



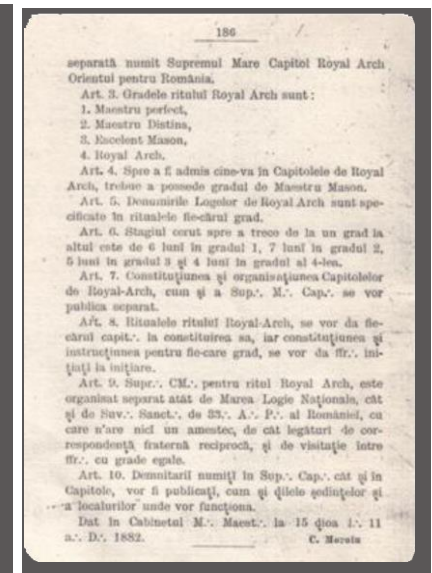
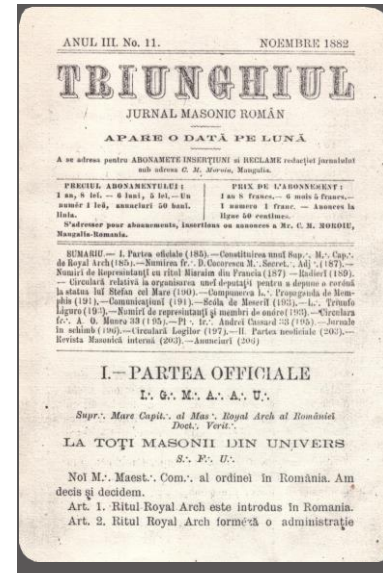
ROYAL ARCH MASONRY – Part 3

Ensuring that the conditions will be met and Brother WEBB will take care of the organization and will preside over the “Second Conference on the Grand Chapter Foundation”, three months later, on January 24, 1798, in Hartford, Connecticut met the delegates of eight Chapters carrying out their work on the territory of four US states. The Conference decided to form the Great Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of North America, and two days later, the Constitution was adopted on January 26, 1798. At the Conference was elected as the first General Grand High Priest, Companion Ephraim KIRBY from Leitchfield, Connecticut, who held this dignity until 1806, while Benjamin HURD from Charlestown, Massachusetts was elected as the First General Grand King. The Excellent Companion HURD succeeded KIRBY, being General Grand High Priest between 1806 and 1816.



At the end of the Second Conference, under the authority of the approved Constitution, the Chapters of the four representative states decided to establish Deputy Grand Chapters. On January 10, 1799, the Constitution was revised, the name of the General Grand Chapter was changed, and the Deputy Grand Chapters became Grand Chapters of States. The powers of the General Grand Chapter referred to ritual control and the establishment of new Chapters in states where there

was no Grand Chapter. Also, the General Grand Chapter retained the right to set up a new Grand Chapter, this right being never attacked, and the rules of the Royal Arch Masonry as they are today are derived from the Constitutions of the General Grand Chapter at that time.



The romanian masonic diary „TRIUNGHIUL“
The attestation of Royal Arch - 15th of November 1882

As the number of Grand Chapters in other states increased, their members supporting the General Grand Chapter, on January 9th, 1806, the name was again changed to the “Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America” and has been used for the next 140 years. However, after the end of the World War II the desire for new bonds was an essential requirement, which led to the formation of new Royal Arch Grand Chapters in different parts of the world. In 1946, it was the time when the name was changed once again in the “General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International”, a name we all know today.

Traian POPESCU
Grand High Priest