

**The Statutes for the Government of
The Royal Exalted Religious and
Military Order of Masonic Knights
Templar in England and Wales as
Resolved and Agreed on at the Grand
Conclave held on the 9th day of Dec.
1864**

Printed by Order of the Grand Conclave



PREFACE.

THE flourishing state of Symbolic Masonry, under the protection of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV.), Grand Master, and the great increase of Royal Arch Chapters patronized by H. R. H. the Duke of Clarence (afterwards William IV.), having animated the Masonic Knights Templar, and the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta, now called the Knights of Malta, with a desire to revive their ancient Royal Religious and Military Orders, they confederated, and unanimously selected their Brother and Knight Companion, Thomas Dunkerley, of Hampton Court Palace, in the County of Middlesex, Grand Master of the Confraternity under the Patronage of H. R. H. Prince Edward (afterwards Duke of Kent); and on the 24th day of June, 1791, a Grand and Royal Conclave was held, at which the ancient Statutes

of the Orders were revised, reenacted, and unanimously approved.

On the 10th day of April, 1809, a Grand and Royal Conclave was held, according to ancient form, in pursuance of a warrant under the hand and seal of H.R.H.. Edward Duke of Kent, the Royal Grand Patron of the Orders, when His Royal Highness was pleased to confirm the appointment of Sir Knight Waller Rodwell Wright, as the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Orders, and by the same warrant he ratified and confirmed the Statutes as then laid before the Grand Conclave.

On the 6th day of August, 1812, H. R.H. the Duke of Sussex was installed the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Orders, upon the resignation of Sir Knight Waller Rodwell Wright, and in Grand Conclave he gave his sanction and approval to the Statutes as revised in 1809.

Upon the installation of Colonel Charles Kemys Kemys Tynte, as the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, in succession to the Duke of Sussex, at a Grand Conclave, on the 3rd of April 1846, the Statutes were again revised, confirmed, and ordered to be reprinted.

At a Grand Conclave, held on the 10th of May, 1861, William Stuart, Esq., of Aldenham. Abbey, in the County of Herts, was installed the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Orders, in succession to Colonel C. K. Kemys Tynte, when the Statutes, as then existing, were confirmed.

In consequence of many necessary alterations having been made from time to time in the Statutes since they were printed in 1853, they were again revised by the Grand Conclave, held on the 9th day of December, 1864, and ordered to be printed under the direction and supervision of the Grand Director of the Ceremonies.

In pursuance of such order of the Grand Conclave, and with the sanction and approval of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, I have revised and superintended the printing of this edition of the Statutes.

WILLIAM J. WEYMOTT,

Past-Grand Captain,

Grand Director of the Ceremonies.

30th January, 1865.

OF THE GRAND CONCLAVE

1. The public interests of the Order as a collective body shall be regulated by a general convocation of all the Encampments on record in En-land and Wales and its Dependencies, represented by their respective Eminent Commanders, Past Commanders, and Captains commanding columns, with the present and past Grand Officers, and the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master at their head. This collective body is styled The Grand Conclave of the Royal, Exalted, Religious and Military Order of Masonic Knights Templar in England and Wales."

2. The Members of the Grand Conclave shall take rank in the following order, viz:

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master.

Past Grand Masters.

The Very High and Eminent Deputy Grand Master.

Past Deputy Grand Masters.

The Very Eminent Provincial Grand Commanders, according to the dates of their warrants.

Past Provincial Grand Commanders.

Grand Seneschal.

Past Grand Seneschals.

Grand Prior.

Past Grand Priors.

Grand Sub-Prior.

Past Grand Sub-Priors.

Grand Prelate.

Past Grand Prelates.

First Grand Captain commanding Column.

Second Grand Captain commanding Column.

Past Grand Captains of Columns, according to the dates of their appointments.

Grand Chancellor and Keeper of the Archives.

Past Grand Chancellors.

Grand Vice- Chancellor.

Past Grand Vice-Chancellors.

Grand Registrar.

Past Grand Registrars.

Grand Treasurer.

Past Grand Treasurers.

Grand Chamberlain.

Past Grand Chamberlains.

Grand Hospitaller.

Past Grand Hospitallers.

Grand Director of Ceremonies.
Past Grand Director of Ceremonies.
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.
Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.
Grand Superintendent of Works.
Past Grand Superintendents of Works.
Grand Constable, or Mareschal.
Past Grand Constables.
Grand Provost. Past.
Grand Provosts.
Grand Almoner.
Past Grand Almoners.
First Grand Expert.
Second Grand Expert.
Past Grand Experts.
First Grand Standard Bearer.
Second Grand Standard Bearer.
Third Grand Standard Bearer.
Fourth Grand Standard Bearer.
Past Grand Standard Bearers.
Grand Warden of the Regalia.
Past Grand Wardens of the Regalia.
First Grand Aide-de-Camp.
Second Grand Aide-de-Camp.
Past Grand Aides-de-Camp.

First Grand Captain of Lines.

Second Grand Captain of Lines.

Past Grand Captains of Lines.

First Grand Herald.

Second Grand Herald.

Past Grand Heralds.

Grand Organist.

Past Grand Organists.

Grand Sword Bearer.

Past Grand Sword Bearers.

Grand Banner Bearer.

Past Grand Banner Bearers.

Eminent Commanders.

Past Eminent Commanders.

Captains commanding Columns, and Past Captains, of all Encampments, registered under the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, taking precedence according to the dates of their respective warrants, or as otherwise expressed in their respective warrants.

Grand Equerry.

Two Assistant Grand Equeries.

3. Every Knight regularly elected and installed Eminent Commander of an Encampment registered under the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, who shall have exercised that office for one year, shall, so long as he is a subscribing member, either to such Encampment, or to any other Encampment registered under the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, rank as a Past Eminent Commander, and be a member of the Grand Conclave.

4. If any Encampment, which shall have omitted to make its annual returns and payments on or before the 31st day of March in any year, shall not make such returns and payments within three calendar months after being required so to do by the Grand ViceChancellor; the Eminent Commander, Past Eminent Commanders, and Captains commanding Columns, of such Encampment, shall not be permitted in those capacities to attend and vote at any Grand Conclave until such returns and payments shall be made.

5. The Grand Master may permit any Knights of the Order, not otherwise qualified, to attend any Grand Conclave as Visitors.

6. A Grand Conclave shall be held on the second Friday in the months of May and December, in

each year, at Three o'clock in the afternoon, in the Grand Field of Encampment, in London. A special Grand Conclave may be held at any time the Grand Master may think fit. And every Grand Conclave shall be convoked by the Grand Vice-Chancellor, by a circular letter addressed to each Grand Officer and Past Grand Officer and to the E. C. of every registered Encampment.

7. The Grand Conclave having been opened with ample form and with solemn prayer, the business shall be proceeded with, as follows: 1st, The minutes of the proceedings of the last Grand Conclave and of any subsequent special Grand Conclave, are to be read. - 2ndly, The reports of the Committee, and any other communications, are to be read. - 3rdly, The recommendations of the Committee, are to be considered. - 4thly, The several notices of motion are to be considered, in the order in which such notices shall be inserted in the summons for the Grand Conclave. At the Grand Conclave which shall be held in December, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master shall be elected by show of hands of the Knights present, for the ensuing three years (if the term of holding office shall have expired), and he shall be installed according to ancient custom at the ensuing Grand Conclave: at the Grand Conclave which shall be held in May, the Grand Treasurer shall be elected by show of hands of the Knights present; the Grand Officers shall be appointed and invested by the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master; and the Committee shall be appointed and elected as follows: The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master shall appoint Four Members, and the Grand Conclave shall elect, by show of hands, Five Members of such Committee.

8. Every special Grand Conclave, after having been opened in ample form and with solemn prayer, shall proceed to the consideration of the business for which it shall have been convoked; and no other business shall be discussed or transacted at any special Grand Conclave than that for which it shall have been specially convoked.

9. Any Member intending to submit any motion or business to the consideration of the Grand Conclave, shall give notice thereof in writing to the Grand Vice-Chancellor, five weeks at least before the day on which the Grand Conclave shall be held at which such subject is to be discussed, in order that the same may be laid by him before the Committee.

10. No motion shall be made or discussed at any Grand Conclave, unless the same shall be inserted in the summons for such Grand Conclave, or unless the same shall be proposed by the Grand Master, or recommended by the Committee, except any motion that the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master or Pro. Grand Master shall make himself.

11. Every Grand Conclave may adjourn from time to time to a future day, if the business to be conducted thereat shall render it necessary. And a day shall be then fixed for holding the adjourned Grand Conclave; and notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given by the Grand Vice-Chancellor if the day so fixed on will admit of it. No business shall be discussed or transacted at any adjourned Grand Conclave, except that left unfinished at the Grand Conclave from which the adjournment shall take place.

12. Every Knight present at any Grand Conclave must appear in the proper costume of his rank in the Order.

13. On the day on which the Grand Conclave shall be held, a banquet shall be provided, at which every Knight shall be entitled to attend who has previously sent notice of his intention to be present to the Grand Director of Ceremonies.

14. If the Grand Master shall not be present at any Grand Conclave, the Chair shall be taken by the Grand Officer present who shall be next in rank and seniority, and if no Grand Officer shall be present, then by some Eminent Commander or Past Eminent Commander, to be chosen by show of hands, at the meeting, as the Pro. Grand Master.

15. On all questions where the votes of the Knights present shall be equal, the Grand Master or the Pro. Grand Master shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.

16. Every resolution of the Grand Conclave shall become law, and be binding and conclusive, and shall be carried into effect accordingly, without confirmation, unless the Grand Master or Pro. Grand Master shall deem it advisable to direct a summons to be issued within one month for the holding of a Special Grand Conclave for the purpose of reconsidering such resolution, in which case such resolution shall not become law nor be binding and conclusive, nor carried into effect, until confirmed by such Special Grand Conclave.

17. The Grand Conclave shall have power to admonish, fine, suspend, or expel any Knight who may break any of the laws or regulations of the Order; but the fine shall not, for any one offence, exceed the sum of £10, and on refusal to pay the fine the knight offending shall be liable to expulsion from the Order. All fines shall be applied for the purposes of the Grand Conclavq.

18. The Grand Conclave shall have power to suspend or erase any Encampment, for any offence reported to the Grand Conclave by the Committee for General Purposes.

19. The Grand Conclave may delegate to the Committee for General Purposes the power of deciding on and carrying into effect any matter which the Grand Conclave shall think fit.

OF THE GRAND OFFICERS

1. The Grand Officers respectively shall, on their appointment to any office, pay to the funds of the Grand Conclave the following fees of honour, viz.:-The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, ten guineas ; the Deputy Grand Master, five guineas; Provincial Grand Commanders, five guineas the Grand Seneschal, the Grand Prior, Grand Sub-Prior, Grand Prelate, and First and Second Grand Captains, three guineas each; all the other officers, two guineas each. On promotion from one office to another office, a further fee of honour of one guinea will be payable-the appointment of a Second Captain or Past Second Captain to the office of First Captain for this purpose to be considered a promotion; but no further fee is to be payable by any Knight on his reappointment to the same office.

2. All the Grand Officers, except the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, shall be appointed annually, by the Grand Master, from among the subscribing members to some registered Encampment, and shall continue in office for one year, except the Grand Treasurer, who shall be elected annually at the Grand Conclave in May, by the members then present, on motion duly moved and seconded, and by show of hands. And any Grand Officer may be removed from his office by the Grand Master, with the approbation of the Grand Conclave.

OF THE GRAND MASTER

1. The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master shall be elected for the term of three years, and may be re-elected from time to time at the end of each successive period.

2. On the death or resignation of a Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or, if there shall be no Deputy Grand Master, then the Grand Captains of Columns shall direct the Grand Vice-Chancellor to summon a Grand Conclave of the Order, at which another Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master shall be elected; and at the next ensuing Grand Conclave in May the newly elected Grand Master shall be installed and proclaimed, in ancient form.

3. The Grand Master may of his own authority appoint Provincial Grand Commanders for such districts in England and Wales, or any of the dependencies of the United Kingdom, as he may

think fit; but no district shall include the county of Middlesex, which shall be under the special charge of the Grand Master.

4. The Grand Master alone may of his own authority grant warrants for the holding of Encampments of Masonic Knights Templar, at such places in England and Wales, or its dependencies, as he shall think proper.

5. The Grand Master may, if he shall think fit, in the name of the Order, apply to a Prince of the Blood Royal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or to a Prince allied thereto, being resident within these realms, if a Knight of the Order, requesting his acceptance of the honour of Grand Patron of the Order.

6. All communications and applications to the Grand Master concerning the Order, shall be made through the Grand Vice-Chancellor.

7. The Grand Master, or, if the Grand Master shall not be present, then the Deputy Grand Master, may, if he thinks fit, preside in any Provincial Grand Conclave, or in any Encampment he may visit; in which case the Grand Captains, if present, shall act as Captains. If the Grand Captains shall not be present, then the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master may appoint either the Captains of the Provincial Grand Conclave, or, as the case may be, the Captains of the Encampment, or any other Knights present, to act as his Captains pro tempore.

OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

1. In the absence of the Grand Master at any Grand Conclave the Deputy Grand Master, if present, and also during any vacancy in the office of Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master shall have and exercise all the powers, authorities, and privileges given to and vested in the Grand Master.

OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND COMMANDERS

1. Provincial Grand Commanders shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Grand Master; but any Provincial Grand Commander may resign his office.

2. Every Provincial Grand Commander is by his patent invested with rank, powers, and privileges in his district similar to those possessed by the Grand Master, except such powers and privileges as by the statutes of the Order are limited or expressed to be exercised by the Grand Master alone, and except so far as the powers and privileges of the Provincial Grand Commander are limited and restricted by the statutes of the Order. And in case the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, shall think fit to preside at a Provincial Grand Conclave for any district, then the Provincial Grand Commander of such district shall, during such presidency of the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master at such Provincial Grand Conclave, take rank immediately after the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master so presiding. And all powers and authorities of the Provincial Grand Commander of such district shall, during the presidency of the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, but not longer, be suspended; but in no other manner and to no other extent, and under no other circumstances, shall the rank, powers, or privileges of a Provincial Grand Commander in his district be affected by the presence of the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master at a Provincial Grand Conclave of such district.

3. Every Provincial Grand Commander shall once in every year hold a Provincial Grand Conclave, at such place within his district as he may from time to time think fit, and may. appoint

a Deputy Provincial Grand Commander and other provincial grand officers for his district (except the Treasurer), all of whom must be subscribing members to some Encampment or Encampments within his district; and every Provincial Grand Commander shall cause the names and residences of all his grand officers to be annually forwarded to the Grand Vice-Chancellor.

4. The Provincial Grand Commanders shall cause correct minutes of all proceedings at Provincial Grand Conclaves to be entered in books, to be kept for that purpose, and shall, if required, send to the Grand Vice-Chancellor copies of or extracts from such minutes.

5. Every Provincial Grand Commander shall hear and determine, in such manner as he shall think fit, all matters of complaint against Encampments, and irregularity on the part of any Knights within his district, and may proceed to admonish or fine, or even to suspension, until the next Grand Conclave, and shall transmit to the Grand Vice-Chancellor a minute or particular of all proceedings before him, stating the complaint or irregularity, and his decision thereon, and any other special matter he may deem necessary.

6. If the Provincial Grand Commander shall not within a reasonable time proceed on any matter of complaint, or irregularity, then such matter may be transmitted to the Grand Vice-Chancellor, for the purpose of being laid before the Committee for General Purposes.

7. An appeal in all cases lies from a Provincial Grand Commander to the Grand Master in Grand Conclave.

8. The Colonial Provincial Grand Commanders shall have the power to grant temporary warrants for new Encampments within their respective provinces, provided that attested copies of such warrants, together with the proper fees, are forthwith remitted to the Grand Vice-Chancellor for confirmation, by the Grand Master.

9. Every Provincial Grand Commander must have some regular place of abode, and be a subscribing member of some registered Encampment, within his district.

10. Every Provincial Grand Conclave shall fix the fees to be paid to the funds of the Provincial Grand Conclave, by the provincial grand officers of the district on their appointment to their respective offices.

OF THE GRAND CHANCELLOR AND GRAND VICE-CHANCELLOR

1. The Grand Chancellor and the Grand Vice-Chancellor shall be Eminent Commanders or Past Eminent Commanders of some registered Encampment.

2. The Grand Chancellor or Grand Vice-Chancellor shall have the custody of the Seals of the Grand Conclave, and shall affix the same to all patents, warrants, certificates, and other documents issued by the authority of the Grand Conclave, as well as to such as the Grand Master, in conformity with the statutes of the Order, may direct.

3. The Grand Vice-Chancellor shall issue all patents, warrants, certificates, and other documents authorised by the Grand Conclave, or directed by the Grand Master to be issued, and shall take care that the same are prepared in due form.

4. The Grand Chancellor shall have the especial charge of those counties which shall not for the time being be included in the district of some Provincial Grand Commander (except the county of Middlesex), and shall perform all functions of a Provincial Grand Commander of such counties,

and may, if desired by the Encampments (holding their meetings in any such county), hold a Provincial Grand Conclave in such county, and may appoint a Deputy Provincial Grand Commander and other provincial grand officers for such county, with the same authorities and privileges, and under the same regulations, as if appointed by a Provincial Grand Commander.

5. The Grand Vice-Chancellor shall receive the returns from the several Encampments, and enter the *same in a -book to be kept by him for that purpose, and then transmit the same to the Grand Registrar, and forthwith pay over to the Grand Treasurer all money remitted to him on account of the Grand Conclave; and shall also receive all petitions, memorials, communications, and applications to or for the Grand Master, or other proper authority, and attend the Grand Master with such books and papers relating to the Grand Conclave as he may direct.

6. The Grand Vice-Chancellor shall keep a record of all proceedings of the Grand Conclave, and of the Committee for General Purposes, and shall issue all summonses for the Grand Conclave, and for meetings of the Committee.

7. The Grand Vice-Chancellor shall receive all notices of motions to be brought before the Grand Conclave, and on the receipt of each notice shall place a number thereon, for the purpose of denoting the order in which the notices were received by him, and shall lay the same before the meeting of the Committee for General Purposes.

8. The Grand Vice-Chancellor shall insert in the summons for Grand Conclave all notices of motion which the Committee for General Purposes shall direct to be inserted therein; and all such notices of motion shall be inserted in the summons in such order as the Committee shall direct.

9. If the Committee for General Purposes shall reject any notices of motion, as being improper to be made in the Grand Conclave, the Grand Vice-Chancellor shall immediately inform the person who shall have sent such notice of motion, that the same has been rejected by the Committee.

10. The Grand Vice-Chancellor shall transmit to all the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers, and Eminent Commanders of all registered Encampments, immediately after the holding of the Grand Conclave in May in every year, a list of the grand officers for the year, and of the Committee for General Purposes; and also abstracts or copies of the Grand Treasurer's accounts, and of any special resolutions of the Grand Conclave; and shall also transmit all such other papers and documents as may be ordered by the Grand Master, and the Grand Conclave, or as the Committee for General Purposes shall from time to time direct.

11. The Grand Chancellor shall sign and affix the Great Seal of the Order to all certificates of registration of Knights, on receiving the fees payable for the same.

12. The Grand Vice-Chancellor shall issue to each Past Grand Officer, and also to each present and future Grand Officer, who shall require it, a diploma under the hand of the Grand Chancellor and the Great Seal of the Order, of the appointment of such Grand Officer to his office, on receiving the fee payable for the same.

OF THE GRAND REGISTRAR

1. The Grand Registrar shall register in a proper book, to be kept for that purpose, all Encampments holding warrants under the Grand Conclave for England and Wales, specifying the dates of their respective warrants, and the days and places of meeting, and the names and places of abode of all the members of such Encampments, with the dates of their respective installations as Knights Templar, and the numbers and names and places of meeting of the respective R. A. Chapters to which they belong.

2. The Grand Registrar shall also sign all the certificates of registration of Knights.

OF THE GRAND TREASURER

1. The Grand Treasurer shall be elected annually at the Grand Conclave in May.

2. The Grand Treasurer shall receive all money payable to the Grand Conclave, and shall pay thereout all demands on the Grand Conclave, and shall keep an account of all his receipts and disbursements, and shall produce the same, with the proper vouchers, at the audit of the accounts, in the month of April in every year, and shall prepare an abstract of his accounts for circulation immediately after the holding of the Grand Conclave in May of every year.