving his twenty-fifth year as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

Rev. Irvin Miller, Grand Master of Masons of Mississippi, was conducted to the altar to offer up the introductory prayer.

The roll of Grand Jurisdictions was called and delegations were announced present as follows: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, British Columbia, California, Canada, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, England, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Indian Territory, Iowa, Ireland, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Manitoba, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nova Scotia, Oklahoma, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Rhode Island, Scotland, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, United Grand Lodge of Victoria, United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Grand Lodge Three Globes, Berlin.

The committee on permanent organization reported:

1. That the officers shall consist of a President and six Vice Presidents, one Secretary and two assistant Secretaries, to be elected by the delegates.
2. That in addition to the above the Presiding Officer at the opening of each day shall call some suitable delegate to officiate as Chaplain, and shall also appoint one Door Keeper, one Marshall, and two Assistant Marshalls to serve during the Congress.
3. That in electing officers, each Grand Jurisdiction represented

is entitled to one vote, which shall be cast by ballot, and without nominations.

The committee on program submitted a list of twelve subjects:—

1. Ancient Landmarks — What are they?
2. Appeals for aid from sojourning brethren and incidental to this question, begging circulars.
3. Candidates — Physical qualifications.
4. Correspondence between Grand Lodges and Lodges, Foreign Grand Officers, members and Lodges, with Grand Lodge and Grand Officers — through whom conducted?
5. Entered Apprentices — Are they Masons? Should conferring that degree confer membership? Otherwise does not conferring the Master's degree confer membership? Should not the original practice of transacting business in the first degree be restored?
6. Non affiliation — How shall the evil be lessened? And, incidentally, the rights of non-affiliates.
7. Grand Masters — Powers and prerogatives.
8. Jurisdiction over candidates, elected or rejected. Is it perpetual or limited?
9. Proceedings of Grand Lodges — Size, uniformity, etc., and to whom distributed.
10. Can officers resign? If not, why not?
11. Vouching — is it lawful?
12. Can a regular Lodge make a clandestine Mason?

Another set of subjects was presented to be discussed if time permitted.

1. Clothing — for lodge and public.
2. Past Master's Degree — Should it be retained?
3. What is the proper penalty for non-payment of dues?
4. Grand Honors, public and private — How given? When?
5. Grand Representative System — Is it useful and beneficial?
6. Intercourse — Is severance of desirable under any circumstances?
7. Should the use of the word "Masonic" in business be discouraged?
8. Masonic Periodicals.
9. The Master — His powers, prerogatives, titles.
10. Objection — By members, non-members and non-affiliates.
11. Has a visitor the right to demand the sight of the lodge charter before examination?
12. Dimit — The right to, and life of. Can a lodge officer dimit? And should a duplicate certificate be issued?

The first list of subjects was thoroughly discussed and the conclusions arrived at were:

1. Grand Lodge Sovereignty — The conclusion of the Congress is,

that a Grand Lodge duly organized in a State or other autonomous territory is rightfully possessed of absolute Masonic sovereignty therein.

2. A Plea for Improved Proceedings — The conclusion of the Congress is, that the formation of Masonic libraries should be encouraged and fostered; and inasmuch as the published proceedings of our Grand Lodges and other Masonic bodies do and ever will constitute the larger part of such libraries, greater care and more pains should be bestowed upon the preparation and publication of such proceedings, to the end that they may have greater value in every Masonic collection, and that there should be a freer and more generous distribution of proceedings among the brethren, to the end that Masonic light may be more generally diffused.

3. Grand Representatives — It is the conclusion of the Congress that under the changed condition of selecting Grand Representatives, too little time has elapsed to give opportunity for definite judgment as to the usefulness of the system, and it should therefore be continued.

4. The Prerogatives of the Grand Master — It is the conclusion of the Congress that the dispensing power recognized by the Old Regulations as residing in the person and office of Grand Master, has been so generally exercised by that officer, from the organization of Masonry on the Grand Lodge system down to the present time, that its existence cannot be successfully denied, but that there are no dispensing powers so residing that may not be limited or wholly denied by the Grand Lodge, save such as inhere in that office under the sanctions of the Ancient Landmarks.

5. The Ancient Landmarks — The conclusion of the Congress is, that the Ancient Landmarks are those fundamental principles which characterize Masonry as defined by the Charges of a Freemason, and without which the institution cannot be identified as Masonry, combined with the essentials of the unwritten language by which brethren distinguish each other as Masons.

6. The Creed of a Mason — an unequivocal belief and trust in God is the fundamental principle upon which the institution of Freemasonry was founded and must forever rest.

7. Appeals for Aid — The conclusion of the Congress is, that worthy Masons are entitled to relief from brethren and lodges wheresoever they may be found in need of relief, and that the brethren of lodges granting such aid are not entitled to demand reimbursement from the lodges in which they hold membership, but that when a member of one lodge is relieved by another, and the financial situation of his lodge is such as to permit, common courtesy and duty alike demand that it should reimburse a poorer lodge relieving its members. Written or printed appeals for aid, which do not secure endorsement of the Grand Master of the jurisdiction from which they emanate, should be discontinued.

8. Non-affiliates — The conclusion of the Congress is, that every Mason ought to be a member of some regular lodge, attend its meetings and share its burdens.

9. Physical Qualification — It is the conclusion of the Congress that absolute competency to conform literally to all requirements of the ceremonies of the several degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry fulfills the requirement of physical perfection in a candidate for the privileges of Freemasonry as set forth in the Ancient Charges.

10. Inspection of Lodge Charters — It is the conclusion of the Congress that a visitor to a lodge has no right to demand an inspection of the lodge charter.

In addition to the business the delegates were lavishly entertained by various clubs, etc. At Washington Park Club, 250 partook of a dinner. Then there was a ride around the city in Tally-Ho Coaches. The committee distributed tickets to "America" the greatest attraction except the World's Fair. All departed for their homes feeling well satisfied with both business and pleasure. While their deliberations had no force of law, yet the high character of those in attendance gave a standing to the result that was reflected throughout the Masonic world.

## Chapter 34

# DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

In 1939 the Grand Lodge adopted the following:

FREEMASONRY is a charitable, benevolent, educational and religious society. Its principles are proclaimed as widely as men will hear. Its only secrets are in its methods of recognition and of symbolic instruction. It is charitable in that it is not organized for profit and none of its income inures to the benefit of any individual, but all is devoted to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of mankind. It is benevolent in that it teaches and exemplifies altruism as a duty. It is educational in that it teaches by prescribed ceremonials a system of morality and brotherhood based upon the Sacred Law. It is religious in that it teaches monotheism, the Volume of the Sacred Law is open upon its altars whenever a Lodge is in session, reverence for God is ever present in its ceremonial, and to its brethren are constantly addressed lessons of morality; yet it is not sectarian or theological. It is a social organization only so far as it furnishes additional inducement that men may foregather in numbers, thereby providing more material for its preliminary work of education, of worship, and of charity. Through the improvement and strengthening of the character of the individual man, Freemasonry seeks to improve the community. Thus it impresses upon its members the principles of personal righteousness and personal responsibility, enlightens them as to those things which make for human welfare and inspires them with the feeling of charity, or good will, toward all mankind which will move them to translate principle and conviction into action. To that end it teaches and stands for the worship of God; truth and justice; fraternity and philanthropy; and enlightenment and orderly liberty, civil, religious and intellectual. It charges each of its members to be true and loyal to the government of the country to which he owes allegiance and to be obedient to the law of any state in which he may be. It believes that the attainment of these objectives is best accomplished by laying a broad basis of principle upon which men of every race, country, sect and opinion may unite rather than setting up a restricted platform upon which only those of certain races, creeds and opinions can assemble. Believing these things, this Grand Lodge affirms its continued adherence to that ancient and approved rule of Freemasonry which forbids the discussion in Masonic meetings of creeds, politics or other topics likely to excite personal animosities.

It further affirms its conviction that it is not only contrary to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, but dangerous to its unity, strength, usefulness and welfare, for Masonic Bodies to take action or attempt to exercise pressure or influence for or against any legislation, or in any way to attempt to procure the election or appointment of governmental officials, or to influence them, whether or not members of the Fraternity, in the performance of their official duties. The true Freemason will act in civil life according to his individual judgment and the dictates of his conscience.

## Chapter 35

# THE BOOK OF THE LAW

Belief in a Supreme Being has come down to us from time immemorial. It is a landmark. All the ancient constitutions are firm in this belief. The ancient charge "Concerning God and Religion" reads:

A Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understands the Art, he will never be a stupid atheist, nor an irreligious libertine.

The by-laws adopted by Western Star Lodge in 1808 read:

BE IT THEREFORE KNOWN, That to become a Brother of our Ancient Craft, a belief in the Eternal God as the great Architect of the Universe is the first GREAT ESSENTIAL.

The same sentence was re-adopted in the by-laws of the reorganized lodge of 1828.

In 1829 the minutes of Far West Lodge contain this sentence:

Resolved, that owing to the atheistical opinions as publicly expressed by — —, he is unworthy of being taken by the hand as a Mason. Which was unanimously adopted.

In 1852 among the list of questions to be answered by a petitioner, the first is "Do you believe in the existence of God?"

In 1845 it was:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is clearly of the opinion that a distinct avowal of a belief in the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, should be required of every one who is admitted to the privileges of Masonry, and that a denial of the same is an offense against the Constitution, calling for exemplary discipline.

In 1869 Grand Master Reynolds said:

It is unmasonic to ridicule any or all of the three great lights in Masonry, and a Free Mason guilty of such an offense is unfit to be installed Master of a Lodge.

Every candidate before admission, must solemnly avow a belief in God; a subsequent sincere avowal of a disbelief in God is a practical renunciation of Free Masonry.

In 1893 the great Masonic Congress held at Chicago and composed of the delegates from nearly every North American jurisdiction unanimously decided that

It is the conclusion of the Congress that an equivocal belief and trust in God is the fundamental principle upon which the institution of Freemasonry was founded and must forever rest.

In 1887 there was a flagrant violation of this. It was known as the "Crum case."

## Chapter 36

# THE CRUM CASE

### Vienna Lodge No. 150

BY RICHARD C. DAVENPORT, GRAND SECRETARY

In 1887, Grand Master A. T. Darrah received a communication from a member of Vienna Lodge No. 150, asking if "Charges could be sustained against a Mason who disbelieves the Bible, and who does not believe in the God of the same." The Grand Master assured the brother that charges should be sustained against such brother and he be expelled.

Later the Grand Master learned that a number of the members of Vienna Lodge belonged to a society which disbelieved the Bible and denied the existence of the God of the same. The president of the society was Brother John S. Crum, a member of Vienna Lodge and former secretary. He published an address which had been delivered on the subject of the Bible, under the title of: "Believe or be Damned," in which he took great delight in making light of the Bible and of God. One sentence in his atheistic address reads as follows: "I therefore pronounce the first sentence in this old Jewish book a falsehood."

Brother Crum was placed on trial, at which trial Brother James A. Rose, Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Master and former Secretary of State, presided. The specifications included the charge of atheism, denying the Divine authenticity of the Bible, of ridiculing that Book, declaring portions of it false and speaking contemptuously of it. The accused was acquitted of all but that of casting ridicule on the Bible. Although found guilty on this specification, the lodge refused to fix a penalty, whereupon the Grand Master suspended the functions of the lodge.

Meanwhile, Brother Crum preferred charges against the Worshipful Master, for permitting a sectarian question to be presented to the lodge for consideration. These charges were promptly dismissed by the Grand Master, who assured Brother Crum, that in his opinion, any

Mason holding such views as his, ought never to see the inside of a Masonic Lodge. In reply to this, Brother Crum requested the Grand Master to submit the case, fairly, to the Grand Lodge, which he did.

The Jurisprudence Committee reported that the case presented for consideration:

imposes upon your committee a delicate duty. They quote the first of the old charges, "Concerning God and Religion;" and state that: Under this same charge atheists are excluded from Masonry, the warrant for such exclusion being found in the following: "A Mason is obliged by his tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understands the art, he will never be a stupid atheist, nor an irreligious liberatine." Atheists being excluded, what is, then, "that religion in which all men agree?" Manifestly it is the belief in a Supreme Being.

Holding in common to the great fact of the existence of God, all Masons must stand upon the level of a perfect equality whenever and wherever assembled as such. As a man, Masonry leaves each one free to his own theological interpretation; but his freedom confers no license to enforce or engraft his interpretation upon the Institution.

The Jurisprudence Committee pointed out that the Master had violated Code 486 in permitting charges involving questions of a sectarian character to be presented to his lodge. They excused him on the ground that he was acting under the advice of the Grand Master which might be considered an order or at least a direction.

The Committee held that the trial of Brother Crum was void because it was held in violation of the Code, that there was nothing to be gained by punishing the Master, and closed their report as follows:

Your Committee therefore recommends that the whole proceeding be regarded in fact, as it was in law, void ab initio, leaving all parties enjoying the same status as before the mischievous proceedings was begun.

The position taken by the Jurisprudence Committee, of which Past Grand Master Joseph Robbins was Chairman, startled the Masonic world and was severely criticised by many Jurisdictions. Brother Josiah H. Drummond of Maine, called it the

Most dangerous attack upon Freemasonry that has ever come to our knowledge, and all the more dangerous because it is made in the name of Masonry and by Masons who love Masonry.

Kansas comments as follows:

Now, if this decision of the Grand Lodge is concurred in by the Fraternity in Illinois, we simply ask them to be consistent and remove the Bible from their Masonic altars.

Similar comments were made by several Jurisdictions, and many lengthy discussions of the case may be found in the Correspondence Reports of our Grand Lodge Proceedings, beginning with the year 1888. At that time Brother Robbins was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence. He replied to all his critics in that masterful style of his, but failed to convince them that our Grand Lodge was right in approving his report of the Jurisprudence Committee in 1887.

The Charter of Vienna Lodge was restored by action of the Grand Lodge. Brother John C. Smith was elected Grand Master and it became his duty to return the Charter.

I close this brief account of one of the most interesting and widely discussed cases in Illinois Masonic history, by quoting from the annual report of Grand Master Smith in 1888.

At the earnest request of the many brethren interested, I personally visited this lodge and restored its charter. I called the attention of the brethren to that part of the address of M.W. Brother Darrah relating to their lodge, and the action of Grand Lodge thereon. While not in sympathy with action of Grand Lodge, and believing the Holy Bible to be the first and most important of the three great lights of Freemasonry, I did not forget that I was there to enforce the laws and edicts of Grand Lodge.

In my address to the brethren, I reminded them of the fact that the Holy Bible is God's inestimable gift to man, and that the Freemason who scoffed at the same ought to renounce the Fraternity. At the same time I recommended forbearance with the wayward brother, and urged that he be directed to take as his guide a copy of the Holy Writings, "that great light in Masonry, which would guide him to all truth, direct his paths to the temple of happiness, and point out to him the whole duty of man." I cannot forbear to mention, as I have been compelled to notice, that no action of this Grand Lodge has ever been so severely criticised as its decision in this Vienna Lodge case.

## Chapter 37

# RITE OF MEMPHIS

In 1884 Grand Master Browning said:

It having been reported to me that an organization called the "Egyptian Rite of Memphis" and other organizations of like character, were claiming the right to organize "Blue Lodges" I referred the matter to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for an investigation and report.

The report affirmed the exclusive control over the three degrees conferred by symbolic lodges and continued

Notwithstanding the pointed provision of this groundwork of the craft, it has been the practice in some states of Continental Europe, and in the Spanish settlements of the Continents of Central and South America, to merge the Craft with outside associations of Masons (both legitimate and illegitimate), a union that never was contemplated by the original progenitors of the Institution, and which is not only inimical to independent craft existence, but is also in violation of the primary law of its early organic foundation. For these reasons this Grand Lodge has for years declined to recognize Grand Lodges that were not in their entirety made up of Lodges deriving their authority from Constitutional Grand Bodies of Freemasonry.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois has never interposed obstacles to members of its lodges entering into any association of Masons (without the portals of its lodges), but it firmly denies to such associations the authority to assume, in any associated capacity or otherwise, any function inhering to its lodges; therefore it is, that the attention of your committee has been called to an article appearing in a periodical known as the "Masonic World" a paragraph of which will be found in the following letter of inquiry. As such publication was supposed to be the organ or mouthpiece of the so-called "Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis," with central authority resident in Boston, Mass., I addressed a letter to Brother Darius Wilson 96°, and the Grand Master of said rite as follows:

The letter in part reads:

The Grand Lodge of Illinois has never presumed to dictate to members of its constituent lodges their affiliations with other sodalities or

associations, if of a reputable character, and do not offer any hostility to the fundamental principles upon which the lodge is founded, but we do insist upon entire and unreserved control of the degrees of Symbolic or Craft Masonry, to wit.: the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, within the territorial jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge. Will you therefore advise this committee if under any circumstances or conditions, it is held by the body over which you have the honor to preside, that it has an inherent right to establish, conduct or control Blue Lodges, meaning thereby the three degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason.

The reply stated that the body over which Darius Wilson presided had the same right to establish lodges as that possessed by any other organization. He said they had not organized any lodges and did not intend to do so where a Grand Lodge was in control but:

We do not propose to be bottled up and prevented from working by the hostile and un-Masonic action of any Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M.

The constitution provided that all meetings should be held in the "Sovereign Sanctuary" and by the "Most Illustrious Sovereign Grand Master General."

The section on powers of the Grand Master reads:

He shall possess authority to confer all the various degrees from first to the ninety-sixth inclusive, provided, however the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason shall not be conferred in any State or Territory where there exists a Grand Lodge regularly constituted by authority of this or any other Rite of Masonry; provided further, that should it come to his knowledge that the Grand Lodge of any State or Territory by edict, resolution or constitution, shall denounce the Rite of Memphis, proscribed any of its degrees, or endeavored in any manner to prevent members of its dependents from receiving said degrees, or by any other act attempted to injure or prevent the working of the degrees of the Rite of Memphis, the Most Illustrious Grand Master General may, in consequence of such unMasonic act, consider such State or Territory Masonically unoccupied, and may at his discretion grant charters for Masters of Lodges of the Egyptian Rite of Memphis, and when in his opinion a sufficient number of subordinate lodges have been formed in such State or Territory, he shall grant a charter for the constitution of a Grand Lodge of three degrees which, after its establishment, shall possess exclusive and supreme control of the first, second and third degrees within such State or Territory.

This is plain enough to condemn the organization as spurious and illegitimate.

The committee also discovered another Rite claiming similar

powers. It was "The Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis." However this organization asked not be to considered in the same category with the "fradulent Sovereign Sanctuary of Boston, Michigan and Canada." The head of this organization acknowledged that he never had a charter but worked under a photograph of a charter. The conclusion of the committee was

That persons cannot be made Masons except by the act of a regular lodge, working under the jurisdiction and by the authority of a Grand Lodge constituted by the representatives of lodges of Free and Accepted or Craft Masons.

It was resolved

That the said Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis and the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis, and all other associations of persons of whatever degree or name (other than lodges of Free and Accepted or Craft Masons, and the Grand Lodges duly constituted by the representatives of such lodges), that shall arrogate to themselves the authority, under any circumstances or conditions, to confer the degrees of Symbolic or Craft Masonry, to-wit; Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, or whose charters, constitutions, laws, edicts or decrees shall assume or permit the powers organized under them to assume, the authority to constitute lodges, or bodies of any other name, for conferring the said three degrees of Symbolic or Craft Masonry, are clandestine bodies within the meaning of the fundamental laws of Masonry; and that with their constituents, dependents and individual members are clearly within the scope of the inhibitions of Section 2, Article X, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge; and all the Masons within said jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Illinois are hereby warned that any Masonic intercourse with the aforesaid "Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis or the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis, their members and constituent bodies, or with any other association of persons assuming to have any authority, powers or privileges in Ancient Craft Masonry, not derived from this Grand Lodge, within the State of Illinois, will subject them to the penalty of attaching to a violation of their Masonic covenants.

This was adopted and is still the law.

## Chapter 38

# LOTTERIES AND GIFT ENTERPRISES

In 1869 Grand Master Reynolds said:

In April last I received a letter from the Grand Master of Ohio, setting forth that a law of that jurisdiction had been violated by a member of one of our lodges in regard to Gift Enterprises, and he forwarded to me certain papers in proof of the fact. I instituted an enquiry into the circumstances, and in due time forwarded the documentary evidence in my possession to the W.M. of the Lodge of which the accused is a member; charges were preferred and the accused was found guilty and punished. I communicated the result to the Grand Master of Ohio, who expressed his satisfaction with the result.

Gift enterprises of the very best character have no good traits to recommend them. However fairly and honorably they may be conducted, they are schemes of chance, and are seductive temptations to invest money where there is not one reasonable prospect in fifty of an equitable return. Masonry is a system of morality, and never lends its aid to immoral speculations or demoralizing transactions. Hence, any attempt to give popularity or strength to gift enterprises by appeals to Masons or Masonic societies, or by reference to them in their Masonic character, is entirely wrong, and should be positively forbidden, and any violation of such regulation should be followed by expulsion.

The Grand Lodge supported his argument by the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge views with abhorrence, any attempt on the part of Lodges, or members of Lodges, to give the aid of Masonry in organized or individual form, to any lottery or gift enterprise; and that it will sustain any Lodge in any reasonable punishment inflicted upon its members for such offense.

In 1879 Grand Master Gurney said:

In March last I received a circular, which had been addressed to various brethren, announcing a "Grand Masonic Distribution of Real Estate and Personal Property," and in the interests of the Farmount Masonic Building Association. The enterprise seemed to be under the direction of gentlemen whose names were familiar as Masons of considerable distinction. The object of the Association was said to be the erection of a Masonic Temple. Whatever may have been its purposes,

our law is so positive in its condemnation of this method of advancing fraternal interests, that I immediately issued my edict prohibiting Masonic complicity with the undertaking.

In 1904 Grand Master Wright said:

I have been asked if it was proper for Masons, individually or as a lodge, to participate or aid in the conduct of a "Fair" where books of chance and drawings were features and I have decided that to do so was a clear violation of Section 6, Article 32, Part Second Grand Lodge By-laws.

While I do not think any argument necessary in support of the above decision, I take this occasion to emphasize the position of this Grand Lodge upon the subject of gambling in all its various forms.

Lotteries and games of chance are prohibited by Acts of Congress and by acts of the legislatures in nearly every state. The acts are held to be constitutional and are enforced by the courts when they are invoked in cases pending before them. And the Mason who aids or gives countenance to lottery or gift enterprises in any form or under any pretext, not only violates the plain provisions of the above section but transgresses the law of the land which he is taught in his lodge to respect and obey.

In 1917 it was

Resolved, That the grand lodge views with decided disfavor the growing custom of unduly and persistently soliciting Masons to buy tickets to picnics, entertainments, and other amusements for profit, and for advertisements in programmes of such, unless such shall first be submitted to and approved by the most worshipful grand master.

This was adopted.

In 1921 Grand Master Beach said:

Masonry does not look with the least degree of allowance upon raffles, lotteries or gift enterprises. The law as given in Section 325 is so simple and positive that no one needs to err. Yet, in a lodge in the State during the year past a regular lottery for the benefit of a building fund was promoted. An automobile and a number of other valuable articles were offered to those who were the fortunate possessors of the proper tickets. The District Deputy Grand Master very properly reported the case to me. I ordered all money returned and the whole scheme suppressed. If lodges cannot provide themselves meeting places without resorting to plans and schemes which violate the Masonic as well as the laws of the State and nation they should be content to rent lodge rooms indefinitely.

Again in 1924 Grand Master Wood issued an edict against gambling and lotteries. In this he not only named lodges but "organizations

that predicate their membership on Masonry, to raise funds and for sundry other purposes." After preliminary remarks he said:

From and after the date hereof, no lodge of Masons nor member or members of any Masonic lodge shall engage in or have any part in the conduct of any raffle, circus, or any form of chance or gaming. Furthermore, no lodge of Masons nor any member thereof, may use or participate in the use of punch boards, or similar devices, for the distribution of prizes in connection with any enterprise conducted in the name of Masonry or directly or indirectly for the pecuniary benefit of Masonry, or any Masonic lodge, or any organization whose membership is composed solely of Masons; neither shall any lodge of Masons, nor organization of Masons, accept any of the proceeds of any enterprise as outlined in this Edict.

The jurisprudence committee approved the edict and declared it was a correct interpretation of the law.

This edict of 1924 was prompted in part by the disgraceful airing in the public press of a controversy between a Potentate of Medinah Temple and the mayor of Chicago over the right of groups of Masons to run gambling games, etc., in violation of the law. (Grand Lodge Proceedings 1935, page 33.)

During the administration of Grover C. Niemeyer a most serious violation of both state and Masonic law arose. He received by railway express as a member of

Medinah Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. literature, tickets, etc. in connection with a "Fund Raising Campaign" professedly designed to afford delinquent members, numbering approximately 9,000, an opportunity to pay their dues through the sale of tickets to "A Shriners' Ball" at the Trianon and Aragon ball rooms and Medinah Temple, Chicago, and to provide money for the expenses of the past potentates, officers and members of the uniformed organizations of the shrine to the Imperial Council at Washington, D. C., in June, 1935.

The sale of these books amounting to 7,500 which represented 600,000 tickets to the ball and the halls would accommodate only 20,000 people.

The Grand Master said:

There is no difference between the legal meaning and the layman's conception of a lottery, viz.; a scheme for the distribution of prizes by lot or chance. This campaign was a lottery readily recognized as such by any disinterested lawyer and by any layman of average intelligence and experience. The element of lot or chance was present in three distinct transactions, viz.

1—The sale of tickets to the ball — the price being determined by

lot or chance according to the number concealed under the girl's name, as in an ordinary punch board.

2—The award of the blanket or other prize to the holder of one ticket of every eighty according to lot or chance in selecting the name of the "winning girl."

3—The award of a Ford automobile by lot or chance to one only of the thousands holding tickets.

After charges were filed against certain officers and past potentates for promoting this lottery, the Shrine for the first time made funds for charity an object of the plan, published a list of expenditures for charity in an attempted justification of its violations of the law and

publicly boasted that no jury would convict its members and asserted the chances are well worth the cost of the tickets.

More than 20,000 books were sent out, and thereby more than 1,600,000 tickets were offered to the public when the Shriners must have known that they could admit less than two percent of that number.

On the night of the ball, according to the Chicago Tribune, through which the Shrine conducted its "campaign of education" police reserves were called out to handle the crowds in the vicinity of the ball rooms, estimated at 55,000 at the Trianon and Aragon, with additional thousands at Medinah Temple. These people did not come for the dances, but—as stated in the Tribune—for the final drawing in a huge lottery sponsored by the Shrine officials.

The books were sent by express to avoid possible prosecution for using the mails illegally. The Potentate was advised by letter that

the fund raising campaign was a lottery and gift enterprise in violation of federal, state and Masonic laws and requested him to discontinue it.

A meeting of the Grand Master with the officers and Past Potentates of the Shrine developed the fact that they had determined that the Grand Lodge had no jurisdiction over Shrine activities. All but two of the Shrine representatives voted to sustain the action of the Shrine, and pledged support to the campaign, and agreed to accept equal responsibility. Charges were filed against the representative of the blanket company in addition to those against the 14 officers of the Shrine. Two recognized the authority of the Grand Lodge, the 12 others were found guilty of giving the aid and countenance of Masonry to a lottery and insubordinately persisting in such action after

being requested and directed by the Grand Master to desist, and were expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry. Their violation of the federal, state and Masonic laws was willful. Before the contract with the blanket company was signed it was suggested that the Grand Master be consulted. This was met by the statement:

Well, you don't want to discuss it with the Grand Master because you will put him in an embarrassing position to begin with, and you will put him in a position where he might say "NO" and then you would have to abandon the plan or put yourselves in the position of defying the Grand Master.

However, they soon found that the Grand Master could not be turned aside from his determination to enforce the law. In reporting this violation the Grand Master gave a very correct definition of what Masonry stands for.

Masonry is not a coat to be put on or taken off as one desires. It is not a character to be assumed when respectability is advisable and cast aside and forgotten when the individual chooses to violate the law of the land, or indulge the lower and baser sides of his nature. It is a rule of conduct which, once adopted, must be everywhere practiced until death or expulsion releases the obligation.

The present law covering such enterprises is in Section 211:

All lodges and the members thereof are strictly forbidden to give, or attempt to give, the aid or countenance of masonry to any raffle, lottery or gift enterprise.

## Chapter 39

# GRAND LODGE HALL

In 1853 the question of a permanent location for the Grand Lodge again was presented and a motion was made to purchase twenty shares of stock in the new Masonic Hall then being constructed in Springfield. After considerable debate the question was laid on the table. In 1857 the committee on finance and accounts reported that the Grand Lodge was dependent upon the Masonic bodies "which meet in this hall" for the seats and desks necessary for the business of the Grand Lodge. Therefore it was

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars, from the funds of this Grand Lodge, be placed subject to the disposal of the Junior Grand Warden, for the purpose of providing this hall with such fixtures as he may deem necessary.

In 1867 a report was made about financing a Grand Lodge Hall. It provided that a fund of \$100,000 be raised by collecting five dollars for every initiation and a tax of one dollar on each member. In 1868 the whole subject was again deferred for another year. The 1869 report was long and raised the amount needed to \$500,000, bonds to that amount to be issued running for twenty years at ten percent interest. There were 30,000 names on the lodge rolls. The committee believed that few if any would refuse to lend the Grand Lodge \$15, making a total of \$450,000 available. The committee looked into the price of land and found a piece on La Salle Street that would provide what would have been then ample room. The lot was 180 feet square. The Grand Lodge room was to be 122 by 80 feet. This report was accepted and it was

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to select a suitable site in the City of Chicago, on which to build a "Temple" or building for the Grand Lodge, and procure a refusal of said site until all the Lodges in the State can be made acquainted with such selection, and have received a printed copy of the report just made, and when a majority of such Lodges shall have sanctified such selection, the committee shall be thereby empowered to complete such purchase or lease, and proceed in the usual way to make an offer for the same.

The report of the special committee in 1870 was that they could get a refusal on the property selected for a forfeit of \$10,000 if not accepted within thirty days, a further sum of \$30,000 was to be made at the expiration of thirty days. The whole price was \$180,000 which was entirely beyond the means of the Grand Lodge so the question was never submitted to the Lodges for action. The Grand Master reported that the property in question had been sold ten days later at an advance of five percent in price and on much better terms to the owners of the property.

In 1909 the Grand Master recommended that consideration be given to a permanent home for the Grand Lodge and its officers. A special committee was appointed to report the next year. In 1910 the committee report was that it was inadvisable to consider the question at the time on account of financial needs that might arise in connection with the homes. There has been no further action.

## Chapter 40

# HONORARY MEMBERS

In 1842 it was

Resolved, That the M.W. Jonathan Nye, P.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, be admitted an honorary member of this Grand Lodge, and he be permitted at all times a seat in the same as such.

He was one of the handful of members who dared to march in a Masonic parade at the height of the anti-Masonic persecution. He was a Congregational minister for many years but it is his Masonic record that interests us. He was fearless and outspoken in the defence of Masonry at all times. In addition to being Grand Master of Masons of Vermont he was elected Grand High Priest Royal Arch Masons in New Hampshire in 1822-23; was Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of New Hampshire 1823-26; was General Grand High Priest in 1835-38; and succeeded Dewitt Clinton as Grand Master of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar in 1829 and again in 1832.

He was chairman of the committee to investigate the Mormon lodges. He went to Fort Madison, Iowa and was preparing a speech to be delivered before the Masonic fraternity when he was stricken, and on April 1, 1843 he passed away.

Another honorary member was elected in 1861:

Resolved, that our venerable and aged brother, Jonathan Young of Prairie Lodge No. 77, at Paris, be constituted an honorary member of this Grand Lodge.

Brother Young died on August 18, 1867 at the age of nearly 77 years.

1870:

Resolved, That W. Brother James B. Samuel of Carrollton Lodge No. 50, be and is hereby elected an Honorary Life Member of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Samuel was a doctor and the first Master of Carrollton Lodge No. 50.

1917: Brother Owen Scott suggested that Governor Frank O. Lowden be elected to honorary membership in this Grand Lodge. The Grand Master put the question and he was unanimously elected. He had just finished delivering the oration when this action took place.

The last Brother to be honored with such membership was Most Worshipful Brother Albert A. Schaffer, Grand Master of Massachusetts on October 12, 1943.

## Chapter 41

# VETERAN ASSOCIATION

On December 26, 1885 a circular letter was sent bearing the signatures of D. G. Cregier, T. T. Gurney, G. W. Barnard, W. A. Stevens and Geo. W. Hazlett, from which the following is taken:

The question suggests itself, Can we do anything to perpetuate the principles of the old institution or contribute to the welfare of its older members?

There are scores of craftsmen yet living who, through many years of zeal, loyalty and constancy, have done much towards the growth and prosperity of Freemasonry in Illinois and elsewhere — men who have never wearied in their appreciation of the true principles of the ancient institution, but many whose age and labors in the vineyard of masonry, although entitling them to rest from the active duties of the Lodge, should not deprive them from that social intercourse with their contemporaries, which is one of the most agreeable features of the Lodge.

A letter was mailed to a number of older Masons of Illinois, inviting them to meet at Oriental Hall, 122 La Salle Street, Chicago, on Wednesday evening, January 13, 1886, to consider the propriety of forming an organization in Chicago, to be called the "Masonic Veteran Association of Illinois."

At the time and place named in the notice nearly one hundred Masons who had labored in the Temple more than twenty-one years assembled, proceeded to organize, and appointed a committee on regulations. The committee reported at subsequent meetings held during the year, and a code was, in due time, adopted, in which the name and objects of the association were clearly defined; time fixed for stated meetings, as well as that of the first annual reunion; defining the officers and their duties, and the qualifications of members, one of which was—"No person can become a member of this association until twenty-one years after his initiation, nor unless he be a Master Mason in good standing."

At the first Annual Reunion and banquet of the Association, which was given at the rooms of the Iroquois Club, 35 members were present, and it was then declared that the "first year's existence of the Association has been such as to warrant its future success." John C. Smith, Grand Master was elected Venerable Chief, and Gil. W. Barnard re-elected as Secretary. More than one hundred names of veterans appeared on the roll of members.

The second annual reunion was held at the residence of Venerable Chief Smith, 65 Sibley Street, Chicago, at which the veterans were entertained by the Venerable Chief, his worthy wife and family, in such manner as those only who have participated in the hospitality of "Smith's Inn," 65 Sibley Road can fully appreciate. At this meeting were present as distinguished guests Chas. C. P. Hunt, a Master Mason of more than 65 years' standing and Major General John E. Smith of the regular army, a charter member of Far West Lodge (Galena), December 27, 1838, afterwards No. 23 on the register of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

Letters regretting their inability to be present were read from honorary members Albert Pike, E. T. Corson, John Frizzell, H. B. Grant, William B. Isaacs, T. S. Parvin, Josiah H. Drummond, and other distinguished Masons from nearly every jurisdiction in the United States.

The roll of membership showed a satisfactory increase in numbers, and as the hour approached for separation and the guests clasped the hand of the Venerable Chief and Mrs. Smith before parting, each heart beat in unison to the one thought—the Masonic Veteran Association was a grand success, and the Venerable Chief was the crown prince of entertainers.

Venerable Chief Smith has been elected his own successor at each succeeding reunion, and has entertained the veterans and their wives at the "INN." Each reunion has surpassed all others in interest and pleasure afforded the members.

Masons from nearly every quarter of the world where civilization exists have been received and entertained at the annual meetings of the Association, which numbers among its honorary membership distinguished Fraters from Europe, Asia, Egypt, Canada, and most of the states of the Union.

The roll of the latter begins with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England.

The annual reports of the Association, written, edited and pub-

lished by the Venerable Chief, are among the rarest gems of Masonic literature and are most highly prized by the Masonic student; and as the October sky indicates the approach of frost and snow, the veterans look forward to the annual reunion with anticipations of fraternal greetings, the warm grasp of the hand and the smile of true brotherly love and affection, which has characterized their lives for so many years.

Probably one of the most interesting episodes connected with the work of the Association was the address to Queen Victoria on the occasion of the recent "Jubilee," which marked the sixtieth year of her reign. The following excerpt is from the London Freemason of August 4, 1897:

A Masonic Address to Her Majesty from the U.S.A.

The following letter to H.R.H., the Prince of Wales and congratulatory address to Her Most Gracious Majesty and Queen was sent by post and express June 7, 1897.

The address is in the 14th Century medieval illuminated text on the finest vellum, and bound in choice seal skin of "garter blue."

On the back, in letters cut out of solid gold, is the name Victoria.

Chicago, June 7, 1897

H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales:

M.W. Sir and Brother:

On behalf of the Masonic Veteran Association of Illinois, United States of America, which is honored with your membership, I forward by express, a congratulatory address to her Most Gracious Majesty, on attainment of sixty years' reign on the throne of Great Britain and Ireland, &c.

We kindly ask that you, on our behalf, will present this token of our love and respect for so noble a woman, to your loved mother, the Queen.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

John Corson Smith.

Past Grand Master of Masons of Illinois, &c, &c, and Representative of the Grand Lodge of England, Venerable Chief.

The unique address reads:

June 20, 1897.

To her Most Gracious Majesty, Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India:

The members of the Masonic Veteran Association of Illinois, United States of America, most heartily join their brethren wherever they may be on land or sea, and the people of all civilized nations around the globe, in congratulating your Majesty upon having attained the longest reign of any King or Queen who ever sat upon the throne of Great Britain and Ireland.

We thank our Heavenly Father, the Great Architect of the Universe, for having in his great goodness, spared your life to witness the most wonderful sixty years of progress in the world's history. No like period has seen so much progress in moral and religious thought, in effective effort for the freedom of mankind, in the advancement of industrial pursuits, in the development of the liberal arts and mechanics, the uplifting of humanity and the promotion of the general welfare of the people everywhere. In all this you have by constant effort, example of encouragement, borne a conspicuous part.

Wishing your Most Gracious Majesty continued years of usefulness and happiness, we ask your kindly acceptance of this tribute from the Veteran Freemasons of Illinois, United States of America, representative of that Ancient Craft whose Patroness you have so long been, and of which your honored father, the Duke of Kent, and your son, His Royal Highness, Albert Edward Prince of Wales, have been and are such distinguished members.

John Corson Smith,  
Venerable Chief.

The following reply has been sent by her Majesty to our indefatigable brother Gen. J. C. Smith:

Its warm appreciation of the good wishes from the Veterans of Illinois leaves nothing to be desired, so that communication is certain to be widely read, and treasured by the brethren concerned, as well as highly valued by the Craft in America.

Windsor Castle, 12th July, 1897.

Dear Sir:

I am commended to convey to you and to the members of the Masonic Veteran Lodge of Illinois, the sincere thanks of the Queen for the kind expressions of congratulations and good will contained in the address which was forwarded by you through H.R.H., the Prince of Wales, for submission to her Majesty.

I am also commanded to thank you for the photograph of yourself which was enclosed with the address. I am, dear sir

Yours very faithfully,  
Arthur Biggs.

Gen. J. C. Smith, 65 Sibley Street, Chicago, Illinois.

The article given above was by George W. Warvelle.

The Association now has a set of by-laws that cover more ground than did the early meetings. The fee for membership is five dollars and the annual dues are three dollars. There are four classes of members: Active, Patriarch, Life, Honorary. Petitioners for membership must have been members of some regular lodge for a period of at least twenty-one years. Lodge membership is a requirement for membership in the Association. An active member who has paid annual dues

for at least five years may become a life member by payment of twenty-five dollars which exempts him from the payment of further dues. A member in good standing for twice twenty-one years continuously shall thereby become a Patriarch member but will continue to pay dues. Honorary membership is by unanimous choice of members present at any annual meeting of such as have rendered distinguished service to Masonry but who, by reason of non-residence, are not eligible for active membership. Such honorary members are exempt from dues but entitled to all the rights and benefits of the Association.

The Association usually holds four meetings a year which are called by the Venerable Chief. There is also one large meeting each year at which ladies are present.

At present there are 522 members.

List of honorary members elected during the administration of Venerable Chief, John C. Smith.

Milheim Abolkeir, Damascus, Syria  
 George W. Bain, Sunderland, England  
 William G. Bell, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
 Sir Henry A. Blake, Hong Kong, China  
 Marquis of Breadalbane, Scotland  
 Andrew Brown, Honolulu, H.I.  
 R. S. Brown, Edinburgh, Scotland  
 J. L. Carson, Enniskillen, Ireland  
 George A. Coudsi, Damascus, Syria  
 Rev. J. C. W. Coxe, Oskaloosa, Iowa  
 Henry C. Crozier, Cairo, Egypt  
 J. E. Davar, Bombay, India  
 A. V. Davoren, Donnybrook, Ireland  
 Henry J. DeForest, Vancouver, B.C.  
 Geo. A. Derrick, Singapore, Johore  
 Dr. George Dickson, Edinburgh, Scotland  
 Edward VII, London  
 Earl of Euston, London  
 Rev. W. Russell Finlay, London  
 Charles A. Fisk, Nogales, Arizona  
 Dr. John Foulds, Glasgow, Scotland  
 C. D. Furdoonjee, Bombay, India  
 Thomas Fraser, London  
 Robert Freke Gould, Woking, England  
 John T. Griffin, Yokohama, Japan  
 Earl of Haddington, Scotland  
 Alexander Hanauer, Cairo, Egypt  
 Walter H. Harris, London  
 William Hart, Melrose, Scotland

R. S. Haughton, Jamaica, W.I.  
 George Hicks, Jamaica, W.I.  
 Swift P. Johnston, Dublin, Ireland  
 Jos. R. Kanawaty, Beyrout, Syria  
 Gen. Sir Herbert H. Kitchener, S. Africa  
 Sir Francis Knollys, London  
 Sir Edward Letchworth, London  
 Robert J. Levy, Constantinople  
 H. Wales Lines, Meridian, Conn.  
 Wm. Loeb, Jr., Washington, D.C.  
 Sir Alexander Muir MacKinzie, Scotland  
 Hugh McCurdy, Corunna, Mich.  
 Wm. McMurdo, Motherwell, Scotland  
 Bey Shashine Makarius, Cairo, Egypt  
 Charles F. Matier, London  
 William H. Mayo, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Sir James C. Meredith, Dublin, Ireland  
 Dr. Geo. R. Metcalf, St. Paul, Minn.  
 Bey Col. Mousally, Khartum, Egypt  
 Sereno D. Nickerson, Boston, Mass.  
 Dr. James Ogilvie, Jamaica, W.I.  
 Rev. Thos. A. Parker, Champaign  
 Nathaniel G. Philips, London  
 Sir Henry T. Prinsep, Calcutta, India  
 Bey Idris Ragheb, Cairo, Egypt  
 Prince Abdul Rahman, Singapore, Johore  
 Kahlil Rayess, Beyrout, Syria  
 Thomas M. Reed, Olympia, Wash.  
 F. DeP. Rodriguez, Havana, Cuba

Theodore Roosevelt, Washington, D.C.  
H. M. Rustomjee, Calcutta, India  
William H. Rylands, London  
Sir J. Sykes Rymer, York, England  
Henry Sedler, London  
Fred F. Schnitger,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England  
Gen. William R. Shafter, San Francisco  
Edward A. Sherman, Oakland, Calif.  
Gen. John H. Soper, Honolulu, H.I.

Henry G. Thayer, Plymouth, Ind.  
John T. Thorp, Leicester, England  
Rev. C. L. Twing, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Col. Chas. I. Ward, Jamaica, W.I.  
Gen. Sir Charles Warren, England  
William Watson, Leeds, England  
Fred Webber, Washington, D.C.  
T. B. Whytehead, York, England  
Sir Henry T. Wood, London, England

## Chapter 42

# KING KAULAKANA VISITS ORIENTAL LODGE NO. 33

(FROM VOICE OF MASONRY, FEBRUARY, 1875)

January 15, 1875. The royal party consisted of the King, two of his governors, and suite; also Commander Whiting and Lieutenant Totten of the United States Navy, appointed by the Government as his escort.

The King is a member of Progress of Oceanica Lodge in Honolulu, and several of those who accompany him are Masons.

During their stay in New York, Boston and Washington they visited the leading lodges, and, in the first named city, saw the third degree conferred in the presence of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of New York.

Our eastern brethren strongly urged them to visit Oriental Lodge during their sojourn in Chicago, and, accordingly, on the day of their arrival here, the King communicated his desire to do so to the officers. Fortunately, their regular communication was close at hand, and work on the third degree for which that lodge has a special celebrity, was on the program; so they were enabled to tender the party an invitation, and also to make the occasion interesting to them. Invitations were also sent out to the Fraternity, but to a limited number only, to prevent over-crowding the hall; the news, however, spread quickly, and the result was an unexpected rush which rendered it imperatively necessary to close the doors at an early hour. Those in the hall numbered over four hundred, and nearly as many more filled up the ample staircases and corridors, unable to gain admittance, but they did not desert their posts until long after they had witnessed the arrival of the royal party.

At 8 P.M., the lodge having been opened, a committee was sent to the Grand Pacific Hotel, consisting of Brothers W. C. Hunt, George Gassette, and Newton Lull, to escort the illustrious visitor to the hall.

The party was formally received in the elegant reception parlor by another committee consisting of Brothers H. W. Johnson, W. A. Stevens and A. G. Burley, who conducted them into the lodge, where they were received by Brother Edwin Powell, Worshipful Master, on behalf of the lodge, and by Brother D. C. Cregier, Past Grand Master, on behalf of the Masons of Illinois.

The visitors were then seated in the East and the lodge proceeded to confer the third degree on John A. Lyndon, a Fellowcraft, with their appropriate ceremonies, which are distinguished by the introduction of appropriate scenery, picturesque costumes, calcium lights, and an abundance of music. The last solemn scene of all is indescribably beautiful, the room being darkened to a certain point, with only faint specks, or stars, of light visible in the long row of appendant burners, when suddenly a flood of calcium light is thrown upon the scene, changing in color until it ends in a rich crimson. The organ was presided over by Brother W. H. Cutler, assisted by Brother John A. Farwell, and a quartet choir, consisting of Brothers Coffin, Bowen, Phillips and Coulston, and there was no stint of choice music. The chanting of the exquisite passages from Ecclesiastes and the very impressive delivery of the prayer may be mentioned as among the finest features of the ceremony.

At the conclusion, the King arose and made a few highly complimentary remarks followed in a similar strain by Governor Dominis and Lieutenant Totten, the latter bringing down the house with a general invitation to meet him in his Lodge at Hong Kong. Then followed a loud call for Honorable John Wentworth, the well-known Mayor and ex-Member of Congress whose gigantic proportions, so familiar to the oldest and youngest Chicagoan, speedily towered above the assemblage. (Other speakers were D. C. Cregier, Rev. Thomas, First M.E. Church, T. T. Gurney, and H. A. Johnson.)

The King and his party returned to the Grand Pacific Hotel, where they afterwards entertained the officers of the lodge in a most hospitable manner, and thus ended one of the most memorable events in the annals of Masonry in Illinois.

The King was a Malay of the Sandwich Islands.

## Chapter 43

# AN OLD APRON

Bloomington, Illinois  
May 23, 1951

The following information is given pertaining to a Master Mason's apron that belongs to the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Bloomington, Illinois. The writing on the scroll is written in "long hand" and reads as follows:

Coming April 6th 65

To my son Scott Wolcott

My Dr Son this apron was at one time your Grand Father Oliver Wolcotts he was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. It was given to him by the immortal Washington. It is over one hundred years old. It was given to me by your Grandfather. I give it to you. Keep it as a relic and a present from your poor old father who is now ninety six years old.

Your affectionate father  
John Wolcott

On the back of the scroll is written

dont fail to retain this letter.  
J.E.W.

The following history is in typed form and framed in connection with the apron in question:

Scott Wolcott traveling west sometime during the early or middle of the last century became ill in a small town in southern Illinois and was attended by Dr. Cleanthus Whitecraft, then a practising physician there. This apron and accompanying scroll were given to Dr. Whitecraft in payment for his services. Dr. Whitecraft gave it to his son Cleve Whitecraft, now deceased, formerly of LeRoy, Illinois. Upon the death of Cleve Whitecraft it descended to his only child, Cleantha Keefe who conveyed it to Arlo E. Bane of LeRoy, Illinois through whose courtesy it is presented here.



Apron presented to Oliver Wolcott, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, by Gen. George Washington.



I, P. C. Somerville, Secretary of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Bloomington, Illinois, am making the assertion that this apron, in a frame as it now is, was presented to the Scottish Rite Bodies of the Valley of Bloomington, Illinois by Brother Arlo E. Bane, LeRoy, Illinois.

## Chapter 44

# WAR RELIEF SERVICE

When the need for private recreation for soldiers and sailors arose, Grand Master Mohr promptly arranged to open service centers at Chicago, Waukegan, Highland Park, Fort Sheridan, Rockford, Rantoul and Belleville, this latter for the air service. His action was enthusiastically supported by the lodges.

In 1942 he stated the object of this service:

Our facilities are proffered alike to members of the Fraternity and those in uniform, regardless of whence they may come. A file, replete with grateful, enthusiastic, responsive and appreciative letters, evidences the value of our endeavors.

An appeal was made to the lodges to assist the Grand Lodge in financing these centers. There were 986 lodges in the state and 986 responded with 25 percent more than the amount asked for.

In 1943 he said:

This service started quietly and without fanfare, without dreaming of the magnitude of the undertaking. Humble in its inception, its work now has reached gigantic proportions that stagger the imagination. Over 26,000 men in uniform, one-third of them brother Masons, have received letters from this committee, and have been the recipients of its activities.

In 1944 Grand Master Pierson said:

Words cannot express our appreciation to the members of the Order of the Eastern Star for their generous assistance in making our Service Centers a success. Without their contributions in money, food, time and more especially in actual work, it would have been well-nigh impossible to have given the Service Centers the home touch that has been so appealing to the men in our country's armed forces. Every day, Sundays and Holidays included, they have worked tirelessly and gladly cooking and serving delicious food, acting as hostesses, and doing all in their power to make a "Home away from Home" for the boys.

The Masons of Illinois can never forget the wonderful services they have rendered.

In 1945 the elective Grand Officers had a conference on the twenty-first day of September and decided that as the Centers were primarily organized for the purpose of building morale and furnishing some pleasure and comfort for those who were being trained for combat duty, their principal function expired with the declaration of peace, and, therefore, it was decided to close the Centers on the twenty-eighth of September, and this was done.

## Chapter 45

# MISCELLANEOUS

1840: It was necessary to borrow money to finance the operations of the Grand Lodge until dues could be collected. \$100 was borrowed from James Adams, Deputy Grand Master, and the interest was twelve percent.

1842: A committee on foreign jurisdictions was appointed. This became the committee on foreign correspondence which has functioned ever since. That year it was

Resolved, that a warden during the absence of the master may preside but that he has no power to confer degrees, without he is also a past master.

Resolved, that as the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that it is contrary and inconsistent with the ancient usages and precepts of our order to withdraw from a subordinate lodge, without some good cause; or to reside in the neighborhood of a subordinate lodge, without becoming a member thereof.

**An attempt was made to limit the size of lodges.**

Resolved, that whenever the members of any subordinate lodge shall exceed fifty, such lodge shall be divided; and whenever the average members in attendance during the year shall be less than ten, then such lodge shall cease to exist, and shall surrender the charter or dispensation to the Grand Lodge.

This was not adopted. If this was in effect today we would have 4,870 lodges.

[1844]: Resolved, that the Grand Lodge of Illinois would recommend to the lodges under its jurisdiction to do all their business in a lodge of Master Masons, except conferring the first and second degrees.

Formerly it was common practice to transact business in the Entered Apprentice degree, except conferring other degrees.

[1845]: Resolved, that the privileges of our institution are embraced in the three degrees of entered apprentice, fellow craft and master mason, to which a single ballot in favor of a candidate fully

entitles him; and the last two of which he may receive, when qualified by suitable proficiency, unless by apostasy from duty after the degree last taken, he be proved unworthy.

This action was taken in response to a question from a lodge that required a vote for each degree.

That year the fee for a dispensation for a new lodge was fixed at \$15; that for a charter \$7; minimum fee for degrees \$15. Five copies of the proceedings were sent to each lodge.

Another resolution permitted lodges to confer the degrees upon ministers without fee.

The dispensation for the first lodge to work in the German language was issued this year. It was Herman Lodge at Quincy.

Every candidate was required to pass an examination before being advanced; also to pass the third lecture within one year from the time he was raised.

That year it was

Resolved, that this Grand Lodge approve the formation of a General Grand Lodge, and invites the co-operation of her sister Grand Lodges, by the appointment of delegates, to meet in convention for the purpose of reporting to the various Grand Lodges, a constitution for the government of a General Grand Lodge, so soon as the same may be approved by a majority of the Grand Lodges; and that all former resolutions regarding any convention or conventions of Masons, be and the same are hereby repealed.

Another resolution that was repealed two years later was:

Resolved, that within this jurisdiction, an expulsion or suspension by an Encampment or Chapter, shall be deemed to carry with it an expulsion or suspension, as the case may be, from the Masonic institution.

1847: John Barney, who was a noted lecturer, died and the Grand Lodge paid his funeral expenses.

1850: In the early years Grand Officers were elected who had not served as Master of a lodge. That year the law changed to provide that no member can be elected to the first four Grand Offices who has not served as Master of some lodge.

1852: Each representative was allowed five cents per mile and one dollar per day.

All lodges were requested to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the reception of George Washington into the Masonic fraternity on November 4, 1752.

That year the committee on mileage and per diem was first appointed.

1853: \$100 was appropriated towards a monument for John Barney.

Grand Lodge recommended that all lodges prepay postage on all correspondence. Also the Grand Lodge was invited to visit the State Fair.

[1857]: Resolved, that it is deemed inexpedient and prejudicial to the interest of Masonry to grant dispensations for new lodges, the location of which may be within five miles of another lodge, unless said lodge shall consist of at least forty members, or the lodge prayed for is to be located in a city or town containing a population of 3,000 inhabitants.

1858: In 1845 Grand Lodge approved the formation of a General Grand Lodge but this year it reversed itself by resolving, that it was opposed to such General Grand Lodge but offered to send delegates to discuss matters of importance to the Masonic fraternity.

1859: To keep the delegates in their seats Grand Master Buck said:

I shall require every brother desiring leave of absence, to make application in writing, setting forth his reasons for wishing to leave, which will be filed with the Grand Secretary, as a justification for issuing an order for mileage and per diem.

1861: On account of the uncertain value of money all dues were required to be paid in either gold or silver.

Henry Snow died in Quincy on December 24, 1860. He was Deputy Grand Master of the first Grand Lodge and Grand Lecturer. He acted as proxy for the Grand Master of Kentucky to institute Bodley Lodge U.D. He was one of the signers of the petition for the dispensation for Olive Branch Lodge at Alton in 1821.

1862: On account of the war only one proceedings was received from the southern states; it was from Louisiana.

The requirement that dues be paid in gold or silver was repealed. The Grand Master said:

I would recommend that the resolution requiring a lodge to pay their dues in gold or silver be repealed. The circumstances that surrounded us at the time this resolution was adopted are entirely different now. We had at that time a circulation of Bank Notes called "MONEY," but which in fact was from ten to forty percent discount, which, if received by the Grand Lodge at par would subject her to a loss of several hundred dollars. Now we have a circulation of United States Treasury notes, equal in value to gold or silver.

1867: The Grand Master ordered all delegates to appear in Grand Lodge wearing the jewels of their respective offices.

Twelve district deputies were appointed.

1869: A district deputy was appointed for the German speaking lodges. He was to be an overseer or lecturer, one who could speak the language fluently.

1871: It had been the custom to remit dues of lodges whose property had been lost by fire. This year the finance committee reported:

It is the duty of every lodge to keep its property fully insured, and that in case of loss when insured, there is no justice or occasion for applying for a return of Grand Lodge dues. When without insurance, it is their own fault, and that if in such cases this Grand Lodge assists them, it should be clearly understood that it is charity.

1873: Grand Master Hawley said:

The power vested in the Grand Master to "make Masons at sight" is one of the most important of his prerogatives, and should at all times be exercised with the utmost caution. But cases of emergency do arise when, to exercise this power, is, in my opinion not only proper and right, but is one of the means whereby the interests of Masonry are promoted.

The Grand Master had agreed to exercise this prerogative and make General U. S. Grant a Mason at sight, but public business prevented (see article about Grant).

1883: A petition to establish a lodge to use the French language was refused.

1884: Financial trouble bothered the Grand Lodge and a resolution was introduced to hold biennial meetings, thereby saving several thousand dollars, but it was declared contrary to the ancient usage of the order. The same year Grand Lodge delegates were invited to take a ride on the new cable cars.

1888: This was the first time board-covered proceedings were issued.

1894: A. T. Dixon died on February 15. He was Grand Tyler when the Grand Lodge was organized and was the last survivor of the original members.

1895: Milo D. Chamberlain died on May 8. He attended Grand Lodge in 1859 and every year thereafter until his death. He was custodian of the work for several years and was chairman of the Grand Examiners that held the first school at Odin in 1869. He was considered "the father of the standard work."

1909: Attention was called to David Dennison who was born in Kingston, New York, on November 17, 1737 and died in Chicago on February 28, 1852. He was made a Mason in Maine and is buried in Lincoln Park. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and was the last survivor of the "Boston Tea Party." He participated in the battles of Bunker Hill, White Plains and Long Island and witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. A resolution was introduced to place a remembrance of him at the grave but no action appears to have been taken.

1909: Fay Hemstead was crowned Poet Laureate of Masonry. This was the third time such an event took place. The first was in Cannongate Kilwinning Lodge at Edinburgh, Scotland when Robert Burns received that honor; the second was when the Grand Lodge of New York crowned Robert Morris. The third was under the auspices of Ravenswood Lodge No. 777 at Medinah Temple. A souvenir program was printed showing the pictures of the three poets. The ceremony took place on October 5, 1908.

1909: Grand Master A. H. Bell was presented with the first return of Western Star Lodge No. 107 by the Grand Master of Pennsylvania. It was for the year 1806.

Jewels were purchased for all Past Grand Masters.

1910: Brother William B. Grimes died. He was affectionately known as Father Grimes. He was raised in Pittsfield Lodge No. 56 in 1854. He was appointed a Deputy Lecturer in 1875 and in 1879 was made a member of the Board of Grand Examiners, and was chairman in 1892-99. He was elected Grand High Priest in 1898.

November 8, 1911: The seven Ross brothers were raised by Palmyra Lodge No. 463. They are the sons of one of the early members of that lodge. Their father, William Ross, was the fourth man to become a member of that lodge after it received its charter in 1866. The elder Ross was present on Wednesday, as was Thornton Capps, who was Master of the lodge at the time the elder Ross became a member.

1912: The official receipt for dues was adopted.

1913: This year the edict against smoking during lodge meetings was issued.

1914: The burial ceremony was changed to provide for cremation or use of a crypt. Only a few changes were needed.

1917: Dual membership prohibited except as to honorary members.

1917: The "Code Quiz" was adopted. Its object was to examine all

applicants for commissions as Grand Lecturers on "Their knowledge of the principles, laws, rules, regulations, customs and usages of the fraternity." The Quiz covered 35 pages.

1916: A ceremony for introducing the flag was adopted and, with slight changes, continued until Grand Master Pierson ruled that the flag was part of the furniture of the lodge and should be in position before the lodge was opened and remain there until after closing; this to conform to military regulations.

1918: It was recommended to the Lodges that all soldiers' dues be remitted during the continuance of the war.

1922: Recommendation was made that a board of Legal Examiners be appointed to examine all Masters-elect on their proficiency in knowledge of the law and ability to conduct the business of their lodges in an orderly and satisfactory manner. Under the terms of this resolution no Master could assume the duties of his office until he had a certificate of proficiency from the Board. The intention was good but it was utterly impossible for one committee to examine 900 or more Masters so it was not adopted.

1924: Henry E. Hamilton died. He was Senior Grand Warden in 1877 but did not desire advancement so resigned.

1928: The committee on financial research was created and functioned for some years but has since been discontinued.

1932: All lodges were requested to hold a public celebration of the bi-centennial of the birthday of George Washington.

Grand Lodge began holding two day sessions.

A proposed amendment to permit Past Masters to have a vote in Grand Lodge was defeated.

1936: A button for fifty-year members was adopted and in 1946 such members were exempt from all dues.

1945: A financial limit was placed on the amount of indebtedness a lodge could carry on new buildings. It was, and still is, necessary for a lodge to have two-thirds of the cost of such building before permission could be granted to proceed with the construction.

Illinois Masons took a prominent part in organizing the Grand Army of the Republic. The first commander of the first post was Captain M. F. Kanan. He was a member of Macon Lodge No. 8 as were two others, Brigadier General Isaac C. Pugh and Major John H. Nale. Captain Christian Reibsame was a member of Ionic Lodge No. 312. Major General John M. Palmer, a member of Mt. Nebo Lodge

No. 76 and Grand Orator in 1857, was the first state commander, Major General Stephen A. Hurlbut, a member of Belvidere Lodge No. 60 and Grand Orator in 1859, was the first national commander-in-chief. Major General John A. Logan was the second national commander-in-chief. He originated the Decoration Day service. He was raised in Mitchell Lodge No. 85 and transferred his membership to Benton Lodge No. 64. He was a member of Washington Chapter No. 43, Chevalier Bayard Commandery No. 52 and Oriental Consistory. He was elected to receive the 33rd degree but died before it could be conferred.

Brothers Logan, Palmer and Kanan were the ritual committee. They provided for three degrees or grades—Recruit, Soldier and Veteran. Each had a sign, grip and password. The initiatory work, including obligations, had many familiar passages.

While the wording of the obligation is different from that of Masonry it is plain that it was written by those who were familiar with Masonic ritual.

## Chapter 46

# MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

In 1840 there were eight small lodges in the state, none with a large membership. No figures were given in 1850 but from then on every ten years the figures are given below.

1860	11,712	1910	101,692
1870	36,250	1920	203,447
1880	35,570	1930	293,294
1890	49,369	1940	192,836
1900	57,325	1950	243,519

The largest membership was in 1929 with 294,209; then came the decline which lasted until 1942 with 187,768. In the last eight years there has been a gain of 55,751 and indications are that it will continue.

In 1931 there were 1,014 chartered lodges; in 1950 the number was reduced to 975.

### Meeting Places

Jacksonville . . . . .	1840-41-42-43-44-45	Chicago . . . . .	1849
Peoria . . . . .	1846	Springfield . . . . .	April, 1850
Quincy . . . . .	1847	Shawneetown . . . . .	October, 1850
Alton . . . . .	1848	Springfield . . . . .	1851-69
		Chicago . . . . .	1870-1952



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Pioneer History of Illinois—Ex-Governor John Reynolds  
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    Illinois  
    Indiana  
    Kentucky  
    Maryland  
    Missouri  
    Pennsylvania  
    Wisconsin  
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    District of Columbia  
    Kentucky  
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    Illinois Territory  
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GRAND MASTERS  
OF  
FIRST GRAND LODGE  
1822                      1826







Shadrach Bond  
Grand Master—1822

## SHADRACH BOND

Grand Master 1822-23

Born November 24, 1773

Died April 13, 1832

Brother Bond was born in Fredrickstown, Maryland, November 23, 1773.

He came to Illinois in 1794, and located near what is now New Design in Monroe County. Later he moved to Kaskaskia and built the first brick residence a short distance west of the town. One account says the bricks were made on the farm, the other that they were brought from Pittsburgh.

He attended the session of the Territorial Legislature, and was a member when Illinois was separated from Indiana. He was the first delegate to Congress at a time when the trip required 35 days. He took his seat on December 3, 1812, and resigned on October 3, 1814, to accept an appointment as receiver of Public Monies at Kaskaskia.

He was instrumental in passing the "Pre-emption Bill" which was a great help to the early settlers who were there before the land was surveyed. He was the first Governor under the State Constitution, being elected without opposition, the only governor so elected. After retiring as governor he was appointed Register of the Land Office at Kaskaskia, the highest salaried office in the state. It paid \$3,000 per annum. He was 6 feet tall, weighed 200 pounds, had a dark complexion, glossy black hair and was fond of hunting and fishing. He was a successful farmer, a justice of the peace and judge of the court of common pleas.

### MILITARY

July 6, 1806, Governor William Henry Harrison appointed Shadrach Bond adjutant in the St. Clair County Militia. On 26 Oct. he was appointed lieutenant-colonel, vice George Atchinson, deceased. (*Laws of Indiana Territory, 1801-1809*, edited by F. S. Philbrick, Illinois State Historical Library Collections, v. 21, p. CCXLVIII.)

(In the Governors' letter-books, 1818-1834, Illinois State Historical Library Collections, v. 4, p. 4, note 1.)

On 9 December, 1809, he was appointed colonel, commandant of militia in St. Clair County, by Nathaniel Pope, Secretary of Illinois Territory. On 7, March, 1812, he was appointed aid-de-camp to the commander-in-chief.

The records of the War Department at Washington show that Shadrach Bond served as a private in Captain Stephen Gill's Company, Forty-first Regiment (Hutchin's) Maryland Militia, War of 1812. His service commenced on August 25, 1812, and ended on November 1, 1812. His residence is shown as Baltimore County.

#### MASONIC

He petitioned Temple Lodge No. 26 at Reisterstown, Maryland and received the degree of Entered Apprentice on March 13, 1803; Fellowcraft on April 10, 1803 and Master Mason prior to November 1, 1803, exact date not in records. Dimitted (date not in records), re-affiliated on November 4, 1804.

Temple Lodge was organized in 1798 and became defunct in 1815.

He visited Western Star Lodge No. 107 at Kaskaskia on October 4, 1806 and petitioned for affiliation. He was elected to membership on December 27, 1806. He served the lodge as Junior Deacon in 1814; Worshipful Master 1815, 1818, 1827, 1828, 1829. He was elected Grand Master on December 11, 1822 and had retired as Governor December 5 of the same year.

He died at his home on April 13, 1832 and was buried on his farm. His remains were moved to Chester in 1879. In 1883 the State erected a large monument to his memory in Evergreen Cemetery at Chester.



Shadrach Bond monument in Chester.



## JAMES HALL

Grand Master 1824-25

Born August 19, 1793

Died in 1868

The second Grand Master of Masons was born in Philadelphia on August 19, 1793. In 1813 he enlisted in the Washington Guards and later in the United States Army. The war department record shows him a Third Lieutenant, March 30, 1814; assigned to the Second Regiment Artillery; promoted to Second Lieutenant, May 1, 1814; transferred to Corps Artillery, May 12, 1814; transferred to Ordnance, January 1, 1816; promoted to First Lieutenant, May 17, 1816; resigned, June 30, 1818. He participated in the Niagara campaign of 1814 and in the battle of Lundy's Lane. For a short time he was a prisoner of war. He was one of five artillery officers assigned to go with Stephen Decatur against the Barbary pirates. He sailed from Boston on August 6, 1815 on the *Enterprise* but only reached Gibraltar because the ship was disabled. He studied law in Pittsburgh. In 1820 he came to Shawneetown. He was 27 years old at the time. Shawneetown was then the most important point on the Ohio river below Louisville, Kentucky. At the time he arrived he said:

The town now contains about one hundred houses, of which five or six are brick, several of frame, and the remainder of logs. It has twelve stores at which a large and active trade is carried on, besides a number of shops of a smaller description, two excellent taverns, an independent bank, a branch of the State bank; a land office, a post office, two printing offices, and furnishes employment to carpenters, cabinet makers, blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers, bakers, and other mechanics, of whom a number are settled here.

In 1820 Hall bought a half interest in the Illinois Gazette and thus began his career as an editor and writer. As there was little money in the country he was forced to accept trade as payment for subscriptions and advertisements. These were paid in "linen and rags; also bacon, tallow, beeswax and feathers." Evidently he was forced to manage a store as a side line to his newspaper business.

In 1821 he was appointed prosecuting attorney for ten counties in the neighborhood of Gallatin County. Courts were held twice a year and the time was fixed when the roads were in condition to permit

the judge and lawyers to travel. There were no roads, only horse trails. A log cabin or bar-room in a tavern was fitted up with table, chairs and benches so court could be held. The first court in Shawneetown was held on a flatboat because there was no suitable room in the town. The office of prosecuting attorney was one that required great courage and sometimes the attorney had to assist in arresting offenders. He held this office for four years. During the session of the legislature of 1824-25 Hall was appointed circuit judge of the fourth judicial district at a salary of \$600 per annum.

When General LaFayette visited Shawneetown on May 14, 1825 Hall delivered the address of welcome at the Rawlins Hotel.

Hall resigned as circuit judge in 1827 and was appointed state treasurer, which office he held for four years. He bought *The Illinois Intelligencer* which soon had a subscription list as large as those of all the other papers combined. Governor John Reynolds said of him:

Judge Hall, whose paper, the *Intelligencer*, had almost as much circulation as all the other journals, was acknowledged to be one of the most scientific and polished writers in the State, or in the West; and he poured out streams of red-hot lava from his press that I felt on many occasions.

Hall took a prominent part in organizing the "Antiquarian and Historical Society of Illinois." This lasted a few years only. Hall's knowledge of the west made him famous as an interpreter of the western conditions. He attempted to publish an educational magazine but his local constituents were principally interested in providing food and clothing rather than educational matters. Realizing this was a failure he moved to Cincinnati. He sold his newspaper in Vandalia and in January, 1833 left for his new home. He became cashier of the Commercial Bank in Cincinnati until 1840 when he resigned to enter other lines of activity. He died in Cincinnati in 1868.

In the records of Ohio Lodge No. 113, held at Pittsburgh, we find:

James Hall, initiated, March 13, 1817; passed Oct. 8, 1817; raised Oct. 8 1817.

He was Master of Lawrence Lodge No. 34 at Shawneetown in 1821 and 1822. In 1822 he was one of two delegates from Lawrence Lodge that participated in the organization of the Grand Lodge. The proceedings of 1824 show him as the Deputy Grand Master presiding in the absence of the Grand Master. On December 8, 1824 he was elected Grand Master and again on January 4, 1826.



Rawkins Hotel, in Shawneetown, where Grand Master James Hall  
received Gen. LaFayette.







M.W. Bro. Guy William Smith  
Born 1792 – Died 1879  
Last Grand Master of the First Grand Lodge,  
1826

## GUY WILLIAM SMITH

Grand Master 1826

Born May 6, 1792

Died January 30, 1879

The third Grand Master was born in what is now Jessamine County, Kentucky, on May 6, 1792. After finishing school he was made assistant to his uncle who was clerk of the circuit court of Bullitt and Nelson Counties.

When the War of 1812 broke out he enlisted in Captain H. P. Duvall's Company in the Eighth Regiment of Kentucky and was in the campaign of the northwest in Northern Indiana and the Illinois Territory. In 1813 he was in Captain M. W. Wickliffe's Company in the Fifth Regiment of Kentucky Mounted Volunteers. This regiment under William Henry Harrison invaded Canada. He participated in the battle of the Thames River where Tecumseh was killed. After this battle the Kentucky troops were returned home and mustered out of the United States service at Limestons, (now Maysville) Kentucky, November 4 to 13, 1813.

In the spring of 1814 he went to Shawneetown, Illinois, where for 18 months he was clerk to the agent of the Salt Works, then under control of the general government.

In September, 1815 he was appointed clerk of the Edwards County Court.

On June 21, 1817 he was appointed Colonel of the Eighth Illinois Militia. In 1821 he was elected Major General. At that time the law required

Brigadier and Major Generals shall be elected by the officers of their Brigades and Divisions respectively.

All Militia Officers shall be commissioned by the Governor, and may hold their commission during good behavior or until they arrive at the age of sixty years.

In 1818 he was commissioned to take the census of Edwards County; he was also recorder of Edwards County and Senator 1818-20 from that county at the first legislature.

In 1821 he was appointed Receiver of Public Money at Palestine and held that office for 20 years.

In 1850 he was assistant marshall for the federal census.

He then resigned and was elected to the House in 1842, serving two years. About 1850 he moved to McDonough County and spent a few years there farming.

He then moved to Iowa and bought land. He paid for 80 acres with a "Military Land Bounty Warrant which was issued in favor of "Guy W. Smith, private in Captain Duvall's Company Kentucky Militia, War of 1812."

He was twice married, his first wife Eliza Brown, being supposed to be a daughter of Thomas C. Browne, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. They were married on April 13, 1819. She died on November 22, 1822, leaving two children. He married Jerretta Wilson on March 25, 1824, by whom he had eight children. Mrs. Jeretta Smith died on October 6, 1856.

Brother Smith was about 5 feet and 6 inches tall, well-built and retained his vigor and mind until his death, which occurred on January 30, 1879. He was buried beside his wife at West Liberty church, a few miles west of Dodgeville, Des Moines County, Iowa.

#### MASONIC

He received the Entered Apprentice degree in Jerusalem Lodge No. 9, Henderson, Kentucky on July 31, 1813 and was raised on August 13, 1813. The first record of his membership in Illinois was when he was elected Master of Palestine Lodge U.D. The Grand Lodge proceedings for 1824 read:

Brother Guy W. Smith presented the dispensation granted in vacation to certain brethren residing in Palestine, also a return from said Lodge which was received. On motion of Brother Grand Treasurer a charter was granted to Palestine Lodge and time was given them until the next Grand Communication to pay the fees due for said charter. The Grand Lodge was then adjourned "till the first day of January next" (1825) and a lodge of Past Master Masons was opened when Brother Guy W. Smith was introduced and duly installed as master of Palestine Lodge in ample form.

In 1826 he served the lodge as Secretary. He was elected Grand Master, December 12, 1826, and was Grand Master when Western Star Lodge was elected to membership in the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

His brother John Speed Smith was a member of Richmond Lodge No. 25, Kentucky, and was Grand Master of Masons in Kentucky, in 1824-25.

The last reference to his Masonic activities is in the minutes of Temperance Lodge No. 27 at Vandalia, June 4, 1839. It reads:

Guy W. Smith, late Grand Master of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Illinois, visiting.

The family history states that Brother Smith was a Royal Arch Mason. If that statement is correct he must have received the degree from a lodge as the first attempt to organize a chapter in Kentucky was in November, 1814, when a petition was presented to Grand Lodge for authority to institute a chapter at Lexington.



GRAND MASTERS  
OF  
PRESENT GRAND LODGE  
1840                      1951







M.W. Bro. Abraham Jonas  
Born 1801 – Died 1864  
First Grand Master of the present Grand Lodge,  
1840-1841

## ABRAHAM JONAS

Grand Master 1840-41

Born September 12, 1801

Died June 8, 1864

He was born in Devonshire, England, on September 12, 1801. The year 1819 found him in Cincinnati, Ohio, where upon attaining his majority he was raised in Miami Lodge. In 1825 he moved to Kentucky and a few years later organized Grant Lodge at Williamstown, Kentucky, of which he was Master. In 1829 he was elected Junior Grand Warden of Kentucky and Grand Master in 1832. In 1838 he settled in Columbus, Illinois where he became acquainted with enough Masons to sign a petition for a lodge which was sent to the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The dispensation was granted in 1839 with Jonas as Master. The Grand Lodge was organized in April, 1840 and Brother Jonas was elected Grand Master. He was not present and was installed by proxy. He served about two and one-half years as Grand Master. In 1842 he issued the dispensation for the Mormon lodge at Nauvoo which caused so much trouble.

He delivered the oration before the Grand Lodge in 1847 and again in 1859. In 1842 he was elected to the state legislature and served one term. At first he was in the mercantile business but was admitted to the bar in 1843 and practiced law in Quincy until 1864.

He was postmaster in Quincy for 12 years, being appointed by Presidents Taylor, Fillmore and Lincoln.

He was a presidential Elector on the Fremont ticket. He was an important participant in the two conventions that nominated Lincoln for President. Lincoln later commissioned Jonas to tasks of state involving great responsibility but the nature of those duties was not stated.

He is first mentioned as a member of Georgetown Chapter No. 13 in 1827. He attended Grand Chapter as a visitor on August 31, 1835 and acted as Grand King p.t. and the next day was elected Grand Scribe. There is no further mention of his capitular activities in either Georgetown or Grand Chapter. He was the first High Priest of Quincy Chapter No. 5 in 1846. At the time of his death, which occurred on June 8, 1864, he was a member of Herman Lodge No. 39.

During the Civil War the four sons of Brother Jonas were in the Confederate army while he remained steadfast in support of the Union. When the doctors gave no hope for the recovery of Brother Jonas from his final illness he expressed a desire to see one of his sons who was a prisoner of war. Friends communicated with President Lincoln and he ordered the son released and sent word to Brother Jonas that the boy was on the way to see him. He arrived on the day his father died but in time to be recognized and welcomed.

In 1928 the Grand Lodge appropriated \$2,000 for a monument to be erected over the grave of Brother Jonas in Valley of Peace Cemetery in Quincy. On August 31, 1929 Louis L. Emmerson, Grand Master, and the Grand Masters of Missouri and Wisconsin were present to pay tribute to our first Grand Master. The exercises were concluded with an oration by Oscar A. Kropf, Grand Orator. The memorial stands 7 feet high and is 2 feet wide and mounted on a pedestal. Near the top is the square and compasses encircling the letter "G." Below are the words "Abraham Jonas, First Grand Master of Masons of Illinois, 1840-41."

## MEREDITH HELM

Grand Master 1842

Born in 1802

Died in 1866

Brother Helm was born in 1802 in Williamsport, Maryland. After graduating in literary studies he attended the Baltimore, Maryland Medical College, graduating, it is thought, in 1827. He commenced practice in his home town until 1831. The following year he came to Springfield and practiced his profession until 1832 when he returned to Maryland for his family. His health being impaired he moved to Rochester, where he engaged in farming for a year before returning to Springfield. He resumed his medical practice and continued it until his death in 1866. He resided at the southeast corner of Sixth Street and Capitol Avenue, then known as Market Street.

He joined Potomac Lodge No. 5 in Washington, D.C., receiving the degree of Entered Apprentice on November 3, Fellowcraft on November 17 and Master Mason on November 22, all in 1825. He dimitted in 1826. We next hear of him as a charter member of Friendship Lodge No. 84 at Hagerstown, Maryland.



Abraham Jonas monument in Quincy.



His name does not appear as one of the signers of the petition for the dispensation of Springfield Lodge No. 26 but at the first meeting, held on April 20, 1839, he was appointed First Master of Ceremonies. He was invited to install the officers. On December 25 he was elected Master for 1840-41. He was one of three delegates appointed on November 18, 1839 to attend a meeting at Jacksonville to represent the lodge at a convention to be held on December 27 for the purpose of conferring as to the propriety of organizing a Grand Lodge for the state. He attended another preliminary meeting at Jacksonville on January 20, 1840 and was appointed one of a committee to correspond with the other lodges in the state asking their co-operation in forming a Grand Lodge.

At the organization meeting of April 6, 1840 he acted as Grand Marshall and was appointed Senior Grand Deacon. At the second annual meeting he was elected Deputy Grand Master and in 1842 was elected Grand Master. He was Grand Master during the trouble with the Mormon lodges.

He was not satisfied with the way business was conducted in Springfield Lodge No. 4 and offered a resolution in 1841 reading:

Whereas, in the judgment of this Lodge, circumstances which are incompatible with the peace, harmony and well-being of the lodge, and which are otherwise incurable; therefore be it

Resolved, That Springfield Lodge No. 4 be and it is hereby dissolved and that it cease to exist, work, or act in any manner or form from and after the close of the present meeting.

Resolved, 2d, That the Secretary be directed to return to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge our charter together with a copy of the foregoing resolutions, signed by the Master, and countersigned by the Secretary.

The resolution was read on April 19; the question of adoption came up on April 22. The resolution was not adopted, whereupon Brother Helm

gave the lodge some wholesome advice and concluded by assuring them that in future he would refrain altogether from taking part in the ordinary business of the lodge.

On June 24 Brother Helm resigned as Master. The following resolution was read and unanimously adopted:

Whereas Dr. M. Helm late Master of this Lodge has felt it his duty to resign the office which he so long exercised with distinguished ability and universal satisfaction; and

Whereas, it is just, proper, and Masonic that genuine merit should always be appreciated and openly approbated by the enlightened brotherhood of Freemasons, therefore

Resolved, That the brethren of this lodge unanimously tender to Dr. M. Helm, our late Worshipful Master thereof, their sincere and grateful thanks, for the able, efficient and satisfactory manner in which he discharged his trust while acting as Master, and for his disinterested, untiring, and successful efforts in the cause of Freemasonry.

In 1844 he resigned his membership and was elected an honorary member for life.

After completing his term as Grand Master he never again attended Grand Lodge.

In Capitular Masonry he received all the degrees in Potomac Chapter No. 8, Washington, D.C.: Mark, March 22, 1826; Past, March 22; Most Excellent, April 19; Royal Arch, April 19, all in 1826.

He dimitted on December 13, 1826.

We next hear of him as First High Priest of Springfield Chapter No. 1. He served under the dispensation and was elected High Priest on December 22, 1842 and again in 1843. He resigned on July 1, 1844.

Shortly before he resigned his lodge and chapter membership he became a convert under William Miller, a Baptist minister who taught that the end of the world would occur on March 21, 1843 and when that date passed he set October 22, 1844 as the time.

Brother Helm was highly respected and popular among his patients and fellow citizens.

## ALEXANDER DUNLAP

Grand Master 1843

Born in 1785

Died November 10, 1853

He was born in Fayette County, Ky. in 1785 and was raised in Murray Lodge No. 105. In the war of 1812 he volunteered as a private and was taken prisoner at Dudley's defeat, in which battle he distinguished himself in protecting the wounded from the scalping-knife of the savage, and would have paid the penalty with his own life if he had not been recognized as a Mason by a British officer. He was afterwards in the battle of the Thames, and for honorable conduct on that occasion, was made a Captain in the U.S. Army. He served through the Creek war, and for sometime was a member of Gen. Jackson's military family. He

was present and saw the execution of Arbuthnot and Ambrister. He was appointed a Major in the U.S. Army by President Polk; served with Gen. Scott in Mexico; and was present and assisted in the reducing of Vera Cruz; and was in several other engagements during the war.

As early as 1831, he removed to Jacksonville, and was elected Sheriff of Morgan county on several occasions.

At the organization of the Grand Lodge he was Grand Treasurer; at the subsequent sessions of 1840 and 1841, he was elected Grand Senior Warden; and in 1842 he was elected Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Master in 1843.

In all the relations of life, he showed himself to be a man of unshaken firmness, probity and fidelity. No man had warmer or more devoted friends; and no man deserved them more. His purse was ever open to the calls of the needy, and his voice ever ready to defend the innocent. It will be long before his manly form, his open and intelligent countenance, will be forgotten amongst our brotherhood.

—W. B. WARREN.

He died on November 10, 1853, aged 68 years.

The Grand Lodge adopted the following:

Resolved, That in the death of Brother Alexander Dunlap, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, the community have lost an exemplary citizen, the fraternity a faithful brother, and this Grand Lodge one of its earliest and most devoted friends; one who, in the primary movement for the organization, as well as in the active operations of this Grand Lodge, filled every station assigned to him, whether subordinate or supreme, with honor to himself, and the entire satisfaction of the Brotherhood.

## LEVI LUSK

Grand Master 1844

Born May 10, 1795

Died July 25, 1877

Brother Lusk was born at New Hartford, New York, on May 10, 1795. He came to Kentucky in his early years and joined Mt. Vernon Lodge No. 14, located at Georgetown, Kentucky. He received the degree of Entered Apprentice on April 2, 1821; Fellowcraft on April 23; Master Mason on April 24. In the same year he was elected Secretary, Senior Warden in 1823, Master in 1824 and filled various other offices until he left the state and came to Illinois. He purchased an eighty acre farm near Rushville in 1836. He was exalted in Mt. Vernon

Chapter No. 13 (present name Georgetown Chapter) on April 4, 1823 and was appointed Master of the First Veil the next December. He was elected High Priest in 1827 and received the Order of High Priesthood in the same year; was a member of the Finance committee in Grand Chapter in 1828; in 1832 served as chairman of the committee on Chapters U.D. He was elected Grand Treasurer on September 4, 1832, Grand King in 1833 and Deputy Grand High Priest in 1834. He was Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Illinois in 1855.

In 1842 a dispensation was issued for a lodge at Rushville to seven brethren with Brother Lusk as Master. He represented the lodge at Grand Lodge that year and was elected Senior Grand Warden. The following year he was elected Senior Grand Warden and Grand Lecturer and sent to St. Louis to confer with the delegates that attended the Baltimore Convention and be thoroughly instructed in the ritual adopted by the Convention. In 1844 he was elected Grand Master. He was committee on correspondence in 1844-45-46-47. He was Grand Secretary in 1845-46.

Brother Lusk died at Mt. Sterling, Illinois, on July 25, 1877 at the age of eighty-two years. He was laid to rest with the Masonic rites. Here ended the life of one who for more than fifty years had been an active worker in the Masonic vineyard.

## WILLIAM FREDRICK WALKER

Grand Master 1845

Born in 1810

Died April 3, 1875

The fifth Grand Master was born in 1810 at Bedford, Pennsylvania. He attended Hobart and Union Colleges in New York, graduating from the latter in 1832. He graduated from the Theological Seminary of New York in 1835 and is said to have founded the Episcopal Institute at Troy, New York.

He was an Episcopal Rector and served a church in Connecticut and also possibly at Brooklyn, New York, before coming to St. James and Trinity Episcopal Churches in Chicago in August of 1843. He resigned as rector of St. James at Easter of 1844, and then devoted all

his time to Trinity on the south side of Chicago until 1846. He later returned to New York where he remained in the ministry until 1853. Brother Walker died at his home in Brooklyn, New York on April 3, 1875 at the age of 65.

He is shown as a member of LaFayette Lodge No. 18 in 1844. In 1845 he appeared in Grand Lodge as proxy for the Senior Warden of Joliet Lodge No. 10 and for the Master of St. John's Lodge No. 13. The returns show him as chaplain of Apollo Lodge No. 32 and as Master of Oriental Lodge No. 33. It was unusual for a delegate attending Grand Lodge for the first time to be elected Grand Master but brother Walker received that honor. His strong personality apparently led to his election to the office of Grand Master without ever having held any previous office in the Grand Lodge.

He was a man of strong commanding individuality, whose thought dominated the action of the Grand Lodge. He was responsible for settling the disputed action of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin in issuing dispensations for lodges at Galena and Elizabeth, Illinois and transferring Milwaukee Lodge to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.

It was during his administration that the excitement over the supposed admission of a negro to a Masonic lodge took place. The Grand Master was entirely innocent of any connection with the question and the matter was settled conclusively *after* his statement was read.

He seems to have been a man with very decided views on many subjects, both in his professional and Masonic activities. This difference of viewpoint often caused some controversy with his associates, although some of his innovations of a century ago are accepted customs today. He was a man of great ability, of an impulsive, impetuous temperament, and a most enthusiastic, earnest and zealous worker in Freemasonry.

Illness in his family prevented his presiding over the Grand Lodge meeting in October, 1846. He was appointed Grand Orator at this meeting but due undoubtedly to his return to New York, never fulfilled the duties of this office.

He was one of eleven to sign the petition for the dispensation for LaFayette Chapter and was named first High Priest. He conducted the correspondence with the chapter at Milwaukee, Wisconsin in asking for the recommendation of that chapter. On July 30, 1845 he was installed High Priest by John Barney who "administered the oath of office."

On May 15, 1845 a dispensation was issued to "open and hold an Encampment of Knights Templar and Knights of Malta, and a Council of the Appendant Orders in the city of Chicago, by the name of Apollo Encampment No. 1." Brother Walker was named "Grand Commander." Eleven names were signed to the petition. Brother Walker was commander in 1845-46-47. He received his lodge degrees in Apollo Lodge No. 13 at Troy, New York; Entered Apprentice, January 15, 1839; Fellowcraft, January 19, 1839; Master Mason, January 21, 1839. He withdrew in 1840.

He was exalted in Apollo Chapter No. 48 in March 1839 and listed as Chaplain. March 1841 he removed from the city. He evidently received the commandery orders in Troy also.

He was one of six charter member of "Ineffable Lodge of Perfection" at Chicago in 1846. Gil W. Barnard is authority for the statement that: "Beyond the fact that this charter was authorized, no records can be found as to whether or not the Lodge was ever constituted or entered upon their work."

## NELSON D. MORSE

Grand Master 1846

Born in 1815

Died February 9, 1854

We have no record of where Brother Morse was born or when he came to Illinois. In 1844 a dispensation was issued for a lodge at Henderson with Brother Morse as Master. His first appearance in Grand Lodge was in 1844 as Master of Hiram Lodge, U.D. His great interest and activity resulted in his election as Junior Grand Warden that year. In 1846 he was elected Grand Master at the age of 31 years. He issued dispensations for seven lodges and when he left the office of Grand Master there were 42 lodges with approximately 850 members.

At the close of his administration the Grand Lodge voted to issue dispensations for Military Lodges during the war with Mexico, but the Grand Master declined to issue any. Also legislation was presented to endorse the formation of a General Grand Lodge but was defeated.

Brother Morse was very active in Hiram Lodge, serving as Master five years and was Treasurer the year he was Grand Master. He

dmitted from the lodge and obtained a dispensation from the Grand Master to form and open a lodge in California when he decided to join the gold rush. He opened "Pacific Lodge" at Long's Bar, California, in 1850. This was about two and one-half miles north of Oroville. The lodge met in a log house about four feet above the ground but the floor was excavated enough to permit members to stand erect. The altar and pedestals were stumps of trees and the jewels were cut from tin cans. Brother Morse was a member of the legislature in 1852, representing Butte County. He returned to Illinois and brought the dispensation with him which he returned to the Grand Secretary. He at once resumed his activity in Grand Lodge and was Grand Lecturer for Northern Illinois at the time of his death. He was the first High Priest of Horeb Chapter No. 4 and again in 1853 after his return from California.

He was a wagon maker and at the time of his election as Grand Master was described as a most impressive workman and as decided and courteous a gentleman as ever presided over the Grand Lodge. He was in straitened circumstances at the time of his death. The Grand Lodge voted an annual appropriation to assist in the education of his oldest daughter and in 1859 appropriated money to erect a monument over his grave. N. D. Morse Lodge No. 346 was named for him.

## WILLIAM LAVELY

Grand Master 1847-48

Born August 28, 1810

Died January 23, 1888

Brother Lavelly came to Springfield in 1830 and engaged in the mercantile business. He was mayor of Springfield in 1852; justice of the peace for many years; chairman of the board of supervisors of Sangamon County; city weigher when he died. At the time of his death he was the Senior Past Grand Master. He was raised in Springfield Lodge No. 4 on June 6, 1842 and served the lodge as Master for 12 years and then as Treasurer for 20 years.

He was active in Grand Lodge, serving on committees and in appointive offices. He was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1846 and then Grand Master in 1847 and 1848. He issued dispensations for 30 new lodges, including two for lodges in California. In 1850 he

served as Grand Secretary following the fire that destroyed most of the Grand Lodge records.

When he went out of office there were 74 lodges with several thousand members. A resolution was passed during his term of office that all lodge business should be transacted in the third degree. He was the first Grand Master to compel a proper recognition of our territorial jurisdiction, and all his acts were marked by judgment and ability.

Lavelly Lodge No. 203 at Williamsville was named for him and one of the California lodges was named Lavelly.

For several years he was Treasurer of Springfield Chapter No. 1 and held membership in Elwood Commandery No. 6.

He passed away at the age of 77 years.

## WILLIAM C. HOBBS

Grand Master 1849

Born in 1799

Died February 10, 1861

Grand Master Buck said of him:

The composite column of our Grand Lodge has fallen. His early years were employed in teaching. From 1847, until his death, he resided in Bloomington, and was initiated in Bloomington Lodge, No. 43, May 26, 1847, passed June 23, and raised July 10. He attended the session of the Grand Lodge the same year, and was appointed Senior Grand Deacon; the following year he served as Senior Deacon of his Lodge, represented it in Grand Lodge, and was elected Junior Grand Warden. In 1849 he was elected Master of his Lodge and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge.

The records and papers in the office of the Grand Secretary were, in February following, destroyed by fire, and to remedy the loss as far as practicable, he convened a Grand Lodge of Recovery in Springfield, on the 8th of April following. The proceedings published soon after, represent the proceedings of 1849, although very much that was transacted at the regular meeting, I am informed, was never recovered. His year's service was the most difficult, tedious and embarrassing ever rendered to this Grand Lodge. He discharged his duties with great fidelity and remarkable ability, and retained an ascendancy and influence in the Councils of this Grand Lodge seldom vouchsafed to any retiring officer. The Grand Lodge enjoyed the benefit of his wisdom and counsel, as Representative of his Lodge, in 1852-53-56,-58-59. and during most of

the time since 1851, he has served as Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. He was exalted in Peoria Chapter No. 7, some time previous to the session of the Grand Lodge in 1848; during said session he received the degrees of Royal and Select Master, at Upper Alton; and during the session of the Grand Lodge at Chicago, in 1849, he was Knighted in company with brothers Noyes, Whitaker, Mitchell, Cabinis and others, in Apollo Commandery No. 1.

He served as the first high priest of Bloomington Chapter No. 26, and was the first Generalissimo in Elwood Commandery No. 6 in this city.

He was a polished gentleman and a polished writer, scrupulously neat; with his intimates, cheerful, affable and agreeable; in general society, reserved but polite. No man could be more beloved by those who knew his whole heart, for his hand and heart were ever open to the cry of the needy, the wail of the orphan, the petition of the poor or the oppressed. In spite of repeated losses, he always found something for the way-worn preacher, the indigent Mason, and the indigent Mason's child. While no widow, no child remain to heap flowers upon his tomb, there are several educated young men and women, now engaged in useful pursuits, who owe all their prosperity to his bounty. The Masonic rites at the funeral of our deceased brother, in February last, were impressively performed by his early pupil, Past Grand Master Pickett. It is understood that he died poor. Such being the case, I trust this Grand Lodge will show its gratitude for his eminent services, by assisting his lodge and chapter in erecting a suitable monument to his memory.

His memorial page in the proceedings reads:

Initiated in Bloomington Lodge No. 43  
Exalted in Peoria Chapter No. 7  
Knighted in Apollo Commandery No. 1  
Past Master Bloomington Lodge No. 43  
Past High Priest Bloomington Chapter No. 26  
First Generalissimo Elwood Commandery No. 6  
Past Grand Master Grand Lodge of Illinois  
At the time of his decease, Clerk County Court McLean County.  
Died February 10, A.D. 1861, aged 62 years.

"All his works praise him."

**CHRISTOPHER G. Y. TAYLOR**

Grand Master 1850

Born May 26, 1806

Died September 5, 1851

FROM HISTORY OF ST. CLAIR LODGE No. 24

Brother Christopher G. Y. Taylor, who served as Worshipful Master of St. Clair Lodge No. 24 in 1847, was elected and installed as Grand Master of the State of Illinois in October 1850, but died the following September, before he presided over the Grand Lodge. Brother Taylor was one of the youngest members of our Fraternity to be elected and installed as Grand Master. At the time of his death, September 5, 1851, he had reached but his 45th year, yet his life was a busy one, full of many activities.

Brother Taylor was a native of the state of New York, having been born in Schenectady County. When quite a young man, he determined to seek his fortune in the great west. He landed in Louisville, Kentucky, where he lived for several years, and made a host of friends.

He then moved to Belleville, which became his permanent abode. On January 6, 1841, he married Miss Nancy Williams, and to this union four children were born.

It was soon that he gained an honorable position in society at large, and by his habits of industry, his exemplary moral deportment, and his piety as a Christian, he won for himself the reputation of a good man and a useful citizen. He was raised in St. Clair Lodge U.D. on March 9, 1842.

On October 20, 1842, he was elected Secretary of St. Clair Lodge No. 60, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. On December 22, 1842, he opened a saddlery shop in a brick building which also housed the office of Dr. W. G. Goforth, who was Junior Deacon when St. Clair Lodge No. 24 received its charter from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Illinois. On March 7, 1846, he was elected Treasurer of the Belleville Washingtonian Temperance Society. On August 5, 1847, he was elected Justice of the Peace.

On April 13, 1848, he was elected Officer of the Sons of Temperance. On May 4, 1848, he was elected Treasurer of the Colonization Society, organized by the Baptist Church. On August 8, 1850, he was elected Secretary of the Belleville Sabbath Association.

Brother Taylor was buried on the Sabbath following his death, and his funeral was the largest ever held in Belleville up to that time.

On September 10, 1851, St. Clair Lodge No. 24 passed a resolution of condolence.

The Grand Master had this to say when the news of Brother Taylor's death reached his office:

that he was an affectionate husband and father; that he was an ornament to our Fraternity, a just and upright Mason, and an humble and faithful follower of that Gentle Teacher of Galilee. Firm and unwavering in his purpose, he was kind and conciliatory in his dealings with his Masonic brethren. A mechanic, who earned his bread by the sweat of his brow, he found means to aid liberally the benevolent enterprises of the day. His conduct on all occasions proved that with him Masonry was no unmeaning mummery, that all was not tinsel and show, but that its sincere holy teachings found an echo in his breast.

His passing threw the affairs of the office of the Grand Master into confusion, and it was quite some time before the regular dispatch of business again became normal.

## THOMAS JOHNSON PICKETT

Grand Master 1851

Born March 17, 1821

Died December 24, 1891

Thomas J. Pickett was born on March 17, 1821 at Louisville, Kentucky. He came to Peoria with his parents in 1836. He learned the printer's trade there, becoming a journalist and publisher, publishing papers in Peoria, Pekin, and Rock Island, Illinois, Paducah, Kentucky and Lincoln, Nebraska. He died on December 24, 1891 at Ashland, Nebraska and was laid to rest by Pomegranate Lodge of Ashland.

Brother Pickett was very active in public affairs, probably more than any other of the Grand Masters that had preceded him in this office. He was a delegate to the National Convention of the Republican Party in Philadelphia in 1866 and took part in the nomination of Fremont for President. He was also elected to two terms as State Senator from Rock Island County, Illinois, 1860-62 and 1862-64, and later was Postmaster and then Clerk of the United States District Court at Paducah, Kentucky.

He served throughout the civil war, becoming Lieutenant Colonel of the Sixty-ninth Illinois Volunteers in 1862. At the close of the war he moved his home and business interests to Paducah, Kentucky.

Brother Pickett's rise in Masonry was rapid. He was made a Mason in Peoria Lodge No. 15 on November 26, 1846 and five years later he was elected Grand Master. He was Master nine years in all, eight in Peoria Lodge. Later he was a member of lodges in Rock Island, Illinois, Paducah, Kentucky and Lincoln, Nebraska. After the death of W. B. Warren he was appointed Grand Secretary and had the contract to print the 1849 proceedings, but an explosion on the first floor of the building in which his printing press was located started a fire that destroyed all the 1849 records. In 1850 he was elected Deputy Grand Master and the next year he was elected Grand Master. At the time he was 31 years of age, being the second youngest member ever elected Grand Master. In 1873 he was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

He issued dispensations for 11 new lodges and it was during his year that the law was adopted requiring a full year's residence in the state before candidates were eligible to petition for the degrees.

T. J. Pickett Lodge No. 307 was named for him.

## ELI B. AMES

Grand Master 1852

Born August 8, 1820

Died February 12, 1898

Brother Ames was born in Colchester, Vermont on August 8, 1820 and came to Hennepin, Illinois in 1842, the same year that he was admitted to the bar. During the next 15 years he not only practiced law but was also Postmaster, Judge of the Probate Court and finally United States Consul to the Independent City of Hamburg.

He moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1857, where he organized the First General Insurance Company, a very successful enterprise. He also served as the Secretary of the Senate of Minnesota and was Mayor of Minneapolis.

He was raised in Social Lodge No. 70 of Hennepin in 1848, served as Secretary in 1849 and was Master in 1849-50 (6 month term). He

was elected Senior Grand Warden in 1851 and Grand Master in 1852, being the eleventh Grand Master.

He affiliated with Hennepin Lodge No. 4 in the late fifties and at the time of his death was a charter member of Khurum Lodge No. 112, both of Minneapolis.

Fourteen new lodges were granted dispensations. Money was appropriated under his leadership to purchase copies of "the best printed authorities on Masonic Law and Usage." That year the Grand Lodge voted against the organization of a General Grand Lodge.

His brother, Alfred Elisha Ames, was equally active in Masonry, having formed lodges at Belvidere, Roscoe, Rockton and Rockford, Illinois. Later moving to Minneapolis he petitioned the Grand Lodge of Illinois for a dispensation for Cataract Lodge at St. Anthony's Falls, Minnesota of which he was the first Master. When the Grand Lodge of Minnesota was formed he was the first Grand Master. Part of his term coincided with that of his brother in Illinois. This is the only record of a Grand Master in Illinois having a brother serving as Grand Master of another state at the same time.

Brother Ames died on February 12, 1898.

## WILLIAM BARTON WARREN

Grand Master 1853

Born March 1, 1802

Died April 1, 1865

Brother Warren was born in Georgetown, Kentucky on March 1, 1802. After graduating from Transylvania University he began practicing law in his home town. The Warren family was descended from the nobility of England. The heraldic motto of the family was "Be just and fear not." Warren was a slaveowner but he freed his slaves and came to Jacksonville in 1833. Brother Warren at once became active in public affairs and in 1839 was elected town trustee. In the same year he was a delegate to the Whig convention with Abraham Lincoln. He was appointed clerk of the Supreme Court in 1845 and, after the Constitution of 1848 was adopted, he was elected clerk of the second division of the Supreme Court, which office he held until 1855 when ill health forced him to resign. He was appointed Major of the State Militia. In 1844 when the Mormon trouble became acute Warren,

Hardin and Baker were directed by the Governor to organize a military force and preserve order in the western counties where the Mormons resided. After the "Mormon War" was ended Warren, with a small force, was left to preserve order and so well was this duty carried out that he was highly praised by Governor Ford.

When the Mexican War broke out Warren and Hardin were the first to raise a regiment of which Hardin became Colonel and Warren Major. Hardin was killed during the battle of Buena Vista and Warren became commander of the regiment. Warren was made military governor of Saltillo. Again his services were so satisfactory that the citizens of the town presented him with a set of silver plates and the Roman Catholic Monks, in token of their appreciation of his services and protection, presented him with a silver rosary and cross long enough to reach his feet when suspended from his neck. The Legislature voted him a sword for gallantry in the war.

He was a member of Mt. Vernon Lodge No. 14 at Georgetown, Kentucky and the earliest record of any activity was in 1829 when he was Junior Warden. On October 3, 1837 he was one of 13 signers to the petition for a dispensation for Harmony Lodge No. 24 at Jacksonville, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and became the first Senior Warden, later he was Master and Secretary. On November 30, 1838 he acted as proxy for the Deputy Grand Master of Missouri and constituted the lodge. He was also the first Master of Jacksonville Lodge No. 120 in 1852.

At the convention held in Jacksonville on January 29, 1840 he was appointed one of a committee to correspond with the lodges to ascertain their views on the organization of a Grand Lodge. The answers were favorable and on April 6, 1840 the Grand Lodge was organized and Warren was elected Grand Secretary and served seven years. In 1853 he was elected Grand Master but ill health prevented active service.

He was a member of Georgetown Chapter No. 13 and was Master of the First Veil in 1824, High Priest in 1830 and in 1831 was chairman of the committee on Chapter Mark Lodges. He issued the call for the delegates to meet in Springfield on April 9, 1850 to form the Grand Chapter and was elected first Grand High Priest. At Alton in 1848 at a previous attempt to form a Grand Chapter he was elected Grand High Priest but that movement was not successful.

William B. Warren Lodge No. 209 was named for him. His is the first name on the dispensation issued on March 25, 1853 to form

Belvidere Commandery No. 2 at Alton. There is no record of his attendance at any of the meetings of the Commandery, neither is it known where he received the Orders of Knighthood.

He also signed the petition for the dispensation for Beaumanoir Commandery No. 9 at Decatur. He probably signed both petitions to help those commanderies get started.

He was a member of the Episcopal Church and his home was always open for church activities. He had the finest law library outside of Chicago and it was in constant use by lawyers.

When the Civil War broke out Jefferson Davis offered him a commission as Brigadier General in the Confederate service but he declined as all his sympathies were with the north.

On April 1, 1865 he died and was buried in the East Cemetery at Jacksonville. His resting place is marked with a monument of Quincy granite 3 feet high and wide and 1 foot and 3 inches thick set on a base 3 feet 6 inches long, 1 foot 6 inches wide and 1 foot 3 inches high.

## JAMES L. ANDERSON

Grand Master 1854

Born December 20, 1809

Died August 13, 1865

The subject of this sketch was born in Aberdeen, Scotland on December 20, 1809. At the age of 14 he came to this country and settled in Virginia. When he reached the age of 21 he was accepted as a member of Greenbrier Lodge No. 49 in Virginia. He served that lodge three years as Master. He was the father of seven sons and one daughter. In 1838 he located in Rushville where he lived the remainder of his life. He served for a time as county judge. A long experience with legal affairs and his intimate acquaintance with county affairs and land titles induced him to study law and practice that profession.

He was the first Senior Warden of Rushville Lodge No. 9. The dispensation was granted by Grand Master Jonas in 1842. He served Rushville Lodge as Master in 1843-44-45 and in 1847, 1850, 1852, 1856, 1860 and 1861, nine years in all, making a total of 12 years as Master of two lodges. His first appearance in Grand Lodge was in 1845, at which time he acted as Senior Grand Warden. That year he was

elected Grand Treasurer and served for two years. In 1852 he was Junior Grand Warden. The next year he was elected Deputy Grand Master. Brother Warren, the Grand Master, was unable to serve on account of ill health. This left Brother Anderson in charge of the business of the Grand Lodge, which business was conducted in a way satisfactory and pleasing to all. He was elected Grand Master in 1854 and served for one year. It was through his suggestion that the Grand Lodge library was started. After retiring from office he served on various committees to the great benefit to the Craft. He refused several applications for permission to advance candidates in less than legal time. His opinion on this subject was:

The ready facility with which candidates are admitted into our Lodges is, in my opinion, the greatest danger to which our institution is exposed. I am strongly impressed with the belief that the interest and permanency of the Order would be greatly advanced by a total abrogation of the dispensing power.

He issued dispensations for 23 new lodges, one to work in the German language.

It is not known where he received the Chapter degrees but in the first return of Stapleton Chapter No. 9 he is shown as Scribe. He served as Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter in 1850 and Grand Scribe in 1853 but was not High Priest of his Chapter until 1859. He received the Orders of Knighthood in Belvidere Commandery No. 2 at Alton while he was Grand Master. He died at Rushville on August 13, 1865 at the age of 55 years, 7 months and 23 days.

## WILLIAM BENTLEY HERRICK

Grand Master 1855

Born September 20, 1813

Died December 31, 1865

Among the prominent members of the medical profession in Chicago a hundred years ago was Dr. William B. Herrick, who was always prominent in all that was either beneficial for the medical fraternity or the public health. His name became a household word in many of the first families of Chicago. He was well known as the possessor of rare personal and professional qualities, demonstrated during the years of his career in Chicago.

William Bentley Herrick was born on September 20, 1813 at Durham, Maine. Raised on a farm, he taught school at the age of 16 to help finance his medical courses at Bowdoin and Dartmouth Colleges, graduating from the latter as an M.D. in 1836.

Prior to coming to Chicago in 1844 he practiced medicine at Louisville, Kentucky and Hillsboro, Illinois. Almost immediately after his arrival in Chicago he became a member of the faculty at the opening of Rush Medical College. His practice of his profession and teaching at Rush continued until 1857, briefly interrupted by army service in the Mexican War.

Brother Herrick was appointed assistant surgeon of Colonel Hardin's First Illinois Volunteers at the outbreak of the war and was in charge of the hospital at Saltillo until the illness caused by the exposure and fatigues of the campaign necessitated his resignation on May 24, 1847.

He was one of the originators and President of both the Illinois and Chicago Medical Societies, and a prominent member of the Editorial Staff of the Chicago Medical Journal, and co-editor of several other medical journals.

Brother Herrick's Masonic life was equally active; raised to the degree of Master Mason on January 29, 1842 in Hillsboro Lodge No. 33 under charter of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, now Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 51 of Illinois, he became the first Senior Warden of Oriental Lodge No. 33 of Chicago and served as Master in 1854.

He was elected Grand Master of Illinois Masons in 1855, his first appearance at a Grand Lodge meeting. Dispensations for 37 new lodges were issued during his year, including William B. Warren Lodge in Chicago. He was largely responsible for the revision of the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Lodge, which were adopted in 1857 after considerable discussion and numerous amendments.

Dr. Herrick moved to Portland, Maine, in 1857 in an attempt to restore his health and after eight years of suffering as a helpless invalid he died on the last day of 1865 and the New Year dawned for him in that house not built with hands, eternal in the heavens.

**JAMES H. HIBBARD**

Grand Master 1856

Born in 1827

Died May 14, 1866

Brother Hibbard was the only son of Elias Hibbard, who was Deputy Grand Master in 1851. He was born in Mississippi in 1827 but was educated in Upper Alton. For several years he was engaged in the book and paper business. He was city clerk and alderman and an active member of the fire department.

In 1852 he married a niece of Judge Bailbache and left her and three children to mourn his untimely death.

He was raised in Piasa Lodge No. 27 on July 22, 1851, served as Master in 1854, 1858 and 1859. Was elected Grand Master in 1856, being the youngest member to hold that office. Hibbard Lodge No. 249 at Brighton was named for him. Several years ago his son and daughter presented the lodge with his Templar sword which is still in use by the lodge.

He was exalted in Howard Chapter No. 8 in 1851, dimitted from No. 8 in 1855 to become High Priest of Franklin Chapter No. 15, and re-affiliated with Alton Chapter No. 8 in 1856. He was elected Deputy Grand High Priest in 1856 and Grand High Priest in 1857 and again in 1862.

He received the Council degrees in Springfield Council No. 2 and was the first Deputy and second Master of Alton Council No. 3. He was one of the delegates to the convention that organized the Grand Council in 1853 and was the first "Grand Puissant" in 1853-54. He issued a dispensation for the first Council in Iowa, located at Muscatine. T. S. Parvin rode from Muscatine to Alton in an open wagon in December to get the dispensation.

He received the Orders of Knighthood in Belvidere Commandery No. 2 at Alton in 1858 from Grand Commander Blaney during the session of the Grand Commandery in that city. He was Commander of Belvidere Commandery in 1861-62 and Deputy Grand Commander in 1863.

It was during his first administration as Grand High Priest that the trouble between Galesburg and Knoxville came up. During his second

administration he issued the dispensation for Asboth Military Chapter, the only military chapter ever established.

He continued active in the local bodies of which he was a member, filling various stations at nearly every meeting. He was fully qualified as a ritualist in all the bodies. His death occurred on May 14, 1866 after a short illness.

The members of his obituary committee, all of whom were well acquainted with him, said:

He adorned every station which he held. In every station which he filled in all the Degrees and Orders of Masonry he was a master workman. In readiness, grace and accuracy in work he had no superiors.

In person rather compactly built, with a fine expression of countenance, and a quick easy motion in all his movements, no one enjoyed the confidence of the craftsmen to a greater extent than Sir Knight Hibbard.

The people of Alton placed him in several offices, which he filled with uncommon ability.

At the age of 39 he was suddenly prostrated, and after a brief and violent illness expired May 14, A.D., 1866, surrounded by his father, mother, wife and three children.

## HARRISON DILLS

Grand Master 1857

Born May 13, 1812

Died November 1, 1899

Brother Dills was born in Parkersburg, Virginia (now West Virginia) on May 13, 1812 and came to Illinois in 1832. He spent his first two years in Danville and in 1834 moved to Quincy; here he lived until 1881, when he moved to Kansas. Soon after he settled in Warrensburg, Missouri.

He petitioned Bodley Lodge U.D. on July 2, 1836 and received the Entered Apprentice degree on August 6; Fellowcraft on November 5; Master Mason on February 4, 1837. He was elected Senior Warden June 24, 1839 and Master June 3, 1842. He was elected Senior Grand Warden in 1856 and Grand Master in 1857.

He was exalted in Quincy Chapter No. 5 in 1854 and held some office nearly every year thereafter. He was King and acting High Priest in 1857 but was never elected High Priest.

On February 8, 1861 he received the Templar Order in Beauseant Commandery U.D. (No. 11), being one of the first class. This was three days after the commandery dispensation was issued.

He was elected Grand Treasurer in 1862 and served for eleven years.

He died in Warrensburg, Missouri on November 1, 1899 at the age of 87 years. He was a delegate to the convention that formed the Grand Lodge and thus had been a member of that body for 59 years.

He was buried with Masonic honors at Quincy, Illinois.

## IRA ASH WOOD BUCK

Grand Master 1858-59-60

Born in 1817 or 1818

Died October 12, 1886

This distinguished brother was born in Plattsburg, New York in 1817 or 1818. Upon leaving school he clerked in his father's store and afterwards learned the baker's trade. He moved to Buffalo, New York and carried on his business there until he came to Illinois and located at Little Rock, Kendall County, where he worked on a farm with his father. He then studied medicine and commenced practice in Aurora. He was an original Abolitionist and corresponded with Owen Lovejoy, and was one of those brave men who were stationed on the "Underground Railroad" which conveyed slaves to Canada. In 1856 Governor Yates appointed him one of the State Prison Commissioners at Joliet.

His Masonic career is rarely equalled. He was raised in Jerusalem Temple Lodge No. 90 at Aurora on September 24, 1850. Eight years later he was elected Grand Master and served during the years 1858-59-60, being the only member who was elected for three terms as Grand Master.

He was exalted in Euclid Chapter No. 13 at Naperville in 1851. In 1854 he became the first High Priest of Aurora Chapter No. 22. He was elected Grand High Priest in 1855. He was prominent in the General Grand Chapter, being elected General Grand King in 1859 and Deputy Grand High Priest in 1865. He was the first Captain General of Aurora Commandery but never served as commander. He was in charge of the Masonic funeral services of Stephen A. Douglas.

His last years were spent in Chicago. The Grand Lodge voted him a jewel which was presented the week before he died. The Grand Chapter also voted him a jewel, which had been neglected, and presented it to his widow. He passed away in Chicago on October 12, 1886.

## FERGES McLAIN BLAIR

Grand Master 1861-62

Born in 1817

Died September 29, 1869

Brother Blair was born in Ohio in 1817 and joined Lebanon Lodge No. 26, where he received the degree of Entered Apprentice on October 11, 1845; Fellowcraft on December 13, 1845; Master Mason on December 15, 1845. The lodge did not meet from 1833 to 1842 and Brother Blair joined when the membership was less than 25. He served as Secretary from December 26, 1846 to December 27, 1848. He paid dues late in 1855 for 1856 and the last entry is "Dimitted." No date is given for the dimit.

The next record is when he was admitted to Prairie Lodge No. 77 at Paris, Illinois, on November 29, 1855. He was Master during the years of 1856-57-58 and 1861, representing his lodge in Grand Lodge. He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1856, Senior Grand Warden in 1857-58, Deputy Grand Master in 1858-59-60 and Grand Master in 1861. He presided over the Grand Lodge in 1862-63. These were the critical years of the war. In 1862 he issued dispensations for eight new lodges and five for military lodges. In 1863 he issued dispensations for 18 new lodges and 6 military. In 1863 the question of ritual came to a head. This is explained under the head "Conservators' Association" and need not be repeated here.

He called a special session of the Grand Lodge in Chicago in August but the meeting was prevented by an injunction issued by a judge. In 1863 his remarks about the ritual which were of a personal nature were deleted by order of the Grand Lodge. After retiring from office he never again attended the Grand Lodge. In 1867 he moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, and commenced publishing the Masonic Home Advocate. In May, 1868 he was elected an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

He died on September 29, 1869 at Indianapolis.

The report of the Grand Master of Indiana, Maring H. Rice, in 1869 reads:

Amid the busy hum of active life, and while our brother was in apparent health, the messenger of death came without warning of his approach. His remains were borne to the tomb with all the honors due the exalted stations he had filled, and to me was assigned the mournful duty of performing these last sad rites. The large procession of brethren on the occasion spoke, more than words can express, their sorrow and esteem.

## THOMAS JOHNSON TURNER

Grand Master 1863-64

Born April 5, 1815

Died April 4, 1874

Thomas Turner was born in Trunbull County, Ohio, on April 5, 1815. At the age of 18 he came west and settled first in Chicago, then a small village, but finding no inducement for advancement went to Indiana where he spent about three years. He then went to the lead mining district of northwestern Illinois. There he built bellows and other masonry for furnaces. In the spring of 1836 he came to Stephenson County and, being a wheelwright, engaged in building mills. In 1837 an election was held to organize Stephenson County. Brother Turner was elected one of the judges of the election, his first office. In December, 1837 he entered into a contract to build a County Courthouse and log jail. This contract was fulfilled in 1838 and the courthouse stood until 1870. In later years he gained his brightest laurels as a lawyer in the same building he had erected.

In the spring of 1840 he was admitted to the bar and the next year was elected Justice of the Peace and Probate Justice. Governor Ford appointed him State's Attorney, in which capacity he vigorously prosecuted all offenders and convicted a band of robbers that had infested that district. He was elected to Congress in 1846 and in December 1847 established the first newspaper in the county. This paper is still published as the Freeport Bulletin. When the village of Freeport was incorporated he was elected president of the Board of Trustees. In 1854 he was elected to the House of Representatives and became

Speaker of the House. In 1854 when Freeport was incorporated as a city he was elected first Mayor.

He was a member of the Peace Conference held in Washington in 1861. Upon his return home he was commissioned Colonel of the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteers. Not being strong enough to stand field duty he was appointed commander of a camp of instruction at Alton and later was made Commander of the First Division of the Army of the West. Ill health obliged him to resign in 1862. In 1863 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention and was recognized as the leader of that body. His counsel shaped many articles in that constitution and he took an active part in having it adopted by the people.

In 1871 he was again elected to the House of Representatives and was the Democratic candidate for United States Senator against John A. Logan. He opened a law office in Chicago and was twice candidate for the office of State's Attorney but was defeated both times.

On February 22, 1873 the new courthouse was dedicated at Freeport. Brother Turner was selected to deliver the dedicatory address. In that address he reviewed the history of Stephenson County. Having been identified with nearly every change and act in the history of the county he told of many incidents and reminiscences of which today there is no other record.

In February, 1874 he went to Hot Springs, Arkansas for the hoped for benefit to his health, but it was not to be. He died there on April 3, 1874 just two days before his 59th birthday. When his death became known Governor Beveridge sent Adjutant General Higgins to receive the body and escort it from St. Louis to Chicago. There it was met by a delegation of Templars from Freeport Commandery and escorted to Freeport, where it was placed in the Circuit Court room and lay in state from ten o'clock Monday morning until two in the afternoon. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, April 8, two o'clock. The procession was formed at the courthouse as follows: band, Masons, hearse with escort and pallbearers, mourners, city council, members of the Bar, and citizens. A sermon was delivered at the Presbyterian church, after which the body was deposited in the city cemetery with the last honors of Masonry.

#### MASONIC

The records of Lebanon Lodge No. 7, Free and Accepted Masons, at Washington, D.C. read "Thomas J. Turner, E.A. May 12, 1848;

F.C. June 9, 1848, M.M. June 16, May 1848. Dimitted June 4, 1850." He was appointed Senior Warden of Excelsior Lodge U.D. at Freeport in 1851 and became Master in 1854. He attended the Grand Lodge the year of the great debate over the Conservators' Association. At the election of officers he was elected Grand Master by a vote of 644 over John C. Baker, Deputy Grand Master and Chief Conservator who received 263 votes. Brother Turner was elected from the floor, never having served as Deputy Grand Master or Grand Warden.

By his wise and diplomatic action he was able to dispel the violent prejudices that followed the abolition of the Conservators' ritual and restore peace among the Craft.

He petitioned Freeport Chapter No. 23 on December 1, 1853 and was exalted on January 6, 1854.

He was knighted in Freeport Commandery while it was No. 5 under the Grand Encampment charter. He never held any office in either Chapter or Commandery.

Here ends the record of one who was indelibly connected with the history of northwestern Illinois and of much of the state. He came to Freeport in advance of civilization and made his home there while it was yet part of the almost unbroken prairie. His biographer said of him:

He was a man of an intense public spirit and any enterprise or project that promised advantage to the public found in him a zealous advocate. As a public officer he was faithful to every trust. As a husband, as father, as friend, as citizen, he has walked blamelessly; and in regard to all public and private virtues, no stain of dishonor rests upon his character. He was always unselfish, philanthropic, and noble in all the high purposes and deeds of a true life — a life that can be said to have been conspicuously successful, true not in the accumulation of great wealth but in the position he had attained for doing good to his fellow-men.

## HENRY PELHAM HOLMES BROMWELL

Grand Master 1865

Born August 26, 1823

Died January 9, 1903

Read the record of his life as told by Joseph Robbins:

There are few men in this body — perhaps less than half a dozen — who remember Brother Bromwell when he first appeared before the

Grand Lodge of Illinois. Tall, gaunt, straight as an arrow, with face almost aboriginal, and eagle eye and hair of quite aboriginal blackness, talking in parables clad in quaint speech, fluent yet measured as became his subject — such is the picture which stands out in my memory of the Grand Orator of this Grand Lodge in 1862.

The same figure mounted upon a chair, alive all over, with tongue of fire and volubility of a Niagara denouncing as treason to Masonry and the uses therefor as foresworn, the cipher which played so prominent a part in the fierce conflict which raged over the subject of work in the early sixties — stands out as one of the dominant forces of the stormy convention at Bryan hall in 1863.

The same figure, that of the newly installed Grand Master, alert, prompt, decisive, but wielding the gavel with singular moderation, and with almost over-generous recognition of the rights upon the floor, of those who but yesterday had been his opponents — is the picture my memory retains of the executive of 1865 and 1866.

Such is my recollection of three aspects presented by the most singularly striking personality that has graced the presence and adorned the annals of this Grand Lodge since its organization. Looking backward through the perspective of the fleeting years, at him and his compeers, I am sure that I reflect the feeling of all those who were a part of the events of that period, when I say — there were giants in those days.

Failing of renomination for congress — of which he was a member during and after his grand mastership, he sought a new field for his energies in the Territory of Colorado. There his abilities were quickly recognized. He became a member of the territorial legislature, of the which framed the constitution and of the first and subsequent state legislatures, and later was the commissioner to revise the statutes of the state; and in these capacities he left his impress all over the constitution and jurisprudence of the commonwealth. His part in giving woman the ballot was so great that there was no one to dispute the title which he ever afterwards bore — that of the father of equal suffrage in Colorado.

His zeal for Masonry and his love for it knew no abatement with his change of residence; and while he lovingly remembered the Grand Lodge that honored him, and preserved his affiliation with it, he took an active part in the affairs of the Fraternity in Colorado. He was made an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Colorado at an early day, and from that day on no annual communication passed while he was in health, that some opportunity was not found or made to draw from him an address upon the principles or symbolism of Masonry.

As an advisor he was a principal factor in the revision of their code, and was the author of their funeral service containing a remarkable original Master Mason hymn — familiar, probably, to but few as not many copies of this service found their way to Illinois — a dirge which in its tremendous power of rhythm, language and thought at once recalls the *Dies Irae*, one of the notable poems of the ages.

At its last communication during his life, the Grand Lodge sent a committee to his bedside with greetings from his brethren and a

message of encouragement and hope. But the hope proved vain. Tossed by the storms of nearly eighty winters, his worn and frail bark slipped from its moorings and drifted out upon that silent, peaceful sea, of whose boundaries we know only from the hither shore.

Altogether, his was the most singularly striking personality that the Grand Lodge of Illinois has known since its organization. His mind was of that peculiar cast that it delighted in mysticism and symbolism, had he possessed any of the instincts of a Masonic piddler — of whom the Craft has known too many — he might have flooded his time with degrees whose rituals would have been worth the study of any man. But he was too safely anchored for that. He had too profound an appreciation of the value of Masonry, as defined and circumscribed by the landmarks, the Masonry of the Charges of a Freemason, the Masonry handed down to us in its simplicity and dignity by the fathers, to permit anything else with him to take its place. He recognized the fact that Masonry was the prophet of that altruism which permeates modern society, the environment of Masonry, where once it only permeated the Fraternity itself. Above all he recognized the tremendous power exerted by a pattern of free representative government — a pattern wrought out by the doctrine of equality springing from the brotherhood of man and making Masonry a model commonwealth long before the enfranchising idea that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, had found lodgment in the world outside of Masonry.

He was born in Baltimore County, Maryland on August 26, 1823. He came west and studied law in Vandalia and was judge of the court of Fayette County. He also edited a paper "The Age of Steam and Fire." He moved to Charleston in 1857; was elected to Congress for 1865-69 and was a member of the constitutional convention in 1869-70.

He was made a Mason in Temperance Lodge No. 16 at Vandalia in 1854 and was Master in 1856-57. He was Master of Charleston Lodge No. 35. He was Grand Orator in 1861, 1862, 1864, 1869. He was exalted in Edgar Chapter No. 32 in 1858 and served as High Priest in 1861-62-63; affiliated with Keystone Chapter No. 54 in 1858. He was greeted in Paris Council in 1860 or 1861; Knighted in Elwood Commandery No. 6 in 1861. He received the Scottish Rite degrees as a compliment from A. G. Mackey in Denver in 1877.

He was an honorary member of Naval Lodge No. 4 and Pentalpha Lodge No. 25 in the District of Columbia. He affiliated with Denver Lodge No. 5 in Denver Chapter No. 2 and was Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Colorado in 1874; and in 1889 was made an honorary member of that Grand Lodge on account of distinguished services to the Craft. He was an honorary member of the Scottish Rite bodies in Denver.

He originated the Society of Ancient, Free and Accepted Architects, the object of which was to discover and preserve the lost work of ancient Masonry. There were five bodies—Washington, D.C., Charleston, Illinois, Portland, Maine, Denver, Colorado and one in California.

Here ends the record of one who was perhaps the greatest Mason that ever presided over the Grand Lodge.

## JEROME RINALDO GORIN

Grand Master 1866-67

Born October 12, 1817

Died September 2, 1897

Brother Gorin was born in Hopkinsville, Kentucky on October 12, 1817. He came with his parents to Illinois in 1828 and settled at Vandalia. He was given the rudiments of an education in log schoolhouses in Kentucky and Illinois.

In those times the schools were held in some log-house, where the scholars would sit on seats made by splitting a log in two and smoothing the flat side as well as it could be done with a broad-ax; the round side had four pins inserted for supports.

Brother Gorin came to Decatur in 1832 when there were not more than a dozen houses in the place, and the whole county, then three times the size of the present county, had less than 250 voters.

Brother Gorin was admitted to the bar in 1842 and practiced law for several years. In 1855 and 1856 he was elected to the town board and was clerk and attorney in 1860. In that year he prepared the revised code of city ordinances. He also served as mayor and alderman. In 1856 he was chosen a member of the General Assembly.

He served as Trustee and Steward and was an active officer in the Sunday School of the Methodist Church.

By profession a lawyer, he became cashier of the banking house of I. Milliken & Company.

He received the degree of Entered Apprentice at the first meeting of Macon Lodge No. 8 on October 16, 1841 and the degrees of Fellowcraft and Master Mason on the eighteenth. He was elected Secretary that year and was representative at Grand Lodge that October. He was Senior Warden in 1847 when he moved to Taylorville. He was the first Master of Mound Lodge No. 122 at Taylorville. In 1854 he was

Master of Macon Lodge No. 8 and served again for seven years beginning in 1861. He was Senior Grand Warden in 1855 and again in 1862 and Grand Master in 1866 and 1867.

He was exalted in Springfield Chapter No. 1 in 1842. In 1854 he signed the petition for Macon Chapter No. 21 of which he was the first King and High Priest in 1856. He represented his Chapter at Grand Chapter for eight years commencing in 1861.

He joined Springfield Council No. 2 in October, 1860. He was knighted in Belvidere Commandery No. 2 at Alton. In 1856 he was elected Commander of Beaumanoir Commandery U.D. and served ten years in all. In Grand Commandery he served two years as Generalissimo, two as Deputy and in 1868 was elected Grand Commander.

On April 19, 1865 he was created a 32nd degree member of Occidental Consistory.

During his administration as Grand Master he issued dispensations for 92 new lodges. He called attention to the existence of the first Grand Lodge and appointed John C. Reynolds to write the history of that organization. The great day of his administration was the laying of the cornerstone of the State House; something that he did not mention in his report to the Grand Lodge.

He was about 6 feet in height, strongly built, of dark complexion, a pleasant, genial gentleman who made great numbers of friends. He represented both Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery at the meetings of the General Grand Bodies in St. Louis in 1868.

He died on September 2, 1897 at the age of 80 years. He had retired that night and when his daughter called him in the morning he was gone.

## HARMON GANSEVOORT REYNOLDS

Grand Master 1868-69

Born December 21, 1810

Died December 31, 1891

Brother Reynolds was born in Morceau, New York on December 21, 1810. Soon after, the family moved to Berlin, Vermont where he was educated. He was admitted to the bar in Montpelier, Vermont in November, 1836. In his report to the Grand Lodge in 1870 he said:

In April 1837 at Montpelier, Vt. I bid adieu to my father and mother for the last time on earth, exchanged farewells with my brothers and sisters. The father had suffered at the hands of anti-masons as few men suffered. The eldest son, myself — came by stage and boat to Detroit, and thence to Rock Island on foot and alone. Two other brothers and myself became Masons in this State.

In August 1839 he was elected Probate Judge of Rock Island County. On October 26, 1840 he married Miss Louisa Thompson. He was prosecuting attorney for Fulton County.

In January, 1843 he was initiated in Warsaw Lodge No. 21; in 1847 he was Junior Deacon of Cambridge Lodge U.D. and Master in 1850 of Cambridge Lodge No. 49. He first appeared in Grand Lodge in 1851 as a member of the committee on Lodges U.D. and was appointed Grand Secretary pro tem. That year he was elected Grand Secretary and served until he was elected Grand Master in 1868; he was again elected in 1869.

He was very active as a ritualist and was Grand Lecturer in charge of all state lectures for some years. In 1863 he made his famous defense of the ritual as adopted by the Grand Lodge and condemned that of the Conservators' Association at a time when his office was in danger of being taken away from him. However, he was signally vindicated by the Grand Lodge, as may be seen in another chapter. He was the most influential member of the Craft at the time. For his defense of the ritual his friends presented him with \$1,000 to purchase a new printing press.

Brother Reynolds received the Royal Arch degree in Springfield Chapter No. 1 in 1847. In 1850 he was appointed High Priest of Cambridge Chapter U.D. at Cambridge. This chapter never functioned. In 1851-52 he was High Priest of Horeb Chapter No. 4 at Henderson. In 1851 he attended Grand Chapter and was elected Grand Secretary, a position he held for 18 years.

He received the Council degrees from Springfield Chapter in 1847. He was instrumental in organizing Illinois Council No. 1, located at Knoxville. On April 12, 1852 it is recorded:

At the request of several companions who had received the degrees of Royal and Select Master in Councils established under the jurisdiction of Royal Arch Chapters, Comp. Harmon G. Reynolds, high priest of Horeb Chapter No. 4 Royal Arch Masons, prepared a petition to Thrice Illustrious Companion Phillip Swigert, Grand Puissant of the Grand Council of Kentucky, of Royal and Select Masters, for a dispensation to be granted to Wm. A. Seaton, of Monmouth, in the State of

Illinois, and formerly a member of Louisville Council of R. & S.M. at Louisville, Kentucky, to heal Companion Harmon G. Reynolds (and eighteen other members).

He issued the call for the convention that formed the Grand Council, called the meeting to order and stated its purpose. He was elected Grand Recorder and appointed a member of the committee to draft a constitution, by-laws and rules of order and served as secretary of the committee. After the constitution was adopted the Grand Council was organized and Brother Reynolds elected Grand Recorder. He served until 1869.

In 1856 he received the degrees of the Scottish Rite in Occidental Consistory, Chicago, being a member of the first class. In 1865 he was crowned a 33rd degree Mason and when Carson Consistory was organized in Springfield he was Commander-in-Chief and special Deputy for the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

He was knighted in Apollo Commandery No. 1 previous to 1860. To assist other commanderies in getting a start he signed the petition for the dispensation for Molay Commandery at Muscatine, Iowa in 1855 and for Peoria Commandery in 1856.

When Elwood Commandery No. 6 was organized in 1859 he was the first Commander, serving in 1859-60.

For several years he edited the Masonic Trowel, one of the most prominent Masonic publications in the country.

After retiring as Grand Master he moved to Kansas and became a member of Calvary Lodge No. 50 on November 18, 1874. This lodge consolidated with King Solomon Lodge No. 10 at Leavenworth, from which he dimitted on December 19, 1883. He died at Irving, Kansas, on December 31, 1891 at the age of 81 years. There is nothing in the minutes of Kirwin Lodge No. 175 to show that he was given a Masonic burial. His biographer said:

He was a Mason of many years standing and a power at the time in which he was active, occupying most responsible positions in our order. He was faithful in the discharge of his duties at a most critical time in the history of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. He was a man of great strength and character, a man of brilliant mind, occupying a distinguished position in the legal profession, attaining to the position of judge; which he filled with great credit. He was a patriot to whom this Grand Body owes a large debt of gratitude, and a Mason whose practice of Masonry was a grand strength to his country and to the Masonic fraternity.

**DEWITT CLINTON CREGIER**

Grand Master 1870-71

Born June 1, 1829

Died November 9, 1898

The special committee consisting of Joseph Robbins, Daniel M. Browning and John M. Pearson said of him:

A rare man has fallen. DeWitt Clinton Cregier, who for more than the lifetime of a generation of men had been a pillar of strength in this Grand Lodge, upon whom we had learned to lean, we knew not how much until we missed him for the first time in thirty-seven years at the annual communication one year ago, and who by his qualities of mind and heart had found a place in all our hearts such as it rarely falls to the lot of man to find, has gone over to the majority. After weary months of waiting, borne up by the affectionate tenderness of those nearest and dearest to him, and by the echoes of the loving solicitude of the great Craft which held the next place in his affections, the tide whose slow but sure rising he had watched patiently, serenely, cheerfully, at last drifted his barque from its moorings to float out upon that great, peaceful, silent sea, whose white sails all go thitherward returning nevermore.

Brother Cregier was born in the city of New York on June 1, 1829. At 16 he was an engineer's assistant on Long Island Sound steamers, 1845-47; from 1847-51 he was employed with the Morgan Ironworks in New York; from 1851-53 he was engineer on the New York, New Haven and New Orleans steamers. He came to Chicago August 6, 1853. He received the lodge degrees in 1860 in Blaney Lodge No. 271. He was Master from 1864 to 1867 and again in 1874, 1884-85-86. He was elected Grand Master in 1870-71.

The Craft of Illinois were devoutly thankful that he was Grand Master at the time of the great fire of 1871. Again read the words of the committee:

Begrimed with the ashes of his own home and of the great works upon which the remnant of the city depended for its water supply, he strode into the committee hastily improvised by a number of his equally homeless brethren for the relief of the thousands of destitute Craftsmen about them, picked up the gavel and said:—"I am the chairman of this committee."

The record of his magnificent services as well as that of the committee will be found under the heading "The Chicago Fire."

After retiring as Grand Master he became a member of the jurisprudence committee, most of the time as its chairman. The by-laws adopted some 25 years earlier were mainly his work and as chairman of the Book of Ceremonials committee he left an enduring impression on the Craft. After a long illness he died on November 9, 1898 and was buried with Masonic honors.

#### THE CREGIER JEWEL

Grand Master Cook called the attention of the Grand Lodge to a package he had received from the widow of Brother Cregier. With the package was a letter which reads:

Chicago, August 2, 1897.

To the M.W. Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Wardens, Officers and Representatives of the Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois — Greeting:

Dear brethren:

When you receive this communication my labors on earth will have ceased, forever. During a period of thirty-six years I was one of your number, never missing a session of your great and good organization from that held in the year 1861 up to 1896, inclusive, and I may be permitted to add to these years, as the general assembly is within the next ensuing sixty days; but in view of my recent serious illness I deem it prudent to make this writing while comparative good health and strength serves, and thus anticipate the summons that must sooner or later come to me, as it will to all. But, as stated above, when you receive this writing I will have obeyed that summons and as I cannot longer enjoy the fraternal ties that bound me to the Ancient Brotherhood in general, and especially to the Grand Lodge of Illinois, to which I am greatly indebted for much kindly consideration, and from which I have been the recipient of so many honors, all of which, be assured, have at all times, been fully and sincerely appreciated.

In 1870 twenty-seven years ago, you called me to the "Grand East," and again in 1871 you again conferred upon me a like distinguished honor. Upon my retirement from the office of Grand Master in 1872, your kindness and fraternal consideration towards me did not cease, but was manifested by bestowing upon me a beautiful and costly jewel appropriate to a past grand master, profusely adorned with precious gems, and now, as before intimated, while enjoying a normal measure of mental and physical health but recognizing the inevitable, I have prepared this communication to you and request that the grand lodge will receive back the jewel it presented to me a quarter century ago, by the hand of her, who, although now executrix of my last will and testament, has for nearly a half century borne the more endearing title of wife, and although confident that under this last title, my desire would



Presented to M.W. Brother Cregier by the Grand Lodge,  
in 1871 and by him bequeathed to the Grand Lodge



be complied with, with exactness, if she shall survive me, nevertheless, for obvious reasons, I have deemed it proper to formally bequeath the jewel to the grand lodge by will. Its acceptance to be subject to the condition that the jewel shall be held as, and become and ever remain the property of the grand lodge to which it is willed. In addition to this condition I am moved to make the following suggestions subject to the approval of the grand lodge, viz;

(a) That the jewel be worn by the grand master presiding, when practicable, at all stated or special grand communications, as part of his official paraphernalia for the time being.

(b) During vacation or period between meetings of the grand lodge, the R.W. the grand treasurer thereof, to be custodian of the jewel.

(c) The grand lodge in its discretion, to supplement the existing inscription on the jewel as may be deemed appropriate.

I repeat that a, b, and c, are merely the suggestions of one who in life revered the ennobling principles of Freemasonry, and ere his faculties are stilled by nature's fiat, records the hope, that the grand old institution may long continue to inculcate and practice her imperishable truth, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

So mote it be. Sincerely and fraternally,

DeWitt C. Cregier.

Brother Joseph Robbins offered the following resolution, which, on motion, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Senior Grand Warden be a committee to carry out the suggestions of the testator in their own discretion, and that the same committee make due acknowledgement for the valued bequest to the executrix of his will.

Every Grand Master since has worn the jewel during his term of office.

## JAMES ANDREW HAWLEY

Grand Master 1872-73

Born August 20, 1830

Died December 30, 1898

James Andrew Hawley was born in Penfield, now Webster, New York, on August 20, 1830. He received a better than average education at the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary. He became connected with a publishing house for several years. He came to Illinois in 1854 and continued his work as agent for prominent publishing houses. In this way he made many important friends and in 1857 was elected Super-

intendent of Schools for Lee County and served for two years. In 1861 he was elected county clerk, which position he continued to hold until 1882, a period of 21 years. He was a member of the Board of Education for 10 years and mayor of Dixon in 1876-79; cashier of the Dixon National Bank 15 years and first president of the Dixon Waterworks Company and at the time of his death secretary and treasurer.

He was made a Master Mason in Lee Center Lodge No. 146, later affiliated with Friendship Lodge No. 7 and was Master of that lodge for nine years. He was exalted in Nachusa Chapter No. 56 on September 5, 1859 and was High Priest for three years; received the council degrees in Peru Council No. 12 in December, 1864 and was Master for one year. He was created a Knight Templar in Sycamore Commandery No. 15 in June, 1866 and later affiliated with Dixon Commandery No. 21 and served as Commander for seven years. He was created a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret 32° in 1869 and received the 33rd degree in August 1875. He was Grand Master of Masons 1872-73; Grand High Priest in 1872; Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1867; Grand Commander Knights Templar in 1873.

He was buried on January 2, 1899 by the Grand Master with the four surviving active members of the Supreme Council acting as pallbearers and many honorary 33rd degree Masons were present. His tomb is beneath the shade of lofty oaks, beside the Rock River.

## GEORGE E. LOUNSBURY

Grand Master 1874-75

Born in 1837

Died August 4, 1878

Brother Lounsbury was born in Long Ridge, Connecticut in 1837. At an early age he came to Illinois and was raised in Cache Lodge No. 290 on May 1, 1865. He was elected Master on December 19, 1866. He attended Grand Lodge in 1867 as the representative of his lodge. In 1868 he was elected Junior Grand Warden and advanced regularly until he was elected Grand Master in 1874 and 1875. Soon after retiring from office he moved to Denver, Colorado where he hoped to regain his lost health.

He was exalted in Mound City Chapter No. 74 on June 15, 1865.

He was Grand Captain of the Host in 1869, Grand Scribe the next year and became Grand High Priest in 1873. He was Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters in 1872.

The removal to Denver was a failure in his attempt to throw off the tubercular condition and he died on August 4, 1878. He was buried with the rites of Masonry by the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

## JOSEPH ROBBINS

Grand Master 1876-77

Born September 12, 1834

Died July 19, 1909

Joseph Robbins was born at Leominster, Massachusetts on September 12, 1834. He was made a Mason in Wyoming Lodge, Melrose, Massachusetts, from which he dimitted and affiliated with Quincy Lodge No. 296 on December 6, 1859. He was elected Master in 1863 and served seven consecutive years and was again elected in 1880. His first appearance in Grand Lodge was in 1862 when he was appointed a member of the committee on lodges U.D. From that time he attended every session of the Grand Lodge up to and including 1908 except in 1864, when for some unknown reason he was absent. For 46 years he was a prominent and often a dominant factor in the Grand Lodge. In 1869 he delivered the oration before the Grand Lodge. This oration has been characterized as the finest exposition of the principles of Masonry that has ever been given in Grand Lodge. His great work was the correspondence reports that he wrote for 30 years. These were so highly appreciated that after his death it was proposed that a memorial volume consisting of extracts from these reports be published. This was done and stands today as the guide for all Masonic action by the Grand Lodge.

He had decided opinions about ritual and charity. When the great dispute arose over the attempt of the Conservators' Association to force the adoption of their ritual Brother Robbins supported their action and came close to getting into serious trouble over it. He did not call any schools of instruction during his term as Grand Master, believing that it was not fair to active lodges to use part of their annual dues to teach uninterested lodges by spending a lot of money to hold

state schools. He originated a system whereby any lodge could have the benefit of instruction at its own expense.

His attitude on Masonic charity was that it was an individual obligation and that organized charity in the shape of homes was not the original intention of Masonry.

Not only in Masonic circles was he prominent. In 1858 he came to Quincy to study medicine with an uncle. The next year he entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia and graduated in 1861. He began practice in Quincy and continued until his death. He was prominent in city, county and state medical circles and in the American Medical Society, a national organization. For years he was a member of the city board of education and a director in the Quincy Free Public Library. He was also active in county, congressional and state politics.

He was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1875. The Grand Master being unable to serve his full term on account of ill health, Brother Robbins stepped into his office. He was elected Grand Master in 1876-77 and thus had the opportunity to preside over three sessions of the Grand Lodge. That his reputation was not local is shown by the following eulogy by Robert F. Gould, England's great historian:

I am not writing today to extol the abilities of a great Freemason who stands in no need of my own or any other man's panegyric. His writings will live and will form an abiding claim to recognition of his merits as a member of the craft. The object I have most at heart in these hasty lines, is to mourn the loss of a dear and valued friend.

He was carried to his final resting place in Woodland Cemetery on July 21, 1909. The funeral oration was delivered by the Grand Master, Alexander H. Bell.

From the Grand Lodge Bulletin issued by the Grand Lodge of Iowa we cull:

The Oration delivered by Joseph Robbins before the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1869. The last named was possibly the clearest and most adequate statement of the philosophy of Freemasonry ever made in a speech.

His great work was connected with lodge matters only but he was exalted in Quincy Chapter No. 5 on March 31, 1863, greeted in Quincy Council No. 15 on January 28, 1864, and knighted in Beauseant Commandery No. 11 on December 7, 1863. He served as Commander in 1870-71.

Early in 1914 the Grand Master read a letter from Wisconsin which suggested that

steps should be taken towards the publication of a volume which should not only be in the nature of a testimony to the life and Masonic services of Brother Robbins, but should also furnish a means by which his writings on masonic subjects might be permanently preserved.

The committee on correspondence recommended that such a volume be prepared and published and that it should contain a suitable biography of Brother Robbins together with a compilation of his writings as found in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. The memorial was not completed until the session of 1916. It contains 161 pages and covers every subject that Brother Robbins analyzed in his complete and comprehensive manner. This book is a valuable addition to every Masonic library and affords a basis for any student interested in Masonic fundamentals.

## THEODORE TUTHILL GURNEY

Grand Master 1878-79

Born September 4, 1820

Died November 9, 1886

This noted craftsman was born at Ogdensburgh, New York on September 4, 1820. In 1838 he left New York for Union City, Michigan; later he went to Constantine, Michigan where he remained until 1856. He then came to Chicago and engaged in the grain commission business. He was an active member of the Board of Trade and held several important positions. In 1879 he was appointed Comptroller of Chicago, which office he held until shortly before his death. In the community he was a model citizen, bearing his full share in the church and other agencies by which enlightened society seeks to elevate mankind.

He was made a Mason in Union Lodge at Union City, Michigan on December 28, 1848. In April, 1849 he was appointed Master of Siloam Lodge U.D. at Constantine, Michigan. Upon removing to Sackett's Harbor, New York, he joined Sackett's Harbor Lodge and was elected Master in 1854. Coming to Chicago he joined Cleveland Lodge No. 211, was subsequently Master and remained a member during the re-

mainder of his life. In 1875 he was appointed to the Committee on Correspondence, a position he held during his lifetime with the exception of the two years he was Grand Master, 1879-80. He was a member of all the co-ordinate bodies. For some years he wrote the reviews for the Grand Chapter and in 1875 was Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar. He was a member of Oriental Consistory and was Commander-in-Chief 1873-74-75. He was also crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33rd degree. He held membership in Washington Chapter No. 43; Chicago Council No. 4; Apollo Commandery 1868-69. He was buried on November 11, 1886.

## WILLIAM HAYES SCOTT

Grand Master 1880-81

Born September 5, 1830

Died December 30, 1915

Brother Scott was born in New Castle, Pennsylvania on September 5, 1830. His father died in 1849. In 1853, in company with his mother, brothers and sisters, he moved to Metropolis, Illinois, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits. When Metropolis was incorporated he was elected mayor and served several terms. He was city clerk for several years and contributed largely in framing the ordinances of the city. In 1861 he was appointed superintendent of schools in Massac County and served for 12 years. He was for four years a member of the County Board. He was made superintendent of schools in Metropolis.

In 1874 he was admitted to the Southern Illinois Conference of the Methodist Church. After serving several pastorates he was appointed Chaplain in the United States Army and assigned to duty at the Presidio, San Francisco, California. He was next sent to Benicia barracks, California where he remained until May, 1890. He also served at stations in Utah and on September 9, 1897 was retired. He then made his home in Alameda, California.

He was made a Mason in Harrison Lodge No. 122, in Brandenburg, Kentucky in 1851. In 1853 he dimitted to Metropolis Lodge No. 91, Metropolis, Illinois and retained membership in that lodge for the remainder of his life.

He was Master in 1873. He was exalted in Vienna Chapter No. 67 on May 22, 1866, became a charter member of Metropolitan Chapter No. 101 at Metropolis and was elected High Priest in 1871. He was a charter member of Gethsemane Commandery No. 41 and served as Prelate for four years. He was knighted in Kane Commandery No. 13 at Cairo on January 28, 1871.

He was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge 1872-73-74 and was elected Grand Master in 1880-81. He was an honorary member of Fortitude Lodge No. 47 and Harrison Lodge No. 122, both in Kentucky.

He served the Grand Chapter as Grand Chaplain from 1872 to 1883.

as a citizen, as a minister of the gospel, as a soldier, and as a Mason, he was ever loyal, efficient and honorable. During a singularly long and useful career he won and retained the confidence, the admiration, and the love of all who had the privilege of knowing him.

He was what the world calls a self-made man.

He died on December 30, 1915 and was laid to rest at the Presidio Cemetery, San Francisco, California. The Masonic service was held at the grave by Oakwood Grove Lodge No. 215 of Alameda, California.

## DANIEL M. BROWNING

Grand Master 1882-83

Born October 11, 1846

Died January 13, 1903

### MEMORIAL BY MONROE C. CRAWFORD

I knew him in his boyhood. He and I were born and grew to manhood in the same community and took the three degrees in Masonry in the same lodge, Benton Lodge No. 64.

In his youth from the time he was fifteen years old, he chose the better part and became an exemplary Christian and maintained his integrity as a Christian during his entire life.

At the age of twenty-one years, after having studied the profession of law and been admitted to the bar as a practitioner, he was elected Judge of the county court of Franklin County, Illinois, which position he held for a number of years and discharged the duties of the office with honor to himself and great satisfaction to those he served. Later he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court and established and maintained a character for honesty, uprightness and ability. In 1893 he was com-

missioned by Grover Cleveland, President of the United States, as Commissioner of Indian Affairs and in the discharge of the duties of that office introduced many reforms and improvements greatly to the advantage of the wards placed under him; especially in the protection of their rights and the improvement of facilities for education.

Judge Browning's home life as husband and father was in keeping with his daily life as a Christian gentleman.

His life among us as a Mason and his conduct of the affairs of this Grand Lodge while Grand Master is but another page in the life and conduct of a thorough, able and conscientious gentleman and man of business.

I presume no one had occasion to be so thoroughly acquainted with Judge Browning as myself, having been warm personal friends from his boyhood and intimately associated with him as a Circuit Judge. Our relations were always friendly and confidential and I am free to say that his life was made a grand success by reason of the great influence and early discipline of his mother who was and is a noble Christian woman and strongly impressed upon him the good influence of her Christian life.

His life was one that the world would be better by emulating. His loss is felt in the various walks of life. As a member of society, as a member of a Christian church, as a member of his profession, as a husband and father, and lastly coming down to each and all of us as a member of this great fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons.

He was born in Benton on October 11, 1846 and married Miss Tirza Naylor of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1868. They were the parents of three children.

He graduated from the University of Indiana in February, 1866 and was admitted to the bar the following June before he was 20 years of age. He was elected county judge in 1869, being then 23 years old. In June, 1879 he was elected circuit judge.

He joined Benton Lodge No. 64 in 1868. He was district deputy in 1874 and chairman of the appeals and grievance committee in 1875-76-77. He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1878 and advanced regularly through the chairs of the Grand Lodge.

## JOHN ROBERT THOMAS

Grand Master 1884

Born October 11, 1846

Died January 20, 1914

Brother Thomas was born in Mt. Vernon, Illinois on October 11, 1846. At the age of 17 he enlisted in the United States Army and at 19 was Captain of his company. He participated in many battles and received a wound at Franklin from which he never fully recovered. During the latter part of his service he was Adjutant to General Hardin commanding the District of Raleigh. He was honorably discharged on January 20, 1866. His father was an officer in the Mexican War, his grandfather in the War of 1812 and his great grandfather in the Revolutionary War. In 1879 he was elected to Congress from Metropolis, where he resided, and served five terms. He was a member of the naval affairs committee and has been frequently referred to as the "Father of the Modern Navy." He was one of the pallbearers for President Garfield and for General Burnside. In 1897 he was appointed a Judge of the United States Court in Indian Territory and removed to Muscogee where he resided at the time of his death. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Loyal Legion and one of the charter members of the Army and Navy Club at Washington.

He was raised in Metropolis Lodge No. 91 in 1870-71, exalted in Metropolitan Chapter No. 101 and knighted in Gethsemane Commandery No. 41.

He was active in Grand Lodge affairs, being elected Grand Master in 1884. He only served one year, being a member of congress and absent from the state much of the time.

He was killed by a convict at the state penitentiary at McAlester, Oklahoma on January 20, 1914. He was at the time in consultation with a client and was one of the victims of an assault made by three prisoners in their attempt to escape.

His funeral was held on January 21, from his residence in Muscogee, being conducted by the local Masonic lodge after which a squad of Spanish War Veterans fired three volleys over his grave and the trumpeter sounded taps, the impressive call which closes the funeral ceremonies of the soldier.

**ALEXANDER T. DARRAH**

Grand Master 1885-86

Born March 17, 1836

Died September 4, 1889

Brother Darrah was born in Delaware County, Ohio, on March 17, 1836. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Orr) Darrah. His parents moved to Illinois in 1838 and purchased 640 acres in Pike County where the family lived until 1865. At that time the Pike County land was sold and a farm in Champaign County purchased.

Brother Darrah was appointed principal of a school in 1858 while still pursuing his studies. At the age of 24 he left home and was employed as a surveyor for a map making firm in Buffalo, New York. He remained with that firm for two years and then began to study medicine in the office of Dr. A. J. Miller at Stone's Prairie, Adams County. Two years later he entered the Rush Medical College in Chicago and graduated on January 25, 1865, and commenced practice in Tolono where his father resided. He remained in that city for 18 years and then moved to Bloomington where he immediately had a large practice. He held many offices in Medical Societies, being President of the Judicial Council, Illinois State Medical Society, during 1882-83.

Brother Darrah was raised in New Salem Lodge No. 218 in 1863; exalted in Champaign Chapter No. 50 in 1875; Greeted in Urbana Council No. 10 in 1876; Knighted in 1877. He immediately became very active in lodge work, being appointed an Assistant Grand Lecturer in 1871-72-73; Grand Examiner in 1874-75 and again in 1878-79-80-81. No Grand Examiners were appointed in 1876-77. He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1882, Senior Grand Warden in 1883, Deputy Grand Master in 1884 and Grand Master in 1885-86. Upon retiring from office he was appointed a member of the jurisprudence committee and remained a member until his death which occurred early in September, 1889.

His funeral was held on September 6. The Grand Master, John C. Smith, opened the Grand Lodge in Ample Form and a procession was formed by members of the Grand Lodge, Bloomington Lodge No. 43, Wade Barney Lodge No. 512, Mozart Lodge No. 656 and Bloomington Chapter No. 26. DeMolay Commandery No. 24 acted as an escort.

The six pallbearers were Masons and members of the McLean County Medical Society. On the casket was a silver plate emblematic of Masonry. On the sides were the pillars with the inscription "We meet on the level and we part on the square." In the center was the all-seeing eye, the altar, the Bible, square and compasses and the inscription "Our Brother." At the bottom was the Mosaic pavement. In the casket was placed a silver trowel, appropriately inscribed and presented to Brother Darrah at the time he laid the cornerstone of the Knox County Courthouse. Across the trowel was a ribbon on which were the words "Having laid the corner stone in his earthly tabernacle, he has entered into His house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Thus ended the earthly career of a great Mason.

## JOHN CORSON SMITH

Grand Master 1887-88

Born February 13, 1832

Died December 31, 1910

Brother Smith had a distinguished career in public, civil, military and Masonic life. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on February 13, 1832. As a young man he served an apprenticeship as a carpenter and builder. He came west in 1854, sojourning a short time in Chicago and then moving on to Galena. He constructed many private and public buildings in Galena and in 1859 he was employed by the United States Government as Assistant Superintendent of the Custom House then in process of erection in Dubuque, Iowa. When the call came for soldiers he abandoned several building contracts and enlisted in Company I, Ninety-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry as a private and was elected its Captain. He advanced in rank and participated in the battles of Fort Donnelson, Nashville, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and many others.

After the close of the war he returned to Galena and was appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue for Jo Daviess County. He moved to Chicago in 1874 and was appointed Chief Grain Inspector. He was elected State Treasurer in 1879 and again in 1883. In 1885 he was elected Lieutenant Governor, being the only Republican elected that year.

He was raised in Miners Lodge No. 273 on May 21, 1859; exalted in Jo Daviess Chapter No. 51, on March 15, 1860; received the Council degrees in Freeport Council No. 39 on February 19, 1873; was knighted in Freeport Commandery No. 7, Knights Templar; received the Scottish Rite degrees in Freeport Consistory February 26 to May 28, 1873. For five years, 1870-74, inclusive, he was Master of Miners Lodge, High Priest of Jo Daviess Chapter for seven years and Commander of Galena Commandery No. 40 for four years, 1871-74, being the first Commander. He was Grand Master of Masons, 1887-88 and Grand Commander Knights Templar in 1880. He received the 33rd degree in 1875 and was crowned an active member on September 27, 1883. In addition to the active offices he was an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Egypt and held honorary membership in 40 or more Masonic bodies. He was Venerable Chief of the Masonic Veteran's Association in 1887-1910. He died in Chicago on December 31, 1910.

## JOHN MILLS PEARSON

Grand Master 1889-90

Born October 7, 1832

Died June 4, 1910

Brother Pearson was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts, on October 7, 1832. He "fitted for Harvard" in the public school and studied as a civil engineer. For a few years he worked for various railroads in Massachusetts. He came to Illinois in 1848 and located at Alton. He was raised in Piasa Lodge No. 27 in 1853, was elected Master in 1863 and attended Grand Lodge in 1864 as proxy for the Master. He was exalted in Alton Chapter No. 8 in 1853, served as Secretary in 1855, Royal Arch Captain in 1857, King in 1858, High Priest 1859-63. In 1865 he served on the committee on accounts, was elected Grand Scribe in 1866 and Grand High Priest in 1869. He joined Alton Council in 1855 and was Thrice Illustrious Grand Master in 1868; joined Belvidere Commandery No. 2 and was Grand Commander in 1866. He joined the Scottish Rite bodies in Chicago on November 24, 1883. He received the 33rd degree in 1885.

He was elected Grand Master on October 1, 1889 and re-elected the next year. During his later years he was chairman of the jurisprudence committee of all four Grand Bodies.

In civil life he served as a Trustee of the University of Illinois for several years; served at different times in the State Legislature, and accepted an appointment as one of the Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners in 1873. For more than 50 years he was a member of the Grand Lodge.

He died at his home near Godfrey on June 4, 1910.

## MONROE CARROLL CRAWFORD

Grand Master 1891-92

Born May 26, 1835

Died March 9, 1919

Brother Crawford was born on May 26, 1835 at Crawford's Prairie in Franklin County, Illinois. His mother died when he was five years old. He said:

Before I was seven I was indentured to a farmer to learn the art of farming. At the age of fifteen the gentleman to whom I was indentured changed his occupation to a general merchant and proposed to put me into a retail store as a clerk. I refused to serve as a clerk and the gentleman to whom I was indentured and I settled the question by my purchasing my time. I taught school one term and followed that by one term at McKendree College.

He then read law and after fifteen months was admitted to the bar, receiving a license to practice law in Illinois. He afterwards attended the law department of the University of Kentucky where he received the degree of Bachelor of Law in March, 1854. In 1856 he was elected State's Attorney for the then Third Judicial District, composed of 10 counties. In 1860 he was re-elected but resigned to enter the United States Army. He was Lieutenant-Colonel of the One Hundred Tenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and saw active service in many battles. At Stone River his regiment received this mention from the Brigade Commander:

It displayed that fearless courage one admires in veterans. Such heroic service rendered their country this day, such heroic and daring valor justly entitles those men to the profound respect of the people and the country.

During this battle Brother Crawford was several times wounded and permanently disabled. On account of his injuries he was com-

pelled to resign from the army and was discharged on May 16, 1863. In 1867 he was elected judge of the Circuit Court, a position he held for twelve years. He was elected judge of the County Court of Union County in 1886 and retained that office until 1918, when he was forced to resign on account of advanced age and failing health.

He served two terms as mayor of Jonesboro and paid off a bonded indebtedness of \$27,000, leaving the city with a full treasury.

He was also President of the Board of Education and was instrumental in erecting a fine school building with all modern improvements and conveniences.

He was raised in Benton Lodge No. 64 in 1855 and dimitted in 1859 to join Jonesboro Lodge No. 111. He was elected Junior Warden in 1860 and Master in 1862 but did not represent his lodge in Grand Lodge. His first appearance in Grand Lodge was in 1871. In 1885 he was elected Junior Grand Warden and regularly advanced until he was elected Grand Master in 1891 and 1892. During his second year he presided over the Masonic Congress held during the Chicago World's Fair in August, 1893. At the close of his administration he was appointed chairman of the appeals and grievances committee, a position he held for 21 years; at which time he was made chairman of the jurisprudence committee which position he retained until his death.

He was exalted in DuQuoin Chapter No. 44 on September 13, 1858 and dimitted in 1860 to join Egyptian Chapter No. 45 at Anna. He served for six years as Sojourner and was elected High Priest in 1880.

He entered the official line of the Grand Chapter in 1898 as Grand Master of the First Veil and regularly advanced until he reached the office of Grand High Priest in 1907. After serving for one year he was appointed a member of the jurisprudence committee and continued as a member of the committee until his death which occurred on March 9, 1919 at his home in Jonesboro. He was laid to rest two days later by the Grand Master, who delivered the Masonic ceremony.

Here ends the career of one in his 84th year, of whom it has been said:

As a jurist, as a citizen, as a Mason, as a Christian gentleman — no man exceeded him.

**LEROY ALBERT GODDARD**

Grand Master 1893-94

Born June 22, 1854

Died January 22, 1936

Brother Goddard was born on June 22, 1854 in Marion. He was educated in the public schools in the wintertime, working at odd jobs during the summers until he was 16 years old, when he quit school to devote his entire time to clerking in stores until he was 21. He was a merchant and banker in Marion 1875-1890. He organized and was first president of the First National Bank at Mt. Carmel, Illinois, from 1890 to 1892. On August 2, 1892 he became cashier of the Fort Dearborn National Bank of Chicago and later was elected vice-president, filling both positions until January, 1903, when he was elected President. He resigned on June 1, 1908 to accept the vice-presidency of the State Bank of Chicago and was elected president in May, 1909. In June, 1911 he resigned to become chairman of the board.

He was elected city treasurer of Marion at the age of 21 and mayor at 23, serving two terms. In 1918 he presented the city a cut stone chapel of gothic architecture with a seating capacity of two hundred, locating it in the cemetery which he established while mayor.

He was for two years President of the Chicago Clearing House Association, two years treasurer of the Chicago Stock Exchange, one year president of the Bankers' Club of Chicago, and is an ex-president of the Union League Club.

One year he was president of the Illinois Bankers' Association and declined an appointment as a member of the Federal Reserve Board offered by President Harding. For a number of years he was a member of the Normal School Board of Illinois; a member of the finance committee of the United Charities of Chicago and the Destitute Crippled Children's Home of Chicago. He was a life member of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Chicago Historical Society, the Field Columbian Museum and the Chicago Academy of Science.

He was raised in Fellowship Lodge No. 89 at Marion when 21 years of age and elected Master four years later. He attended every meeting of the Grand Lodge from October, 1881 until his death in 1936. He was Grand Master 1894-95, Grand Treasurer 1903-31. He delivered the oration before the Grand Lodge in 1920.

He was High Priest of Marion Chapter No. 100 and of Mt. Carmel Chapter No. 159. In 1905 he was elected Grand High Priest and served one term. He was an active member of the Supreme Council 33rd degree and was elected Treasurer of that body in 1912, a position he retained until his death. He was one of five delegates from the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States to the International Conference of the 33rd degree Masons, at Lausanne, Switzerland in 1922.

He died on January 22, 1936. Funeral services were held in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Chicago under the auspices of the Scottish Rite. He was laid to rest in Rosehill Cemetery.

## OWEN SCOTT

Grand Master 1895-96

Born July 6, 1848

Died December 21, 1928

Owen Scott was born in Effingham County, Illinois, and made a Mason in 1871 in Watson Lodge No. 602 at Watson, Illinois. Later he affiliated with Effingham Lodge No. 149 and then with Wade Barney Lodge No. 512 at Bloomington. At the time of his death he was a member of Macon Lodge No. 8, Decatur. He had served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy. He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1889 and became Grand Master in 1895-96. He served on various committees and was elected Grand Secretary in 1921 and served for eight years. He prepared the material for the memorial volume to Joseph Robbins, and was a member of the committee that revised the by-laws. It was during his administration that life membership was abolished. He delivered the oration before the Grand Lodge in 1881. Altogether his life was a busy one and devoted to the interest of Masonry during his more than 80 years.

**EDWARD COOK**

Grand Master 1897-98

Born September 20, 1836

Died May 20, 1915

Edward Cook was the youngest of seven children born on a farm in Oneida County, New York, on September 20, 1836. When he was nine years old the family moved to a farm near Adrian, Michigan, where they lived in a log house. Brother Cook assisted his father in clearing most of their farm, when he was not yet 13 years old. A few summers later he worked on a nearby farm for \$12 a month and earned enough money to go to school all winter. He qualified himself to teach school and later engaged in the book business.

He was raised in Blaney Lodge No. 271 and served as Master six terms. He was a member of the Chapter, Council and Scottish Rite bodies. He first appeared in Grand Lodge in 1871 as chairman of the finance committee and from that time was always connected with the Grand Lodge in some capacity.

Brother Cook was an enthusiastic ritualist and insisted on having every lodge conform to the standard work. During his administration one lodge in particular had very elaborate stage settings and regalia which he insisted were illegal and ordered their use discontinued. In his report to the Grand Lodge he said:

In a few instances, however, I have been saddened and discouraged to see evidence of an attempt to improve upon, enlarge, ornament and spectacularize the ceremonies. In most cases of this kind it has only been necessary to call attention to the unwarranted character of these practices to insure their suppression promptly and cheerfully.

A few have shown a disposition to persist, and to these it should be said that the use of expensive robes and the introduction of uniforms, military drills, stage settings, theatrical scenes, inappropriate music, and other appliances and paraphernalia are things unknown to Ancient Craft Masonry, and foreign to our ceremonies as authoritatively taught and practiced by our schools.

The next year an edict condemning such displays was issued.

He died at his home in Oak Park on May 20, 1915 at the age of 78 years.

**CHARLES F. HITCHCOCK**

Grand Master 1899-1900

Born January 11, 1836

Died October 26, 1912

Brother Hitchcock was born in Pittston, New York, on January 11, 1836. When he reached manhood he came to Illinois and located at Aurora where he engaged in business. He was raised in Aurora Lodge No. 254 on November 22, 1858. From Aurora he moved to Sparland and joined Sparland Lodge No. 441, serving as Master for seven years. Leaving Sparland he moved to Peoria and affiliated with Temple Lodge No. 46 and served that lodge as Master for two years. In 1885 he was appointed District Deputy for the then Fourteenth District. In 1893 he was elected Junior Grand Warden. He was elected Grand Master in 1899 and again in 1900. The question of accepting the bequest of Robert Miller of Sullivan came before the Grand Lodge during the second year of Brother Hitchcock's administration.

He was exalted in Aurora Chapter No. 22 in 1860 and was High Priest for one year. He received the Council degrees in Peoria Council No. 11 in 1878. The Orders of Knighthood was conferred upon him on October 16, 1866 by Peoria Commandery, and he served as Commander 1876-80 inclusive.

He received the degrees of the Scottish Rite in March, 1870 in Peoria Consistory and served as Commander-in-Chief for 12 years. He was crowned an Inspector General 33rd degree on September 22, 1885.

He was a charter member of St. Helena Conclave No. 3, Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine.

His funeral was held in the Universalist Church on October 28, 1912.

He was a zealous and devoted member of the Craft. His biographer said:

His whole life was a reflection of the principles which he had acquired from his masonic teachings. In his dealings with his fellow men he was courteous and considerate. In all his business and official responsibilities he was zealous, untiring and scrupulously honest. His sterling qualities of manhood caused him to be admired and respected by all, and his life and character furnish a fitting example for us who survive him.

## GEORGE MAYHEW MOULTON

Grand Master 1901-02

Born March 15, 1851

Died July 24, 1927

Brother Moulton was born in Readsboro, Vermont, on March 15, 1851. With his parents he came to Chicago in 1853 and was a resident of Chicago the rest of his life. He was educated in the public schools, graduating at the age of 17. He then began work with his father building grain elevators. He and his father built the first large elevator in Duluth, Minnesota. He was a stockholder in the World's Columbian Exposition. He was a member of the Union League Club, South Shore and Medinah Clubs.

After leaving the building business he was actively engaged in insurance companies until 1925. He then made two trips around the world.

### MILITARY SERVICE

At one time he was President of the Sons of the American Revolution. Early in life he became interested in military affairs. He was commissioned a Major in the Second Illinois National Guard Regiment. When the Spanish-American War broke out he was Colonel of the Second Regiment Infantry. The regiment was part of the occupation forces of Cuba. In December, 1898 he was appointed first chief of police of Havana and also was the first mayor during the American occupation. After the war ended in 1902 he was commissioned a Brigadier General and in 1907 Major General in command of all the Illinois National Guard.

### MASONIC RECORD

He was raised in Covenant Lodge No. 526 on February 26, 1875, Master 1892; Grand Master 1901-02; exalted in Corinthian Chapter No. 35, on May 13, 1875; Grand High Priest, 1894; greeted in Siloam Council, 1875; Master 1884 and 1893; Grand Master, 1889; knighted in St. Bernard Commandery No. 35, September 1, 1875; Commander, 1883; Grand Commander, 1890; Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, 1904-07; 32nd degree in Oriental Consistory;

Commander-in-Chief, 1889-90; received the 33rd degree in 1887; Knight of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine; Guardian Knight of the Holy Sepulchre in the Grand Council of Illinois, October 25, 1875; member of the Royal Order of Scotland and Knight Commander of the Grand Priory of England.

He was also a member and past officer of several organizations affiliated with Masonry, and an honorary member of many Masonic bodies.

In 1884 he was one of the incorporators of the Knights Templar and Masons' Life Indemnity Company and was president in 1890.

He was the first president of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home until 1890, when he retired voluntarily but remained as a trustee.

For several years he was chairman of the jurisprudence committees of the four Grand Bodies of the York Rite.

This in brief is the record of a long life spent in the interest of Masonry. He died on July 24, 1927, having been a member of his beloved order 52 years and 35 years a member of the Grand Lodge. One of his last requests was that he be buried by Covenant Lodge No. 526. This was done with full Masonic honors on July 27, 1927. His funeral was attended by one of the most notable gatherings of Masons in the history of this jurisdiction.

## WILLIAM B. WRIGHT

Grand Master 1903-04

Born June 7, 1860

Died March 23, 1941

Brother Wright received the degrees of Masonry in Effingham Lodge No. 149 in 1886 and served as Master for four years from 1888 to 1891 inclusive. He was a member of all the appendant bodies and was elected Grand Master in 1903 and served for two years. After retiring from office he was a member of various committees. At the time of his death he was chairman of the jurisprudence committee.

He commenced practicing law in 1882 and was elected county judge in 1894. In 1904 he was appointed a member of the Illinois State Board of Law Examiners and remained a member of that board

for 12 years. In 1916 he was elected Circuit Judge for the Fourth District and held that office for 24 years, retiring in 1939. He was formerly president of the Second Judicial District Bar Association and at the time of his death was Vice-president of the First National Bank at Effingham.

He was buried by the Grand Lodge on March 25, 1941.

## CHESTER E. ALLEN

Grand Master 1905-06

Born February 6, 1846

Died December 15, 1931

The forty-first Grand Master was born in Galesburg on February 6, 1846. At 18 years of age he enlisted in the United States Army and served several months. He engaged in the meat business with his three brothers and after several years of active participation he retired. He served the city as marshall and the county as deputy sheriff.

He was raised in Alpha Lodge No. 155 on April 21, 1876. 50 years later he was the honored guest of his lodge at its seventy-fifth anniversary. He was elected Master in 1879 and served for four years. Again in 1890 he was elected Master and served for three years. In 1892-93 he served on the Grand Lodge committee of Lodges U.D.; was appointed District Deputy in 1894 and the next year was elected Junior Grand Warden. He was elected Grand Master on October 6, 1905 and 1906.

He was a member of Galesburg Chapter No. 46, Knoxville Council No. 1 and Galesburg Commandery No. 8 of which he was a Past Commander. He joined the Peoria Scottish Rite Bodies and Mohammed Shrine. On September 19, 1907 he was elected to receive the 33rd degree and received the degree the next September.

Brother Allen on March 3, 1928 presented to his lodge a silver trowel which he had used to lay the cornerstone of the Hancock County Courthouse in 1907; also the apron the lodge had given him when he was raised.

To Vesper Lodge he presented another silver trowel and a gavel which has an important history. Brother Allen used it when he laid the cornerstone of the Hancock County Courthouse.

The gavel was made from the judges' bench in the old courthouse. The inlaid square and compass in the top of the case was made from wood taken from an old elm tree which shaded the house of President Lincoln in Springfield, Ill. The wood inlaid in the front of the case was taken from the coach which bore our martyred President's remains from Washington to Springfield, after his assassination; the inlaid wood in one end of the case was taken from an old apple tree in the yard of the late Rev. Peter Cartright's home in Logan county, and the inlaid walnut in the other end was taken from the stairway in the home of the noted pioneer preacher. The whole was made with a common pocket knife by L. C. Reeves of Bowen.

Brother Allen gave the Masonic Temple his library and said if they would provide a place he would donate the other items of his collection to the two lodges.

He died on December 15, 1931 and was buried with Masonic rites, the Grand Master presiding.

## ALEXANDER HAMILTON BELL

Grand Master 1907-08

Born October 29, 1853

Died April 14, 1938

At the age of 17 Brother Bell enrolled in Blackburn College and graduated in 1875. After graduation he read law with Augustus C. Walker. For more than 40 years he was a trustee of his college and for more than 60 years followed the law for his livelihood. At the time of his death he was the Dean and President of the Macoupin County Bar Association. His wide and varied experience before the courts gave him an unusual command of language and this, combined with his natural ability, made him one of the foremost speakers, not only in Grand Lodge, but before public gatherings of many kinds.

His vocation was law but his avocation was Masonry. He was raised on May 8, 1880 in Mt. Nebo Lodge No. 76 and one year and seven months later was elected Master. He served in all for five years.

His first official connection with the Grand Lodge was as District Deputy, in which office he served for eight years. On October 1, 1907 he was elected Grand Master and served for two years. During his administration he was successful in having four words added to the corporate title of the Grand Lodge to make it correspond to the constitutional title. He was also instrumental in having the limitation on the

amount of property the Grand Lodge could own abolished. These he considered the most important acts of his administration. In 1912 he delivered the oration before the Grand Lodge which attracted wide attention and brought forth much favorable comment. He accepted several invitations to deliver the oration before Masonic bodies, not only in Illinois, but in other states. He was appointed chairman of the jurisprudence committee and held that appointment until his death.

He was a member of Macoupin Chapter No. 187; Staunton Council (now defunct), St. Omer Commandery and Springfield Consistory. He received the 33rd degree on September 19, 1916.

After a long illness he passed away and was buried on Easter Sunday, followed to the cemetery by a long line of brethren, escorted by a large number of Knights Templar. The services at the grave were conducted by the Grand Master.

## ALBERT BARTLETT ASHLEY

Grand Master 1909-10

Born September 9, 1838

Died November 1, 1916

Brother Ashley was a native of Middleborough, Massachusetts. At the age of 15 he left school and sailed on a whaling ship and continued a seafaring life until the outbreak of the Civil War. At the age of 22 he navigated a sailing ship from Palermo, Sicily to Boston.

In April, 1861 he joined the United States Navy and served on the steam frigate *Mississippi* which was attached to the Gulf blockading squadron and participated in the bombardment of Pensacola and Mobile in 1861. He took part in the battle and capture of New Orleans in 1862. He left the Navy in June, 1862 and joined the Third Massachusetts Infantry. He helped recruit the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, with which he served until 1865, when he was transferred to the Twenty-first United States Infantry. He enlisted as a private and rose to the rank of captain. In 1865 he was appointed Quartermaster of Marine Transportation of the Department of the South, having charge of all the Government transports in the department.

In April, 1867 he resigned from the government service and engaged in the coal business, being sent to several different mines. His last was at Brazil, Indiana, where he had charge of 22 mines.

In 1893 he resigned and located in La Grange where he entered into the real estate business. That year he built a 50-room Summer Resort on Spring Lake, Michigan. This he managed in the summer months until 1913 when he sold the property.

He was made a Mason in King David Lodge, Taunton, Massachusetts, in 1863. In 1874 he dimitted and joined Kewanee Lodge No. 169 and served that lodge as Master for seven years. He received the chapter degrees in Kewanee Chapter in 1875; the Council degrees in 1877 and was knighted in Temple Commandery No. 20 at Princeton in 1879. He received the Consistory degrees in Bloomington and Peoria in 1911. He joined the Shrine in Peoria in the same year. He joined Harmony Chapter Order of Eastern Star in Kewanee in 1877, served several terms as Patron and was Grand Patron in 1883-84-85.

He was appointed Grand Lecturer by Joseph Robbins in 1878. In July, 1887 he was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners and, with the exception of one year, continued on the board until 1903 when he was elected Junior Grand Warden. He was elected Grand Master in 1909-10.

He will be remembered chiefly as an accomplished ritualist. His interpretation of a certain character was such that everybody attended when he was to take part in the third degree ceremonies. He had a continuous service for nearly 40 years teaching ritual and his influence will long be remembered. His burial ceremonies were conducted in Oriental Consistory by the officers of the Grand Lodge on November 5, 1916 and he was laid to rest at his country home at Spring Lake, Michigan.

## DELMAR DUANE DARRAH

Grand Master 1911-12

Born July 15, 1868

Died March 5, 1945

Born in Tolono on July 15, 1868, Brother Darrah attended the public schools, graduating from high school. He then attended Wesleyan University at Bloomington, graduating therefrom in 1890, did postgraduate work at the University of Illinois and received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. He taught English and Public Speak-

ing in Wesleyan University for 20 years, then became editor of the paper, "The Illinois Freemason," for 33 years.

He was raised in Bloomington Lodge No. 43 on August 23, 1889 and was Master in 1893-94 and again in 1898. He organized Arts and Crafts Lodge No. 1017 and was its first Master. He was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in 1894. He was elected Grand Master in 1911 and 1912. During his administration the ritual was revised and officially adopted by the Grand Lodge.

He was exalted in Bloomington Chapter No. 26 on May 14, 1890 and served as High Priest in 1897-98. He was greeted in Urbana Council No. 19 on January 24, 1910; knighted in DeMolay Commandery No. 24 on July 21, 1890; was Commander in 1897 and Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery, being elected in 1910 and serving 12 years.

He received the Consistory degrees in Peoria Consistory on April 20-21-22, 1891 and dimitted thereform to become a charter member of the Bloomington Bodies which were organized under his leadership. He served these bodies as Thrice Potent Master in 1908-09; Sovereign Prince from 1923 to his death; Most Wise Master, 1910-11; Commander-in-Chief, 1913 and Secretary of all four bodies, 1916-22.

He received the 33rd degree on September 21, 1909, was crowned an active member on Septembr 21, 1911 and was Deputy for Illinois from 1932 until his death. He was Lieutenant Grand Commander when he died.

He was a member of the Royal Order of Scotland and of the Red Cross of Constantine.

He died on March 5, 1945 and the funeral ceremonies were held in the preceptory of Bloomington Consistory.

## HENRY THOMPSON BURNAP

Grand Master 1913-14

Born April 10, 1856

Died July 3, 1934

Brother Burnap was born in Upper Alton (now Alton) on April 10, 1856 and spent his entire life in that city. He received his education in the city schools, Shurtleff College, the University of Illinois and the old St. Louis Medical School.

On September 9, 1879 he was married to Miss Annie Cooper Zarnock, who preceded him in death four years before he passed away.

He was made a Mason in Franklin Lodge No. 25 at Alton in 1880. He affiliated with Piasa Lodge No. 27 in 1893; he was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in 1892; and became a member of the Board of Grand Examiners in 1900, serving seven years, the last three as chairman.

He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1907 and advanced regularly until he reached the office of Grand Master in October, 1913. He was again elected in 1914. He laid the cornerstone of the Royal Arch Memorial Hospital at the Illinois Masonic Home at Sullivan in 1914, and participated in the dedication on July 5, 1915. After retiring as Grand Master he served on various committees and was a member of the jurisprudence committee at the time of his death.

He was a member of Franklin Chapter No. 8, Alton Council No. 3 and Belvidere Commandery No. 2, all of Alton. He was also a member of the Scottish Rite bodies of East St. Louis and received the 33rd degree in 1920.

He was buried on July 6, 1934 at Alton. Alexander H. Bell, a life-long friend, spoke briefly at the home, after which Brother Burnap was laid to rest in Oakwood Cemetery by Piasa Lodge No. 27, the ceremony at the grave being conducted by the Grand Master.

## RALPH H. WHEELER

Grand Master 1915-16

Born November 1, 1863

Died March 10, 1950

He graduated from Bennett Medical College in 1889, then came to Chicago where he practiced medicine until his retirement in January, 1950. He was made a Mason in William B. Warren Lodge No. 209 of Chicago on January 25, 1896 and served as Master in 1901. He became a charter member of America Lodge No. 889 in 1906 and was the first Master. He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1909 and advanced regularly until he was elected Grand Master in 1915.

For some years he was president of the Board of Managers of the Masonic Home at Sullivan and in 1915 had charge of the Grand Lodge part of the dedication of the Royal Arch Memorial Hospital.

At the time of his death he was chairman of the committee on Recognition of Foreign Jurisdictions.

He was a member of all the other Masonic bodies and was Potentate of the Shrine in 1911.

His death occurred suddenly at the home of his daughter in Winona, Minnesota on Friday afternoon, March 10, 1950. Masonic services were held by Winona Lodge No. 18 at Winona on Monday, March 13, 1950.

## AUSTIN H. SCROGGIN

Grand Master 1917-18

Born May 12, 1855

Died April 26, 1919

Brother Scroggin was marching in procession to the cemetery to perform the Masonic ceremony at the grave of a member of his lodge when he was suddenly stricken. He died about one hour later, clad as Grand Master and wearing the jewel of his office. He lived his life in the little city of Lexington and all his Masonic activity was in Lexington Lodge No. 482.

He was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in 1902 and appointed to the Board of Grand Examiners in 1906. He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1911 and advanced regularly until he reached the highest office in the gift of Masonry in Illinois. His funeral was private.

## DANIEL G. FITZGERRELL

Grand Master 1919-20

Born February 10, 1868

Died April 24, 1924

Brother Fitzgerald graduated from Ewing College and engaged in the banking business in Ewing. Ten years later he took charge of the First National Bank in Normal and remained with that institution until his death.

He was made a Mason in Ewing Lodge No. 705 in 1893 and filled nearly all the stations. He was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in

1911 and appointed to the Board of Grand Examiners in 1912 and served one year, being elected Junior Grand Warden in 1913 without opposition. He was elected Deputy Grand Master in 1917 and the unexpected death of the Grand Master on April 26, 1919 advanced him to the unexpired term as Grand Master. Thus he presided over the Grand Lodge three times. The work of the Grand Master's office combined with the responsibility of the bank was too much of a strain.

On April 23, 1924 he went to the golf course and played until evening, then went home and ate a hearty dinner. About 8 o'clock he was taken seriously ill, by 9 o'clock he was unconscious, and he died at 2:30 the following morning. Thus at the early age of 57 he was taken from us. On April 26 his body lay in state in the Bloomington Masonic Temple. A little later his body was laid to rest with the ritualistic ceremonies of Masonry. Brother Alexander H. Bell delivered the oration.

## ELMER E. BEACH

Grand Master 1921-22

Born December 19, 1861

Died March 17, 1950

After being admitted to the bar Elmer Beach practiced law in Chicago until he retired a few years ago.

He was made a Mason in Siloam Lodge No. 780 on November 16, 1888; transferred his membership to Evans Lodge No. 524 at Evanston in 1893; in 1896 affiliated with Park Lodge No. 843 at Chicago and served as Master in 1901. When Exemplar Lodge No. 966 was organized in 1913 he became a charter member and was the first Master. For several years he was a member of the Board of Grand Examiners and was chairman when the ritual was revised in 1913. In 1921 he was installed as Grand Master and served for two years. Since 1933 he was on the committee on foreign correspondence and served until his death.

Elmer Beach was a fine dignified gentleman with an exceptionally pleasing personality. His counsel and advice were eagerly sought and freely given to the brethren of Illinois.

Masonic funeral services were conducted in Raleigh, North Carolina, on March 19, 1950.

**ARTHUR EDWIN WOOD**

Grand Master 1923

Born January 28, 1864

Died February 8, 1926

Brother Wood was born near Green Valley, Illinois on January 28, 1864. In 1893 he moved to Gibson City where he lived most of the remainder of his life. He was raised in Norton Lodge No. 631 at Cabery but transferred his membership to Gibson Lodge No. 733 at Gibson City. He served his lodge as Master in 1908 and the next year passed the examination for a commission as Grand Lecturer. In 1912 he was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners and served for three years, the last as chairman. On October 9, 1917 he was elected Junior Grand Warden and was advanced regularly until on October 11, 1923 he was elected Grand Master. On account of ill health he only served for one year.

In 1894 he was exalted in Gibson Chapter No. 183 and served as High Priest in 1904-05-06. In 1909 he was started in the official line and became Grand High Priest in 1917. He was also a member of Gibson Council No. 72, Olivet Commandery No. 38, Ansar Temple Mystic Shrine and the Scottish Rite bodies in Oriental Consistory but changed his membership to the Bloomington bodies when they were formed. On September 19, 1911 he was crowned an Inspector General, 33rd degree.

In business life he was solicitor for a commission house in Chicago and became a director and stockholder in the same firm.

In 1919 he moved his family to Chicago where he lived until his death, which occurred on February 8, 1926. Funeral services were held on February 12, 1926.

**RICHARD C. DAVENPORT**

Grand Master 1924-25

Born October 8, 1886

Richard C. Davenport was born in Harrisburg, Illinois on October 8, 1886. He attended the City and Township High School and finished his business education at Gem City Business College, Quincy, Illinois.

Continuing in the coal mining business, which his father left, he served as Secretary of the Davenport Coal Mining Company until 1920, when he disposed of these interests and engaged in banking. In December, 1928 he accepted the office of Grand Secretary of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Illinois, which position he now occupies. His business experience, his knowledge of Masonic laws and usages, and his love for Masonry combine to make him well fitted for that important office.

Brother Davenport was made a Master Mason on November 2, 1908 in Harrisburg Lodge No. 325. He is a past presiding officer of the four York Rite Bodies in Harrisburg, a Past Worthy Patron of Harrisburg Chapter No. 671, Order of Eastern Star. He belongs to Mississippi Valley Consistory and Ainad Temple in East St. Louis. He is an honorary member of the Supreme Council, having received the 33rd degree in Buffalo on September 21, 1926. He is also a Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois, which office he held in 1937.

Brother Davenport was elected Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge in October, 1920, from which office he advanced until October, 1924, when he was elected Grand Master at the age of 38 years, being one of the youngest ever elected to that high office.

On June 9, 1909 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Haddon of Nuneaton, England. To this union two sons were born, Benjamin Haddon and Richard Cameron, both of whom are members of Harrisburg Lodge No. 325. The Davenports are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Harrisburg and are interested in the religious, social and civic activities of their city.

## DAVID DIETRICH KING

Grand Master 1926

Born January 14, 1858

Died June 17, 1939

Brother King came to Chicago and worked as a printer. In 1893 he organized the King Apron Supply Company, which he operated successfully until about a year before his death.

He was raised in Siloam Lodge No. 780 in 1889 and served as Master in 1905. In 1913 he became a charter member of Exemplar Lodge No. 966. He served for some time as a District Deputy. He was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1921 and became Grand Master in 1926 and served for one year.

He served for two years as chairman of a special committee on revision of the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Lodge. At the time of his death he was a member of the jurisprudence committee. He had been a regular attendant at the schools of instruction and was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners in 1918 and served for three years, part of the time as chairman.

The record reads:

In appreciation of his generosity and because of his admirable qualities of character, a memorial in his honor is to be erected in Greencastle, Pa., the city of his birth, on the premises of the Jerome R. King Playground which brother King donated to that city in memory of his brother, in August 1923. His dedicatory address delivered on that occasion is still remembered.

He was exalted in York Chapter No. 148 and became a charter member of St. Cecelia Chapter No. 220 and was its second High Priest. He was knighted in Columbia Commandery No. 63 and became a charter member of St. Cecelia Commandery No. 83. He was a member of Oriental Consistory and Medinah Shrine.

The last rites were conducted by Harmonia Lodge No. 138 of West Palm Beach, Florida, on June 20, 1939.

**LOUIS LINCOLN EMMERSON**

Grand Master 1927-28

Born December 27, 1863

Died February 4, 1941

Brother Emmerson was born in Albion, Illinois, on December 27, 1863. In 1886 he came to Mt. Vernon and began a business career. From 1896 to 1901 he was engaged in the mercantile business in which he made a signal success. In 1901 he was one of the leaders in organizing the Third National Bank of Mt. Vernon and was cashier until his election as president. He was a member of the State Board of Equalization and for four years was a Commissioner of the Southern Penitentiary. In 1916 he was elected Secretary of State, served for 12 years, and then was elected Governor, serving one term.

He was raised in Mt. Vernon Lodge No. 31 in 1891 and was Master in 1913. In 1923 he was elected Junior Grand Warden and in 1927 Grand Master, serving for two years. He is the only member of the Craft that was Grand Master and Governor at the same time.

He was exalted in Hiram W. Hubbard Chapter No. 160 (now Andrew D. Webb) and served for seven years as High Priest. In 1913 he was elected Grand High Priest and served for one year.

He was knighted in Cyrene Commandery No. 23 at Centralia and was the first commander of Patton Commandery No. 69 at Mt. Vernon, serving for three years. In 1919 he was elected Grand Commander for a one-year term. He received the 33rd degree at Saratoga, New York in 1911. He was created an active member of the Supreme Council in 1928.

In addition to his Illinois activities he was Treasurer of the Grand Encampment for a number of years.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by both Millikin University and Illinois College. He organized and for years was the teacher of the Men's Bible Class of the Presbyterian Church in Mt. Vernon.

He died on February 4, 1941 and was buried by the Grand Lodge with the officers of the Grand Commandery acting as an escort.

**EDWARD CLAUDE MULLEN**

Grand Master 1929-30

Born June 10, 1869

Died August 11, 1944

This brother was born on June 10, 1869 in Cincinnati, Ohio where he spent his boyhood and attended the Cincinnati schools. He moved to Chicago in 1885, and on September 3, 1899 was married to Miss Anna Barbian of McHenry, Illinois. Shortly after that they moved to Oak Park where they made their home until his death. He was a sales manager for N. K. Fairbanks Company and later for the Indianapolis Conserve Company. For a time he was connected with the Huyler Candy Company of New York and became their western representative. In 1912 he organized and incorporated the E. C. Mullen Company, manufacturers of lubricating oil and greases, of which institution he became President and General Manager.

He was made a Mason in Ashlar Lodge No. 308 on July 3, 1900. In 1910 he was elected Senior Deacon and advanced regularly until he became Master in 1913. He was a member of Oak Park Chapter No. 244, Apollo Commandery No. 1, and later dimitted to Siloan Commandery No. 54 at Oak Park. He joined Oriental Consistory in 1923 and received the 33rd degree in 1931. He was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in 1913 and elected President of the Grand Lecturer's Association. He was also president of the Masonic Standard Club of Chicago.

He was appointed District Deputy and served as president of the District Deputy Grand Masters' Association. He held honorary membership in nine lodges. He was elected Grand Master in 1929 and served for two years. In 1931 he was elected Grand Treasurer served until his death which occurred on August 11, 1944.

## G. HAVEN STEPHENS

Grand Master 1931-32

Born May 25, 1881

Brother Stephens was born on May 25, 1881 at Rossville, Illinois, the son of a pioneer Methodist minister. He attended school in several towns where his father was placed and graduated from the Philadelphia Dental College. He practiced his profession in Danville until he was elected Secretary of Danville Consistory. In September, 1908 he was raised in Olive Branch Lodge No. 38 at Danville. Four years later a Grand Lecturer and for two years was president of the Grand Lecturers' Association. In 1915 he was appointed a District Deputy and served for eight years. In 1922 he was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners and served for three years, the last as chairman.

He was elected Senior Grand Warden in 1927 and Grand Master in 1931. During his two years as Grand Master he visited every one of the 100 districts. He laid seven cornerstones, dedicated ten Masonic halls, attended 193 official receptions and fifty other Masonic functions. To keep these engagements he traveled more than 116,000 miles via auto and several thousands more by train and airplane. He is a member of Vermilion Chapter No. 82, Athelstan Commandery No. 45 and Ansar Shrine at Springfield. He has served the Scottish Rite bodies as Sovereign Prince and as Master of Rose Croix. He received the 33rd degree in 1922. He was a member of the special committee on music for the degrees for the Grand Lodge.

Upon retiring as Grand Master he was appointed a member of the appeals and grievances committee. He is now a member of the Board of Managers of the Masonic Home at Sullivan.

## GROVER CLEVELAND NIEMEYER

Grand Master 1933-34

Born January 12, 1881

Brother Niemeyer was born on January 12, 1881 at Montrose, Illinois; was educated in the public schools and Austin College, Effingham; graduated from the Illinois College of Law (now Law Department, DePaul University), Chicago, and was admitted to the bar in 1904.

On December 27, 1911 he was married to Miss Grace Sumner Potter of Lexington, Kentucky. They have one son, Grover C. Niemeyer, Jr.

He served at various times as assistant state's attorney, special assistant state's attorney of Cook County and as special attorney for the Board of Election Commissioners of Chicago in the prosecution of vote frauds. In 1933 he was elected a Judge of the Superior Court of Cook County, the position he still holds.

He was raised in East Gate Lodge No. 923 in June, 1910; became Master in December, 1915; president of the Masonic Standard Club in 1919; Grand Lecturer, 1921-24; District Deputy, 1921-29; became a charter member of Howard Lodge No. 1134 in 1925; was elected Grand Master in 1933 and served for 2 years; was appointed a member of the appeals and grievances committee in 1936. He has since retired from active connection with the Grand Lodge.

## HAL CARTER McLOUD

Grand Master 1935-36

Born March 31, 1876

The fifty-seventh Grand Master of Masons was born on a farm near Cantrall, Illinois on March 31, 1876. He was educated in Sangamon County schools. On October 11, 1905 he was married to Miss Anna Laura Klotz. They have one daughter.

For more than 31 years he was in the home office of the Franklin Life Insurance Company, of Springfield. In his youth he was a

travelling salesman for the National Cash Register Company of Dayton, Ohio, and for the Smith Premier Typewriter Company of Syracuse, New York.

He was raised in Tyrian Lodge No. 333 on April 10, 1910. He served as Master in 1915, was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in 1914; served as Secretary of his lodge, 1918 to 1935; was District Deputy, 1918 to 1923. In 1923 he was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners and served for three years. He joined Springfield Chapter No. 1, Springfield Council No. 2, Elwood Commandery No. 6 of which he is a Past Commander, Springfield Consistory, was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1931 and Grand Master in 1935, serving for two years.

Upon retiring as Grand Master he was appointed a member of the appeals and grievances committee. In 1950 he succeeded Elmer E. Beach as committee on correspondence.

## EVERETT LEROY LAWRENCE

Grand Master 1937-38

Born February 7, 1888

Brother Lawrence was born in Hull, Illinois, on February 7, 1888. He attended the local school and became connected with his father in a general merchandising business. In May, 1926 he moved to Quincy, having been elected Secretary of Quincy Consistory, a position he still holds.

He was made a Mason in Hull Lodge No. 910; his father was Master and conferred the degrees upon him. At his official reception in his home lodge when he was Grand Master his father again presided.

He was Master of Hull Lodge in 1914 and served for seven years. When he moved to Quincy he affiliated with Quincy Lodge No. 296. He was exalted in Barry Chapter No. 88 but affiliated with Quincy Chapter No. 5. He is a member of Quincy Council No. 15; Quincy Commandery No. 77; Quincy Consistory; Ainad Shrine at East St. Louis; and Grace Whipple Chapter No. 312, Order of Eastern Star. He was crowned an Inspector General 33rd degree A.A.S.R. at Columbus, Ohio on September 28, 1938.

He served as District Deputy, 1916-26, was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners in 1927 and served as chairman in 1931-32. He was elected Grand Master in 1937-38. After retiring from that office he was appointed a member of the jurisprudence committee and is now chairman of that committee.

Being still comparatively a young Mason he bids fair to continue active service in Masonry for many years.

## DAN DE BAUGH

Grand Master 1939-40

Born March 23, 1881

Died June 3, 1946

This Grand Master was born on March 23, 1881 in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. He was educated in the public schools and the German-English Academy. On March 14, 1910 he was married to Miss Florence Binns of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In 1898 Brother DeBaugh joined the Ringling Brothers Show, entering the Outdoor Publicity and Excursion Department in 1900. In 1908 he became the Assistant General Excursion Agent with an office in Chicago. Ten years later he was made manager of the Chicago office of the Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows.

He was raised in Apollo Lodge No. 642 on March 9, 1908 and became a charter member of Hyde Park Lodge No. 989, serving as Master in 1918-19. He was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in December, 1917, appointed District Deputy in 1924 and appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners in 1927. He held this position for four years, during two of which he was chairman.

He was a member of Loyal Chapter No. 233, Palestine Council No. 66, St. Cecelia Commandery No. 83, Oriental Consistory and Medinah Temple. On September 24, 1941 he received the 33rd degree at Chicago.

He was elected Grand Master in 1939 and served for two years.

He was greatly interested in the ritual and made a record of attendance at the schools which has never been equalled, having attended 102 consecutive schools. He gave the Grand Lodge a business administration for which he was eminently qualified from his experience with transportation questions connected with his business.

He died on June 3, 1946 at his home in Chicago. His funeral services were held on June 6 in the Scottish Rite Cathedral. The service was in charge of Fred I. Mills, Past Grand Master, in the absence of the Grand Master, who was attending the Grand Lodge in England.

## KARL J. MOHR

Grand Master 1941-42

Born February 18, 1891

This brother was born in Pekin, Illinois on February 18, 1891. After graduating from the Pekin high school he entered the University of Michigan from which he graduated in 1913 with the degree of A.B. and in 1915 with the degree of LL.B. During his college career he was elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa, international scholastic honor society, Delta Sigma Rho, national forensic fraternity and the Michigan Law Review, the published journal of the Law College.

While attending the University of Michigan Brother Mohr met Miss Alice Deane Adams of Oswego, New York, to whom he was married on June 28, 1916. They have two sons and one daughter.

After graduation he located in Rockford where he is engaged in the practice of law. For six years he was a member of the Board of Rockford Community Fund, the last two as President. He also served several years on the Winnebago County Committee on Illinois Emergency Relief, the last six months as chairman.

He is a member of the University Club, the Rockford Country Club, the Rockford Chamber of Commerce and the County and State Bar Association.

Brother Mohr was made a Mason in Pekin Lodge No. 29 on September 16, 1913 and, upon locating in Rockford, affiliated with Star of the East Lodge No. 166 on February 4, 1916. He served this lodge as Master in 1923 and was commissioned a Grand Lecturer on January 5, 1924. He was appointed District Deputy on October 15, 1925, which office he held until August 31, 1929 when he was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners. He was a member of the Board for six years, the last of which he was chairman.

He is a member of all the co-ordinate bodies and of Freeport Con-

sistory. He was crowned an Inspector General 33rd degree on September 24, 1944.

He was elected Grand Master of Masons in 1941 and again in 1942. Upon retiring from office he was appointed General Counsel for the Grand Lodge.

He has received many honors outside of Illinois: the Henry Price Medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Honorary member, Grand Chapter of Louisiana; Director, George Washington Memorial Association; President, Grand Masters' Conference, 1942; Service Medal, Grand Lodge of Rhode Island; Honorary Member, Grand Lodge of South Dakota; Honorary Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan; Honorary Member, Past Grand Masters Associations of Nebraska and Tennessee; Honorary Junior Grand Warden, Grand Lodge of Scotland.

He is still in the prime of life and bids fair to remain with us for many years.

## STUART E. PIERSON

Grand Master 1943-44

Born September 8, 1872

This brother first saw the light of day in Carrollton, Illinois on September 8, 1872. He attended the public school until he was ten years old, when his family moved to Minneapolis, because of ill health of his father.

He graduated from the Minneapolis high school in 1891 and then attended Yale University from which he graduated in 1895. He then returned to Carrollton and entered the bank established by his grandfather in 1854. In 1898 he and Miss Mary Thomas were married; they have one daughter.

Although a banker, he devotes much time to agriculture and the management of his farms. In 1930 he was appointed Director of Agriculture of the State of Illinois by Governor Emmerson and continued in that capacity until 1933.

He was raised in Carrollton Lodge No. 50 on January 28, 1897 and served as Master in 1899-1900. He is a past presiding officer of Carroll-

ton Chapter No. 77, Carrollton Council No. 48 and Hugh de Payens Commandery No. 29, all of Carrollton. In 1926 he was appointed Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter to fill a vacancy and has held that office ever since. In October, 1943 he was elected an Honorary Past Grand High Priest. He served the Grand Commandery as Grand Commander in 1914, being now the dean of the Past Grand Commanders, and since 1932 its Grand Treasurer. He was crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, A.A.S.R. in 1923. On October 12, 1943 he was elected Grand Master and served for two years. Under his leadership the Masonic Service Centers for soldiers and sailors were carried to a successful conclusion. He still is active in the local bodies and very seldom misses a meeting of any of them.

## WILLIAM TINSLEY

Grand Master 1945-46

Born July 1, 1868

Died April 6, 1948

This brother was born in Cropwell Butler, Nottinghamshire, England on July 1, 1868. He was educated in the public schools in England; came to the United States in 1889 and to Chicago in 1891, where he engaged in the hotel and restaurant business. On June 20, 1892 he was married to Miss Emma MacDonald of St. Charles, Missouri.

He joined Thomas J. Turner Lodge No. 409 on April 16, 1896, was appointed Junior Deacon the next year and reached the office of Master in 1901. In 1902 he was elected Secretary and served for 27 years. He was a member of all the co-ordinate bodies and of the Eastern Star.

He assisted in starting the Masonic Standard Instruction Club, the North Side Instruction Club, The Grand Lecturers Association of Illinois of which he was the first Secretary; the Grand Lecturers' Association of Cook County and was its first president. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master in 1917 and served several years in that capacity.

He was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners in 1926 and served for four years. He was elected Grand Master in October, 1945.

He held honorary membership in 46 lodges; was appointed Grand Representative of the United Grand Lodge of England near the Grand Lodge of Illinois by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn on May 2, 1923. He attended four sessions of that Grand Lodge, three times as Grand Representative and the last time as Grand Master.

He never missed a session of the Grand Lodge after he was Master in 1901.

## FRED IRVING MILLS

Grand Master 1947-48

Born June 19, 1879

Brother Mills was born on a farm in Clark County on June 19, 1879. In 1885 his family moved to a farm in Crawford County and soon after to Robinson. In 1902 Brother Mills was married to Miss Maude Bradway. To this union two sons were born. Mrs. Mills passed away in 1937. In 1939 he was married to Mrs. Jean O'Haver Shassere who is nationally known for her connection with the steel industry.

After graduating from high school Brother Mills was employed in a clothing store. He formed a partnership with Brother Jesse R. Sheets and bought a clothing store which they operated for 42 years until Brother Mills retired, at the time he was elected Grand Master. He has been president of the Robinson Building and Loan Company; helped organize the Robinson Chamber of Commerce and served for several terms on the Board of Directors. He is a charter member of the Robinson Rotary Club, served one year as president and ten years as secretary.

Early in life he joined the Methodist church and served for 25 years as superintendent of the Sunday School and an equal length of time as a trustee.

He was made a Mason in Robinson Lodge No. 250 on November 10, 1909 and served as Master in 1914-15. He was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in 1914 and in October, 1934 was appointed a member of the Board of Grand Examiners. He served on the Board for seven years, the last two as chairman.

He also served for five years as a member of the Chapter Board of Grand Examiners and in 1941 was elected and installed M.E. Grand High Priest. He holds membership in all the co-ordinate bodies and in Danville Consistory and Medinah Temple. He is a member of the Red Cross of Constantine at Champaign; also in the Eastern Star, White Shrine and Grotto. He was crowned an Inspector General 33rd degree A.A.S.R. at Cleveland in September, 1944. He was installed Grand Master in 1947.

He was presented with the Henry Price Medal by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; received the Christopher Champlin Medal from the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island; was elected an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan. He also holds honorary membership in the Grand Lodge of South Dakota and is an honorary Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Montana.

## BENJAMIN ELMER PATTON

Grand Master 1949-50

Born August 18, 1891

Brother Patton, son of Benjamin F. and Mary Richards Patton, was born on August 18, 1891, on a farm at the southern edge of Sangamon County, Illinois, within a few miles of the original farm settled by his forebears while Illinois was still a part of the Northwest Territory. The family later moved to Virden, Illinois and subsequently to Tennessee and Texas for a few years, but returned to Sangamon County in 1909 where they remained. Brother Patton was employed for a year or more in Marion County, Illinois.

He obtained his education in the school systems of Illinois and Tennessee and through University Extension services. He engaged in early youth in office work and since 1922 has been self-employed in the practice of Public Accountancy.

In 1912 he married Margaret Shinnick of Springfield, Illinois; to this union a son, Richard E., was born in 1923. Following the death in 1937 of the first Mrs. Patton, he again united in marriage with Mrs. Beulah L. Nickey, a widow and long time friend.

Brother Patton was made a Master Mason in Central Lodge No.

71, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in 1917 and was appointed Senior Steward at the next annual meeting of the lodge. He was elected and installed Worshipful Master of his lodge in December, 1921 and served in that capacity for one year. He was elected as the lodge's representative on the Board of Control, vested with management of the Masonic Temple in 1924 and has been Secretary of that Board continuously since that time.

In the Grand Lodge, he was commissioned a Grand Lecturer in August, 1922, served as District Deputy Grand Master for the years 1934 and 1935 and as a Grand Examiner from 1936 to 1942 inclusive. In October, 1943 he was elected Junior Grand Warden and by regular advancement was elected Grand Master at the One Hundred and Tenth Annual Meeting in October 1949.

He has also been active in other bodies associated with Masonry. He served the Royal Arch Chapter as High Priest in 1925-26, the Council of Royal and Select Masters as Thrice Illustrious Master in 1930-31 and is a member of Elwood Commandery No. 6, Knights Templar. In the Scottish Rite, he has served as Sovereign Prince in the Princes of Jerusalem in 1936-38, and participated in the degree work of the other bodies. He also is a member of the Grotto, Shrine and Royal Order of Jesters and formerly participated actively in the ceremonies of the latter two organizations.

Since his early youth he has been affiliated with the Presbyterian Church and has participated in civic affairs through Service Clubs and Charitable organizations.

Brother Patton is recognized as one of the outstanding ritualists in Illinois. The efficient, patient and courteous manner in which he conducted our schools while Chairman of the Board of Grand Examiners will long be remembered by those who were privileged to be present. Perhaps he has instructed and prepared more brethren to take the examination and become Grand Lecturers than any other Mason in Illinois.

He entered upon the duties of the office of Grand Master, not unmindful of his responsibilities, but with that courage and faith that have been characteristic of his life. During his term as Grand Master he was never too busy to meet and greet his friends. Possessed with a keen analytical mind, his counsel and advice were eagerly sought and freely given. He was firm but always kind and considerate. He has a personality that has won for him a host of friends, and Masonry in Illinois has gone forward under the able leadership of Ben Patton.

## JAMES GREEN

Grand Master 1951

Born August 23, 1901

Brother Green's parents were James and Mary Green. He was born on August 23, 1901 at Moira, County Down, Ireland. In 1912 he came direct to Chicago from the "Auld Sod." He attended the Chicago grammar and high schools. He has been twice married. His first wife, Miss Helen M. Heisler, to whom he was married in 1928, died in 1931, leaving one son, Howard. His father had the pleasure of raising him in John B. Sherman Lodge No. 880. His second wife was Miss Marie A. Kocher, to whom he was married in 1941. They have two children, Georgine, and James C.

In 1941 Brother Green organized the Heisler-Green Chemical Company, of which he is president. The company specializes in water treatment chemicals.

### MASONIC

He was initiated, passed and raised in 1922 in John B. Sherman Lodge No. 880; served as Master in 1930; was District Deputy, 1940-41; on the Board of Grand Examiners, 1942-45; was elected Junior Grand Warden in October, 1945; Senior Grand Warden in 1947; Deputy Grand Master in 1949; Grand Master in 1951.

He also holds membership in Auburn Park Chapter No. 201; Mizpah Commandery No. 73; the Scottish Rite bodies, Valley of Chicago and Medinah Shrine, A.A.O.N.M.S.

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