

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND COUNCIL
OF
Royal and Select Masters
OF THE
STATE OF MICHIGAN,
AT ITS
CONVENTION TO FORM GRAND COUNCIL

HELD IN

Detroit, Wednesday, January 13th, 1858.

DETROIT:
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JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF A

Convention of Royal and Select Masters

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13th, 1858.

AT a Convention of Representatives and Delegates from the several Councils of ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS, of the State of Michigan, assembled at MASONIC HALL, in the City of Detroit, on the 13th day of January, 1858, the following Councils were represented:

Monroe Council, No. 23.

N. B. CARPENTER	<i>T. I. G. M.</i>
N. P. JACOBS	<i>D. I. G. M.</i>
E. ROOD	<i>P. C.</i>
C. JACKSON	<i>Treasurer.</i>
W. BARCLAY	<i>Recorder.</i>
E. A. ELLIOTT	<i>C. G.</i>
J. J. RHODES	<i>Conductor.</i>
D. B. NICHOLS	<i>Marshal.</i>
S. S. BARROWS	<i>Steward.</i>

St. Clair Council, No. 24.

G. B. ENGLE	<i>T. I. G. M.</i>
S. B. BROWN	<i>D. I. G. M.</i>

Grand Council of

A. J. CUMMINGS	<i>P. C. p. t.</i>
B. W. JENKS	<i>Treasurer.</i>
F. H. BLOOD	<i>Recorder.</i>
E. WHITE	<i>C. G.</i>
JOHN CLARK	<i>Conductor.</i>
WM. COOK	<i>Marshal.</i>
E. CARLTON	<i>Steward.</i>

Pontiac Council, No. 25.

F. DARROW	<i>T. I. G. M.</i>
A. B. CUDWORTH	<i>D. I. G. M.</i>
A. B. MATHEWS	<i>P. C.</i>
LEVI BACON, JR.	<i>Treasurer.</i>
R. H. ELLIOTT	<i>Recorder.</i>
A. C. BALDWIN	<i>C. G.</i>
J. A. CORBIN	<i>Conductor.</i>
R. W. DAVIS	<i>Marshal.</i>
G. R. HIXSON	<i>Steward.</i>
T. A. FLOWER	<i>P. T. I. G. M.</i>

On motion, Rev. GEO. B. ENGLE was appointed Chairman; and FRANK DARROW, Secretary.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That this Convention deem it for the best interest of Royal and Select Masters in this State, that a State Grand Council be formed.

The following Constitution and By-Laws were then presented; which were, on motion to that effect, read and adopted, for the Government of the State Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Michigan :

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters.

ARTICLE I.

Members.

SEC. 1. The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of Michigan, shall consist of

Thrice Illustrious Grand Puissant,
Illustrious Deputy Grand Puissant,
Grand Thrice Illustrious,
Grand Principal Conductor of the Work,
Grand Captain of the Guard,
Grand Treasurer,
Grand Recorder,
Grand Chaplain,
Grand Steward, and
Grand Sentinel.

AND ALL

Past Thrice Illustrious Grand Puissants,
Past Thrice Illustrious Deputy Grand Puissants,
Past Grands Thrice Illustrious, and
Past Grand Principal Conductors of the Work.

TOGETHER WITH THE

Thrice Illustrious Grand Masters,
Deputy Illustrious Grand Masters, and
Principal Conductors of the Work,

For the time being, of the several Subordinate Councils under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council.

OR

Their Proxies, duly empowered.

AND

All Past Thrice Illustrious Grand Masters, who are members of Subordinate Councils, and who have presided one year over a Council in this State.

*Grand Council of***Of Representation Necessary.**

SEC. 2. There shall not be a Grand Council opened for business, unless there shall be present a representation from a least two subordinate working Councils.

Power of Grand Council.

SEC. 3. The Grand Council shall have sole government and superintendence of the several Subordinate Councils in this State, shall assign their limits, and establish the fees for admission. In all cases of controversy, an appeal shall lie from an aggrieved Council, or any member of a Council, to this Grand Council. It shall also have power to grant Charters constituting new Councils of Royal and Select Masters, within the State of Michigan.

Meetings.

SEC. 4. The Annual Meetings of the Grand Council shall be held at the city of Detroit, on the Tuesday next preceding the second Wednesday in January, in each and every year at 12 o'clock m.; but a Special Meeting of the Grand Council may be called whenever the Thrice Illustrious Grand Puissant, Illustrious Deputy Grand Puissant, Grand Thrice Illustrious, and Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, or any three of them, shall deem it necessary.

Duties of Principal Officers.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Thrice Illustrious Grand Puissant, Illustrious Deputy Grand Puissant, Grand Thrice Illustrious, and Principal Conductor of the Work, severally, to inform and perfect themselves in the Sublime Arts and Work of Royal and Select Masters; to make themselves acquainted with the Lectures and Ancient Charges; and to consult with each other, for the purpose of adopting suitable

measures for diffusing the knowledge of the Work and Lectures, and to secure uniformity in the several Subordinate Councils under this Jurisdiction.

Of Dispensations and Charters.

SEC. 6. The Thrice Illustrious Grand Puissant and the Illustrious Deputy Grand Puissant shall have authority, during the recess of the Grand Council, to grant Letters of Dispensation, under their respective signatures and private seals, to a competent number of duly qualified petitioners, empowering them to open and hold a Council of Royal and Select Masters for a specific term of time, not extending beyond the next meeting of the Grand Council: *Provided*, That the same fees as are required for a Charter shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Recorder. And in all cases where such Dispensation is granted, the officer granting the same shall make report thereof at the next meeting of the Grand Council; and the Grand Council may continue or recall such Dispensation, or may, upon application for the same, grant the petitioners a Charter; and in case a Charter be so granted, the fees first deposited with the Grand Recorder shall be credited in payment for the same, but if the Dispensation is not continued, or Charter granted, the money to be returned, except necessary expenses.

SEC. 7. No Dispensation or Charter shall be issued for instituting a Council of Royal Masters independent of Select Masters.

SEC. 8. No Dispensation or Charter for the institution of a new Council of Royal and Select Masters shall be granted, except upon the petition of nine Royal and Select Masters; which petition shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Council nearest to the place where the new Council is to be formed, vouching for the moral character and Masonic ability of the petitioners, and recommending to the Grand Council to grant the prayer of the same.

*Grand Council of**Charter Sec.*

SEC. 9. No Charter shall be granted for establishing a Council of Royal and Select Masters for a less sum than *Fifteen Dollars*.

Limit of Number of Councils.

SEC. 10. There shall not be a greater number of Councils established in this State than there are Royal Arch Chapters, nor more than one Council within the jurisdiction of each Chapter.

Amendments, &c.

SEC. 11. The Grand Council shall be competent, on concurrence of two-thirds of its members present, to revise, amend, or alter this Constitution, provided a motion to that effect is duly made and seconded at one Annual Meeting of said Grand Council, and laid over until the next for consideration.

OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

ARTICLE II.

Of Officers and Members.

SEC. 1. A Council of Royal and Select Masters shall consist of a

Thrice Illustrious Grand Master,
Deputy Thrice Illustrious Grand Master,
Principal Conductor of the Work,
Captain of the Guard,
Treasurer,
Sentinel,

AND

As many Members, as may be found convenient
for working to advantage,

And ought to assemble for work at least once in three months.

As to Standing of Councils.

SEC. 2. No Council of Royal and Select Masters in this State shall be considered legal unless they have a Charter from the Grand Council, or a Dispensation from one of the Grand Officers; and Masonic communication, either public or private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any Council under this Jurisdiction, or any member thereof, and any Council or assemblage that may be so illegally established without such Charter or Dispensation, or any person admitted in such illegal Council: but nothing in this Section shall be so construed as to affect any Council, or members of any Council, which may be established by proper authority in other States.

Applications for the Degree.

SEC. 3. All applications for the degree of Royal and Select Master, or membership in any Subordinate Council under this Jurisdiction, shall be by petition in writing to the nearest Council, from a member of a Royal Arch Chapter regularly

constituted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and subordinate to the same, and also of the State Grand Chapter from which he hails, and shall lie over one lunar month after the same shall have been received and referred to a Committee for inquiry, unless by a unanimous vote of the Companions present, in which case the application may be acted upon instanter, and an unanimous ballot shall be necessary in all cases.

Election of Officers.

SEC. 4. The officers of the several Subordinate Councils shall be chosen annually by ballot. A majority of the whole number present shall be necessary to elect; and the persons so chosen shall continue in office until their successors are duly elected and installed; which election shall take place on the regular meeting next preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.

Duties of Thrice Illustrious Grand Master.

SEC. 5. The Thrice Illustrious Grand Master of every Subordinate Council has it in special charge, as appertaining to his office, duty, and dignity, to see that the By-Laws of his Council, as well as the Constitution of the Grand Council, and general regulations of Royal and Select Masters, are duly observed and obeyed; that all the officers of his Council perform the duties of their respective stations, and are examples of diligence and industry to their Companions; that true and accurate records of the proceedings of his Council be kept by the Recorder; that the Treasurer render just and accurate accounts of all moneys belonging to the Council; and that the annual dues to the Grand Council be regularly and punctually paid. He has the special charge and care of the Charter or Dispensation of his Council; he has a right to call his Council, at pleasure, upon any emergency. It is likewise

his duty, together with the Deputy Illustrious and Principal Conductor of the Work, to attend the meetings of the Grand Council, either in person or proxy, when duly summoned by the Grand Recorder.

Degree Fee.

SEC. 6. No Council under this Jurisdiction shall confer the degrees of Royal and Select Master for a less sum than *Five Dollars*.

Of Dues.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the Subordinate Councils to provide by By-Laws for the assessment of such dues (as well as the time of their payment), as they may think proper; which By-Laws shall be considered sufficient notice to the members. And it shall be the imperative duty of the Thrice Illustrious Grand Master to order the Recorder to enter *suspended* all members who shall refuse or neglect for two years to pay their dues.

Percentage to Grand Council.

SEC. 8. Each Subordinate Council shall pay to the Grand Treasurer, at each stated meeting of the Grand Council, the sum of *One Dollar* for every Companion receiving the degree of Royal and Select Master.

BY-LAWS.*I.***Precedence of Councils.**

The several Councils in this State shall be numbered according to the date of their respective Charters.

*II.***Returns to Grand Council.**

Each Council in this State shall make returns to the Grand Council, at their annual assembly, of the names of its officers and members, and of all Companions received and acknowledged the preceding year.

*III.***Compensation of Grand Recorder.**

The Grand Recorder shall receive an annual compensation of ten dollars for his services, and five dollars for each Charter issued.

*IV.***Duty of Grand Treasurer.**

It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer to receive all moneys; and at the stated meeting of the Grand Council he shall exhibit an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements; and no moneys shall be paid out by him without the consent of the Grand Council and the written order of the Thrice Illustrious Grand Puissant or officer presiding.

*V.***Duty of Grand Recorder.**

It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder to keep a record of the Proceedings of the Grand Council.

V I.

Delinquent Councils.

If any Council under this Jurisdiction shall fail to assemble and work, for the space of twelve months; or shall fail to be represented at the stated meetings of the Grand Council, for the term of two stated meetings in succession; or shall fail, for the same length of time, to discharge their dues,— every such delinquent Council shall forfeit its Charter, together with all its jewels, furniture, and effects of every kind, subject to the disposal of the Grand Council, and shall be notified thereof by the Grand Recorder.

V I I.

Amendments, &c.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended, in the same manner as the Constitution only.

The Grand Council, on motion to that effect, then proceeded to ballot for Grand Officers; which election resulted as follows:

- N. B. CARPENTER, as Thrice Illustrious Grand Puissant.
- S. B. BROWN, as Illustrious Deputy Grand Puissant.
- F. DARROW, as Grand Thrice Illustrious Puissant.
- E. ROOD, as Illustrious Grand Treasurer.
- N. P. JACOBS, as Illustrious Grand Recorder.
- T. A. FLOWER, as Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard.
- G. B. ENGLE, as Illustrious Grand Chaplain.
- R. W. DAVIS, as Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Work.
- A. J. CUMMINGS, as Illustrious Grand Marshal.
- A. B. CUDWORTH, as Illustrious Grand Steward.
- CHARLES D. HOWARD, as Illustrious Grand Sentinel.

Who were declared unanimously elected.

Comp. T. I. G. M. ENGLE proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers, under the following Dispensation, from the Grand Council of Connecticut:

GRAND COUNCIL OF CONNECTICUT.

By Virtue of the Power in me vested, as Most Puissant Grand Master, I do hereby authorize and empower T. I. COMP. C. B. ENGLE, G. M. of St. Clair Council, No. 24, to instal the Officers of the Grand Council of the State of Michigan, whenever they shall have been duly elected.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name, and caused the Seal of our Grand Council to be affixed, at Norwich, in the State of Connecticut, the 28th day of December, 1857.

[L. S.]

Wm. L. Brewster,

M. P. G. M.

ATTEST:

E. G. STORER,

Grand Recorder.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That Charters, without fee, be issued to Monroe Council, as Monroe Council, No. 1, of Detroit; St. Clair Council, as St. Clair Council, No. 2, St. Clair; and Pontiac Council, as Pontiac Council, No. 3, Pontiac.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a Dispensation is hereby granted to St. Clair Council, No. 2, for the election of officers for the ensuing year.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder be authorized to obtain a suitable Seal; also, Charters, Blanks, &c., for the use of the Grand Council, and to procure the printing of the Proceedings of this Grand Body.

No other business coming before the Grand Council, it was then closed in due and ample form until the next Regular Communication, unless sooner convened by the Thrice Illustrious Grand Puissant.

N. P. JACOBS,

Grand Recorder.