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# PRINCE HALL FREE MASONS

By SENATOR HARRY E. DAVIS 33°



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CLEVELAND, Ohio — This series of articles is written primarily for the benefit of individuals who might be interested in becoming Masons, and who need information and guidance in selecting the proper lodge to whom application should be made.

Perhaps an applicant has been approached and solicited and naturally he is confused as to proper action. This article will treat of the rise of clandestine, illegitimate, unrecognized, and spurious bodies so an intelligent choice can be made.

IN 1818 a serious dissension broke out in Philadelphia which resulted in Union Lodge being expelled and its warrant arrested for contumacious conduct. This made it an outlaw body until Grand Lodge restored it to regular standing. However, Union Lodge continued to meet in defiance of Grand Lodge authority.

Other dissentients apparently sided with Union Lodge and they were also expelled. These expelled Masons formed Hiram Grand Lodge in 1819 and were joined by some expelled members of Harmony Lodge. This latter group operated under an alleged warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of Ohio (W) in 1833, but this warrant was spurious, and the Harmony members had simply been duped to the tune of \$125, the fee for the "warrant."

But the dissension increased in intensity and spread into neighboring states. Court actions were instituted which ultimately resulted in favor of the original Grand Lodge. This settled certain property rights but did not quench the heat engendered by the quarrel.

IT WAS the deplorable condition of the craft in Pennsylvania which led the colored Masonic leaders of that day to hit upon a curious and novel experiment to restore harmony. Grand Master John T. Hilton of Massachusetts issued a call for a meeting of about twenty representatives of the four existing Grand Lodges—the two in Pennsylvania, and one each in New York and Massachusetts. The meeting took place in Bos-

ton, June 27, 1847. The stated purpose of this meeting was to adjust the Pennsylvania difficulty, and to form a "permanent relation of union."

It was a conference only without any plenary power, and without any instructed delegate authority. The convention apparently accomplished its stated purposes on the first day by adopting certain declaratory resolutions and then adjourned sine die. However, one of the Pennsylvania delegations arrived a day late and did not participate in the proceedings. They did persuade the chairman to reopen the convention, or initiate a second one, and out of this second meeting came the National Grand Lodge or Compact, a Masonic anomaly.

The body erected itself into a "Supreme" Grand Lodge of North America; it declared itself to be the dominant authority among colored Masons; it assumed authority to grant warrants to state Grand Lodges, and imposed a tax upon them for its support; it gave a right of appeal from state Grand Lodges to itself; and it ordered all existing Grand Lodges to acknowledge its supremacy or else be considered outlaws.

THIS USURPATION of power was staggering to any one familiar with Masonic jurisprudence. A Grand Lodge is in itself a supreme authority amenable to no other dominion; it cannot subject itself to any other authority and still be a Masonic body; a "subordinate" Grand Lodge was a ridiculous paradox; the National Grand Lodge was an innovation not to be countenanced in the institution.

Naturally state Grand Lodges refused to yield to this usurping dictator and insisted on an independent existence. Nevertheless the National went into several states, set up new lodges, and organized them into rival bodies, thereby increasing the confusion instead of instilling harmony. But gradually the independent state bodies gained the ascendancy, and the power of the National waned until it had only a few adherents.

This handful of survivors met in Wilmington, Del., in 1877; declared its organization to be in error and irregular; asserted the independence and sovereignty of Grand Lodges; and then adjourned sine die. Its final printed proceedings attest this action.

BEFORE THE Wilmington meeting of 1877, eighteen of the existing twenty-one state Grand Lodges had withdrawn from the National Grand Lodge or Compact following the lead of Ohio in 1868. The other three withdrew at later periods—the last in 1888. In every instance the existing Compact Grand Lodges consolidated with the regular state Grand Lodges so the National was without a single constituent Grand Lodge. It is evident that the National Grand Lodge was dead and beyond the point of resuscitation.

The Compact was an error in organization, government and procedure but for thirty years it was a disrupting force in Prince Hall Masonry. After its death even it left a bitter and vexatious heritage, and the next article will show it became the fountain from which much spurious masonry flowed.

(Continued Next Week)

— BIGGEST and the BEST —



# PRINCE HALL FREE MASONS



By SENATOR HARRY E. DAVIS 33°

(This is the fifth in a series of articles on PRINCE HALL MASONRY. (All rights reserved))

CLEVELAND, Ohio—Prince Hall Grand Lodge continued to be the sole grand body until 1815. In 1810, 1811 and 1813 it warranted three additional lodges in Philadelphia under the names of Union, Laurel, and Phoenix. In 1815 a convention of the representatives of the Philadelphia lodges formed the First African Independent Grand Lodge of North America with Absalom Jones as Grand Master.

Additional warrants were issued by Prince Hall Grand Lodge to Boyer Lodge 1, New York in 1812; Celestial Lodge 2, Rising Sun Lodge 3, and Hiram Lodge 4, all of New York, in 1826. The New York lodges by convention established Boyer Grand Lodge in 1845.

But Pennsylvania became the most active of the Grand Lodges for a number of years, and to it is due the westward expansion of the craft.

\* \* \*

IN 1846, it warranted the first lodge west of the Alleghenies, St. Cyprians 13 of Pittsburgh, still in existence. It was through St. Cyprian's that Prince Hall Masonry was introduced into Ohio.

On March 5, 1847, a group of seven residents of Cincinnati journeyed to Pittsburgh.

Three of these were members of St. Cyprian's, and the four profanes received the degrees of Masonry.

On March 26, 1847, this group petitioned St. Cyprian's for its recommendation for a lodge in Cincinnati under the First African Independent Grand Lodge, and this was granted on April 11, 1847, and a dispensation for Corinthian Lodge 17 issued by Grand Lodge.

\* \* \*

ON JAN. 16, 1848, the lodge was constituted under a formal warrant. Through the same authority and in the same city The American Lodge 26 was warranted on March 18, 1848, this was followed by St.

John's Lodge 27 on May 20, 1848.

On May 3, 1849, representatives of the three Cincinnati lodges met in convention and formed a Grand Lodge, now known as the M. W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, F. and A. M.

Today, this Grand Lodge has sixty-nine constituent lodges on its roster with a membership of over 6,500 with real estate and personal assets approximately valued at \$200,000, excluding property and assets of its subordinates.

\* \* \*

The Masonic lineage of Ohio has been set forth herein so the reader can see the clear and unbroken line of descent from England.

This derivation from the fountain head of Masonry down to the present day constitutes regularity and legitimacy, Masonic terms denoting proper origin, derivation and continuity of existence, and without these no Masonic body can claim or obtain respectable sanction in the Masonic family.

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio is the only body of colored Masons in Ohio who can claim this unique and honorable distinction.

While it will be shown in later articles that there are several other bodies of alleged Masons trying to function in Ohio, and who make all manner of extravagant claims, yet it is evident that none of these bodies can stand the test of square plumb and level, when applied to origin, descent, legitimacy and regularity.

Prince Hall Masonry alone can meet these historical tests.

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The succeeding articles will treat of the rise and development of clandestine Masonry.

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## PRINCE HALL -- FOUNDER OF NEGRO MASONRY

by Paul L. Wood

Prince Hall, founder of Prince Hall Masonry, was a Methodist Minister, an abolitionist, a civic entrepreneur, and an individual of high integrity. He was what is now termed a radical. He advocated citizenship for Negroes, participation in government, and equality before the law. His zeal for the education of Negroes, and his petitions to the Massachusetts Legislature for that purpose, caused the opening of Boston schools to his people in 1796.

Prince Hall was born of free parentage in Barbados, British West Indies, September 12, 1748. At age 17 he migrated to Boston in pursuit of his trade of leather-making. With fourteen other free Negroes he was initiated into Masonry by an army lodge of a British regiment stationed in Boston March 6, 1784. This group, designated African Lodge No. 1, was authorized to meet as Masons, but could not confer degrees. Prince Hall's uncompromising attitude toward immorality is demonstrated by a phrase contained in the by-laws of African Lodge No. 1, which excludes "all stupid Atheists and irreligious Libertines".

A charter issued by the Grand Lodge of England constituted Prince Hall and his brethren into African Lodge No. 459, which was formally organized May 6, 1787, with Prince Hall as its Worshipful Master. This lodge was the nucleus of a group of Prince Hall lodges which, in 1791, founded the first Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

History indicates that Prince Hall in the role of Worshipful Master, and later Grand Master, instilled within his Masonic craft a sense of civic responsibility, a responsibility which, in the light of his activities, he deeply felt. He volunteered in the American Revolutionary Army in 1778.

A group of Negroes headed by a Prince Hall Mason, and consisting principally of Prince Hall Masons, answered a public call for assistance in caring for the stricken during the Yellow Fever epidemic at Philadelphia in 1793. John Greenleaf Whittier cited a Prince Hall Masonic group for organizing a corps of 2500 Negro volunteers which, during the War of 1812, "labored two days without intermission erecting suitable defenses for the city of Philadelphia. Their labors were so faithful and efficient that a vote of thanks was tendered them by the Vigilance Committee". The defense of Philadelphia was necessary in anticipation of a British attack following the capture of Washington, D. C.

"Although the fraternal fortunes of Prince Hall Masonry have varied, the core of its existence has never been entirely breached. The Prince Hall Grand Masters who will assemble in this area May 20 to 22, have inculcated the heritage and traditions of Prince Hall Masonry, and are dedicated to uphold and defend such heritage and traditions among Masons wherever assembled," said a spokesman for the Minnesota Prince Hall fraternity.



## FOREWORD

From time immemorial men, for various reasons, have sought the Alters of Freemasonry. To men of all races, creeds and colors the impressive lessons taught by the Square, the Compass, and the Holy Bible have been awe-inspiring and transcendent.

While the Square has influenced and regenerated the lives and activities of Freemasons, the Compass has so circumscribed them, that a union or bond has welded them into a Sodality in whose hands the Holy Scriptures have been placed as a guide by the benevolent Creator to point out the way that leads to happiness in this life and endless bliss in the realm of immortality.

These factors impelled Prince Hall, our Progenitor, to seek knowledge of the Mystic Art. Since he and his brethren labored in historic African Lodge Number 459 and passed on to that undiscovered land, countless numbers have joined in that grand concourse of men, who have obligated themselves to become Builders—who have dedicated their labors to fitting themselves as Living Stones to be placed in that Immortal Temple, not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.

Thus-Prince Hall Masonry came to the Great North Star State, the Land of Sky Blue Water--Minnesota.

March 6, 1775, Prince Hall and fourteen other free colored men were initiated as Masons in Boston by Army Lodge No. 441 of the Irish Registry. From this group African Lodge No. 1 was organized on July 3, 1776 by authority from the Army Lodge. March 2, 1784, Prince Hall petitioned the Grand Lodge of England for a Charter or Warrant.

It was granted them September 29, 1784 naming Hall as Worshipful Master, but this Warrant did not reach Boston until April 29, 1787. African Lodge No. 459 was constituted by this Warrant May 6, 1787. In 1792, the number was advanced to 370.

Prince Hall granted a Dispensation to African Lodge No. 459 of Philadelphia on March 29, 1797; this lodge was warranted June 24, 1797.

Hiram Lodge at Providence, Rhode Island was granted a Dispensation June 10, 1797 and warranted June 25, 1797. That African Lodge No. 459 had authority to set up these lodges should be unquestioned, as it was customary among Masons in the eighteenth century for lodges to set up other lodges themselves. Especially was this the case in colonial United States. Thus Prince Hall and his group were merely following an established precedent of their time.

These three lodges met in general assembly at Masonic Hall on Water Street in Boston on June 24, 1797 and organized African Grand Lodge. The name was changed to "Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Boston" July 24, 1808 and to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, December 11, 1847.

Between 1810 and 1814 African Grand Lodge established Union Lodge, Laurel Lodge and Phoenix Lodge in Philadelphia. December 27, 1815 these three lodges organized the "First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and among lodges warranted by this Grand Lodge were: Corinthian No. 17, True American No. 26 and St. John's No. 27; all of these lodges were warranted in 1848, in Ohio.

In the meantime friction had arisen among some of the Pennsylvania lodges, and the warrants of Union Lodge No. 1 and Harmony Lodge No. 5 were expelled for contumacy and rebellion by the First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. However, both of these lodges continued to work and through their subsequent functions and actions Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was organized July 17, 1837; after twenty years of activity these two Grand Lodges finally united and formed the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Thus, the Ohio lodges were in reality established by a Grand Lodge whose component parts had formerly functioned as separate Grand Bodies in Pennsylvania.

The three Ohio lodges named above subsequently organized the Grand Lodge for the State of Ohio in Cincinnati, May 3, 1849. The first Grand Master was J.W. Stringer. The Grand Lodge of Ohio established the following lodges in Missouri during 1853 and 1854: Prince Hall Lodge No. 10, ~~St. Louis~~ Lone Star Lodge No. 22 and McGee Alexander No. 8 in St. Louis. These three lodges withdrew from Ohio in 1865 and organized a Grand Lodge on July 6, 1865 known as the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

The Ohio Grand Lodge established the following lodges in Illinois: North Star No. 12, Chicago, G.T. Watson No. 16 Alton, Central No. 19, Springfield and Freemont No. 30, Shawneetown. On February 15, 1867, delegates from North Star, G.T. Watson and Central Lodges met in convention at Spring-

field, Illinois, February 15, 1867 to organize the Grand Lodge, which was chartered by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ohio. After the warrants and constitutions were returned to the Ohio Grand Lodge and other procedures were consummated requisite to establishing their Grand Lodge, the convention adjourned to meet May 6, 1867 at Springfield to hold the first annual communication. Brother B.R. Rogers was elected the first Grand Master.

About 1875, the Grand Lodge of Missouri established the following lodges in Iowa: York No. 8, North Star No. 31, Des Moines, Sumner No. 41, Burlington, Golden Star No. 80, Ottumwa, and John G. Jones No. 91, Council Bluffs. These lodges operated under Missouri's jurisdiction until 1881 when they formed "African Grand Lodge of Iowa".

"Hiram Grand Lodge of Iowa" was formed August 26, 1884 by the following lodges, who acknowledged allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Missouri: Clark No. 6, Davenport, North Star No. 31, Des Moines, Sims No. 50, Oskaloosa, Star No. 51, Keokuk, Reed No. 79, Red Oak, Mount Olive No. 86, Cedar Rapids, and Cedar Grove U.D., Cedar Grove.

Confusion, strife and bitter feelings reigned during the struggle for Masonic supremacy by the two rival Grand bodies, African, under Grand Master G. H. Clagget and Hiram, under Grand Master, Alexander Clark finally met in Des Moines in 1887 in convention and consolidated as the "Most Worshipful United Grand Lodge of Iowa, A. F. & A. M." Brother George H. Clagget was the first Grand Master. This consolidation therefore brought peace, harmony and love to the troubled Masonic waters of this great State.

The various lodges in Minnesota, prior to the formation of a Grand Lodge, were instituted by the Grand Lodges of Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa. Thus, the writer, has attempted to point out in the brief Masonic histories of our Mother Jurisdictions hereinbefore presented, that Masonry among men of color in Minnesota reveals an unquestionable, unbroken descent from African Lodge No. 459 of Boston, Massachusetts.

Efforts to organize a Masonic lodge among Negroes residing in St. Paul were evident as early as 1866 or, possibly even earlier. Brother S. Joseph Farr of North Star Lodge No. 12 of Chicago, which at that time was under the jurisdiction of Ohio, was the leading figure in this Masonic movement in Minnesota.

Brother Farr called the first meeting in Andrews Barber Shop on Third Street, between Cedar and Minnesota Streets. It is said that a dispensation was sought from the new Grand Lodge of Missouri, since this was the nearest Grand Body and the easiest to reach. At that time, the principal mode of travel was the steamboat. These boats plied between St. Paul and St. Louis, which were both river towns. The Grand Master of Missouri, Brother R. H. Catterton, of St. Louis granted the Minnesota group a dispensation. On Saturday August 4, 1866, Brother Moses Dickson, Grand Lecturer of Minnesota, Missouri came to St. Paul and established Pioneer Lodge U.D. The formalities of organization were carried out in an office building at Third and Market Streets. The officers and members were: S. Joseph Farr, W.M.; William A. Griffin, S.W.; Israel Crosby, J.W.; Edmund James, Treasurer; Thomas Jackson, Secretary; Robert Bruce, S.D.; David Edwards, J.D.; George B. Williams, S.S.; Frank Crawford, J.S.; Henry Hawkins, Tyler, and Lewis Pierson. The total membership was eleven.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri held a Special Communication on Decem-



ber 20 to 22; a Warrant was granted to Pioneer Lodge and 5 was the assigned number. The Committee on Dispensation in its report of December 21, recommended a Warrant, which was approved. Brother Moses Dickson was recognized as the proxy representative of Pioneer Lodge and Brother Farr was appointed the District Deputy Grand Master. The officers of the U.D. Lodge became the charter officers of Pioneer No. 5.

The Proceedings of the First Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Missouri in 1867 showed no report of officers and members of Pioneer Lodge No. 5 but this item appears in the printed record, "Received of Pioneer Lodge, June 8th, \$50 for Warrant". However, in 1868 and in the ensuing years, a complete list of officers and members of this lodge appears.

During 1868, serious differences between the members of Pioneer were revealed. The Worshipful Master and Senior Warden were open in their objection to one brother among the membership, who was a saloon-keeper. After a hectic meeting, the Master refused to open the lodge again. Therefore, on Monday March 1, 1869, charges were preferred against Brothers Farr and Bruce. The Grand Master of Missouri came to St. Paul and suspended these two brothers, who were Worshipful Master and Senior Warden respectively. They were suspended on Wednesday March 24; a special election was held on Tuesday March 30 and the following brothers were elected: George B. Williams, W.M.; Thomas A. Jackson, S.W.; W.A. Griffin, J.W.

Early in 1885 the Missouri charter was surrendered. On Friday May 29, 1885, Pioneer received a charter from African Grand Lodge of Iowa and was numbered 12. With this number, Pioneer continued its progressive existence until the formation of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

~~First~~ ~~Thereafter~~ rather the founding of Pioneer, the second lodge among Minnesota men of color was organized in Minneapolis, when on Tuesday, September 5, 1871 a dispensation was granted by Brother Alexander Clark, of Muscatine Iowa, Grand Master of Missouri and Jurisdiction. Brother Clark visited Pioneer lodge officially on Thursday September 7, 1871, and evidently it was during the period of this visit that he instituted the body known as J.K. Hilyard Lodge U.D. Its charter was granted Tuesday, July 2, 1872 and the number was 38. Officers were: B.C. Yancey, W.M.; D.H. Lewis, S.W.; R.S. Settles, J.W.

In 1882, the Missouri Warrant was surrendered and Brother John Page, Grand Master of African Grand Lodge of Iowa granted a dispensation on Saturday April 15, 1882 and the lodge was warranted number 6

Monday, August 16, 1886, African Grand Lodge of Iowa dispensated Anchor Lodge of Minneapolis, but it was not until the union of the two Iowa Grand Lodges that a Warrant was issued. Anchor was warranted Number 14 on Friday, July 15, 1887. Officers in 1886 and 1887 were: A.H. Myrick, W.M.; Charles F. Davis, S.W.; George W. Bolden, J.W.

May 12, 1901, Hilyard Lodge and Anchor Lodge consolidated, taking the name "Anchor-Hilyard". The Grand Master of the then organized Minnesota Grand Lodge was a member of this new lodge himself. The Warrant was issued on Tuesday, August 20, 1901

William Stevens Lodge was organized in St. Paul on Monday, December 11, 1882 under authority of a dispensation granted by Grand Master Robert O. Smith of Missouri. It was warranted Wednesday August 22, 1883. The of-



ficers, U.D., were: Alfred Robinson, W.M.; Charles Lazenberry, S.W.; John A. Jackson, J.W. It was assigned number 113.

In 1889 dissension arose and more than fifty members withdrew. These brothers then applied to Grand Master Thomas Smith of Illinois for a warrant. He issued a dispensation on June 12, 1889 and appointed William H. Stevens the District Deputy Grand Master. In 1891 the name of this lodge was changed to Minnesota Lodge No. 113. The officers were: Charles Morgan, W.M.; Emanuel Ford, S.W.; Wade Hampton J.W.

May 18, 1901, Minnesota Lodge No. 113, Missouri Jurisdiction, surrendered its warrant and became a part of Pioneer Lodge, as did William Stevens Lodge No. 113, Illinois Jurisdiction.

In 1890, William Stevens, D.D.G.M., under Grand Master Smith of Illinois, organized Doric Lodge No. 45 in Duluth, Minnesota with fourteen charter members. Dispensation was granted October 8 and on October 11, 1890 a warrant was granted. The three principal officers were: William Bryant, W.M.; E.T. Rhone, S.W.; John Simmons, J.W.

On Saturday August 12, 1893, Brother Harvey Houston, a Past Master of Prince Hall Lodge No. 1, St. Louis, acting as the representative of the Grand Master of Missouri, organized a lodge known as Perfect Ashlar in Pioneer Hall. He had conferred the Master Mason degree upon Bro. Charles Robinson and had healed Bro. Thomas Lyles of St. Cyprian Lodge of Pittsburg. The first officers were: George Duckett, W.M.; Thomas Lyles, S.W.; William B. Elliot, J.W. The Missouri Grand Lodge issued a warrant to this lodge at Kansas City on August 15, 1893 and it was numbered 148.

In accordance with a resolution adopted by each of the several chartered lodges in Minnesota, delegates from five lodges met in the lodge room of Pioneer Lodge No. 12, on Thursday August 16, 1894 to take such measures as were necessary to form a Grand Lodge among Negro Masons.

The convention was called to order by Bro. E.H. Hamilton of J.K. Hilyard Lodge No. 6 of Minneapolis, who presided; Thomas Lyles was appointed President and L.F. De Lyons, the Secretary. Credentials were presented by the following delegates, who were received as regular delegates to the Convention, having power from their several lodges to form a Grand Lodge of Free Masons within the State of Minnesota, if deemed expedient:

Pioneer Lodge No. 12, St. Paul-Joseph Adams, W.M.; James Woodfork, S.W.; L.F. De Lyons, proxy for the J.W.  
Minnesota Lodge No. 113, St. Paul-Daniel Roy, W.M.; G. Charleston, S.W.; George Tabor, J.W.  
Perfect Ashlar Lodge No. 148, St. Paul-George Duckett, W.M.; T.H. Lyles, S.W. O.D. Howard, J.W.  
W.H. Stevens Lodge No. 41 St. Paul-W.H. Stevens, W.M.; William Cook, S.W.; Wade Hampton, proxy for the J.W.  
J.K. Hilyard Lodge No. 6, Minneapolis-E.H. Hamilton, W.M.; Samuel Davidson, proxy for S.W.; J.L. Neal, J.W.  
Doric Lodge No. 45, Duluth-E.T. Rhone, W.M., who had the proxy of his lodge.

James Woodfork offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the Convention:

Resolved: That it is the deliberate opinion of theis convention that the permanent good of Masonry demands the formation of a Grand Lodge for

Minnesota.

Bro. James Woodfork of Pioneer Lodge No. 12, St. Paul then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we proceed to the preliminaries for the formation of a Grand Lodge, by an appointment of a committee to draft a Constitution and Regulations for the government thereof, and that said committee be requested to report to this convention at eight o'clock this evening.

The President of the convention then appointed James Woodfork, Pioneer Lodge No. 12, St. Paul, E. T. Rhone, Doric Lodge No. 45, Duluth, E. H. Hamilton, J. K. Hilyard Lodge No. 6, Minneapolis, George Duckett, Perfect Ashlar Lodge No. 148, St. Paul, Daniel Roy, Minnesota Lodge No. 112, St. Paul, Louis De Lyons, Pioneer Lodge No. 12, St. Paul and T. H. Lyles, Perfect Ashlar Lodge No. 148, St. Paul, such committee.

the 16th  
Thursday evening/at eight o'clock, in August of the year 1894, the delegates to the convention met pursuant to adjournment, when an Occasional Lodge was opened in the third degree, in due and ancient form,

P.M. T. H. Lyles acting as W.M.  
P.M. Joseph Adams acting as S.W.  
P.M. Daniel Roy acting as J.W.  
Bro. L. F. De Lyons acting as Secretary  
P.M. George W. Patterson acting as Treasurer  
Bro. George Duckett acting as S.D.  
Bro. E. T. Rhone acting as J.D.  
Bro. Andrew Jackson acting as Tyler

The roll was then called. Each delegate was present. The committee appointed to draft a Constitution and Regulations reported as follows:

To the Masonic Convention, now sitting in the City of St. Paul for the purpose of forming "The Grand Lodge for the State of Minnesota":

The undersigned committee, appointed on the forenoon of the 16th inst. to draft a Constitution for the government of said Grand Lodge, respectfully beg leave to submit the following report:

(Signed)

James Woodfork, St. Paul  
E. T. Rhone, Duluth  
E. H. Hamilton, Minneapolis  
Geo. Duckett, St. Paul  
Daniel Roy, St. Paul  
Louis F. De Lyons, St. Paul  
T. H. Lyles, St. Paul

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 16, 1894.

With the following preamble, "We, a committee of five in convention assembled, in order to form a perfect union, establish order, insure tranquillity, provide for and promote the general welfare of the craft, and secure to the fraternity within the State of Minnesota the blessings of masonic privileges, do herein compile for your inspection and approval the following Constitution and By-Laws", the convention adopted a Constitution of twelve articles and fifteen by-laws, which are set forth in their entirety in the Proceedings of the First Communication of the Convention and Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

This original Constitution and By-Laws has been the basis for the rules and regulations governing the Prince Hall Craft throughout its fifty eight years of existence in Minnesota, thus manifesting tribute



and esteem for the wisdom and foresight of the Founders of this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

The first Grand officers of the newly organized Grand Lodge were:

Grand Master	T.H. Lyles
Deputy Grand Master	John L. Neal
Grand Senior Warden	E.T. Rhone
Grand Junior Warden	Daniel Roy
Grand Treasurer	Joseph Adams
Grand Secretary	James Woodfork
Deputy Grand Secretary	W.A. Hilyard
D.D.G.M.	George Duckett
Grand Chaplain	W.H. Stevens
Grand Lecturer	G.W. Patterson
Grand Marshal	Wade Hampton
G.S.D.	A. Drake
G.J.D.	E.H. Hamilton
S.G.S.	I. Crawford
J.G.S.	H. Giles
G.S.B.	R.H. Manning
G.S.B.	Talbot Bush
G.P.	J.L. Phelps
G.T.	Andrew Jackson

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Minnesota was then opened and the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens were installed by Bro. George Patterson, a Past Master. After assuming their several stations and the Secretary of the Convention being superseded by the Grand Secretary, the Grand Master proclaimed the election of the Grand officers and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Minnesota was duly and legally organized.

Before adjournment the new Grand Lodge passed upon several important matters relative to the initiation of administration and functions of the body. Among these matters was a resolution that stated "That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge is hereby authorized and required to issue charters to the following named lodges: Pioneer, Minnesota, W.H. Stevens, Perfect Ashlar, Doric, and J.K. Hilyard, as soon as application is made."

Pursuant to this action, numbers were assigned as follows: Pioneer No. 1, Minnesota No. 2, William Stevens No. 3, Perfect Ashlar No. 4, Doric No. 5, J.K. Hilyard No. 6; August 4, 1897, Anchor Lodge was warranted and assigned number 7. As previously stated in 1901 Hilyard Lodge and Anchor Lodge merged and became Anchor-Hilyard Lodge; the warrant was issued August 10 and the number assigned was 2.

Saturday July 22, 1905 Grand Master William R. Morris issued a dispensation to Ionic Lodge U.D. in Duluth, Minnesota. The next day, Grand Master Morris assisted by Past Grand Masters T.H. Lyles and J.L. Neal and several members of Doric Lodge opened a lodge of Master Masons, which was called Ionic Lodge; he conferred the three degrees upon ten men, namely, C. Berner, C.C. Cox, J. Combs, G.B. Kelly, W.A. Porter, W. Robinson, H.H. Starks, H.J. Shelton, A.W. Tucker, and A. Whitfield. The Grand Master then merged Ionic Lodge with Doric Lodge, of which the ten newly made brothers became members.

Grand Master C. Robinson granted dispensation to form a lodge in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada on May 29, 1914. The lodge was established on Monday June 29, 1914 and was warranted August 18, 1914. The three degrees were conferred upon eight brothers at the time of establishment. Charter

Some statement should be made that after Grand Master Robinson had granted the dispensation, some opposition arose in Winnipeg, through the influence of the "John G. Jones" faction. Since the Grand Master was unable to travel to that city to investigate the matter, he commissioned Grand Secretary George Hoage Sr., accompanied by Bro. L.A. Melker, to go to Winnipeg and proceed with setting up the new lodge. All opposition was overcome and Regent was reported in the subsequent communication of the Grand Lodge to be in a "healthy condition with fifteen members and about thirty applications on file."

It is important to note that the new Grand Lodge was styled "Ancient Free and Accepted Masons". This name was carried until about 1906. In 1907, Grand Master Harry Howard appointed a committee to revise and rewrite the Grand Lodge Constitution and By-Laws. Their work was submitted and adopted by the Grand Lodge in the 1907 session. It was in this work that the name was changed, in that, the word "Ancient" was deleted. We then were termed "Free and Accepted Masons." Past Grand Master William R. Morris was Chairman of this Revision Committee.



1915

On October 16, acting upon the invitation of Union Hall Association, an organization formed by joint membership of Perfect Ashlar Lodge No. 4, F & A.M., Mars Lodge No. 2202, G.U.O. of O.F., Grand Master Hubert Shelton, Sr. arranged to lay the corner stone of their building, Union Hall, in St. Paul. The Craft formed in procession at Masonic Hall, marched to Union Hall, and because of extremely cold weather, laid the stone, consecrated it and then repaired to St. James Church, where the exercises were concluded in a solemn, and distinctive manner. P.G.M. Morris was the Grand Orator of the day.

The year 1915 was indicated by Grand Master Shelton as being the half century mark since the establishment of the first Masonic lodge among men of color in Minnesota, which was Pioneer No. 5. He gave credit to the Grand Secretary, Bro. George Hoage, for making the first efforts to prepare a written history of the Jurisdiction, through the researches he was making among Masonic documents and records.

The Grand Master stated that the Jurisdiction was showing progress in spirit, finance, work, and ownership of property. Two lodges, in fact, were then realty owners (i.e. No. 1 had Pioneer Hall and No. 4 was part owner of Union Hall). The Masonic Jurisdiction then consisted of a membership of two hundred fifty four brothers.

Affiliation with the International Conference of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries was begun in 1917. Brother George Hoage was then Grand Master. He stated that the Grand Masters' Council had for its prime purpose "the gathering and diffusion of Masonic knowledge." This afforded various jurisdictions an excellent opportunity to gather annually to pursue this objective and standardize our Masonic work and procedures.

Further, during 1917 and 1918, under Grand Master Hoage, several other innovations were established in our work. A "Wardens' Proficiency Test" was created for Wardens to test their fitness for advancing to the Worshipful Master's Chair; a new Ritual "Acimmos Ceiphr" was adopted for use in all lodges and to be bought through the office of Grand Secretary; a card index system, inculcating the Masonic History of every member of the Jurisdiction was likewise instituted. These progressive measures, no doubt, served to establish Prince Hall Masonry in Minnesota on a firm foundation and place us in the forefront among Grand Lodges throughout the United States.

During this period, in which World War I was being waged, its impact was felt by our lodges. Membership and finances were affected. The burden of war was felt by the Masonic family as well as by other institutions in our National Life. Yet our history reveals that, through sterling leadership and a constant, stable membership in both the Grand Lodge and the subordinate lodges, our Masonic institution pursued a steady, consistent course during this bitter, war-scarred epoch.

In 1922, Grand Master Edward Thomas recommended that the office of the Grand Lecturer become an elective office and that the historical data gathered by P.G.M. Sherwood and collaborated by P.G.M. Hoage Sr., be approved and printed in the next Proceedings. This was done and Prince Hall Masons had their first historical record. As to the office of Grand Lecturer, Bro. Sherwood became the first elected elective officer of the Minnesota Grand Lodge.



Charter

officers were: A.A. Cole, W.M., John Nealy, S.W., E.J. Henry, J.W. In the interim before the warrant was granted, six more brothers were made Masons in this lodge which was known as Regent, when warranted. It became number 5.

→ In 1924, Grand Master Walker Williams reported that there was a number of young men in St. Paul interested in becoming Masons. He further stated that the National Compact Masons were trying to recruit these men, and that, in the name of progress for the Jurisdiction, he desired to form them into a lodge. He reported that he had tried to get them into the two lodges in St. Paul, but without success. Therefore, exercising his prerogative to make Masons at sight, on Sunday May 25, 1924, the Grand Master, with the assistance of Pioneer and Anchor-Hilyard Lodges, made twenty three men Masons in Pioneer Hall. He organized them into a lodge known as Eureka, U.D. Charter officers were: Oliver Taylor, W.M., Wilbur Williams, S.W., James Lee, J.W. Members of all lodges were invited to participate in this establishment of one more lodge in the Minnesota Jurisdiction. On August 20, 1924, the Grand Lodge warranted this lodge as Eureka No. 6. The total membership of the Jurisdiction at this time was four hundred and thirty three members.

In 1924, Grand Master W.T. Francis received a request from eleven Master Masons in Minneapolis to form a new lodge in that city. On Tuesday Feb. 3, 1925, Bro. Francis visited Anchor-Hilyard Lodge and submitted the matter of the petition to its members. They approved and forthwith, the Grand Master granted a dispensation for the new lodge to be known as Palestine U.D. The first officers were: Chester Johnson, W.M., Clyde Allen, S.W., E.H. Comley, J.W. On August 19, 1925, the Grand Lodge chartered the new unit as Palestine No. 7, after the Grand Master had stated that "since its organization the affairs of this lodge have been so conducted as to merit favorable consideration at your hands and their request for a permanent charter should be granted."

On December 11, 1924, Grand Master Francis deputized P.G.M. Williams dedicate Eureka No. 6 and install its officers. Bro. Francis reported that this work was commendably done on Thursday December 18, 1924.

A Masonic periodical "Anchor Hilyard Trowel" appeared in Minneapolis in 1924. P.G.M. Edward R. Thomas was the publisher and editor. Grand Master Francis commented that "it was full of interesting Masonic matter and opens an avenue of helpful instruction and communication among the brethren of the fraternity."

Pursuant to an adopted recommendation of P.G.M. George Hoage in 1920, "that the Grand Lodge encourage and support the ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star in establishing a Grand Chapter O.E.S. in Minnesota", Grand Master Francis appointed a Commission of past grand masters which labored diligently and effectively. On Sunday May 31, 1925 in Union Hall, St. Paul, Minnesota, the Grand Chapter O.E.S. for Minnesota and Jurisdiction, was established. This adoptive body of the Grand Lodge was composed of four chapters of ladies bearing Masonic relationship to Prince Hall Masons. There were, of course, the contemporary objections and dissensions, incident to the creation of this Grand Chapter, which are related in the History of the Eastern Star in Minnesota. These factors served, however, to unify and inspire both Masonic bodies in Minnesota.

The Grand Lodge changed its name in 1927, upon recommendation of Grand Master John Dillingham. His resolution stated, "That, this Grand Lodge, so organized in 1894, shall be styled and known by the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota

and its Masonic Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliation."

In his report to the thirty-third annual communication of the Grand Lodge, Grand Master Dillingham stated that in March of 1927 he had received a petition from a Mr. Robert Tate of Fergus Falls, Minnesota to establish a Masonic lodge there. He had also received a petition from D.D.G.M. Oliver Taylor and six other St. Paul Masons to organize in this northern Minnesota town. On March 20, Brother Dillingham went to Fergus Falls, where he initiated, passed and raised eight brothers and appointed Brother Minor Anderson the Worshipful Master. The lodge was placed under dispensation as Jethro Lodge U.D. After meeting all prerequisites this lodge became number 8 on the Minnesota roster. Their warrant was granted August 22, 1928. their first Senior and Junior Wardens were Virgil Anderson and Frank Pennick respectively.

1929 found Jethro Lodge No. 8 not progressing well. Lack of potential material stunted its growth; some of the members had lost their employment and had had to depart for other places. In his annual address, Brother Dillingham stated that he and several other Grand officers had visited in Fergus Falls; they had been most hospitably received and entertained sumptuously. This responsibility, however, was upon the shoulders of a very small nucleus of brothers, who did have secure employment, and were trying to maintain the activity in Jethro. Grand Master Dillingham reported that an era of unemployment was general throughout the United States, and that Negroes were beginning to be sorely affected. the Great Depression had begun to cast its ominous shadow upon our fair land.

There were four hundred and nine members in the Minnesota Jurisdiction at this time.

In November 1929, Brother Dillingham stated that he had received a letter from a Brother T.H. Golden, Secretary of Pride of Alberta Lodge at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, which was then under jurisdiction of the state of Washington, but desired to transfer to the Minnesota Jurisdiction. After several such efforts on their part, Brother Dillingham expressed the feeling that some action should be taken. He stated that, "I remember having received a letter from them some two years ago, and at that time I wrote the Grand Master of the Washington Jurisdiction and asked him if there was any reason why this lodge should not leave his jurisdiction. Receiving no reply I did not answer the lodge, but in the letter referred to they seemed very anxious to transfer and were willing to pay all of their indebtedness to the Washington Jurisdiction and ask for relief. I know no reason why a lodge has not the same right in an unorganized territory to ask for and receive its release, the same as an individual Mason may ask for and receive without question his demit from a subordinate lodge. I informed the lodge that, if they would meet the requirements, I would grant them a charter."

The conditions having been met, on December 31, 1929, Brother Dillingham accepted the lodge and ordered a charter be delivered to them. He deputized Past Master M.G. Jackson to install the officers. Later, Brother Dillingham granted them dispensation to meet on the ground floor of a building which they and the Order of the Eastern Star had purchased and were remodeling into a Masonic Temple. Their financial situation seemed sound enough to warrant this, and it was the prayer of the Jurisdiction that Pride of Alberta would not become burdened with property.

Their first officers were: Dr. E.A. Cobbs, W.M.; Harry Cobbs, S.W.; H.M. Hamilton, J.W.



At the 37th annual communication of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, Bro. George Johnson, reported on the condition of the Craft in ominous terms. The depression was gaining a potent grasp upon the nation; unemployment was wide-spread. Many members were suspended for dues delinquency; there was a general decrease in lodge membership. The total membership of the Jurisdiction in 1931 was 370 members.

The situation was graver at the next annual communication. Several lodges were experiencing difficulty with property that had been purchased. Assessments upon the members by the subordinate bodies were rendering ~~handicapped~~ the constituents; loss of employment meant the inability to pay dues or assessments with consequent loss of funds, property, and members.

Brother Johnson appealed to the Grand Lodge to exercise every prerogative to hold the lodges intact, to grant charity to them, and to encourage the lodges, in turn, to be charitable to brothers, who were unable to meet their financial obligations. He stated, "The strong should help those who are weak."

Grand Master George Johnson recommended that Jethro No. 8 surrender its charter, as the colored citizens in Fergus Falls were very seriously affected, and Jethro's membership was declining rapidly. It was in August, 1934, however, before the warrant was finally taken up by Grand Master Chester Johnson. Jethro's membership then consisted of one.

Bro. Chester Johnson related that he visited Doric Lodge in Duluth August 4, 1934. There were three active members there at that time, who requested surrendering their charter and placing their membership in Twin City lodges. Upon Grand Master Chester Johnson's recommendation Doric's charter was recalled, "until such time as they might be in position to continue their labor, then the warrant can be returned to Doric without charges for a new one."

The Jurisdiction regretted these incidents. The loss of these lodges was keenly felt. The Jurisprudence Committee reported, "It grieves us to lose these members of this too small family, and we are deeply touched because of the homeless plight of those loyal, sincere brethren, who so nobly stood by until hope was no longer a virtue. We would have our organization opened as easily and as widely as possible to these unfortunate fraters." Subsequent legislation favorable to these expressions granted the proper fraternal charity and protection to the brothers of Fergus Falls and Duluth.

The influence of diverse federal aids and projects tended to stabilize the plight of our lodges by 1936. The Twin City bodies had maintained their existence, but the loss of property had been ~~seriously~~ <sup>considerably</sup> ~~contained~~ <sup>mitigated</sup>.

May 24, 1936 found sufficient brothers in Duluth to restore the charter to Doric No. 3. Great rejoicing and grateful prayers to the Deity accompanied this notable event.

Pride of Alberta No. 9 and Eureka No. 6, however, were beset with problems and internal difficulties. Our Grand Lodge records do not indicate when Pride of Alberta Lodge surrendered its charter but its last report to the Grand Lodge was made to the 44th annual communication in 1938. Eureka functioned ~~five years more~~.

A magnanimous action provided a very progressive, humane project in

1932 when Grand Master George Johnson proposed that the Grand Lodge assume some responsibilities outside its immediate membership. He stated, "that, 'such is not the spirit of fraternal organizations. While realizing our limited means, I feel that we should do something, be it ever so small in the interest of racial uplift.'" He successfully recommended that sufficient money be appropriated to send at least one Boy Scout and one Camp Fire Girl to the 1933 Summer Camps of these respective groups for at least one week.

The Summer Camp Committee, which had been subsequently appointed, reported to the 1933 session that the figure was too high to send only one Scout and one Camp Fire Girl. But that through information from Miss W. Gertrude Brown of Phyllis Wheatley House, the Grand Lodge could send several boys and girls to camp for two dollars per week per individual. Consequently three children from each of the Twin Cities were sent to camp. Prerequisite medical examinations were donated by the Wheatley staff in Minneapolis and by Dr. J.W. Crump in St. Paul.

Children selected were from families of limited means; all were girls, the Committee stated; they had been unable to find a boy nor could they locate children of Masonic parentage, and that special effort had been made to do this.

In 1934 six children were again sent to Phyllis Wheatley Camp. Three of these were of Masonic parentage.

Increase in growth and strength of the Grand Lodge, the obliteration of various unpleasant dissensions among prominent members of the Craft and the strengthening of the solvency of the Burial Relief Fund occupied the terms and bespoke the sagacity, the wisdom and the courage of the Grand Masters, who occupied the Grand East from 1935 to 1944.

Brother Chester Johnson served 1935 to 1937. Brother Samuel Ransom served in 1938 and 1939 followed by Brother George Hoage, Jr., in 1940 and 1941. Brother Hector Hunter came to the Grand East at the beginning of World War II, 1942. Brother George Hoage, Sr. was again elected to the Grand Master's office in 1943 and 1944.

In 1942, Perfect Ashlar Lodge No. 4 made a cash purchase and remodeled a building on St. Anthony Avenue in St. Paul to provide a home for the Masonic bodies.

Grand Master Hoage, Sr. and several Grand Officers visited Eureka Lodge No. 6 in 1943 to investigate their problems. It was found that their few faithful members could see no future for their lodge. It was decided that their warrant be surrendered. This was done. Grand Master's certificates were given to all brothers in good standing, all but one joined either No. 1 or No. 4. All of their assets were liquidated, indebtedness paid, and all funds remaining were placed in the general fund of the Grand Lodge. The Jurisdiction regretted losing another subordinate unit.

The Golden Anniversary of the Minnesota Grand Lodge-fifty years of existence as a Grand Body-was appropriately celebrated with valuable assistance from the Order of the Eastern Star in August 1944. A stimulating program was conducted at Pilgrim Baptist Church. In this program testimony was given to the sterling leadership, the quality of membership, and the constructive, progressive labor, as Builders of the Craft in the North Star State. A substantial niche had been carved for Minnesota



Masons among the Prince Hall Grand Lodges of the nation.

The administrations of Grand Master Lawrence Tarver in 1945 and 1946 found peace and harmony throughout the Jurisdiction and wholesome relations existing between Minnesota and the Masonic World. Among other things, Brother Tarver recommended and the Grand Lodge approved and made plans to create a Scholarship Fund from which scholarships would be given to worthy boys or girls. The Masonic Burial Service was standardized through recommendation of the Grand Lecturer, Brother John Hickman, Jr.

Grand Master Charles Doty has served the Jurisdiction diligently and well from 1947 to the present time. We, as contemporary members of the Craft have been a part of the growth and progress of the past decade. It remains for the Fates of History to inscribe our record on the Tablets of the Future.

To be noted, however, are many current contributions that Grand Master Doty has given the Jurisdiction. Our position in the Grand Masters' Conference has been evident through his annual attendance at their sessions.

Attempts have been made to stabilize and enlarge our Burial Relief Fund; our dues cards have been revised to provide a standard card commensurate with Prince Hall Jurisdictions. A Public Memorial Service preceding the sitting of the Grand Lodge, solemnly and spiritually tending respect to the memory of departed brethren. The observance of Prince Hall Day in September of each year is an eloquent gesture to utter hymns of praise and thanksgiving to the Deity in behalf of our Founder and Progenitor.

Early in 1950, Grand Master Doty had received letters and petitions from a group of irregular Masonic brethren living in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. They desired regular affiliation with the Minnesota Body. Investigation revealed that they had made no petitions to other Prince Hall Bodies. Their number was small, but their prayer was fervent and their hopes were courageous.

On Tuesday May 30, 1950, Brother Doty with seventeen Twin City Masons journeyed to Sioux Falls where he opened an Occasional Lodge and entered, passed, and raised seven brothers to the sublime degree of Master Masons.

Several Eastern Star sisters led by Past Grand Matron Edna Lindsey accompanied the brothers in the interest of establishing the Order of the Eastern Star among the female relatives of the Sioux Falls group. However, the Order has not yet been established there.

The Grand Master supervised the election of the charter officers who were: Maurice Cookley, W.M.; Dan Coates, S.W.; George Bush, J.W. The name Alpha Lodge U.D. was selected. After presenting ritualistic equipment and instructions, the Grand Master closed the lodge. An excellent banquet was served by the Sioux Falls ladies in St. John's Baptist Church.

Alpha Lodge, having functioned properly, was enumerated number 10 by the 1951 Grand Lodge. The representatives of Alpha Lodge electrified the session with the brilliant report of their activities and their prospects for the future presaged their value to our Jurisdiction.

To protect the incorporate name of the Grand Lodge from encroachment by bogus, spurious bodies of Masons, Brother Doty called the Grand Lodge in Special Session in St. Paul on Friday June 2, 1950. He explained the

reasons and proposed changing the name to the "Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota and its Jurisdiction. This was done without dissent, as the Craft realized the import and the necessity to protect our name and recognition as Prince Hall Masons. The amended name was incorporated in the office of the Secretary of State and registered in Ramsey County on Thursday, June 8, 1950. The Grand Lodge is styled the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota and its Jurisdiction of Canada and South Dakota.

The Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star invited the Grand Lodge to participate in its Silver Anniversary in May 1950. Brother Doty and the Craft responded gallantly and shared joy with the Sisters upon twenty five successful and eventful years of administration. Mrs. Edna Lindsey was Grand Matron and Brother John Lawrence was Grand Patron of the Order at this time. We, as Prince Hall Masons, are proud that our relations with this Sisterhood have been pleasant and cordial through the years.

As this History is chronicled, the writer inscribes this observation, that this Grand Lodge of Prince Hall Masons is nearing its sixtieth Anniversary. Our subordinate bodies are securely organized and are staffed with good officers. They are learning and practicing the Ritualistic matter according to Masonic tradition and the Landmarks.

Charity and protection are rendered unto the brethren, their families, their widows, and orphans. This is as it should be.

A new Constitution and By-Laws, of which this History is a part, is in preparation and will inculcate various Masonic observances, services, and ceremonies. This will simplify and make Masonic work available to every Master Mason of the Jurisdiction.

With several new avenues of employment having been opened to citizens of color, and others being challenged, a stable population is assured from which potential members for Prince Hall Lodges may be secured.

As we view our future, I feel that the challenging words of our first Grand Master Thomas Lyles, which were reiterated by Grand Master Hoage to the Fiftieth Annual Communication, point out how we must pursue our course, how we must labor and how we must dedicate ourselves as Builders of the Future. I quote: "Brethren, look well to the interest of our beloved institution. Let your walk be such as to call for the encomiums of our more advanced brethren of the good work, and show to the world that the 'great light of Masonry' shall be to us the guiding star to ultimate communion with our 'Supreme Grand Master'. Let our Masonic edifice have a firm foundation, that future generations shall see that we assume not that right that we are not entitled to, and to a participation in all the beauties thereof. Brethren, let charity be our guiding star; to an erring brother be mild, yet firm, showing that although temperance shall restrain, fortitude strengthen, prudence regulate, and justice guide, erring nature wants a Savior instead of a calumniator. Bear in mind, my brethren, the great principles of virtue and morality. Set a plumb-line, and it will never be passed by. And the ensigns of our Order, based upon the sacred principles of religion, shall be our hope to a blessed mortality."

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1929-30-31, 1932-33-34, 1944



On Saturday August 12, 1893, Brother Harvey Bouston, a Past Master of Prince Hall Lodge No. 1, St. Louis, MO. acting as representative of the Grand Master of MO organized a Lodge known as Perfect Ashlar, In Pioneer Hall., He had conferred the Master Mason Degree upon Brother Charles Robinson and had healed Brother Thomas Lyles of St. Cyprian Lodge of Pittsburg, The first Officers were George Duckett, W.M., Thomas Lyles, S.W., & William B. Elliot, J.W.. The Missouri Grand Lodge issued a warrant to this Lodge at Kansas City on August 15, 1893 and it was number 148.

In accordance with a resolution adopted by each of the several chartered Lodges in Minnesota, delegates from five lodges met in the lodge room of Pioneer Lodge No. 12, on Thursday August 16, 1894 to take such measures as were necessary to form a Grand Lodge among Negro Masons.

Pursuant to this action, numbers were assigned as follows, Pioneer No. 1, Minnesota No. 2, Wm. H. Stevens No. 3, Perfect Ashlar, No. 4, Doric, No. 5, J. K. Hilyard, No. 6. August 4, 1897 Anchor Lodge merged and became Anchor-Hilyard Lodge, The warrant was issued August 20, and the number assigned was 2. Grand Master Walker Williams, exercising his prerogative to make Masons at sight, On Sunday May 25, 1924, with the assistance of Pioneer and Anchor-Hilyard Lodges, made twenty three men Masons in Pioneer Hall. He organized them into a lodge known as Eureka, U.D. On August 20, 1924, the Grand Lodge warranted this lodge as Eureka, No. 6.

The first Grand Master of the newly organized Grand Lodge was Thomas H. Lyles, a member of Perfect Ashlar Lodge, in which we can claim many more. As we approach our ninetieth anniversary we can boast of our many accomplishments along with failures. Today we are honoring a few of many of our devoted brothers who have given of themselves unrelentingly for the betterment of Perfect Ashlar Lodge No. 4.

Information was taken from the REVISED AND ADOPTED EDITION OF THE M.W.P.H. GRAND LODGE F. & A.M. of the State of MN. & Jurisdiction; Sept. 1951 edition.



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1921.

## NEGRO LODGES:

The subject of Lodges of colored persons, commonly called "Negro Lodges" was for many years a source of agitation in the United States, not on account, generally, of the color of the members of these lodges, but on account of the supposed illegality of their Charters. The history of their organization was thoroughly investigated, many years ago, by Bro. Philip S. Tucker, of Vermont, and Charles W. Moore, of Massachusetts, and the result is here given, with the addition of certain facts derived from a statement made by the officers of the Lodge in 1827.

Prince Hall and thirteen other negroes were made Masons in a military Lodge in the British Army then at Boston, on March 6, 1775. When the Army was withdrawn these negroes applied to the Grand Lodge of England for a Charter, and on the 30th of September, 1784, a Charter for a Master's Lodge was granted, although not received until 1787, to Prince Hall and others, all colored men, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England. The Lodge bore the name of "African Lodge, No. 429," and was situated in the city of Boston. This Lodge ceased its connection with the Grand Lodge of England for many years, and about the beginning of the present century its registration was stricken from the rolls of the United Grand Lodge of England when new lists were made as were many other Lodges in distant parts of the world, its legal existence, in the meantime, never having been recognized by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, to which body it had always refused to acknowledge allegiance.

After the death of Hall and his colleagues, to whom the Charter had been granted, the Lodge, for want of some one to conduct its affairs, fell into abeyance, or, to use the technical phrase, became dormant. After some years it was revived, but by whom, or under what process of Masonic law, is not stated, and information of the revival given to the Grand Lodge of England, but no reply or recognition was received from that body. After some hesitation as to what would be the proper course to pursue, they came to the conclusion, as they have themselves stated, "that, with what knowledge they possessed of Masonry, and as people of color by themselves, they were and ought by rights to be, free and independent of other Lodges." Accordingly, on the 18th of June, 1827, they issued a protocol, in which they said: "We publicly declare ourselves free and independent of any Lodge from this day, and we will not be tributary or governed by any Lodge but that of our own." They soon after assumed the name of the "Prince Hall Grand Lodge," and issued Charters for the constitution of subordinates, and from it have proceeded all the Lodges of colored persons now existing in the United States.

Admitting even the legality of the English Charter of 1784, it will be seen that there was already a Masonic authority in Massachusetts upon whose prerogatives of jurisdiction such Charter was an invasion--it cannot be denied that the unrecognized self-revival of 1827, and the subsequent assumption of Grand Lodge powers, were illegal, and rendered both the Prince Hall Grand Lodge and all the Lodges which emanated from it clandestine. And this has been the unanimous opinion of all Masonic jurists in America.

(over)

However, Masonry has spread among the negroes until now they have Lodges and Grand Lodges in most of the States and in Canada and Liberia. As they wear emblems of all the other bodies it is presumable they have them as well.



Addendum to the Historical Sketch of Prince Hall Masonry in Minnesota. By John R. Lawrence P.G.M. 33<sup>o</sup> R. W. Grand Lecturer.

Previous history was compiled by Past Grand Masters Jose H. Sherwood and George L. Hoage, Sr.

March 6, 1775, Prince Hall and fourteen other free colored men were initiated as Masons in Boston by Army Lodge No. 441 of the Irish Registry. From this group African Lodge No. 1 was organized on July 3, 1776 by authority from the Army Lodge. March 2, 1784, Prince Hall petitioned the Grand Lodge of England for a Charter or Warrant.

It was granted them September 29, 1784 naming Hall as Worshipful Master, but this Warrant did not reach Boston until April 29, 1787. African Lodge No. 459 was constituted by this Warrant May 6, 1787. In 1792 the number was advanced to 370.

Prince Hall granted a Dispensation to African Lodge No. 459 of Philadelphia on March 29, 1797; this lodge was warranted June 24, 1797.

Hiram Lodge at Providence, Rhode Island was granted a dispensation June 10, 1797 and warranted June 25, 1797.

These three lodges met in general assembly at Masonic Hall on Water Street in Boston on June 24, 1797 and organized African Grand Lodge. The name was changed to "Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Boston: July 24, 1808 and to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, December 11, 1847

Between 1810 and 1814 African Grand Lodge established Union Lodge, Laurel Lodge and Phoenix Lodge in Philadelphia. December 27, 1815 these three lodges organized the "First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania" and among lodges warranted by this Grand Lodge were: Corinthian No. 17, True American No. 26 and St. John's No. 27; all of these lodges were warranted in 1848, in Ohio.

The three Ohio lodges organized the Grand Lodge for the State of Ohio in Cincinnati, May 3, 1849. The first Grand Master was J. W. Stringer. The Grand Lodge Ohio established the following lodges in Missouri during 1853 and 1854: Prince Hall Lodge No. 10, Lone Star Lodge No. 22 and McGee Alexander No. 8 in St. Louis. These three lodges withdrew from Ohio in 1865 and organized a Grand Lodge on July 6, 1865 Known as the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

The Ohio Grand Lodge established the following lodges in Illinois: North Star No. 12, Chicago, G. T. Watson No. 16 Alton, Central No. 19, Springfield and Freemont No. 30, Shawneetown. On February 15, 1867, Delegates from North Star, G. T. Watson and Central Lodges met in Convention at Springfield, Illinois to organize the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois. After the warrants and constitutions were returned to the Ohio Grand Lodge and other procedures were consummated requisite to establishing their Grand Lodge, The Convention adjourned to meet May 6, 1867 at Springfield to hold the first annual communication. Brother B. R. Rogers was elected the first Grand Master.

About 1875, the Grand Lodge of Missouri established the following lodges in Iowa: York No. 8, North Star No. 31, Des Moines, Summer No. 41, Burlington, Golden Star No. 80, Ottumwa and John G. Jones No. 91, Council Bluffs. These lodges operated under Missouri's jurisdiction until 1881 when they formed "African Grand Lodge of Iowa."

"Hiram Grand Lodge of Iowa" was formed August 26, 1884 by the following lodges, who acknowledged allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Missouri: Clark No. 6, Davenport, North Star No. 31, Des Moines, Sims No. 50, Oskaloosa, Star No. 51, Keokuk, Reed No. 79, Red Oak, Mount Olive No. 86, Cedar Rapids and Cedar Grove U. D., Cedar Grove.

The two rival Grand bodies, African, under Grand Master G. H. Clagget and Hiram, under Grand Master, Alexander Clark finally met in Des Moines in 1887 in convention and consolidated as the "Most Worshipful United Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M." Brother George H. Clagget was the first Grand Master. This consolidation therefore brought peace, harmony and love to the troubled Masonic waters of this great State, Iowa.

The various lodges in Minnesota, prior to the formation of a Grand Lodge, were instituted by Grand Lodges of Missouri, Illinois and Iowa. Masonry among men of color in Minnesota reveals an unquestionable, unbroken descent from African Lodge No. 459 of Boston, Massachusetts.

Efforts to organize a Masonic lodge among Negroes residing in St. Paul were evident as early as 1866 or, possibly even earlier. Brother S. Joseph Farr of North Star Lodge No. 12 of Chicago, which at that time was under the jurisdiction of Ohio, was the leading figure in this Masonic movement in Minnesota.

Brother Farr called the first meeting in Andrews Barber Shop on Third Street, Between Cedar and Minnesota Streets. It is said that a dispensation was sought from the new grand lodge of Missouri. The Grand Master of Missouri, Brother H. McGee Alexander, of St. Louis granted the Minnesota group a dispensation. On Saturday August 4, 1866, Brother Moses Dickson, Grand Lecturer of Hannibal, Missouri came to St. Paul and established Pioneer Lodge U. D. The formalities of organization were carried out in office building at Third and Market Streets. The officers and members were: S. Joseph Farr, W.M.; William A. Griffin, S.W.; Israel Grosby, J.W.; Edmund James, Treasurer; Thomas Jackson, Secretary; Robert Bruce, S.D.; David Edwards, J.D.; George B. Williams, S.S.; Frank Crawford, J.S.; Henry Hawkins, Tyler and Lewis Pierson.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri held a Special Communication December 20 to 22; A warrant was granted to Pioneer Lodge and 5 was the assigned number. The Committee on Dispensation in its report of December 21, recommended a warrant, which was approved. Brother Moses Dickson was recognized as the proxy representative of Pioneer Lodge and Brother Farr was appointed the District Deputy Grand Master. The officers of the U.D. Lodge became the charter officers of Pioneer No. 5.

In the Proceedings of the First Annual Communication of the Grand

Lodge of Missouri in 1867 this item appears in the printed record, "Received of Pioneer Lodge , June 8th, \$50.00 for Warrant." In 1868 and in the ensuing years, a complete list of officers and members of this lodge appears.

Early in 1885 the Missouri charter was surrendered. On Friday May 29, 1885, Pioneer received a charter from African Grand Lodge of Iowa and was numbered 12. With this number, Pioneer continued its progressive existence until the formation of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

The second lodge among Minnesota men of color was organized Minneapolis, when on Tuesday, September 5, 1871 a dispensation was granted by Alexander Clark, of Muscatine Iowa, Grand Master of Missouri and Jurisdiction. Brother Clark visited Pioneer lodge officially on Thursday, September 7, 1871 and evidently it was during the period of this visit that he instituted the body known as J. K. Hilyard Lodge U. D. Its charter was granted Tuesday, July 2, 1872 and the number was 38. Officers were: B. C. Yancey, W.M.; D.H. Lewis, S.W.; R.S. Settles, J.W.

In 1882, the Missouri Warrent was surrendered and Brother John Page, Grand Master of African Grand Lodge of Iowa granted a dispensation on Saturday April 15, 1882 and the lodge was warranted number 6.

Monday, August 16, 1886, African Grand Lodge of Iowa dispensed Anchor Lodge of Minneapolis. Anchor Lodge was warranted Number 14 On Friday, July 15, 1887. Officers in 1886 and 1887 were: A.H. Myrick, W.M.; Charles F. Davis, S.W.; George W. Bolden, J.W.

May 12, 1901, Hilyard Lodge and Anchor Lodge consolidated, taking the name "Anchor-Hilyard." The Grand Master of the then organized Minnesota Grand Lodge was a member of this new lodge himself. The warrant was issued on Tuesday, August 20, 1901.

William Stevens Lodge was organized in St. Paul on Monday, December 11, 1882 under authority of a dispensation granted by Grand Master Robert O. Smith of Missouri. It was warranted Wednesday August 22, 1883. The officers, U.D. were: Alfred Robinson, W.M.; Charles Lazenberry, S.W.; John a. Jackson, J.W. It was assigned number 113.

In 1889 dissension arose and more that fifty members withdrew. These brothers then applied to Grand Master Thomas Smith of Illinois for a warrant. He issued a dispensation on June 12, 1889 and appointed William H. Stevens the District Deputy Grand Master. In 1891 the name to this lodge was changed to Minnesota Lodge No. 113. The officers were: Charles Morgan, W.M.; Emmanuel Ford, S.W.; Wade Hampton , J.W.

May 18, 1901, Minnesota Lodge No. 113, Missouri Jurisdiction, surrendered its warrent and became a part of Pioneer Lodge, as did William Stevens Lodge No. 113, Illinois Jurisdiction.

In 1890, William Stevens, D.D.G.M., under Grand Master Smith of Illinois, organized Doric Lodge No. 45 in Duluth, Minnesota with fourteen charter members. Dispensation was granted October 8th and on

October 11, 1890 a Warrant was granted. The three principal officers



were: William Bryant, W.M.; E.T. Rhone, S.W.; John Simmons, J.W.

On Saturday, August 12, 1893, Brother Harvey Houston, a Past Master of Prince Hall Lodge No. 1, St. Louis, acting as the representative of the Grand Master of Missouri, organized a lodge known as Perfect Ashlar In Pioneer Hall. He had conferred the Master Mason degree upon Brother Charles Robinson and had healed Brother Thomas H. Lyles of St. Cyprian Lodge of Pittsburgh. The first officers were: George Duckett, W.M.; Thomas Lyles, S.W.; William B. Elliot, J.W. The Missouri Grand Lodge issued a warrant to this lodge at Kansas City on August 15, 1883 and it was numbered 148.

In accordance with a resolution adopted by each of the several chartered lodges in Minnesota, delegates from five lodges met in the lodge room of Pioneer Lodge No. 12, on Thursday August 16, 1894 to take such measures as were necessary to form a Grand Lodge among Negro Masons.

The convention was called to order by Bro. E.H. Hamilton of J.K. Hilyard Lodge No. 6 of Minneapolis, who presided; Thomas Lyles was appointed President and L.F. De Lyons, the Secretary. Credentials were presented by the delegates, who were received as regular delegates to the Convention, having power from their several lodges to form a Grand Lodge of Free Masons within the State of Minnesota, if deemed expedient. Bro. James Woodfork of Pioneer Lodge No. 12, St. Paul then, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved: That it is the deliberate opinion of this convention that the permanent good of Masonry demands the formation of a Grand Lodge for Minnesota.

Resolved, that we proceed to the preliminaries for the formation of a Grand Lodge, by an appointment of a committee to draft a Constitution and Regulations for the government thereof, and that said committee be requested to report to this convention at eight o'clock this evening. The President of the convention then appointed such committee.

Thursday evening the 16th at eight o'clock, in August of the year 1894, the delegates to the convention met pursuant to adjournment, when an Occasional Lodge was opened in the third degree, in due and ancient form. P.M. T.H. Lyles acting as W.M. The committee appointed to draft a Constitution and Regulations reported as follows:

To the Masonic Convention, now sitting in the City of St. Paul for the purpose of forming "The Grand Lodge for the State of Minnesota;" The committee, appointed on the forenoon of the 16th instant beg leave to submit the following report: with the following preamble, "We, a committee of five in convention assembled, in order to form a perfect union, establish order, insure tranquillity, provide for and promote the general welfare of the craft, and secure to the fraternity within the State of Minnesota the blessings of masonic privileges, do herein compile for your inspection and approval the following Constitution and By-Laws." The convention adopted a Constitution of twelve articles and fifteen by-laws, which are set forth in their entirety in the Proceedings of the First Communication of the Convention and Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

The First Grand Master of the newly organized Grand Lodge was T. H. Lyles. The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Minnesota was then Opened and the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens were installed by Bro. George Patterson, Past Master. After assuming their several Stations and the Secretary of the Convention being superseded by the Grand Secretary, the Grand Master proclaimed the election of the Grand officers and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Minnesota was duly and legally organized.

Before closing, the Grand Lodge, passed upon several important matters relative to the initiation of administration and functions of the body. Among these matters was a resolution that stated "That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge is hereby authorized and required to issue charters to the following named lodges: Pioneer, Minnesota, Wm. H. Stevens, Perfect Ashlar, Doric and J. K. Hilyard, as soon as application is made."

Pursuant to this action, numbers were assigned as follows: Pioneer No. 1, Minnesota No. 2, William Stevens No. 3, Perfect ashlar No. 4, Doric No. 5, J.K. Hilyard No. 6; August 4, 1897, Anchor Lodge was warranted and assigned No. 7. As previously stated in 1901 Hilyard Lodge and Anchor Lodge merged and became Anchor-Hilyard Lodge; the warrant was issued August 20 and the number assigned was 2.

It is important to note that the new Grand Lodge was styled "Ancient Free and Accepted Masons." This name was carried until about 1906. In 1907, Grand Master Harry Howard appointed a committee to revise and rewrite the Grand Lodge Constitution and By-Laws. Their work was submitted and adopted by the Grand Lodge in the 1907 session. It was in this work that the name was changed, in that, the word "Ancient" was deleted. We then were termed "Free and Accepted Masons." Past Grand Master William R. Morris was Chairman of this Revision Committee.

Saturday, July 22, 1905 Grand Master William R. Morris issued a Dispensation to Ionic Lodge U.D. in Duluth, Minnesota. The next day, Grand Master Morris assisted by Past Grand Master T.H. Lyles and J. L. Neal and several Members of Doric Lodge opened a lodge of Master Masons, which was called Ionic Lodge; he conferred the three degrees upon ten men. The Grand Master then merged Ionic Lodge with Doric Lodge, of which the ten newly made brothers became members.

Grand Master C. Robertson granted dispensation to form a lodge in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada on May 29, 1914. The lodge was established on Monday June 29, 1914 and was warranted August 18, 1914. The three degrees were conferred upon eight brothers at the time of establishment. Regent Lodge was reported in the subsequent communication of the Grand Lodge to be in a "healthy condition with fifteen members and about thirty applications on file." Charter officers were: A.A. Cole, W.M., John Nealy, S.W., E.J. Henry, J.W. This lodge which was known as Regent, when warranted became number 5.

In 1924, Grand Master Walker Williams reported that there was a number of young men in St. Paul interested in becoming Masons. Members of all lodges were invited to participate in the establishment of one more lodge in the Minnesota Jurisdiction. Exercising his prerogative to make Masons at sight, on Sunday May 25,



1924, the Grand Master, with the assistance of Pioneer and Anchor-Hilyard Lodges, made twenty three men Masons in Pioneer Hall. He organized them into a lodge known as Eureka, U.D. On August 20, 1924, the Grand Lodge warranted this lodge as Eureka No. 6. On December 11, 1924, Grand Master Francis deputized P.G.M. Williams to dedicate Eureka No. 6 and install its officers. Bro. Francis reported that this work was commendably done on Thursday December 18, 1924.

In 1924, Grand Master W.T. Francis received a request from eleven Master Masons in Minneapolis to form a new lodge in the city. On Tuesday, Feb. 3, 1925, Bro. Francis visited Anchor-Hilyard Lodge and submitted the matter of the petition to its members. They approved and forthwith, the Grand Master granted a dispensation for the new lodge to known as Palestine U.D. The first officers were: Chester Johnson, W.M., Clyde Allen, S.W., E.H. Comley, J.W. On August 19, 1925, the Grand Lodge chartered the new unit as Palestine No. 7, after the Grand Master had stated that "since its organization the affairs of this lodge have been so conducted as to merit favorable consideration at yours and their request for a permanent charter should be granted."

Pursuant to an adopted recommendation of P.G.M. George Hoage in 1920, "that the Grand Lodge encourage and support the ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star in establishing a Grand Chapter O.E.S. in Minnesota," Grand Master Francis appointed a Commission of past grand masters which labored diligently and effectively. On Sunday May 31, 1925 in Union Hall, St. Paul, Minnesota, the Grand Chapter O.E.S. for Minnesota and Jurisdiction, was established. This adoptive body of the Grand Lodge was composed of four chapters of ladies bearing Masonic relationship, to Prince Hall Masons. (see History of the Eastern Star in Minnesota)

The Grand Lodge changed its name in 1927, upon recommendation of Grand Master John Dillingham. His resolution stated, "That, this Grand Lodge, So organized in 1894, shall be styled and known by the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota and its Masonic Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliation."

In his report to the thirty-third annual communication of the Grand Lodge, Grand Master Dillingham stated that in March of 1927 he had received a petition from a Mr. Robert Tate of Fergus Falls, Minnesota to establish a Masonic lodge there. He had also received a petition from D.D.G.M. Oliver Taylor and six other St. Paul Masons to organize in the northern Minnesota town. On March 20, Brother Dillingham went to Fergus Falls, where he initiated, passed and raised eight brothers and elected Brother Minor Anderson the Worshipful Master. The lodge was placed under dispensation as Jethro Lodge U.D. After meeting all prerequisites this lodge became number 8 on the Minnesota roster. Their warrant was granted August 22, 1928, their first Senior and Junior Wardens were Vergil Anderson and Frank Pennick respectively.

1929 found Jethro Lodge No. 8 not progressing well. Lack of potential material stunted its growth. Some of the members had lost

their employment and had to depart for other places. The great depression had begun to cast its ominous shadow upon our fair land.

In November 1929, Brother Dillingham stated that he had received a letter from a Brother T.H. Golden, Secretary of Pride of Alberta Lodge at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. This lodge was then under the jurisdiction of the state of Washington, but desired to transfer to the Minnesota Jurisdiction. After several such efforts on their part, Brother Dillingham expressed the feeling that some action should be taken. He stated that, "I remember having received from them some two years ago, and at that time I wrote the Grand Master of the Washington Jurisdiction and asked him if there was any reason why this lodge should not leave his jurisdiction. He received no reply. In the letter referred to, they seemed very anxious to transfer and were willing to pay all of their indebtedness to the Washington Jurisdiction and ask for relief. I informed the lodge that, if they would meet the requirements, I would grant them a charter."

The conditions having been met, on December 31, 1929, Brother Dillingham accepted the lodge and ordered a charter be delivered to them. He deputized Past Master M.G. Jackson to install the officers. Their first officers were: Dr. E.A. Cobbs, W.M.; Harry Cobbs, S.W.; H.M. Hamilton, J.W.

At the 37th annual communication of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, Bro. George Johnson, reported on the condition of the craft in ominous terms. The depression was gaining a potent grasp upon the nation.

The situation was more grave at the next annual communication. Several lodges were experiencing difficulty with property that had been purchased.

Brother Johnson appealed to the Grand Lodge to exercise every prerogative to hold the lodges intact. He stated, "the strong should help those who are weak."

Grand Master George Johnson recommended that Jethro No. 8 surrender its charter, as membership had declined to the point the Lodge was no longer able to function. It was in August, 1934, however before the warrant was finally taken up by Grand Master Chester Johnson.

Bro. Chester Johnson related that he visited Doric Lodge in Duluth August 4, 1934. There were three active members there at that time, who requested surrendering their charter and placing their membership in Twin City lodges. Upon Grand Master Chester Johnson's recommendation Doric's charter was recalled, "until such time as they might be in position to continue their labor, then the warrant can be returned to Doric without charges for a new one." Subsequent legislation granted the proper fraternal charity and protection to the brothers of Fergus Falls and Duluth. The influence of diverse federal aids and projects tended to stabilize the plight of our lodges by 1936. The Twin City bodies had maintained their existence, but the loss of property had been severe.



May 24, 1936 found sufficient brothers in Duluth to restore the charter to Doric No. 3.

Pride of Alberta No. 9 and Eureka No. 6, however, were beset with problems and internal difficulties. Pride of Alberta Lodge surrendered its charter and its last report to the Grand Lodge was made to the 44th annual communication in 1938. Eureka functioned five years more.

Brother Cester Johnson served 1932 to 1938. Brother Samuel Ransom served in 1938 and 1939 followed by Brother George Hoage, Jr. in 1940 and 1941. Brother Hector Hunter came to the Grand East at the beginning of World War II, 1942. Brother George Hoage, Sr. was again elected to the Grand Master's office in 1943 and 1944.

Grand Master Hoage, Sr. and several Grand Officers visited Eureka Lodge No. 6 in 1943 to investigate their problems. It was found that their few faithful members could see no future for their lodge. It was decided that their warrant be surrendered. This was done. Grand Master's certificates were given to all brothers in good standing, all but one joined either No.1 or No.4. All of their assets were liquidated, indebtedness paid, and all funds remaining were placed in the general fund of the Grand Lodge. The Jurisdiction regretted losing another subordinate unit.

The Golden Anniversary of the Minnesota Grand Lodge--fifty years of existence as a Grand Body--was appropriately celebrated with valuable assistance from the Order of the Eastern Star in August 1944. A stimulating program was conducted at Pilgrim Baptist Church in St. Paul. In this program testimony was given to the sterling leadership, the quality of membership and the constructive, progressive labor, as Builders of the Craft in the North Star State. A substantial niche had be carved for Minnesota Masons among the Prince Hall Grand Lodges of the nation.

The administrations of Grand Master Lawrence Tarver in 1945 and 1946 found peace and harmony throughout the Jurisdiction and wholesome relations existing between Minnesota and the Masonic World. Brother Tarver recommended and the Grand Lodge approved and made plans to create a Scholarship Fund from which scholarships would be given to worthy boys and girls. The Masonic Burial Service was Standardized through recommendation of the Grand Lecturer, Brother John Hickman, Jr.

Grand Master Charles D. Doty served the Jurisdiction diligently and well from 1947 to 1953. It remains for the Fates of History to inscribe the record on the Tablets of the Future.

To be noted, however, are many current contributions that Grand Master Doty has given the Jurisdiction. Our position in the Grand Master's Conference has been evident through his annual attendance at their sessions. Attempts have been made to stabilize and enlarge our Burial Relief Fund; our dues cards have been revised to provide a standard card commensurate with other Prince Hall Jurisdictions. A Public Memorial Service preceding the sitting of the Grand Lodge, solemnly and spiritually tenders respect to the memory of departed brethren.

The observance of Prince Hall Day in September of each year is an eloquent gesture to utter hymns of praise and thanksgiving to the Deity in behalf of our Founder and Progenitor.

Early in 1950, Grand Master Doty had received letters and petitions from a group of irregular Masonic brethren living in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. They desired regular affiliation with the Minnesota Body. Investigation revealed that they had made no petitions to other Prince Hall Bodies. Their number was small, but their prayer was fervent and their hopes were courageous. On Tuesday May 30, 1950, Brother Doty with seventeen Twin City Masons journeyed to Sioux falls where he opened an Occasional Lodge and entered, passed and raised seven brothers to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Grand Master Doty supervised the election of the charter officers who were: Maurice Coakley, W.M.; Dan Coates, S.W.; George Bush, J.W..

The name Alpha Lodge U.D. was selected. After presenting ritualistic equipment and instructions, the Grand Master closed the lodge. An excellent banquet was served by the Sioux Falls ladies in St. John's Baptist Church. Alpha Lodge, having functioned properly, was enumerated number 10 by the 1951 Grand Lodge.

To protect the incorporate name of the Grand Lodge from encroachment by bogus, spurious bodies of Masons, Brother Doty called the Grand Lodge in Special Session in St. Paul on Friday June 2, 1950.

He explained the reasons and proposed changing the name to the "Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota and its Jurisdiction." This was done without dissent, as the Craft realized the import and the necessity to protect our name and recognition as Prince Hall Masons. The amended name was incorporated in the office of the Secretary of State and registered in Ramsey County on Thursday, June 8, 1950. The grand Lodge is now styled the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota and its Jurisdiction.

The Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star invited the Grand Lodge to participate in its Silver Anniversary in May 1950.

Brother Doty and the Craft responded gallantly and shared joy with the Sisters upon twenty five successful and eventful years of administration. Mrs. Edna Lindsey was Grand Matron and Brother John R. Lawrence was Grand Patron of the Order at that time. We, as Prince Hall Masons, are proud that our relations with this Sisterhood have been pleasant and cordial through the years.

1994

#### ADDENDUM

Someone at a later date will bring our history up to date.

The following were Grand Masters from 1953 to 1994.

1953 - 1960 John R. Lawrence	1971 - 1972 Martin O. Weddington
1960 - 1963 John L. McHie, Jr.	1972 - 1974 Robert H. Johnson
Joseph Patterson	76 William D. McAdams (Honorary)
1963 - 1965 Chalmer L. Lawson	1974 - 1976 Milton Henry
1965 - 1967 Lapercell P. Green	1976 - 1978 Barry F. Boyd
1967 - 1969 Piercy Haynes	1978 - 1980 Charles A. Agnew
1969 - 1970 Marion L. Brown	1980 - 1992 Morris S. Miller
Harvey Moss (Honorary)	William M. Davis (Honorary)
1970 - 1971 Aaron A. Arradondo	Merril L. Taylor "
James R. Lynn (Honorary)	Wayne Glanton "
	Henry Martin "

1992 - 1994 William A. Richardson. Sr.

## ROSTER OF LODGES AND CHARTER DATES SINCE 1961

MOSAIC LODGE #11, Grand Forks, North Dakota. U.D. January 5, 1962. Charter Issued Sept. 19, 1962. W.M. Sameul T. Hights;; S.W. John Nelson, Jr.; J.W. John D. Murdock.

M.W.G.M. John L. McHie, Jr.; D.G.M. LaPercel P. Green;; S.W. Norman Bell;; J.W. William Davis;; Treas. John Euing, Jr. and Secy. Chalmer L. Lawson.

ACACIA LODGE #12, Minot, North Dakota. U.D. March 6, 1965. Charter issued Sept. 14, 1965. W.M. A.R. Copeland;; S.W. R.C. Thomas;; J.W. R. Howard.

M.W.G.M. Chalmer L. Lawson;; D.G.M. Norman Bell;; S.G.W. Piercy Haynes;; J.W. William E. L. Brown;; Treas. William D. McAdams and Secy. John Euing, Jr.

PRIDE OF ALBERTA #9, Edmonton, Albt., Canada. U.D. Feb. 1, 1930. Charter surrendered 1938. Charter reissued July 1, 1967. W.M. Barry F. Boyd;; S.W. Raymond Heslep;; J.W. Bernie F. Boyd.

M.W.G.M. Lapercel P. Green;; D.G.M. Piercy Haynes;; S.W. Edward N. Bailey;; J.W. James Adams;; Treas. William D. McAdams and Secy. Charles Snargrass.

JETHRO LODGE #8, Minneapolis, Minnesota. U.D. July 1, 1983. Charter issued September 24, 1983. W.M. Gordon G. Ash;; S.W. Joslyn W. Wilson;; J.W. Billy G. Lee.

M.W.G.M. Morris S. Miller;; D.G.M. Charles Milliner;; S.W. Hayward McKerson;; J.W. Ronald Wilson;; Treas. Robert Johnson and Secy. Charles E. Cook, SR.

SIMON OF CYRENE LODGE #13, Rochester, Minnesota. U.D. September 3, 1983. Charter issued Sept. 16, 1987. W.M. Steve Crawford;; S.W. Keith McCallister;; J.W. Chester Ross.

M.W.G.M. Morris S. Miller;; D.G.M. Charles Milliner;; S.W. Hayward McKerson;; J.W. Ronald Wilson;; Treas. Robert Johnson and Secy. Charles E. Cook, Sr.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE #15, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Charter issued September 17, 1986. W.M. Jerry Moore;; S.W. Martin Mason;; J.W. Fitzroy Clark.

M.W.G.M. Morris S. Miller;; D.G.M. Charles E. Milliner;; S.W. Barry Boyd;; J.W. Ronald Wilson;; Treas. Robert Johnson and Secy. Charles E. Cook, Sr.

MOUNT SINAI LODGE #16, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. U.D. February 8, 1987. Charter issued September 20, 1988. W.M. Clyde Hamilton;; S.W. Woodford McHugh;; J.W. Keith Hinds.

M.W.G.M. Morris S. Miller;; D.G.M. James K. Ash;; S.W. William A. Richardson;; J.W. George Leonard;; Treas. Robert H. Johnson and Secy. Charles E. Cook, Sr.

THETA LIBERTUS LODGE #17, Minneapolis, Minn. U.D. August 6, 1989. Charter issued Sept. 19, 1990. W.M. Arthur Collins;; S.W. Cyril E. Murray;; J.W. H. Kwaku Addy.

M.W.G.M. Morris S. Miller;; D.G.M. James Ash;; S.W. William A. Richardson;; J.W. Cornelius Davis;; Treas. Robert H. Johnson and Secy. Charles J. Srargrass, Sr.

BIBLIOGRAPHY, A History of Freemasonry Among Negroes in America by Harry E. Davis. Historical Sketch by Past Grand Masters Jose H. Sherwood,

George L. Hoage, Sr., John R. Lawrence, addendum by Martin O. Weddington.



# Pioneer 12

St Paul July 1885- 14-15-16

In pursuance of the policy of this Grand Lodge on the 29th of May I exchanged warrant with Pioneer Lodge No 5 located at St Paul Minn, and working under the Grand Lodge of Missouri. This lodge retains the original name and is No 12 on our list. I recommend the endorsement of this Grand Body. approved July 15-1885

## Pioneer.

George B Williams WM

Richard Reynolds SW

Chas Davis JW

Moses Martin Dea

Wm A Hilgard Sec'y

Addison Drake PM

Charles F. Weikert

J. B. Williams PM

Nelson Taylor

Edmond James PM

Richard Manning

A. H. Myrick PM

David E. Salt

James Thompson

Samuel Hadley

Isaac Crosby

P. Bole

Robert Reagan

Wm Hopkins

Harry Bryant

Edmond Buck

Samuel Harding

Nathaniel Hay

1886

Geo B Williams WM

Nelson Taylor SW

Richard Manning SW

Moses Martin Dea

W A Hilgard, sec'y

J H Hilgard

Samuel Hadley

Edmond Jones

Isaac Crosby

# NEGRO MASONRY IN AMERICA

THIS IS THE FIRST OF SEVERAL ARTICLES TO BE PUBLISHED AS AN EDUCATIONAL FEATURE BY THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL  
GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND ITS JURISDICTION

## NOTE:

This article is edited from Historical Documents of Past and Present day Masonic Historians. For further reference, we suggest the books on "Negro Masonry" by the following authors: Harold V. B. Voorhis, Harry E. Davis, George W. Crawford, Harry A. Williamson, William H. Upton, and Wm. H. Grimshaw.

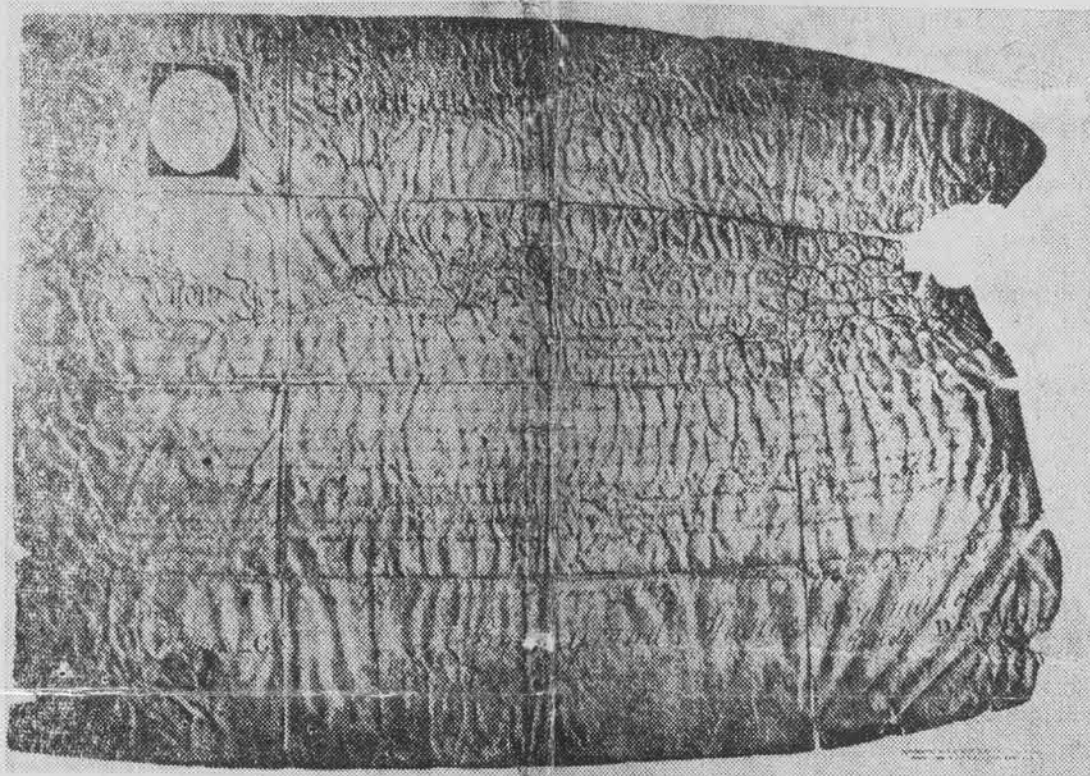
—F. Benjamin Davis, Compiler.

## THE BEGINNING OF FREE MASONRY AMONG NEGROES IN AMERICA

On the Sixth day of March, A. D., 1775, at Castle William, Boston, Massachusetts, Prince Hall and fifteen other Negroes were initiated as Free Masons in Lodge No. 441 under obedience to the Grand Lodge of Ireland. This is the first record of the initiation of Negroes into Free Masonry in America and is the beginning of the only legitimate Negro Free Masonry now existing in this country.

### FIRST NEGRO LODGE

On the Third day of July, 1776, under dispensation granted by Lodge No. 441 of Irish Registry and a permit granted by John Rowe, Provincial Grand Master of all America. The first Negro Lodge in America was organized with Prince Hall as Worshipful Master; Boston Smith as Senior Warden and Thomas Sanderson, Junior Warden. This Lodge continued to meet and act under the authority granted by the Irish Lodge and the Provincial Grand Master of all America until on or about the Twenty-ninth day of September, A. D., 1784, when upon petition of Prince Hall and his lodge, then known as African Lodge No. 1, a charter was granted by the constitutional Grand Lodge of England (Moderns), which Grand Lodge is the Mother Grand Lodge of the World and the Constitutional Grand Lodge from which all legitimate Free Masonry in America descended.



THE ORIGINAL CHARTER ON WHICH LEGITIMATE NEGRO MASONRY IS FOUNDED  
GIVEN AT LONDON, ENGLAND, TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER A. D. 1784, A. L. 5748  
WILLIAM WHITE, G. S. R. HOLT, D. G. M. HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS HENRY FREDERICK  
Duke of Cumberland, Grand Master of Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons.

### EXCERPTS FROM WHITE MASONIC JOURNALS

#### Massachusetts: (Grand Lodge)

"We have investigated the claims of Prince Hall Masons and have found them to be legal. We recognize Prince Hall Masons as the only legitimate Masons among NEGROES."

#### Oregon Mason:

"There are many so-called groups of Masons among Negroes, but we find Prince Hall Masons to be the only Masonically recognized body."

#### Michigan Masonic World:

"We have Prince Hall Masons in Michigan, there are also so-called Masons operating here."

#### Harold Voorhis (Noted Masonic Historian):

"It is only the social set-up of the United States that divides Prince Hall Masonry from White Masonry, the Prince Hall Masons' origin and legality is as true as the white mason."

### ORGANIZATION UNDER CHARTER

On the Sixth day of May, A. D., 1787, by virtue of the authority granted in the Charter, African Lodge No. 459 was organized and began work as a regular Masonic Lodge and continued as the only Negro Masonic body in America until the Twenty-fourth day of June, A. D., 1791, when the most important event in the development of Negro Free Masonry in America took place.

### THE FIRST NEGRO GRAND LODGE

On the Twenty-fourth day of June, A. D., 1791, a general assembly of Colored Masons was held in Masons Hall, Water Street, Boston, Massachusetts, where a Grand Lodge was formed and Prince Hall elected Grand Master and other officers elected and appointed and installed by Prince Hall. On the Twenty-fourth day of June, A. D., 1797, African Grand Lodge warranted a lodge in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, known as African Lodge No. 459 of Philadelphia. It should be noted that Absalom Jones, first Colored priest of the Episcopal Church in America, was Master of this lodge and Richard Allen, founder and first Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, was its treasurer.

On June Twenty-fifth, 1797, Hiram Lodge No. 3 of Providence, Rhode Island, was warranted by African Grand Lodge. These are the only lodges of record warranted by African Grand Lodge. The first Negro Grand Lodge was organized according to prevailing Masonic customs and procedures in 1791. This body was in reality a provincial Grand Lodge, and Prince Hall was selected as its Grand Master. This date must be accepted in the interest of historical truth. Also, it should be noted that this date antedates by a year the organization of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (white) which at one time claimed that its jurisdiction was "invaded" by colored Masonry, in other words, that Massachusetts was occupied Masonic territory after its organization in 1792.

### PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE

Prince hall died on or about the Seventh day of December, A. D., 1807, and six months after his death a delegate convention of Negro Masons was held in Boston with representatives of the Lodges of Boston, Philadelphia and Providence present, where the name of African Grand Lodge was changed to "Prince Hall Grand Lodge" in honor of their founder and leader and their former Grand Master and this Grand Lodge and its successors have created all legitimate Negro Free Masonry which exists in America at the present time.

FAMILY OF PRINCE HALL LODGE . . . COMING NEXT WEEK

(Continued on Page 4)



# HISTORY

United Supreme Council  
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry  
Prince Hall Affiliation  
Northern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Inc.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

United Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, PHA, Northern Jurisdiction

### I. IN THE BEGINNING

Masonic tradition informs us and it is generally accepted that the Scottish Rite degrees were first practiced among Prince Hall free masons by brethren residing in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The date of their first working is also accepted as being in the early years of the nineteenth century. About 1850, the Count de St. Laurent, 33°, a deputy Inspector-General for the Supreme Council of the French West Indies and of the Supreme Council of France, conferred the 33° on Brother David Leary of Prudence Lodge No. 11 (Phila.), M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM of Pennsylvania.

The African Grand Council, Valorous Princes of Jerusalem of Philadelphia is recognized as being the earliest Scottish Rite body operating among the early brethren, conferring the 4° to the 16°, inclusive. Its Warrant of Constitution ante-dated that of the King David Council. A merger of the two Councils was effected under the Constitution of African Grand Council, V.P.J. on November 20, 1885. The consolidated Council pledged its allegiance to the King David Supreme Council, 33° and became a part of its (King David) organizational structure.

David Leary completed the organization of King David (Darius) Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, on January 6, 1856, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of 1786, the adoption of a written Constitution for its government, and the election of a complement of Officers, as follows:

David Leary, 33°	M.P. Sov. Gr. Commander
Stanislas Goutier, 33°	Ill. Dep. Sov. Gr. Comm.
Francisco R. Bolasques, 33°	Sov. Lieut. Comm.
Alexander C. Peters, 33°	Ill. Gr. Sect., H.E.
Joseph Lee, 33°	Ill. Gr. Treas., H.E.
Edward C. Carney, 33°	Ill. Gr. K.S.
William Cooper, 33°	Ill. Min. S.
George W. R. Hall, 33°	Ill. M.C.
Abraham Vesey, 33°	Ill. C.G.

Councils of Princes of Jerusalem were established at Washington, D.C. (Salem) and Baltimore, Maryland (Zerrubabel). International fraternal relations were confirmed with the Grand Orient of Haiti in 1864. This relationship was established as the result of a visitation and reception in this country, by our brethren, of an Haitian freemason, Jean Francois Fenelon Duplessis. Ill. Eugene Bourjolly, 33°, Grand Secretary of the Grand Orient of Haiti and Representative of the Grand Orient of France, informed us that the Representative of the National Grand Lodge, U.S.A. to the Grand Orient of Haiti would be Ill. James Theodore Holly, 33°, and that the Grand Orient of Haiti had selected Dr. Jonathan Davis, M.W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania and Ill. William H. Riley, 33°, MPSGC as its Representatives to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the Supreme Council, 33°, SGIG, respectively in the U.S.A. Also in 1864, Baron Auguste Hugo de Bulow, 33° a member of the Supreme Council of France erected the Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies at New York City, New York. The formation of the National Compact Grand Lodge of North America by the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, Boyer Grand Lodge of New York, and the two Grand Lodges operating in Pennsylvania in 1847 brought about a subsequent opposition by the formation of "Independent" or "State Right" Grand Lodges. The In-

Corps and other invited guests, President William V. S. Tubman conferred the rank and Grand Lodge of Liberia, and in the presence of the two legislative houses, the Diplomatic Corps and other invited guests, President William V. S. Tubman conferred the rank and

On the occasion of the celebration of One Hundred years of Freemasonry by the Grand Lodge of Liberia, and in the presence of the two legislative houses, the Diplomatic Corps and other invited guests, President William V. S. Tubman conferred the rank and

In 1921, the great project of erecting our Cathedral was begun and completed under the administration of MPSGC Sumner Alexander Furniss, 33° (1921-1949). The formal services of dedication took place on May 12-13, 1928 at the City of Philadelphia, Penna. Expansion continued to be the order of the day, under the administration of MPSGC George W. Crawford, 33° (1949-1965), establishing Scottish Rite Bodies in Alaska; Goose Bay, Labrador; the Caribbean island; and Okinawa. The great legal battle, entered into jointly with the M. W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM, of Pennsylvania against the Fitzpatrick's group of spurious, masonic charlatans, was adjudicated and masonic standing duly certified and confirmed as the finding of fact in these cases and was accordingly, handed down on May 9, 1962. The Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation was instituted under the administration of MPSGC Leiland Dickerson French, 33° (1965-1973). In 1969, a committee was appointed by Ill. French to study the feasibility of modernizing the Cathedral facilities. A fund was established to defray the expenses of whatever plans that might be adopted. Ill. French did not follow through on the project.

IV. GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Ill. James Price, Jr., 33°  
Cathedral Librarian  
Ill. Robert M. Seates, 33°  
Keeper of Archives  
Ill. Winston O. Williams, 33°  
Cathedral Secretary

Reprinted from 100th Anniversary Commemorative  
Souvenir Journal May 8-12, 1981

dignity of KNIGHT GRAND BAND OF THE LIBERIAN HUMAN ORDER OF THE AFRICAN  
REDEMPTION on our Sovereign Grand Commander Leiland D. French. In 1973, Ill.  
lustrous French expired suddenly and the mantle of leadership passed over to Illustrious  
Frank M. Summers, 33° (1973-1977). Illustrious Summers proceeded to re-activate the  
Cathedral Renovation project and the same was completed in 1974. It added six func-  
tion offices to the Cathedral complex. It was also during this administration that the  
Cathedral Maintenance Fund was established for the upkeep of the Cathedral complex.  
In 1977 our present Sovereign Grand Commander, Illustrious Russell S. Gideon, 33°  
was elected the fourteenth in the line of succession to that high and distinguished of-  
fice. We have witnessed ever further expansion of the Northern Jurisdiction, with the  
addition of the Orient of Eastern Canada and also the Orient of Asia and Spain. It is an  
everlasting and enduring monument to the faith, planning and work of our Illustrious leader-  
United Jurisdiction, comprised of Twenty-four Orients and well over 20,000 Illustrious  
Peers and Sublime Princes. We are in Peace, Love and Unity among ourselves and our  
brother Illustrious Peers and Princes of the Southern Jurisdiction, Fiat Lux!!!



dependent Grand Lodges felt that the National Compact was usurping the masonic authority of the several Grand Lodges and they, in turn, would not yield to its (National Compact) authority. Strife and conflict increased steadily between the two factions, with each forming their own Scottish Rite Supreme Council, as follows:

#### *Among the National Compact bodies*

- I. King David (Darius) Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, at Philadelphia, PA
- II. Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, for the Southern and Western Jurisdiction at Washington, D.C.

#### *Among the Independent Grand Lodges*

- I. Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, for the U.S.A., its Territories and Dependencies at New York City, New York.
- II. Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, for the Southern State at Baltimore, Maryland (Star of Bethlehem, S.C.)
- III. King Frederick Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, at Philadelphia, PA.

## II. STEPS TOWARD THE UNION

The five Supreme Councils met at Corinthian Hall in New York City on October 21, 1880. The following representatives were present:

III. John A. Gray, 33°	Washington, D.C.
III. Lemuel G. Griffin, 33°	Baltimore, MD
III. A. W. Tancil, 33°	Baltimore, MD
III. W. Cooper, 33°	Philadelphia, PA
III. David Leary, 33°	Philadelphia, PA
III. W. H. Miller, 33°	Philadelphia, PA
III. H. H. Gilbert, 33°	Philadelphia, PA
III. J. D. Kelley, 33° (King Frederick)	Philadelphia, PA
III. Moses Wheeler, 33° (King Frederick)	Philadelphia, PA
III. William Wiley, 33° (King Frederick)	Philadelphia, PA
III. A. T. Bowman, 33° (King Frederick)	Philadelphia, PA
III. W. F. Powell, 33° (King Frederick)	Philadelphia, PA
III. Peter W. Ray, 33°	New York City, NY
III. Alexander C. Peters, 33°	New York City, NY
III. John S. Chase, 33°	New York City, NY
III. Samuel R. Scottron, 33°	New York City, NY

III. David Leary of Philadelphia was called upon to preside over the proceedings of the temporary committee, with III. Samuel R. Scottron of New York as Secretary. After extended debate, the following resolutions were adopted for the information and action of each Supreme Council represented:

WHEREAS, Representatives from Several Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite claiming jurisdiction in the United States have this day assembled for the purpose of promoting the welfare of and extending the knowledge of Freemasonry as exemplified in the Ancient, Accepted Scottish Rite therefore it is

Resolved, That we acknowledge the Constitution of 1786 as the Supreme Authority for the organization of Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and we do affirm our belief that there exists no authority outside of those Constitutions for the creation of Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the 33rd and Last Degree of that Rite.

Resolved, That for the purpose of uniting in a Supreme Council of the 33rd and Last Degree by consolidation of the several bodies now represented in this meeting we do recommend to our respective Supreme Councils that they send five delegates with full powers to a convention to be held in the City of New York on the second Thursday in January, 1881.

The resolutions were adopted by the constituent Supreme Councils and their delegates elected for the meeting in January, 1881. On January 13, 1881 delegates assembled in Corinthian Hall, New York City. The Council of Deliberation was called to order at 2:30 P.M. by the Illustrious David Leary, 33° of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania who acted as Chairman and Samuel R. Scottron, 33° of New York as Secretary. There being present besides the Chairman and Secretary, the following:

- Dr. Peter W. Ray, 33° of the New York S.C.
- Alex C. Peters, 33° of the New York S.C.
- John S. Chase, 33° of the New York S.C.
- B. St. Gaudens, 33° of the New York S.C.
- Wm. H. Miller, 33° of the Philadelphia, Pa., S.C.
- H.H. Gilbert, 33° of the Philadelphia, Pa., S.C.
- James T. Robinson, 33° of the Philadelphia, Pa., S.C.
- J.D. Kelly, 33° of the King Frederick S.C.
- Moses Wheeler, 33° of the King Frederick S.C.
- W.F. Powell, 33° of the King Frederick S.C.
- Alex T. Bowman, 33° of the King Frederick S.C.
- Lemuel G. Griffin, 33° of the Baltimore, Md., S.C.
- Rev. Jas. A. Handy, 33° of the Baltimore, Md., S.C.
- A. W. Tancil, 33° of the Baltimore, Md., S.C.
- Hiram Watty, 33° of the Baltimore, Md., S.C.
- Thornton A. Jackson, 33° of the Washington, D.C., S.C.

The permanent convention organizing committee was formulated, with III. John S. Chase, 33° of New York elected as Chairman, III. Samuel R. Scottron, 33° as Secretary and III. William H. Miller, 33° as Assistant Secretary. Resolutions presented from the Supreme Council of New York for the consideration of the delegates. With some modification, these resolutions formed the basic text of the ten Articles of Union adopted by the convention. The actions of the delegates were legal and binding on each Supreme Council

represented. A copy of the proceedings of the Council were submitted to the Secretary-General of each Supreme Council for their information. The three Supreme Councils that were to form the United Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction were to hold the Organizing Convention on March 19, 1881 at Philadelphia, but no delegates from the New York Supreme Council attended. A new date for the Convention was set as April 8, 1881 at Philadelphia, by the two Philadelphia Councils and communicated to the New York Council. In addition, the two Philadelphia Councils adopted contingency plans by electing alternate delegates to fill the quorum for conducting business as adopted at the January 13th meeting, should the delegates from New York fail to attend.

## III. THE UNION

At 718 Lombard Street, Valley of Philadelphia, Pa., on the 9th day of the Hebrew month, Nisan, A.M. 5641, answering to the Christian Month April A.D., 1881, according to previous arrangement Delegates from the two Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Rite of Freemasonry, whose Grand East was in the Valley of Philadelphia, Pa. met in open convention for the purpose of harmonizing the difference that existed at that time between the members of the Rite in the Northern part of the United States of North America.

The Convention was called to order by III. Brother William Samuel Mower, 33°, III. Minister of State of King Frederick Supreme Council, who nominated III. Brother James T. Robinson, 33°, Treasurer-General of King Darius Supreme Council for temporary chairman, who was duly elected. III. Charles N. Brown of King Frederick Supreme Council was elected temporary Secretary and the Chairman appointed III. Thomas Cooper, Sentinel of King Darius Supreme Council as Temporary Guard. The temporary nominations being complete, the Chairman called for the credentials of the Delegates, when III. Joshua David Kelly, 33°, MPSGC of King Frederick Supreme Council made mention of the fact that every effort had been made to have the Supreme Council whose Grand East is in the Valley of New York represented. But every effort had failed after postponing of the meeting of the Convention for more than one month, for their benefit, in hopes that they would comply with the Articles of Union signed by them in good faith on the 13th day of Shebat, A.M. 5641 answering to the 13th day of January, A.D., 1881, it was necessary that each of the two Supreme Councils represented to add two more delegates to their roster to conduct the business of the Convention. This was done and the transactions were begun. A committee on permanent organization was adopted, with III. Moses Wheeler, 33° elected as Chairman. The credentials of the delegates were examined and certified, granting each delegate full power and vote on all matters to lawfully come before the Convention. A Committee on Constitution was formed, with III. William S. Mower as Chairman.

On Saturday morning, April 9th, 1881, at 10 o'clock A.M., the convention re-assembled. The Committee on Constitution presented its report, which was approved and adopted by sections. After the adoption of the Constitution, a roster (Tableau) of Officers were elected as follows:

III. William Cooper, 33°	M.P. Sov. Gr. Com.
III. Moses Wheeler, 33°	P. Lieut. Gr. Com.
III. William H. Miller, 33°	Gr. Minister of State
III. James T. Robinson, 33°	Gr. Treas.-Gen. H.E.
III. Joshua David Kelly, 33°	Gr. Sect.-Gen. H.E.
III. Henry H. Gilbert, 33°	Gr. Master of Cere.
III. William S. Mower, 33°	Gr. Marshal Gen.
III. Frederick Richardson, 33°	Gr. Capt. of Guard

III. Joshua D. Kelly, 33°, Past MPSGC, installed the elected officers. After the installation, III. William Cooper, 33° was pleased to make the following appointments:

III. Rt. Rev. Jabez P. Campbell, 33°, DD, LLD	Grand Prior
III. Thomas Cooper, 33°	Grand Sentinel
III. Alexander T. Bowman, 33°	Deputy for N. Jersey
III. Milton F. Fields, 33°	Deputy for Missouri

III. Joshua David Kelly, 33° was installed after the other officers by MPSGC William Cooper, 33°. Previous to election, appointment and installation of officers, however, all of the following Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General took the Oath of Fealty to the United Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, of the Northern Jurisdiction:

William Cooper, Moses Wheeler, David Leary, William S. Mower, John Hall, M.D., W. H. Randolph, James T. Robinson, Frederick Richardson, William F. Powell, William Beals, Henry H. Gilbert, John Diton, William H. Miller, J. P. Peneville, Samuel Miller, Thomas Cooper, Wilson L. Underwood, Daniel T. Masten, Charles N. Brown, Alexander T. Bowman, Joshua D. Kelly, Jonathan Miller, John Brown

After the installation and appointments were made, the Grand Marshal General, III. Frederick Richardson, 33° proclaimed the same throughout the two Hemispheres. A resolution was introduced and passed conferring the rank of Past MPSGC on III. David Leary, 33°, and action was made to adjourn, to meet on the first day of the Hebrew Month Nisan A.M. 5641, corresponding to the 29th day of April A.D., 1881. The members of the Supreme Council, to the number of 27, set down to a very fine banquet prepared by Sublime Prince M. W. Johnson, 32°. The Orient of Pennsylvania was consolidated and the Orions of New Jersey and Missouri were re-organized at this special session of April 29, 1881. MPSGC Cooper was ill and did not attend. III. Moses Wheeler presided in his stead. The Supreme Council was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Illustrious Cooper on May 2, 1881. Moses Wheeler completed the unexpired term of office and was elected Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander at the triennial session of 1884. On July 23, 1881, Sublime Prince Major Richardson Poole, 32° was elevated to the 33°, to become the Deputy for New York and formally organize that Orient. Sublime Prince William Henry Caldwell, 32° of Delaware was also elevated at the same time.

# FACTS



**CROWN:** A mark of honorable distinction; a royal or imperial headdress or cap of sovereignty worn by monarchs. Encrusted on the cap or crown is a double-headed eagle with beaks and talons, holding in the latter a sword of gold and crowned with the golden crown of Prussia, and around the base of the cap is a border of imitation laurel leaves.

## Activities

Relative to charities, the United Supreme Council NJ, USA, PHA under its charge has the Scottish Rite House which houses the elderly and handicapped. The 126 units of the approximately 7 million dollars at cost enhances the area in which it is located.

An amount of \$500.00 has been given to each Orient (26) for Scholarships. This year the amount will be \$750.00 to each Orient.

In addition to the above, the United Supreme Council makes an annual contribution to the following:

- NAACP
- Legal Defense Fund
- United Negro College
- Urban League

Local Consistories herein enclosed also have charitable programs in which sizable amounts of monies are given to others.

## ARTICLE III

All others of the illustrious Brethren, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General who now form a part of the Supreme Councils now represented shall become as soon as they have taken the obligation of submission, fealty and obedience to their Supreme Councils, Honorary Members thereof and shall retain the titles of their previous dignities as past officers.

## ARTICLE IV

At a time agreed upon between the parties, an election for Officers of the Supreme Councils shall be held, which shall be done by the election of an equal number of brethren taken from each of the Councils formerly in existence, and forming a part of the jurisdiction for which said election is held, said brethren to be from among the list of Active Members of said Councils. But the Sec. General shall invariably be a resident of the Grand East of the Supreme Council thus formed.

## ARTICLE V

Immediately after the election of the officers of the Councils, the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander of each jurisdiction shall appoint Deputies for each for the several States and Territories within his jurisdiction and shall furnish the said Deputies with blank forms of the obligation of fealty and submission for each Inspector General and member of the order of the A.A.S. Rite, formerly acknowledging allegiance to either of the Supreme Councils a party to these articles and resolutions. On the receipt of such form signed by the individual and attested by the Deputy, the Secretary General shall record the name and dignity of such member or Inspector in the Register of the Supreme Council, and no brother of any degree shall be acknowledged, recognized or considered regular until he shall have signed and sworn to such obligation.

## ARTICLE VI

All Warrants, Charters, and powers of Constitution records, etc., heretofore granted or made by either of the Supreme Councils, named in Art. I or by their subordinates, shall be placed in the hands of a Committee of the Supreme Councils having jurisdiction for inspection, approval and endorsement by its seal and the signature of the proper officers; and all documents whatever not receiving such seal and signature are hereby declared null and void and of no effect.

## ARTICLE VII

The jurisdiction and the control of the degree of the A.A.S. Rite among colored men in the United States of America and their territories and Dependencies is claimed exclusively by the two Supreme Councils each according to its territorial extent as defined in Article One of this agreement

and all bodies or individuals not authorized by either of said Supreme Councils to disseminate or work the said degree among colored masons are hereby declared to be irregular, spurious and clandestine.

## ARTICLE VIII

The two bodies by the operations of the foregoing articles shall use the same Rituals and Masonic Work and shall endeavor in every way to prevent difficulties in their Masonic Workings and usage that may obstruct the free and friendly Masonic Communication between the members of their respective jurisdictions.

## ARTICLE IX

Each Supreme Council shall pay its own indebtedness and no claim shall be allowed on account of either body of a date prior to the formation of the two Supreme Councils contemplated in these Articles of Agreement.

## ARTICLE X

We do hereby engage and promise each and all of us whose names are hereto appended that we will execute and observe and be governed by all that we will never violate nor infringe any of them in any manner whatever. Signed in his own hand —

For the Supreme Council of the United States, whose Grand East is at New York.  
P. W. Ray, M.D.  
John S. Chase  
S. R. Scottton

For the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction, whose Grand East is at the city of Baltimore, Md.  
L. G. Griffin  
Hiram Watty  
A. W. Tancil  
Jas. A. Handy

For the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction, whose Grand East is at the city of Baltimore, Md.  
L. G. Griffin  
Hiram Watty  
A. W. Tancil  
Jas. A. Handy

For the Supreme Council of the Northern Jurisdiction, whose Grand East is Philadelphia, Pa., and known as King Frederick Supreme Council  
J. D. Kelley  
Moses Wheeler  
W. F. Powell  
A. T. Bowman

Grand East is the City of Washington, D.C.  
Thornton A. Jackson

Attest: (L.S.) S. R. Scottton, 33° G.S.G.,  
Supreme Council for the United States, Grand East New York City.  
New York, January 31st, 1881.





Illustrious Henry G. Fort

Sov. Grand Commander, N.J.  
Booker T. Alexander, 33°

Picture of Mayor Washington

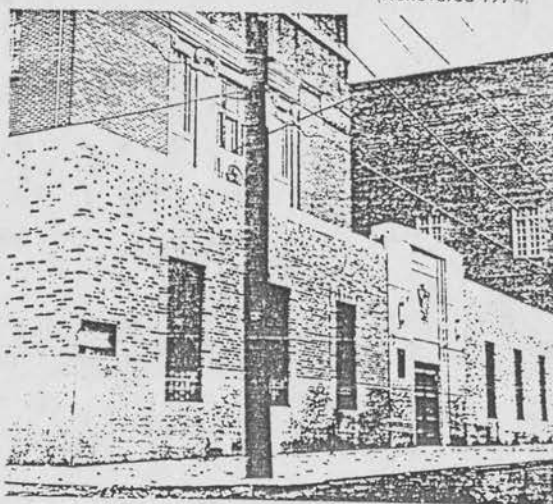


P.H.A. Concordant Heads and Illustrious Jesse Jackson



Sov. Grand Commander, S.J.  
Dr. I.H. Clayborn, 33°

## THE CATHEDRAL..



## Articles of Union

The following resolutions and Articles were adopted and signed by the Representatives present.

### ARTICLE I

Whereas: The Representatives of the following named Supreme Councils of the A.A.S. Rite of Free Masonry claiming Jurisdiction in the United States, viz: The Supreme Councils for Southern and Western Jurisdiction of the United States having its Grand East at Washington, D.C. and the Southern Jurisdiction having its Grand East at Baltimore, Md. and the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States and known as King Frederick Supreme Council, whose Grand East is at Philadelphia, Pa. and the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States, whose Grand East is also at the City of Philadelphia, Pa. and commanded by Ill. Bro. Wm. H. Cooper, and the Supreme Council of the United State of America and its territories and Dependencies, whose Grand East is at New York City, having assembled for the purpose of promoting the welfare of our Masonic Institutions and knowing that united and concurrent action between us is the first requisite, therefore do we for ourselves and the members of our several Supreme Councils and all bodies under our jurisdiction formally and solemnly Renounce, Abdicate, and Transfer all Dignities, Powers and Authorities claimed by as members of the aforesaid Supreme Councils in favor of two Supreme Councils hereinafter described and which it is the purpose of this meeting to establish. The three Supreme Councils for the Northern United States, and two whose Grand East is at Philadelphia, Pa. and the one whose Grand East is at New York City, shall unite into one Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States, and the two Supreme Councils, the one whose Grand East is at Baltimore, Md. and the one whose Grand East is at Washington, D.C. shall unite and form one Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States. The Jurisdiction of said Councils shall be as follows:

For the Northern Jurisdiction the States hereinafter named and bounded as follows: 1st on the North by the Northern Boundary line of the United States, its states, dependencies and territories on the East by the Atlantic Ocean, on the South by the following line commencing at the Mouth of Delaware Bay, thence north to the Southern boundary of Pennsylvania, thence west to the Ohio River, thence along the river to the Mouth of the Big Sandy River

to the Southern Boundary of Kentucky, to the Mississippi to the Southern Boundary of Missouri thence north to the Northern Boundary of Indian Territory thence west to the Pacific Ocean not including the State of California, thence north to the Northern Boundary line of beginning. The boundary as above described securing to the Northern Supreme Council to be perpetually held by them. The following state and territories, viz: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Wyoming, Utah and Alaska.

The States and Territories belonging to the Southern Jurisdiction to be all South of the Line of the Southern Boundary of the Northern Jurisdiction and including all States and Territories not enumerated in the list as belonging to the Northern Jurisdiction. This will include the following named States under the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States viz: Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, California, Nevada, Indian Territory, New Mexico, Arizona.

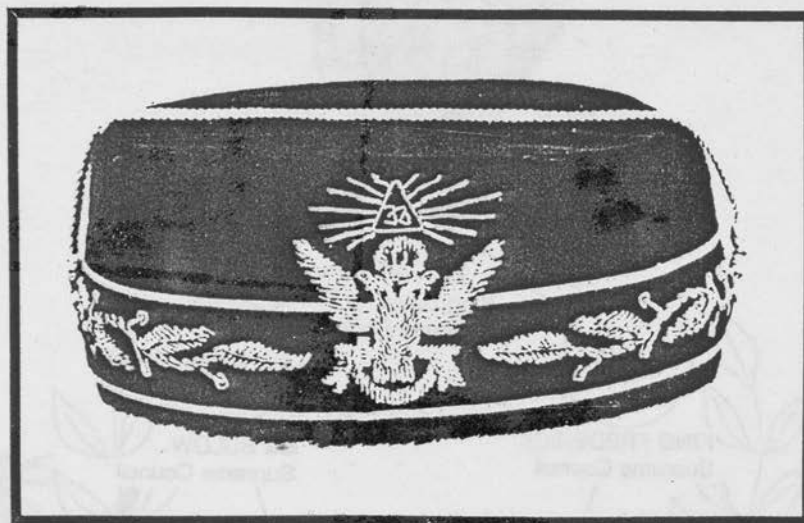
All the rights formerly invested in us as members of the several Supreme Councils first mentions to be given up, transferred and perpetually held in the two Supreme Councils now formed, one for the Northern and one for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States to be exercised by them in conformity with the laws, institutes and Statutes of said Supreme Councils and of the Ancient, Accepted Scottish Rite.

### ARTICLE II

The two Supreme Councils, the one whose Grand East is situated at Baltimore, Md., and the one whose Grand East is situated at Washington, D.C. shall select seven brethren each (in all fourteen) and each of the Supreme Councils who are to form the Northern Jurisdiction, viz: the two Councils at Philadelphia, and the one at New York under these articles shall select five brethren each (in all fifteen) all to be Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the 33° and last Degree of the Scottish Rite, who shall meet each party in its own Jurisdiction and organize Supreme Councils of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the 33° Degree according to the letter and spirit of the Constitution of 1786 of our order, they complying with all the requirements of the order.

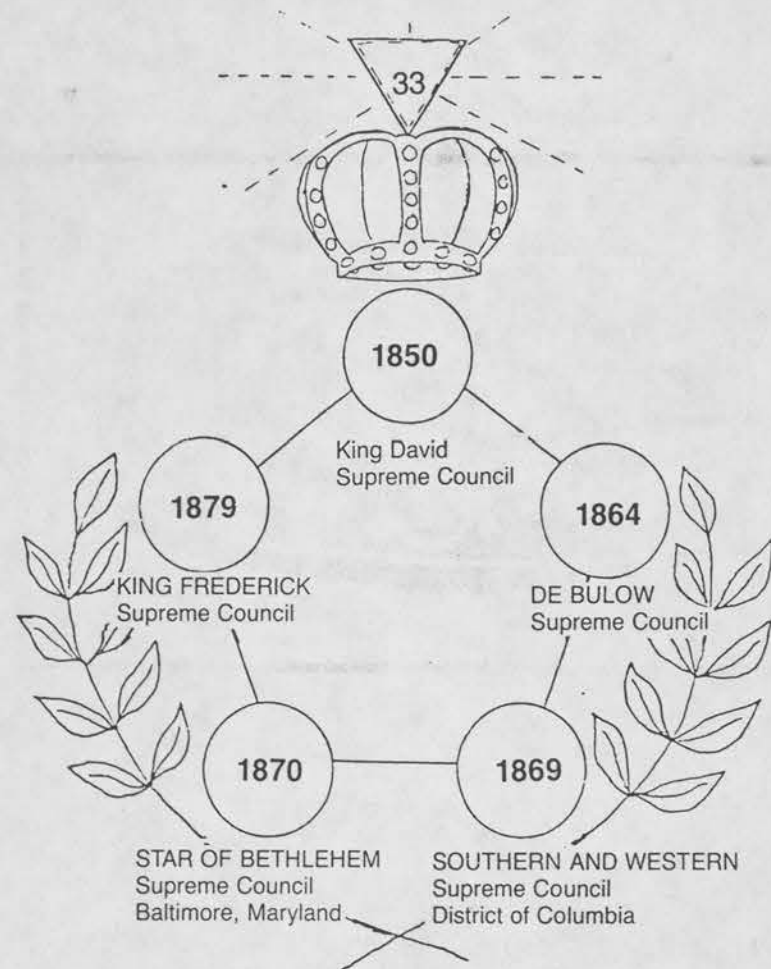


# United Supreme Council, 33°



Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry  
Northern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Prince Hall Affiliation

The United Supreme Council  
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry  
Prince Hall Affiliation  
Northern Jurisdiction, H.S.A. Inc.



Display of the five original Supreme Councils resulting in two, Northern and Southern.

# PARTICIPATION



*A Mission to Teach and Enlighten our  
Brethren to Preserve Charity, Union  
and Fraternal Love; To Occupy Ourselves  
In Works of Peace and Mercy.*

*Participate Now — Be Involved — Support Charity, Union and Fraternal Love*

## TABLEAU

### Elected United Supreme Council Officers Serving The United Supreme Council For The Triennium Ending 1989

#### Officers

Booker T. Alexander	.....	Sovereign Grand Commander	.....	Wolverine
Samuel Brogdon, Jr.	.....	Lieutenant Grand Commander	.....	Bezaleel
Ivory M. Buck, Jr.	.....	Secretary General HE	.....	De Hugo
Edward B. Darnell	.....	Recording Secretary	.....	Wolverine
Courtney P. Houston, Jr.	...	Treasurer General HE	.....	Corinthian
Robert M. Searles	.....	Keeper of Archives	.....	DeMolay
Alvin H. Swiggett	.....	Grand Minister of State	.....	Charles E. Gordon
Winston O. Williams	.....	Cathedral Secretary	.....	DeMolay

#### Trustees

III. Keesler Montgomery, 33°, Chairman  
III. Charles A. Downes, 33° . . . . III. William A. Neblett, Jr., 33°  
III. Winston O. Williams, 33°



***Our hands reach out for you, Brother Mason.  
Join today so you may help in our fraternal cause.***

Presented by Illustrious Sir David L. Holliman, 33°  
Illustrious Sir Marion Cheatham, 33°



# PARTICIPATION



## Reinforce

DeMolay ..... Philadelphia, PA  
 DeHugo ..... Camden, NJ  
 King David ..... New York, NY  
 St. Cyprian ..... Pittsburgh, PA  
 Corinthian ..... Wilmington, DE  
 Wolverine ..... Detroit, MI  
 New Haven ..... New Haven, CT  
 Nimrod ..... Harrisburg, PA  
 Douglass ..... Plainfield, NJ  
 Mt. Sinai ..... Providence, RI  
 North Star ..... St. Paul, MN  
 Bezaleel ..... Cleveland, OH  
 Kaw Valley ..... Topeka, KS  
 Holy Sepulchre ..... Boston, MA  
 Western Star ..... Wichita, KS  
 Orient ..... Kansas City, KS  
 King Solomon ..... Cincinnati, OH  
 L.D. Easton ..... Columbus, OH  
 Mt. Calvary ..... Atlantic City, NJ  
 Willamette ..... Portland, OR  
 St. Matthews ..... Toledo, OH  
 Charles E. Gordon .....

## Replenish

Constantine ..... Indianapolis, IN  
 Miami ..... Dayton, OH  
 Joshua D. Kelley ..... Ohama, NE  
 Western ..... Chicago, IL  
 Bison ..... Buffalo, NY  
 Mountain & Plains ..... Denver, CO  
 Malta ..... Richmond, IN  
 Sardonias ..... Newark, NJ  
 Peninsular ..... Lansing, MI  
 Utica ..... Syracuse, NY  
 William F. Powell ..... Des Moines, IA  
 Ophir ..... Trenton, NJ  
 Menelik ..... Springfield, IL  
 Samuel W. Gordon ..... Asbury Park, NJ  
 Hiram ..... Cairo, IL  
 St. Johns ..... Evansville, IN  
 Mountain ..... Altoona, PA  
 Marion ..... Marion, IN  
 Long Island ..... Brooklyn, NY  
 Magic City ..... East Chicago, IN  
 Tyree ..... East St. Louis, IL  
 Chester, PA

Fort Wayne ..... Fort Wayne, IN  
 Prince Hall ..... Seattle, WA  
 A.G. Clark ..... Waterloo, IA  
 Se-Kan ..... Parsons, KS  
 Ionic ..... Milwaukee, WI  
 Saginaw Valley ..... Saginaw, MI  
 Northern Lights ..... Anchorage, AK  
 Bahamas ..... Nassau, Bahamas  
 Beaver ..... Ontario, Canada  
 Cascadian ..... Tacoma, WA  
 Wabash ..... South Bend, IN  
 Inland ..... Spokane, WA  
 Hartford ..... Hartford, CT  
 Pikes Peak ..... Colorado Springs, CO  
 Tri-Cities ..... East Moline, IL  
 Grand Bahama ..... Grand Bahama-  
 Bahamas  
 Madison-Beloit ..... Madison, WI  
 Keystone ..... Oklanwa, Japan  
 Martin L. King, Jr. .... Bryn Mawr, PA  
 George Town ..... Exuma, Bahamas  
 Whitney M. Young, Jr. .... Erie, PA

## Recover

Springfield ..... Springfield, MA  
 Albany ..... Albany, NY  
 North Shore ..... Waukegan, IL  
 Balthasar ..... Rockford, IL  
 G. Oscar Carrington ..... Milton, DE  
 Ben Lomond ..... Ogden, UT  
 Robert Henry ..... Bangkok, Thailand  
 Karamursel ..... Adana, Turkey  
 Mount Royal ..... Montreal, Canada  
 Pentecost, ..... Desining, NY  
 Spain Military ..... Madrid, Spain  
 Eleuthera ..... Eleuthera, Bahamas  
 Gustave M. Solomons ..... Bitburg, Ger.  
 Top Of The World ..... Fairbanks, AK  
 Joseph I. Staton Luzon, Phillippine, Is.  
 Marquette-Joliet ..... Joliet, IL  
 Trinidad-Tobago ..... Trinidad-Tobago,  
 The West Indies  
 Capital City ..... Olympia, WA  
 Nathan W. Thatcher ..... Manhattan, KS  
 Bimini ..... Bimini, Bahamas  
 Barbados ..... Bridgetown, Barbados

**Petition Now — Be Involved — Support Charity, Union and Brotherly Love**

It is decreed that membership in the fraternal order be confined to regular freemasons who are members of lodges descended from African Lodge 459, more frequently known as Prince Hall Masons.

Note the following process for your information:

**A. Freemasonry — the philosophy of right living.**

Freemasonry is the largest worldwide fraternal organization. The three degrees of Freemasonry

(B (Blue Lodge) are: Entered Apprentice  
Fellowcraft  
Master Mason

**B. Scottish Rite and/or York Rite**

There is no higher degree in Masonry than that of a Master Mason. However, there are other degrees which amplify and elaborate on the lesson of the Craft. These degrees are conferred through either the Scottish Rite or York Rite.

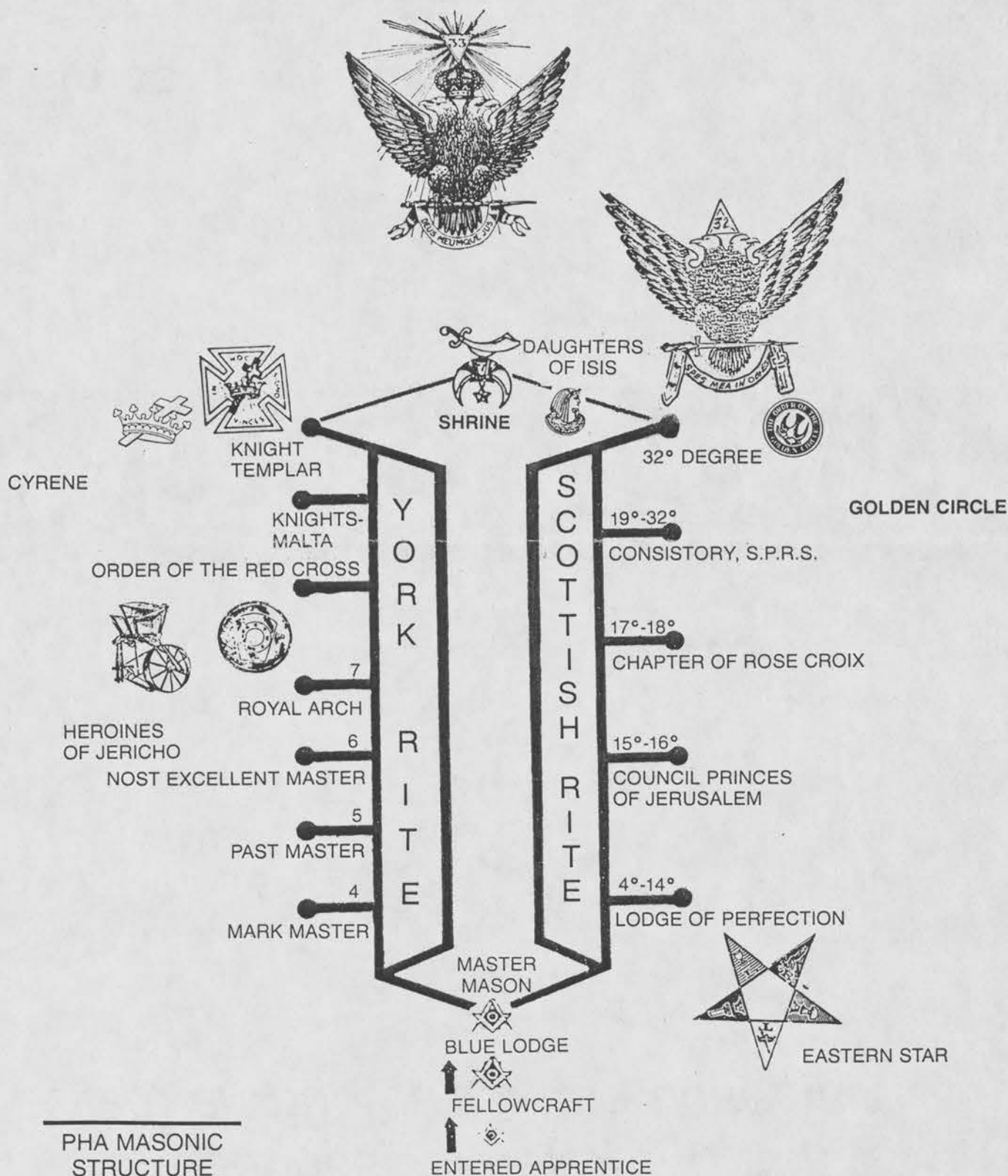
**Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North and South America After attaining the 32° Scottish Rite or the Knights Templar of York Rite you may petition for membership in the Shrine area where you reside.**

A Consistory usually conducts two Ceremonials each for the purpose of establishing new members.

A petition for membership is included with this presentation. Contact a Brother in your immediate area for information needed for preparation, and instructions to proceed.

There are 85 Consistories through the Northern Jurisdiction, awaiting your dedicated involvement and participation.

**PRINCE HALL MASONRY IS ON THE MOVE!  
JOIN NOW.**



UNITED SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°  
Northern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Prince Hall Affiliation



*“May each brother among us realize  
that our fraternity is judged in  
his community by the life he leads,  
and by his example to others.”*

Booker T. Alexander, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Commander

***Get involved now...JOIN TODAY!***



## PETITION FOR INITIATION OR RESTORATION

★ ★ ★

To the Officers and Members of \_\_\_\_\_ Consistory  
and Coordinate Bodies of Scottish Rite Masons, sitting in the Valley of  
\_\_\_\_\_ in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_.

The undersigned hereof humbly shows that he is desirous of being  
admitted as a member of your several Bodies and humbly requests that  
he may be received among you, and that he will ever pray for the  
prosperity and glory of the Order and the welfare of the Brethren, under  
the prescribed Oath of Fealty.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

He was born at \_\_\_\_\_

on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of month of \_\_\_\_\_ in the  
year of \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

His present address is \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

and has lived in this jurisdiction since \_\_\_\_\_

His occupation is that of a \_\_\_\_\_

He has \_\_\_\_\_ before petitioned for the degrees of Scottish  
Rite Masonry and was \_\_\_\_\_ rejected

He is a member in good standing in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lodge (No. \_\_\_\_\_) of Symbolic Masonry

Stationed at \_\_\_\_\_

of which Brother \_\_\_\_\_  
is the present Secretary.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by \_\_\_\_\_

Vouched for by \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_ Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Hat Size \_\_\_\_\_

# The Great Lights in Masonry

## Historical Lecture

### David's Plans for the Temple

1. The complete story for your reading and studying. (1 Chronicles, 14th Chapter, 1 thru 2 Verse) (1 Chronicles, 22nd Chapter, 1st thru 19th Verse) (1 Kings, 2nd Chapter, 10th thru 12th Verse) also see (1 Chronicles, 28th Chapter, 1st thru 21st Verse) (1 Chronicles, 29th Chapter, 1st thru 5th Verse).
2. GOD'S PROMISE TO DAVID  
(1 Chronicles, 11th Chapter, 4th thru 9th Verse) (2 Samuel, 7th Chapter, 1st thru 29th Verse) also read (1 Chronicles, 17th Chapter, 1st thru 15 Verse).
3. BEGINNING OF THE TEMPLE  
(2 Chronicles, 3rd Chapter, 1st thru 17th Verse).
4. THE MASTER BUILDER  
(2 Chronicles, 2nd Chapter, 3rd thru 18th Verse) also read (1 Kings, 5th Chapter, 1st thru 8th Verse) (1 Kings, 6th Chapter, 1st thru 22nd Verse) (2nd Chronicles, 5th Chapter, 1st thru 1 Verse) (2 Chronicles, 7th Chapter, 1st thru 3rd Verse).
5. THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE  
(1 Chronicles, 22nd Chapter, 1st thru 2nd Verse) (1 Kings, 5th Chapter, 8th thru 9th Verse) (2 Chronicles, 2nd Chapter, 16th Verse) also see (Ezra, 3rd Chap, 6th thru 7 Verse).
6. THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON  
(1 Chronicles, 29th Chapter, 16th thru 23rd Verse) (2 Chronicles, 1st Chapter, 7th thru 12th Verse) (1 Kings, 3rd Chapter, 5th thru 15th Verse).
7. METAL TOOLS  
(Deuteronomy, 2 Chapter, 5th thru 8th Verse) (Exodus, 20th Chapter, 24th thru 25th Verse) (1 Kings, 5th Chapter, 17th thru 18th Verse) (1 Kings, 6th Chapter, 7th Verse).
8. KING SOLOMON'S LEVY  
(1 Kings, 5th Chapter (5), 13th thru 16th Verse)

*Samuel Jackson, M.M.*

## FOR CONSTRUCTION OF KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

1. There were (3) Grand Master Masons, (3,300) Master Masons, (80,000) Fellow Masons and (70,000) Entering Apprentice employed.
2. The open of the Lodge, the part the Tyler plays, can be found in your Bible in the Book of (Genesis, 3rd Chapter, 24th Verse), (Numbers, 22nd Chapter, 31st Verse), (Psalm 84th Chapter, 9th thru 10th Verse). For other reading on this position in the Lodge, also see (Joshua, 5th Chapter, 13th thru 15th Verse), 1 Chronicles, 21st Chapter, 14th thru 19th Verse), (Nehemiah, 7th Chapter, 1st thru 3rd Verse).
3. The visitors to your Lodge (Leviticus, 19th Chapter, 33rd thru 36 Verse), (Hebrews, 13th Chapter, 2nd Verse). The first Master Craftsman (Genesis, 4th Chapter, 22nd Verse), (Confusion in the Craft, Job, 1st Chapter, 6th thru 12th Verse), (Joshua, Chapter 7, 13th thru 15th Verse), (Matthews, Chapter 22, 11th thru 14th Verse). Also, for other reading about the visitors and confusion in the craft, see (Job, Chapter 2, 1st thru 6th Verse), (Leviticus, Chapter 10, 8th thru 11th Verse).
4. Widows and Orphans (Psalms, Chapter 68, 5th Verse), (Isiah, Chapter 1, 16th thru 17th Verse), Psalm, Chapter 82, 3rd thru 4th Verse); also see (James, Chapter 1, 27th Verse), (Exodus, 22nd Chapter, 22nd thru 24th Verse), (Leviticus, Chapter 23, 22nd Verse), (Deuteronomy, Chapter 10, 18th thru 19th Verse), (Deuteronomy, Chapter 24, 17th thru 22nd Verse), (Psalms, Chapter 146, 5th thru 9th Verse).
5. The Glory and Beauty of the Day (Psalms, Chapter 19, 1st thru 6th Verse), the daily pages (Deuteronomy, Chapter 24, 14th thru 15th Verse), (1 Kings, 5th Chapter, 10th thru 12th Verse). Also read (Matthews, Chapter 20, 1st thru 16th Verse).
6. The Lodge (Matthews, 18th Chapter, 1st thru 20th Verse). Before the Throne (Isiah, Chapter 6, 1st thru 4th Verse, Day of Harmon (Psalms, Chapter 133, 1st thru 3rd Verse).
7. The Obligation of the Mason, first read (Genesis, 24th Chapter, 3rd Verse), Numbers, 30th Chapter, 2nd Verse), (Deuteronomy, 13 Chapter, 21st Verse), (Isiah, 65 Chapter, 16th Verse), (Hebrews, 6th Chapter, 13th thru 16th Verse), (Leviticus, 19th Chapter, 12th Verse), (Matthews, 5th Chapter, 33rd thru 37th Verse), (James, 5th Chapter, 12th Verse), (Revelations, 10th Chapter, 5th thru 6th Verse), And Let there be light (Genesis, 1st Chapter, 1st thru 3rd Verse), (Exodus, 13th Chapter, 20th thru 22nd Verse), (Isiah, 60 Chapter, 19th Verse), (Genesis, 1 Chapter, 14th thru 18th Verse), (Jeremiah, 9th Chapter, 33rd thru 37th Verse).

*Samuel J. Jackson*



For the Construction of King Solomon's Temple (Continued)

8. Distressed Worthy Brother, read: (Genesis, 4th Chapter, 9th thru 19th Verse), (Ecclesiastes, 4th Chapter, 9th thru 12th Verse), (Matthews, 6th Chapter, 1st thru 4th Verse), (Galations, 6th Chapter, 1st thru 2nd Verse), (Hebrews, 13th Chapter, 1st thru 3rd Verse).

9. Brotherly Love: (1 Samuel, 18th Chapter, 1st Verse), (1st Samuel, 20 Chapter, 16th thru 17th Verse), (Proverbs, 18th Chapter, 23rd thru 24th Verse), (Hebrews, 13th Chapter, 1st Verse), (1 John, 2nd Chapter, 9th thru 11th Verse), (1 John, 4th Chapter, 19th thru 21st Verse).

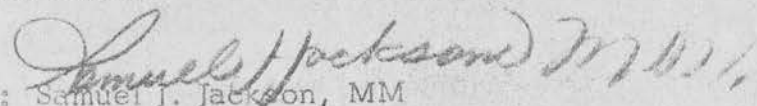
10. St. John the Baptist: (Matthews, 4th Chapter, 9th thru 11th Verse), (1 John, 4th Chapter, 19th thru 21st Verse).

11. St. John the Evangelist: (Revelation, 1st Chapter, 1st thru 20th Verse), (Matthews, 4th Chapter, 18th thru 22nd Verse), (Acts, 8th Chapter, 14th thru 17th Verse).

12. Plumblines: (Amos, 7th Chapter, 7th thru 9th Verse), The Craftsmen, (2 Chronicles, 2nd Chapter, 1st thru 2nd Verse), (2 Chronicles, 6/8th Chapter, 17th thru 18th Verse), (1 Kings, 5th Chapter, 13th thru 18th Verse).

13. The Wages of Fellowcraft: (2 Chronicles, 2nd Chapter, 1st thru 18th Verse), (Numbers, 18th Chapter, 12th thru 13th Verse), (The Chamber, 1 Kings, 6th Chapter, 5th thru 6th Verse).

14. The Pillars (1 Kings, 7th Chapter, 13th thru 22nd Verse), (2 Chronicles, 3rd Chapter, 15th thru 17th Verse), (Judges, 12th Chapter, 4th thru 7th Verse). The Letter "G", (Exodus, 3rd Chapter, 13th thru 15th Verse), (Deuteronomy, 4th Chapter, 39th Verse).

Prepared by:  Samuel J. Jackson, MM



To all and every our Right Worshipful & loving Brethren, we, Thomas Howard, Earl of Effingham, Lord Howard, &c., &c., &c., Acting Grand Master under the authority of His Royal Highness, Henry Frederick Duke of Cumberland &c., &c., &c., Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, sends greeting:

Know Ye, that we, at the humble petition of our right trusty and well-beloved Brethren, Prince Hall, Boston Smith, Thomas Sanderson and several other Brethren residing in Boston, New England in North America do hereby constitute the said Brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the title or denomination of the African Lodge, to be opened in Boston aforesaid, and do further at their said petition, hereby appoint the said Prince Hall to be Master Boston Smith, Senior Warden, and Thomas Sanderson, Junior Warden, for opening the said Lodge, and for such further time only as shall be thought proper by the Brethren thereof, it being our will that this our appointment of the above officers shall in no wise affect any future election of officers of the Lodge, but that such election shall be regulated agreeable to such by-laws of said Lodge as shall be consistent with the general laws of the society, contained in the Book of Constitution; and we hereby will and require you, the said Prince Hall, to take special care that all and every the said Brethren are or have been regularly made Masons, and that they do observe, perform, and keep all the rules and orders contained in the Book of Constitutions; and further, that you do, from time to time, cause to be entered in a book kept for that purpose, an account of your proceedings in the Lodge, together with all such rules, orders and regulations, as shall be made for the good government of the same, that in no wise you omit once in every year to send to us, or our successors, Grand Masters, or to Rowland Holt, Esq., our Deputy Grand Master, for the time being an account in writing of your said proceedings, and copies of all such rules, orders, and regulations as shall be made as aforesaid, together with a list of the members of the Lodge, and such a sum of money as may suit the circumstances of the Lodge and reasonably be expected, toward the Grand Charity. Moreover, we hereby will and require you, the said Prince Hall, as soon as conveniently may be, to send an account in writing of what may be done by virtue of these presents

Given at London, under our hand and seal of Masonry, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September, A.L. 5784, A.D. 1784.

"By the Grand Master's Command,  
R. Holt, D. G. M."

"Witness  
Wm. White, S. S."





### THE WAR CHEST

*Picture of the strong chest in which for many years the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has kept the original warrant and many priceless documents and data concerning the origin and continuity of Negro Masonry. The chest is stored in the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company's vaults.*

### THE OLD WARRANT

*(Reprinted from an earlier issue of the Bulletin.)*

The warrant to African Lodge No. 159 of Boston is the most interesting, significant and highly prized document known to the Prince Hall Fraternity. Through it our legitimacy is traced, and on it, more than on any other factor, our case rests. It was granted on September 29, 1784; delivered in Boston on April 29, 1787, by Captain James Scott, brother-in-law of John Hancock, and Master of the Neptune. Under its authority African Lodge No. 159 was organized one week later—May 6, 1787.

Formerly this old warrant was kept rolled up in a metal tube in the safe deposit vault of a Boston bank. Later it was laid out flat between two thick plates of glass which were bolted together, thus preserving it better from the ravages of time and personal handling.

On January 21, 1946, the glass-bound charter was exhibited to a group of about twenty high Masons of both groups in the headquarters of the Supreme Council 33 Northern Jurisdiction, in Boston. Here it was carefully scrutinized, and almost rever-

ently handled before the largest mixed group which had ever viewed it in the history of the Craft. There could be none and there was no doubt of its authenticity; the document itself is the best evidence of this, although signatures and seals have been compared for more critical validation.

The interested spectators saw an instrument in a remarkably good state of preservation despite its 162 years. The writing and signatures are easily legible, but a small portion in the lower right hand corner is missing and there is a story behind this.

In 1869 a fire destroyed Grand Lodge headquarters and a number of its priceless records. The charter, encased in its metal tube, was in the Grand Lodge chest. The tube saved the charter from the flames, but the intense heat charred the paper. It was at this time that Grand Master S. T. Kendall crawled into the burning building, and in peril of his life, saved the charter from complete destruction. Thus a Grand Master's devotion and heroism further consecrated this parchment to us, and added a further detail to its already interesting history.



March 6, 1775

## The Father of Masonry in America



### PRINCE HALL MASONRY

All legitimate masonry among colored men in America must trace its historic origin to Prince Hall in order to obtain respectable sanction in the Masonic world. Since this institution has developed into an organization comprising over 5,000 lodges and a quarter of a million members, and has an unbroken existence for 150 years, a knowledge of its origin must be of general interest.

Colored masonry in America was established on March 6, 1775, in Boston, by the act of an army lodge attached to a British regiment, in initiating Prince Hall and fourteen other free colored men. About a year later, when the British evacuated Boston, this army lodge issued a dispensation to this group to meet as a lodge and to observe certain ceremonies, but not to confer any degrees, and as a result African Lodge No. 1 was organized. The lodge met under the dispensation, and possibly under a second one issued by Provincial G. M. Rowe, until 1787. The Revolutionary War, in which Hall served, prevented an application for a charter to England until 1784. This was promptly granted but not received until 1787 owing to some irritating delays, so that African Lodge 459 was not organized under the English charter until May 6, 1787. It was the only lodge in America holding a charter from the mother grand lodge of the world. A number of free colored men in New England, New York and Philadelphia received their degrees from this lodge, and its steady growth is attested by its old roster and minute books.

On June 24, 1791, African Grand Lodge was organized in Boston by an assembly of the craft from New York, New England and Philadelphia. Hall was elected Grand Master and a full record of this assembly and the officers selected is preserved.

Exalted Ruler,  
Grand Lodge Officers,  
Officers and Brothers

Tonight with your indulgence, I would like for each of you to just sit back, close your eyes and sort of dream along with me, while I try and recall a bit of the history of this great Order of ours.

To some of you present, this will be as the saying goes "Old Hat", but to our new brothers I'm hoping it will prove interesting and informative.

I shall try and elaborate on the birth of this Order from it's humble beginnings up to the present time, now a huge fraternal giant encircling the entire world.

Many years ago, 1896 to be specific a group of men gathered in the eastern city of Cincinnati, at that time they had a club known as the "Jolly Boys", who for all intents and purposes were just what the name implies. However, they believed if some genuine effort was made on their part a lasting Organization could be created, which in time could become a bright shining beacon in the Fraternal World.

After lengthy deliberations it was decided they would adopt the format of the Elks. The B.P.O.E. at that time was the most prominent Fraternal Order and their chairtable work was to be commended. But during that era of America history and trend of living, the Negro found that his acceptance into their Order was not favorable or wanted.

But then as now the Negro was filled or should I say blessed with the ingrained sense of ingenuity, so a copy of the Elk ritual was obtained, how I will not say, but never-the-less we got it.

After securing a ritual, work and study was begun to learn all the ritualistic work and how to properly perform them. It would be needless and fool hardy to say that starting a Negro Elks Lodge, wouldn't cause trouble because it did and for the next year or so many tempers flared and finally court action was taken. However, God was with those brave dedicated Brothers, the case was won but to make the distinction between the two the Negroes added the words Improved and of the World.

So in 1898 in the candle lit Cincinnati home, those same gallant Brothers were midwives and attended the birth of Alpha Lodge #1, the mother lodge of the I.B.P.O.E.W. which they tenderly nursed until she came of age.

As time moved on the Negroes then, like now found the job situation poor and as a result it caused many to leave for other areas, not wanting to give up their Lodge and its principles, Elksdom began to spread it moved all up and down the Atlantic seaboard and began to move westward also.

Then about 1900 Brother B.F. Howard, sent out the call to have a big mass meeting and organized a natural body to give importance and guidance to all the struggling lodges.

The call was made and the summons answered and in 1903, at lighthouse #9 in Atlantic City, N.J., the format, rules and regulations for the creation of a Grand Lodge was approved and adopted and as such was thereby chartered in the state of New Jersey.

Our Order was now nationally established and Elksdom began spreading like wildfire from the rock ribbed shores of Maine to the warm white sandy beaches of California and from Minnesota in the north to the gulf in the south.

Here in St. Paul the Elks fever was growing to a high pitch and on October 17, 1906 at 526 St. Anthony Ave. Gopher Lodge #105 the mother Lodge of Minnesota Elks was brought into existence and two or three days later Gophers members helped to organize and set up Ames Lodge #106 in Minneapolis.

During this period, as was however to be expected a power struggle was going on, as to whom should or should not be the Grand Exalted Ruler, the results were a grave split, and in 1908 in the hallowed halls of the Minnesota Senate Chambers the original and parent body of the Grand Lodge held it's session. This session resulted in the uniting of the split which led them all back to the principle of "Brotherly Love". All the arguments were laid to rest and once again a united front was presented, not to rear its head again until much later in the late fifties and early sixties, but again and hopefully for the last time the ranks have been closed and progress again being made.

Since the creation of the Grand Lodge, we've had a series of Grand Exalted Rulers, some good and some poor, but one who's name still rings loud and clear as the great one in any Lodge Hall that is over twenty-five years old, and that Brother is our late Grand Exalted Ruler J. Finley Wilson, lovingly called the "Little Giant," who served over twenty years and brought this Order up from the off beat trails of the valley. He took his guiding from the Grand Exalted Ruler of the Universe.

But like all good things, the end came to this little ~~giant~~ man of giant



stature. He was followed by another who was an able administrator, but because of poor health was unable to give the office the luster held by his predecessor, and our Order began to slide down hill. However in 1960 while the Grand Lodge sat in session in Chicago, Illinois the grim reaper called him to reward.

As I stated earlier the Elks are resourceful, they had a new Moses tucked away in the bushes and when the summons was served that Agust Body presented to this Order a new leader, Hobson Richman Reynolds. A South Carolina native reared and educated in Keystone Quaker State of Pennsylvania,; holder of a masters degree, licensed mortician, ex-legislator and judge. There was question as to his qualifications to become Grand Exalted Ruler. His statistics were given as- 35 years Chairman of Board of Trustees for his church (Baptist), Exalted Ruler and builder of Chicago J. Perry Lodge for 25 years and also Grand Commissioner of Civil Liberties for 25 years.

The election of Brother Reynolds as Grand Exalted Ruler has proved a blessing to the Order. He has kept the Grand Lodge in the black ink ever since he took over. Also has been instrumental in causing nearly 60 million dollars worth of investments being accomplished, and a driving force causing the membership rolls to swell to over half a million members. But so much for general history lets get close to home.

I've already given you our anniversary-date and the exact place of our origin. Now we like the Grand Lodge have had our ups and downs and our own impressive list of Exalted Rulers. Beginning in 1906 with Brother T.H. Lyles as the first Exalted Ruler in Gopher Elks Lodge. I will give you the names of the brothers that served after Brother Lyles and to the present. This list is as complete as I could compile at this time. In the 1920's Bro. Hector Hunter, Bro. A.J Lewis, Bro. J. Lewis Irving, Bro. Lafe Jackson, Bro. Girad Lee, Bro. Mayco Little John,; the 1930's Bro. Charles Doddy, Bro. Dr. Hill; Bro. Fred Mc Cracken; 1940's Bro. Thomas Clemmons, Bro. James Thomas, Bro. Carl McDaniel, Bro. Sonny Madox, Bro. Alex Jordon; 1960's Bro. Cornelius Brown; serving at the present time Bro. George Lucas.

Of all the past Exalted Rulers, we've had these past 71 years, none to date has served with more honor and distinction than our own Honorable District Deputy, Grand Exalted Ruler-Brother Julius W. Clemmons, who compiled an impressive record of 16 terms of progress. To date we have fove living Past Exalted Rulers of this Lodge.

I, brothers feel highly honored to have been accorded the privilege and opportunity to be the financial secretary of this Lodge in the 1970's. I personally didn't set the woods on fire, but I do hold the honor of being a good secretary to date. I was fifty years old when I was elevated to this impressive station making me at that time the oldest secretary to serve this Lodge.

Brothers, I mention my past merely to point out how this Lodge has proved it has progressive ideas and that here youth has a chance to come forward.

Thanks to the untiring stalwarts like Brother's J.W. Clemmons, David Williams, L.E. Wiles, J.H. Thomas, J.H. Cruze, who has passed, E.P. Graves, M. Russell, B. Perkin and our ever faithful Brother William White and our scotchman treasure Bro. L.A. Gwynne, who down through the years have 1st wives, broke up their homes, lost their money, ruined their health, been talked about, cussed at and you name it. Who many times have gone into their pockets to pay the rent, lights and gas bills, buy oil and try to hold this Lodge together.

Brothers some of you may never have to undergo this type of problems, I'm hoping that you won't, but instead reach the point our Founding Fathers like Bro. Ellis Perkins our only living charter member had in mind 60 years ago. Brothers let each of us redouble our efforts to become living practioners of the four cardinal principles of this Order, by being able to;

Dispense charity without ostentation.

Meet out justice without partiality.

Give brotherly-love, unrestrained.

and have fidelity, unwavering.

And let us all strive to create the same atmosphere that prevailed here in 1908, and caused the broken ties of the Grand Lodge to once again be cemented so all could join in singing the age old hymn "Blessed be the ties that bind".

Thank you

*Edwin L. Washington*  
Edwin L. Washington

Financial Secretary

Gopher Elks Lodge #105