

THE LODGE OF RESEARCH,

No. 2429, LEICESTER.

TRANSACTIONS

FOR THE

YEAR 1896-7.

W. Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE (P.M. 523, &c.), D.P.G.M.,
P.A.G.D.C. (Eng.), W.M.

JOHN T. THORP (P.M. 523), P.P.S.G.W.,
P.M. and SECRETARY.

Founders.

- W. Bro. SAMUEL S. PARTRIDGE, P.M. 523, 1560; P.A.G.D.C.
(Eng.); D.P.G.M.
- W. Bro. JOHN T. THORP, P.M. 523; P.P.S.G.W.
- W. Bro. W. M. WILLIAMS, P.M. 279; P.P.S.G.W.
- W. Bro. E. HOLMES, P.M. 279; P.P.S.G.W.; Prov. G. Sec.
- W. Bro. W. H. STAYNES, P.M. 2081; P.P.G. Std. B.
- W. Bro. R. PRATT, M.D.; W.M. 1560.
- W. Bro. F. W. BILLSON, LL.B.; W.M. 1391.
- W. Bro. Rev. H. S. BIGGS, B.A.; P.M. 523; P.P.G. Chap.

Joining Members.

- W. Bro. W. VIAL, P.M. 1007; P.P.S.G.W.
- W. Bro. Rev. H. J. MASON, B.A.; P.M. 1146; P.P.G. Chap.
- W. Bro. J. J. W. KNOWLES, P.M. 1007; P.P.G. Stwd.
- W. Bro. H. HOWE, P.M. 1391; P.P.A.G.D.C.
- W. Bro. W. D. GRANT, P.M. 279; Prov. J.G.D.
- W. Bro. G. NEIGHBOUR, P.M. 523; Prov. G.D.C.
- W. Bro. C. BENNION, P.M. 279; P.P.G. Swd. B.
- W. Bro. W. H. LEAD, P.M. 2081; P.P.S.G.D.
- W. Bro. R. B. STARKEY, P.M. and Treas. 1391; Prov. S.G.D.
- Bro. L. STAINES, S.D. 523; P.P.G. Org.

Honorary Members.

- W. Bro. W. H. BARROW, Mus. Doc.; P.M. 523; P.P.S.G.D.
- W. Bro. G. W. SPETH, P.M. and Sec. 2076; P.A.G.D.C. (Eng.).
- W. Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, P.M. 131 Truro; P.S.G.D. (Eng.).
- W. Bro. G. W. BAIN, P.M. 949 Sunderland; P.P.G. Reg. Durham.

Members of the Correspondence Circle.

- Bro. W. A. LEA, S.W. 523.
 W. Bro. F. S. WATERMAN, W.M. 2081.
 W. Bro. E. C. KILBY, P.M. 2081.
 W. Bro. J. MEAD, P.M. 785 Red Hill.
 W. Bro. G. E. TURNER, P.M. 1266 Blandford; P.P.G. Supt. Wks. Dorset.
 W. Bro. W. S. FULSHAW, P.M. 50; Prov. G. Std. B.
 W. Bro. AR. GREEN, P.M. 2028; P.P.G. Std. B.
 Bro. G. GIBBONS, 1391.
 Bro. J. CUNNINGHAM, S.D. 1391.
 Bro. A. F. HOLLAND, 523.
 W. Bro. W. J. FREER, P.M. 1130 and 1560; P.P.G. Reg.
 W. Bro. A. FERGUSON, P.M. 1391; P.P.J.G.D.
 W. Bro. F. B. WILMER, P.M. and Sec. 2028; P.P.J.G.W.
 Bro. J. CLIFTON, S.W. 279; P.P.G. Stwd.
 W. Bro. W. BRANLEY, P.M. 1265; P.P.G. Stwd.
 W. Bro. JNO. LANE, F.C.A.; P.M. 1402 Torquay; P.A.G.D.C. (Eng.).
 Bro. HOWARD J. COLLINS, 887 Birmingham.
 W. Bro. G. W. G. BARNARD, P.M. 943 Norwich; Prov. Gd. Sec. Norfolk.
 Bro. ALEX. B. BROWN, 1503 Twickenham.
 Bro. C. H. PAGE, J.D. 1391.
 W. Bro. HY. B. BROWNE, P.M. 1350 Liverpool; P.P.G.D. Cheshire.
 W. Bro. C. L. FERNELEY, P.M. 1130; P.P.G. Std. B.
 W. Bro. W. H. SWINGLER, P.M. 2081; P.P.A.G.D.C.
 W. Bro. JNO. HARRISON, P.M. 1391; P.P.G. Std. B.
 Bro. S. P. PICK, Stwd. 279.
 Bro. C. F. SPENCER, 2081.
 W. Bro. H. PICKERING, P.M. 279; P.P.J.G.D.

- W. Bro. W. J. CURTIS, P.M. 523 ; P.P.J.G.D.
- W. Bro. W. A. SPENCER, P.M. 523 ; Prov. G. Std. B.
- Bro. W. T. COLTMAN, J.W. 523.
- Bro. JNO. PLATTS, 1130.
- W. Bro. E. F. KNIGHT, P.M. 1130 ; P.P.G. Stwd.
- Bro. W. E. KEITES, S.D. 279.
- W. Bro. C. A. JAHN, P.M. 2081 ; Prov. G. Swd. B.
- Bro. C. C. LITTLEFIELD, Sec. "Joseph Webb" Lo., Boston, U.S.A.
- W. Bro. C. F. OLIVER, P.M. 1007 ; Prov. G. Reg.
- Bro. E. V. OLIVER, Stwd. 1007.
- W. Bro. H. M. RUSTOMJEE, P.M. 67, 229, 2037, Calcutta ; P.D.S.G.W. and Dis. Gd. Sec. Bengal ; P.A.G.D.C. (Eng.).
- W. Bro. P. C. DUTT, P.M. 131, 234, 2446 ; Dep. D. Gd. Master, Bengal.
- W. Bro. R. PORTER KEATES, P.M. 2428 ; W.M. 779 ; Prov. A.G.D.C.
- Bro. JOSEPH BERRIDGE, 1391.
- Bro. GEO. C. NEVILLE, 523.
- Bro. P. JOSEPH, 960.
- Bro. F. W. CROSS, 539 Walsall.
- W. Bro. M. C. PECK, P.M. ; Prov. G. Sec. N. and E. Yorks ; P.G. Std. B. (Eng.).
- Bro. A. SMITH, S.D. 1007.
- W. Bro. A. J. WEST, P.M. 2081 ; P.P.G. Swd. B.
- W. Bro. A. CHAMBERS, P.M. 1391 ; P.P.G. Supt. Wks.
- Bro. G. J. RODWAY, 1391.
- Bro. R. H. WARREN, 1391
- Bro. A. H. HAMPSON, 523.
- W. Bro. J. C. S. BURKITT, M.D. ; P.M. 779 and 2428.
- W. Bro. W. J. C. CRAWLEY, LL.D., D.C.L., F.R.G.S., F.G.S., F.R.H.S. ; P.M. 357 (I.C.) Dublin ; P.S.G.D. (Ireland).
- W. Bro. H. SAMUELS, P.M. 960 Cardiff ; P.P.S.G.D. South Wales.
- W. Bro. R. B. SMITH, L.R.C.P. ; P.M. 50 ; Prov. S.G.W.
- W. Bro. H. W. DIEPERINK, M.D. ; Lodge de Goede Hoop (D.C.) ; P.M. 334, Cape Town.

- W. Bro. ROBT. HALL, P.M. 1495 Matlock ; Prov. G. Supt. Wks. Derbyshire.
- Bro. C. S. BREWER, S.W. 2433 Birkenhead.
- Bro. H. C. BEEBY, J.D. 2081.
- Bro. H. E. CLAYTON, 523.
- Bro. W. SHEEN, Stwd. 1391.
- Bro. A. T. BLAKESLEY, I.G. 50.
- Bro. G. BONNER, 523.
- W. Bro. F. LAMBERT, P.M. 1391.
- W. Bro. A. W. LE CREN, P.M. 1320 London.
- W. Bro. T. S. H. ASHWELL, P.M. 1391 ; P.P.G. Std. B.
- Bro. J. J. MORRIS, S.W. 2081.
- Bro. W. WALTERS, J.W. 1391.
- W. Bro. T. B. WHYTEHEAD, P.M. 1611 York ; P.P.G.W., N. and E. Yorks. ; P.G. Swd. B. (Eng.).
- W. Bro. Gen. S. C. LAWRENCE, Boston ; Past Grand Master, Gd. Lo. of Massachusetts.
- W. Bro. S. D. NICKERSON, Boston ; Past Grand Master, Gd. Lo. of Massachusetts ; Cor. Gd. Sec., Mass.
- W. Bro. F. C. CROSSLE, M.B. ; P.M. 18, Newry ; Prov. Gd. Sec. Down.
- W. Bro. J. MACNAUGHT CAMPBELL, C.E., F.Z.S., F.R.S.G.S., P.M. 0, 408, 553, 817 Glasgow ; P.P.J.G.W. Glasgow ; P.G. Bible Bearer (Scotland).
- W. Bro. H. F. NEWMAN, P.M. 117 Shrewsbury ; Prov. G.A.D.C. Shropshire.
- Bro. F. GARDNER, Sec. 818 Abergavenny.
- W. Bro. S. B. WILKINSON, W.M. 360 Northampton ; Prov. S.G.W. Norths. and Hunts.

Dates of Meetings for 1897-8.

- September 27th, 1897. Installation.
- November 22nd, 1897.
- January 24th, 1898.
- March 28th, 1898.
- May 23rd, 1898. Election.
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Officers, 1896-97.

W. Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE (P.M. 523 &c.) D.P.G.M. ; P.A.G.D.C. (Eng.),	W.M.
W. Bro. W. H. STAYNES (P.M. 2081), P.P.G. Std. B.,	I.P.M.
W. Bro. R. PRATT, M.D. (W.M. 1560),	S.W.
W. Bro. F. W. BILLSON, LL.B. (W.M. 1391),	J.W.
W. Bro. Rev. H. J. MASON, B.A. (P.M. 1146), P.P.G. Chap.,	Chaplain.
W. Bro. W. D. GRANT (P.M. 279), Prov. J.G.D.,	Treasurer.
W. Bro. JOHN T. THORP (P.M. 523), P.M., P.P.S.G.W.,	Secretary.
W. Bro. Rev. H. S. BIGGS, B.A. (I.P.M. 523), P.P.G. Chap.,	S.D.
W. Bro. J. J. W. KNOWLES (P.M. 1007), P.P.G. Stwd.,	J.D.
W. Bro. W. VIAL (P.M. 1007), P.P.S.G.W.,	I.G.
Bro. JAS. TANSER, Prov. G. Tyler,	Tyler.

Treasurer's Address : Roxburgh House, New Walk, Leicester.

Secretary's Address : 57, Regent Road, Leicester.

Objects.

To provide a centre and bond of union for Masonic Students and Brethren of Literary tastes.

To provide and encourage an exemplary rendering of the Masonic Ritual and Ceremonies.

To attract and interest Brethren by means of papers upon the History, Antiquities, and Symbols of the Craft, in order to imbue them with a love for Masonic Research.

And generally—to cultivate Masonic good-fellowship, and promote the Grand Principles upon which our Order is founded.

Correspondence Circle.

The Members of the Correspondence Circle shall be placed upon the following footing, that is to say:—

1. They shall be entitled—

- (a) To have posted to them, as issued, the Summonses convoking the Meetings of the Lodge.
- (b) To be supplied, at cost price, with any papers or transactions that may be published.
- (c) To attend the Meetings of the Lodge.
- (d) To take part in discussions relating to any papers which may be read, or subject of general Masonic interest which may be introduced.
- (e) To read papers and introduce discussions on Masonic subjects by arrangement.

(It is hoped that a copy of any paper, read will be presented to the Lodge for preservation).

They shall not, however, be entitled to vote, hold office, or take part in the management of the Lodge.

The Members of the Lodge will, *as a rule*, be elected from the Correspondence Circle.

- 2. A Candidate for Membership of the Correspondence Circle shall be subject to election by the Members of the Lodge ; (such election shall be by ballot, and two black balls shall exclude).
- 3. The names of Candidates must be submitted to the Permanent Committee through the Secretary, at least fourteen days prior to the Meeting at which it is intended they should be proposed.
- 4. No Entrance Fee shall be required, and the Annual Subscription shall be 5/-, payable in advance in the month of September.
- 5. The Lodge reserves to itself the full power of excluding any Member from the Correspondence Circle whom it may deem unworthy of continued Membership.

NOTE.—All Master Masons, whether Members of Lodges in this Province or elsewhere, are eligible for Membership of the Correspondence Circle.

The Twenty-First Meeting

and

Fourth Anniversary Festival

of the Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Monday, September 28th, 1896.

The Worshipful Master, Bro. W. H. STAYNES (P.M. 2081), P.P.G. Std. B., occupied the Chair, and was supported by the following Members and Visitors :—

Bros. S. S. PARTRIDGE (P.M. 523 and 1560), D.P.G.M., P.A.G.D.C. (Eng.), W.M. elect; R. PRATT, M.D., S.W.; F. W. BILLSON, LL.B., J.W.; Rev. H. J. MASON, B.A. (P.M. 1146), P.P.G. Chaplain, Chaplain; J. T. THORP (P.M. 523), P.P.S.G.W., P.M. and Secretary; Rev. H. S. BIGGS, B.A. (W.M. 523), P.P.G. Chaplain, S.D.; J. J. W. KNOWLES (P.M. 1007), Prov. G. Std., J.D.; J. TANSER, Prov. G. Tyler, Tyler; E. HOLMES (P.M. 279), P.M., Prov. G. Sec.; G. NEIGHBOUR (P.M. 523), Prov. G. D.C.; R. B. STARKEY (P.M. 1391), P.P.A.G.P.; L. STAINES, P.P.G. Org.

Hon. Mem.—Bro. G. W. SPETH, Sec. Lo. 2076, P.A.G.D.C. (Eng.).

Members of the Cor. Cir.—Bros. A. FERGUSSON, P.M. 1391, P.P.J.G.D.; A. CHAMBERS, P.M. 1391, Prov. G. Supt. Wks.; J. CLIFTON, J.W. 279, Prov. G. Stwd.; H. PICKERING, P.M. 279, Prov. G.J.D.; E. C. KILBY, W.M. 2081; F. LAMBERT, W.M. 1391; W. S. FULSHAW, P.M. 50; W. A. LEA, J.W. 523; A. SMITH, J.D. 1007; J. BERRIDGE, 1391; P. JOSEPH, 960; H. E. CLAYTON, 523; G. GIBBONS, 1391; G. J. RODWAY, 1391; and G. BONNER, 523.

Visitors.—Bros. Rev. C. H. WOOD, P.M. 1560, P.P.S.G.W.; R. MICHIE, P.M. 279, P.P.J.G.D.; H. G. MARRIOTT, P.M. 2028; R. J. LULHAM, S.W. 523; J. G. COLLIS, J.W. 2028; W. WALTERS, Sec. 1391; C. CROSSLEY, I.G. 1560; W. M. COWDELL, 523; W. BREAM, Stwd. 523; F. W. LILBURN, 2028; F. J. DALE, 1391; R. L. ADKINSON, 1391; W. CARR, 1391; T. W. GODDARD, 1007; J. KEIGHTLY, 1391; and J. GARNER, 279.

The Lodge having been opened, the Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed and the distinguished visitors saluted, after which the

following Brethren were elected Members of the Correspondence Circle of the Lodge, viz. :—

- Bro. F. LAMBERT, W.M. 1391.
- „ A. W. LE CREN, W.M. 1320 (London).
- „ T. S. H. ASHWELL, P.M. 1391, P.P.G. Std. B.
- „ J. J. MORRIS, S.D. 2081.

The Ceremony of Installation was then proceeded with, when W. Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, D.P.G.M., was duly installed into the Chair by the retiring Worshipful Master, Bro. W. H. STAYNES. The following Brethren were subsequently appointed and invested as Officers of the Lodge for the ensuing year, viz. :—

- Bro. W. H. STAYNES, I.P.M.
- „ Dr. R. PRATT, S.W.
- „ F. W. BILLSON, J.W.
- „ Rev. H. J. MASON, Chaplain.
- „ W. D. GRANT, Treasurer.
- „ J. T. THORP, Secretary.
- „ Rev. H. S. BIGGS, S.D.
- „ J. J. W. KNOWLES, J.D.
- „ W. VIAL, I.G.
- „ JAS. TANSER, Tyler.

The Treasurer's Accounts were passed, and a vote of thanks accorded to him for his services, after which the following Members were elected to represent the Lodge on the various local Masonic Committees, viz. :—

- Prov. Com. of Gen. Purposes : Bro. J. T. THORP.
- Prov. Charity Com. : Bro. Dr. PRATT.
- Freemasons' Hall Com. : Bros. R. B. STARKEY and F. W. BILLSON.
- Com. of Prov. Mas. Char. Ass. : Bro. Rev. H. J. MASON.

The following Paper was then read :—

Distinguished Leicestershire Freemasons of the 17th and 18th Centuries.

By Bro. J. T. THORP, P.M., Secretary.

ALTHOUGH Freemasonry appears to have taken little hold in Leicestershire, until the establishment of St. John's Lodge, (now No. 279) in the year 1790, still a number of members of our County families, held high office in the Craft at different times throughout the 18th century, and it is sincerely to be regretted, that none of them took an active part in Masonry in their own County.

It will not be without some interest to the Leicestershire Masons of to-day, to learn who these old Masons were, and what services they rendered to the Craft, and with the object of placing these on record, the present Paper has been prepared.

It is a well-known historical fact, that during the 17th century the old *operative* Lodges were gradually changing to *speculative*, and one of the earliest records of the existence of a *non-operative* Lodge of Freemasons occurs in the Diary of Elias Ashmole, the Antiquarian and Founder of the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. This Lodge was held at Warrington in Lancashire, and Ashmole was initiated therein in the year 1646.

The following is the extract from his Diary, which is still preserved at Oxford:—

“1646. Oct. 16th. 4.30. P.M.—I was made a Free Mason at Warrington in Lancashire, with Coll: Henry Mainwaring of Karincham in Cheshire. The names of those that were then of the Lodge (were) M^r Rich Penket Warden, M^r James Collier, M^r Rich. Sankey, Henry Littler, John Ellam, Rich: Ellam & Hugh Brewer.”

Bro. W. H. Rylands shows that nearly all those present were men of position, *and not one of them operative masons*, therefore the *speculative* character of the lodge is evident.*

Another entry in the Diary of a Masonic character is as follows:

“March, 1682.

10.—About 5 P.M. I rec^d a Sumons to app^r at a Lodge to be held the next day, at Masons Hall London.

11.—Accordingly I went, & about Noone were admitted into the Fellowship of Free Masous,

S^r William Wilson Knight, Capt. Rich: Borthwick, M^r Will: Woodman, M^r W^m Grey, M^r Samuel Taylour & M^r William Wise.

I was the Senior Fellow among them (it being 35 yeares since I was admitted.)

There were p^r sent beside my selfe the Fellowes after named. M^r Tho: Wise, M^r of the Masons Company this p^r sent yeare. M^r Thomas Shorthose, M^r Thomas Shadbolt, — Wainsford Esq^r, M^r Nich: Young, M^r John Shorthose, M^r William Hamon, M^r John Thompson, & M^r Will: Stanton.

Wee all dynd at the halfe Moone Taverne in Cheapeside, at a Noble dinner prepared at the charge of the New = accepted Masons.”

* Conder's "Hole Craftes," p. 204.

From the place of meeting being Masons Hall, it might be inferred that this was a meeting of the Company or Guild, more especially as out of the sixteen persons named, ten belonged to the City Company, but the other six never did; and out of the six candidates for initiation two were already members of the City Company. Besides, in the extract, Ashmole, who never belonged to the Company, draws a distinction between the Masons Company and the Fraternity of Freemasons.*

Now the Sir William Wilson, Knight, who heads the list of those admitted on March 11th, 1682, was a Leicestershire man.

I. SIR WILLIAM WILSON, KNT.

This man was born in Leicester, and was a builder and architect. He married Jane, the widow of Henry Pudsey, and went to reside at Sutton near Birmingham. His wife's influence obtained knighthood for him in 1681. In 1694, a fire at Warwick having destroyed the greater part of St. Mary's Church, Sir William Wilson was selected by the Crown Commissioners to reconstruct it. He built Four Oaks Hall, near Birmingham, for Lord Ffolliott, who had married one of his step-daughters; he also re-built Nottingham Castle, and was the sculptor of the statue of Charles II. at the west front of Lichfield cathedral. He died in 1710 in the 70th year of his age.†

II. JOHN CAMPBELL, 4TH EARL OF LOUDOUN.

This Brother attended Grand Lodge on April 17, 1735, and on April 6th, 1736, he was elected Grand Master and forthwith duly saluted. The Assembly and Feast was held at Fishmongers' Hall, on the 15th of April following, when "D.G. *Master* WARD with his *Wardens* and . . . with many other Brothers all duly clothed, attended the *Grand Master Elect*; and from his House in *Whitehall* made the *Procession of March*, with the Band of Musick, *Eastward* to the *Hall*: Where all Things being regularly transacted as above, D.G. *Master Ward* proclaim'd aloud, our noble Brother JOHN CAMPBELL Earl of *Loudoun* GRAND MASTER of *Masons*, who appointed &c., &c. . . ."‡ His appointment of Grand Officers gave offence to some of the Brethren, who subsequently withdrew from the Society.§ He did not attend Grand Lodge again until April 13th, 1737, when he "proposed for his Successor the Earl of *Darnley*, Master of a *Lodge*, who was forthwith saluted as *Grand Master Elect*." From 1738 to 1745 he attended the Meetings of Grand Lodge very frequently;—he was appointed on the

* "What is Freemasonry?" G. W. Speth, p. 21.

† From "The Forest and Chase of Sutton Coldfield."

‡ B.C. 1746; p. 145.

§ A.Q.C., Vol. VI, p. 47.

Committee for the revision of the Book of Constitutions in 1754, and his last recorded attendance in Grand Lodge was on April 10th, 1755. From this latter year till his death in 1782, his time was probably occupied by his duties as a General in the army; in 1756 he commanded the British troops in America, and in 1758 took part in the St. Malo expedition. This distinguished Brother was an ancestor of the Hon. Paulyn Hastings, P.M. of the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 779, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

III. LORD GREY OF GROBY.

He was present at the Assembly and Feast on April 28th, 1737, and again a year later on April 27th, 1738. In 1739 he succeeded his father as 4th Earl of Stamford, and appears never to have attended Grand Lodge afterwards.

IV. HON. ROBERT SHIRLEY.

Several members of this old Leicestershire family held high office in the Grand Lodge of England, in the 18th century, and it is pleasing to note, that a representative of the family, in the person of the present Earl Ferrers, continues to take an interest in the affairs of the Craft.

The Hon. Robert Shirley was Grand Steward and Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England in the year 1747, but his subsequent visits to Grand Lodge were few and far between, his name only appearing once between 1747 and 1779. In 1778 he succeeded his brother as 6th Earl Ferrers, and in June of the following year he joined the Lodge of the Nine Muses, No. 502, a very fashionable London Lodge, and for some years was frequently present at the Meetings of Grand Lodge. He died in 1787.

V. WASHINGTON SHIRLEY, 5TH EARL FERRERS.

At the Meeting of the Grand Lodge held March 29th, 1762, "the Right Hon. Lord CARYSFORT proposed to the *Grand Lodge* the Right Hon. Earl *Ferrers*, Viscount *Tamworth*, who is a *Mason*, and Master of the *Horn Lodge* in *Westminster*, to be *Grand Master* for the ensuing Year, which was received with the highest Satisfaction. The *Deputy Grand Master* acquainted the Brethren, that his Lordship was willing to accept of the Honour of being GRAND MASTER, and that he would do every Thing in his Power to make *Masonry* flourish."* The Assembly and Feast was held at Vintners Hall on May 3rd, 1762, when Earl

* B.C. 1767, p. 287.

Ferrers was invested as Grand Master; he was again unanimously elected on May 3rd, 1763, to serve a second term of office as Grand Master. He was also elected in 1774, together with Lord Petre, the Duke of Beaufort, the Duke of Chandos and Viscount Dudley, a Trustee of Freemasons' Hall, London, and subscribed £25 to the Fund for its erection. He was for some time Vice Admiral of the Blue, and died in 1778.

VI. HON. THOMAS SHIRLEY.

This is another member of the same family as the last. He was Grand Steward and Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England in 1764. After the expiration of his year of office, he appears only to have attended Grand Lodge upon one occasion, viz., May 14th, 1766.

VII. ANTHONY KECK, Esq., OF STOUGHTON.

This Brother was appointed Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of England in the year 1765. His name also appears on one of the earliest Grand Chapter (R.A.) Lists.

VIII. HON. THOMAS NOEL.

After serving the office of Grand Steward in 1773, this Brother was appointed Senior Grand Warden on May 2nd, 1774. On the death of his father on October 31st, 1774, he became Viscount Wentworth, and resigned his office of Senior Grand Warden before the end of his term, his resignation being announced at the Meeting of Grand Lodge held on April 28th, 1775. He was Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Friendship, No. 3, London, in March, 1775,* but his name only appears once after that date, in the list of those attending the Meetings of the Grand Lodge, viz., on April 29th, 1778. This Brother was M.P. for the County of Leicester from 1773 to 1778:

IX. SIR THOMAS FOWKE, KNT.

Early in the year 1774, a deputation was granted by Lord Petre, Grand Master, to Thomas Fowke, Esq., at that time an officer in the Guards, and Groom of the Bed-chamber to H.R.H. The Duke of Cumberland (brother of George III.) and afterwards Grand Master of England, appointing him to preside over the Craft in the province of Leicestershire. He was the first Provincial Grand Master for the Province, and attended Grand Lodge in that capacity on May 2nd, 1774.

*A. Q. C., VIII., p. 2).

He received the honor of knighthood in 1779, and continued in the office of Prov. Gd. Master till his death on November 7th, 1786. He was the father of the late Sir Frederick Gustavus Fowke (created Baronet in 1814) who was Prov. Gd. Master of Leicestershire from 1851 to 1856.

X. VISCOUNT TAMWORTH.

This Brother was the elder son of the 6th Earl Ferrers, and was born in 1756. He was initiated in the Lodge of the Nine Muses, No. 502, London, on December 8th, 1778; many of the Shirley family were initiated in this famous Lodge, but its early records being lost, it cannot now be ascertained if they ever presided over its destinies. He was President of the Board of Grand Stewards, and Senior Grand Warden in the year 1779, subsequently attending many of the Meetings of Grand Lodge, in company with his father, during the years 1780 to 1782. He subscribed £25 towards the Fund for the erection of Freemasons' Hall, London, succeeded his father as 7th Earl Ferrers in 1787, and died in 1827. During the latter years of his life he took no interest in Freemasonry.

XI. JOHN PEACH HUNGERFORD, Esq.

In the year 1780, this Brother filled the offices of Grand Steward and Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, but seems to have taken little interest in Masonry, as he only attended once during his year of office. He was High Sheriff for the County of Leicestershire in the year 1772, and M.P. (also for the County) from 1774 to 1790.

XII. HON. WASHINGTON SHIRLEY.

Younger son of the the 6th and brother of the 7th Earl Ferrers. He was born in the year 1760, and at one period of his life was a most enthusiastic Freemason. He was initiated in the Lodge of the Nine Muses, No. 502 London, on April 4th, 1782, and in the following year was appointed by the Grand Master, the Duke of Cumberland, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, holding at the same time the position of President of the Board of Grand Stewards. From 1784 to 1810 he was rarely present at the Meetings of Grand Lodge, but in the latter year he was appointed Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire, and attended nearly every Meeting of Grand Lodge for the next seventeen years, sometimes presiding over the Meeting in the absence of the Grand Master. He took a prominent part in the negotiations, which resulted in the Union of the two rival Grand Lodges in 1813, and seconded the resolution proposed by the Duke of Kent, that the Duke of Sussex should be the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge. He served on the Board of General Purposes

from 1815 to 1822, and again in 1826, was Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire from 1831 to 1837, and a Vice-president of both the Masonic Schools. He also presided over the Royal Arch Masons of Warwickshire from 1812 to 1842, and occupied the post of Third Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter in 1830. His last recorded attendance in Grand Lodge was on September 15th, 1831, but he remained Prov. Gd. Master of Warwickshire until his death, a period of thirty-two years. He was present at the Festival of St. John's Lodge, Leicester, on December 27th, 1831, was elected a joining Member of the Lodge, and subsequently presented to the Brethren the three brass luminaries, which are still in use. This distinguished Freemason succeeded his brother as 8th Earl Ferrers in 1827, and died October 2nd, 1842, in the 82nd year of his age. He was the great grandfather of the present Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire and Rutland.

XIII. LORD RANCLIFFE.*

Thomas Boothby Parkyns, Esq., afterwards 1st Lord Rancliffe, was the eldest son of Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart., and a descendant of Mr. Parkyns, who was Recorder for the Borough of Leicester in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He was a brother officer in the Guards with Thomas Fowke, Esq., and both were at the same time equerries to H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland. He succeeded Sir Thomas Fowke as second Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire, a position which he held from 1788 to 1800; he was also

Prov. Gd. Master for Nottinghamshire, 1783 to 1800.

 " " " Rutland, 1789 to 1798.

 " " " Derbyshire, 1789 to 1800.

Prov. Gd. Supt. (R.A.) for Leicestershire, 1793 to 1800.

He rarely attended the Meetings of Grand Lodge, but occupied a distinguished position among the Higher Degrees, being the Principal Z. of the Grand R. A. Chapter, Grand Master of Knights Templar, Red Cross and other Chivalric Orders. He was also a Trustee of the Masonic Benevolent Society established in 1799. On October 1st, 1795, he was created Lord Rancliffe in the Peerage of Ireland, and died in 1800. He sat in the House of Commons as Member for the Borough of Leicester from 1788 till his death.

XIV. REV. WILLIAM PETERS.†

This Brother was initiated in the Somerset House Lodge, No. 2, London, on February 27th, 1769, and in 1787 was a Founder and the first Secretary of the Prince of Wales Lodge (now No. 259), London, resigning his membership in 1794. The rank of Grand Portrait

* *Vide Transactions 1893-4, p. 23.*

† *Vide Transactions 1894-5, p. 39.*

Painter was conferred upon him by the Grand Master, the Duke of Cumberland, on November 23rd, 1783, in recognition of his painting and presenting to the Grand Lodge, the portraits of Lord Petre (G.M. 1772-6), and the Duke of Manchester (G.M. 1777-82). He subsequently painted for the Grand Lodge, the portraits of the Duke of Cumberland (G.M. 1782-90) and the Prince of Wales (G.M. 1790-1813), for the latter of which he received the sum of Eighty-four pounds; all four portraits were unfortunately destroyed by fire on May 3rd, 1883.

Bro. Peters was the first Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire, having been appointed to that office in the year 1793 by the Prov. Gd. Master, Thomas Boothby Parkyns, Esq., M.P. (afterwards Lord Rancliffe); he was also Prov. Gd. Master of Lincolnshire from 1792; both of these offices he held till his death in 1814. In his capacity as clergyman, he was Chaplain in Ordinary to the Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV.), and became successively Rector of Scaford (Leicestershire), Rector of Knipton (Leicestershire), Rector of Woolsthorpe (Lincolnshire), Vicar of Eaton (Leicestershire), and Prebendary of Lincoln Cathedral.

XV. EARL OF MOIRA.*

This nobleman, who in his earlier years was known as Francis, Lord Rawdon, was not only a distinguished soldier, but also one of the worthiest Freemasons of his time. He was born December 9th, 1754, and having embraced a military career, embarked in 1773 to join the British troops in America. He fought in the battle of Bunker's Hill, and rising step by step became lieutenant-colonel in 1778. A severe illness obliged him to quit the army and return to England, but the vessel in which he embarked was captured and carried into Brest; he was however speedily released, and upon his arrival in England was made aide-de-camp to the King, and raised to the English peerage by the title of Baron Rawdon, of Rawdon, March 5th, 1783. On June 20th, 1793, he succeeded his father as 2nd Earl of Moira, and on December 7th, 1816, was created Marquess of Hastings.

His career as a Freemason was equally distinguished. During the Grand Masterships of the Duke of Cumberland and the Prince of Wales (1790 to 1813), he was annually appointed Acting Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, paying a fee of ten guineas for each of the twenty-two years he held office. In the year 1790 (May 12th) he initiated in the Britannia Lodge, No. 27, London, H.R.H. Prince William Frederick, afterwards Duke of Gloucester, a nephew of George III., and on May 11th, 1796, a Special Lodge was held at the Earl of Moira's house, for the purpose of initiating H.R.H. Prince Ernest

* *Vide Transactions 1895-6, pp. 41-2.*

Augustus, fifth son of George III., afterwards Duke of Cumberland and King of Hanover. As a proof of the cordial relations existing between the Royal Princes and the Earl of Moira, the following may be cited : at the Annual Feast at Freemasons' Hall, on May 13th, 1795, the Prince of Wales proposed the following toast, "The Earl of Moira, Acting Grand Master, the man of my heart and the friend I admire."

Besides being Acting Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, he held a similar position in the Grand Lodge of Scotland for the years 1806-7 ; he was also First Grand Principal of the Grand R. A. Chapter of England from 1804 to 1809, and was appointed Capt. Gen. of the Gd. Conclave of Knights Templars by the Duke of Sussex in 1812.

In the year 1813 he was appointed Governor-General of India, and prior to his departure was entertained* at a farewell banquet, presided over by the Duke of Sussex, Deputy Grand Master, when a Jewel of the value of £1000 was presented to him in gratitude for his eminent services, and as a token of the esteem and affection in which he was held by the Freemasons of England ; more than five hundred brethren attended, including six royal dukes, viz. : the Dukes of Sussex, York, Clarence, Kent, Cumberland and Gloucester.

The Earl of Moira retained the post of Governor-General of India from 1813 to 1823, when he returned to England, and passing through Leicester on the way to his seat near Ashby, was presented with an Address by the Freemasons of Leicester. The following year he was appointed Governor of Malta, which post he held until his death, which took place on board H.M.S. "Revenge" at Naples, on November 28th, 1826.

He was not only a Freemason in name, but had learned well its precepts, for contemporary records state, that his excessive liberality and unbounded generosity had so impoverished him, that his ample fortune sank under the benevolence of his nature.

Leicestershire has just grounds to be proud of the Masonic services of its 18th century brethren ; the province has given two Grand Masters to the Craft, and the most distinguished Pro Grand Master the Grand Lodge of England ever had, resided at Donington Park, Leicestershire. Whilst therefore the Brethren of the Province are proud of their honourable traditions, they should take heed, that they hand them down unsullied to future generations of Freemasons.

After the Paper had been read, several of the Brethren spoke, including Bros. G. W. SPETH, F. W. BILLSON, J.W., and Rev. C. H.

Wood, P.M. 1560, the last-named thanking the Members on behalf of the Visitors, for the opportunity of being present, to hear the interesting chapter of local Masonic history.

The Resignation as a Member of the Cor. Cir. was received with regret from Bro. T. COLTMAN, P.M. 1265, P.P.G. Reg.

The following Curios from his own Collection, were exhibited and described by the SECRETARY :--

(a.) Engraved Portrait of Montgomerie, Grand Guarder, 1738. (A. F. V. Muelen. Pinx. — A. V. Haecker, fecit.)

(b.) A Centenary Jewel of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, London, 1735-1835. This Jewel was designed by Wm. Hogarth, the celebrated painter, and is worn only by those who have been Grand Stewards of England. Hogarth was Grand Steward in 1735, when the Lodge was formed. The design of the Jewel is unique and effective. The outer rim or circle is set in white brilliants, within which are the rays of the sun in gold, the brilliants in the setting of which are red. The three movable Jewels form a design in the centre. The level appears to hang from the head of the Jewel, while below this is the plumb suspended under and midway between the points of the square. The Jewel and the setting is of silver. At the head are the letters G.S.L. in gold, while attached to the foot is a scroll of gold with the inscription "1735 Centenary 1835."

In 1835 the members of the Lodge petitioned the Grand Master for permission to wear a special Centenary Jewel ; this was refused, but they were allowed to add to the Jewel they had hitherto worn, the letters G.S.L. in gold at the head, and at the foot the scroll in gold as described above. These additions were only allowed to the jewels of those, who were members of the Lodge when the permission was granted, and not to any subsequent members, hence the Jewel with the additions is exceedingly rare. The specimen exhibited was originally worn by Bro. Richard Lea Wilson, who was Grand Steward in 1834. Another specimen is in the Worcester collection.

(c.) Six French Engravings (*circa* 1740) :—1. "Assemblée de Francs-Maçons pour la reception des Apprentifs. Entrée du Recipiendaire dans la Loge." 2. "Assemblée de Francs-Maçons pour la reception des Maitres. Le second Surveillant fait le signe de Maitre et va chercher le Recipiendaire &c." 3. "Assemblée de Francs-Maçons pour la reception des Maitres. Entrée du Recipiendaire dans la Loge." 4. "Assemblée de Francs-Maçons pour la reception des Apprentifs. Le Recipiendaire fait serment, avec imprécation la main sur l'Evangile &c." 5. "Assemblée de Francs-Maçons pour la Reception des Maitres. On couche le Recipiendaire sur le Cercueil dessiné dans la Loge." 6. "Assemblée de Francs-Maçons pour la reception des Maitres. Le Recipiendaire est couché sur le Cercueil &c."

NOTE.—This set should consist of seven plates, but No. 7 plate is missing.

Apologies for absence were tendered from various Brethren, including Bros. W. J. HUGHAN, JNO. LANE, and W. D. GRANT, Treas. Hearty Good Wishes were offered and the Lodge was closed.

The usual *Conversazione* followed, the Brethren enjoying the customary fraternal intercourse.

The Twenty-Second Meeting

of the Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Monday, November 23rd, 1896.

The Lodge was presided over by the Worshipful Master, Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, D.P.G.M., and there was a good attendance of Members and Visitors.

After the Minutes of the last Meeting had been read and confirmed, the four Brethren, as under, were unanimously elected Members of the Correspondence Circle of the Lodge, viz. :—

- Bro. W. WALTERS, Sec. 1391.
- „ T. B. WHYTEHEAD, P.M. 1611 York, P.G. Swd. B. (Eng.).
- „ Gen. S. C. LAWRENCE, Past Gd. Master, Mass., U.S.A.
- „ S. D. NICKERSON, Past Gd. Master, Mass. ; Cor. Gd. Sec., Mass., U.S.A.

The Worshipful Master then briefly introduced Bro. G. W. BAIN, P.M. 949, P.P.G. Reg. (Durham), who proceeded to address the Brethren upon MASONIC LITERATURE. The address occupied about an hour, and proved exceedingly interesting ; the following brief summary will give some idea of the ground covered by Bro. BAIN.

Masonic Literature.

By Bro. G. W. BAIN, P.M. 949.

BROTHER BAIN opened his address by contrasting the Traditions which were current among Masons twenty years ago, with those of the present day. The old traditional history of Anderson, Preston and Oliver had given place to the newer one of Hughan, Speth and Gould, and the knowledge of the past history of Freemasonry was being continually increased, by the researches of the members of the Quatuor Coronati and other similar Lodges.

In Masonic Literature he professed to be a student only, working along the same lines, and with the same aims, as the members of the Lodge of Research, viz., to clear away some of the rubbish and nonsense which had accumulated around the history of the Craft, and to add a few details towards a complete and truthful history of Freemasonry.

There were at present no finalities, but there were the elements for the making of history, and in the collection and arrangement of the materials, care must be taken to keep clear of bias and exaggeration, to take nothing for granted, and to avoid drawing conclusions from insufficient evidence. The "making of history" was a legitimate aim, the object being to declare the knowable, but whilst a great deal is already known, much yet remains to be discovered.

What are the proper objects of study for Masons? First and foremost, the seven Liberal Arts and Sciences, Grammar, Rhetoric, Logic, Arithmetic, Geometry, Music, and Astronomy, all of which are more or less familiar at the present day to every Mason. But there is a far wider field of study than this. Our late Brother H. J. Whympier catalogued a list of about 8,000 books, all of which deal with one or other of the different departments of Masonic study. The following subjects may be fairly taken, as indicating some of the branches of literature and study, which have an intimate connection with Freemasonry, and will amply repay Masons for any time and trouble bestowed upon them: Architecture, Archæology, Biography, Bibliography, Ceremonies, Fine Arts, Folk-lore, Gilds, Heraldry, History, Jurisprudence, Languages (foreign), Numismatics, Occultism, Poetry, Religions (ancient), and perhaps even Theology and Politics.

But whilst these may be considered as general subjects for study, there are a few special objects of Research, which may well be recommended to the attention of the members of a Lodge of Research; these are as follows:—

1. *The Old Charges*, the study and classification of which has been the special labour of Bro. W. J. Hughan. Although a great many of these old documents have been discovered, it is highly probable that there are many more still in existence. It may be fairly assumed, that up to about the middle of last century, every Lodge would have a copy of the "Old Charges"; at that time there would be about 150 Lodges in existence, made up as follows:

1725.	Engraved list (2nd Edit.) ...	69	Lodges.
1751-2.	Atholl Gd. Lo. ...	19	"
1750.	Gd. Lo. of Scotland ..	62	"

150

Of these "Old Charges," 66 have been discovered and their location is now known. Of the remaining 84, assuming half to have been destroyed, there are still 42 copies hidden away in lumber-rooms, old chests, and other out-of-the-way places. Here then is a grand object for

The Lodge of Research ; these old documents only require to be sought for, and it is more than probable, that one or more copies still exist in the town or county of Leicester.

2. *The Ritual and Ceremonies.*—This subject, together with the history of their origin and development, and the number and character of the early masonic degrees, is also one which may well be recommended for investigation. Opinions differ widely on some of these matters, and further evidence is eagerly awaited.

3. *The Origin of the Royal Arch.*—The earliest reference to this Degree is in Stirling, under the date 1743, but unfortunately the Lodge minutes of this period are missing. Dassigny refers to it in 1744 ; it is mentioned in the "Atholl" records in 1752, and in the Fredericksburg (U.S.A.) minutes in 1753. But it is most likely that the Degree had its origin in London, prior to any of the above mentioned dates, and further information on this subject would be extremely valuable.

4. *Irish Freemasonry.*—This is a very interesting subject. The Grand Lodge of Ireland was founded about the year 1730, being preceded by the Grand Lodge of Munster in 1726, the basis of their government being apparently the 1723 English Constitutions ; but it is well known, that Lodges were in existence in Ireland prior to the earliest of these dates, for Miss St. Leger was initiated in one, about the year 1710, and there were doubtless others in the country, whose history would prove interesting and instructive.

5. *The Mark Degree.*—The earliest date at present for this is 1769, at Portsmouth, but a careful search might possibly be rewarded by the discovery of an earlier date.

But why should there be this research ? why seek to find out these details of the past ?

1.—Because the ignorance of the Craft about its past, has long been a standing disgrace to the Fraternity. That men of education and position should have been content, to remain in ignorance of the past history of the Society to which they belonged is inexplicable, and it is high time that further efforts were made, to dispel the darkness which still enshrouds much of the past history of Freemasonry.

2.—Because the Existence of Freemasonry must be justified. Many people are watching the Society with an evident desire to find fault with it ; the Roman Catholic Church is bitterly condemning it, attributing to it principles and tendencies that are really foreign and obnoxious to it ; the Sociality of Masons is denounced as leading to extravagance and excess, and the regalia and ornaments are declared to be childish and

ridiculous. In reply, it must be shewn that the Society of Freemasons is both *ancient* and *honourable*, and proofs must be produced from its history, that its career has been useful and beneficial to the community as well as to the individual.

3.—The Principles of Freemasonry must be impressed on Society. Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth must be so exemplified in the lives and conduct of Masons, that these Masonic principles may eventually become the universal practice of mankind.

In conclusion, Bro. BAIN referred to the Leicester Collections of Masonic Books and Curios, and congratulated the Brethren upon possessing many unique and valuable specimens.

At the close of the Address a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. BAIN, on the motion of the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, seconded by Bro. E. HOLMES, P.M.

It was subsequently proposed by Bro. J. T. THORP, Secretary, "That Bro. G. W. BAIN be requested to honour the Lodge by allowing himself to be enrolled as an Honorary Member." This was seconded by Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, W.M., and carried unanimously.

Bro. BAIN duly acknowledged both resolutions, and accepted the honorary membership of the Lodge.

The SECRETARY notified the presentation by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN of a copy of Bro. C. N. M. NORTH's "Wisdom, Strength and Beauty"; the volume is presented to the Lodge for the Hall Library. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. HUGHAN.

Apologies for absence having been notified, and Hearty Good Wishes tendered, the Lodge was closed.

Bro. BAIN subsequently exhibited and described the following Masonic Books and Curios from his extensive and valuable collection :—

Cole's Engraved Constitutions, 1729.

An Ode to the Grand Khaibar, 1726.

The Generous Freemason. An Opera, 1731.

The Light and Truth of Masonry Explained, 1757.

The "Bain" MS. of the Old Charges.

Engraving. "The Mystery of Masonry brought to Light by ye Gormagons." Orig. by Hogarth.

Authority to Collect Subscriptions for the Foundling Hospital of Capt. Coram, with Design by Hogarth, in which are introduced Masonic Symbols, 17—.

Fac-simile of "Phillips No. 1" MS.

Patent of the Duke of Sussex as Representative from the G.L. of Berlin to the G.L. of England, 1799.

Certificate of Dominica Union Lo. No. 229, granted to John Lucas, 1785. A very early record of Royal Ark Mariner.

Certificate granted to Dr. Wilson Palliser by Lo. 148 Norwich in 1798.—*Vide* "History of Freemasonry in Norfolk," p. 89.

K.T. Certificate of 1817. Design of Thos. Dunckerley.

Certificate of The Lodge of Antiquity No. 1, 1819.

Blank Certificate of the Pillared Priests Degree.

An original Tontine Deed for raising £5,000 for building the Freemasons' Hall, London, in 1776.

Two painted Silk Aprons, *circa* 1770. On the flap of one is marked "King and Constitution"; this appears to have been worn in an Orange Lodge.

Two Silk Handkerchiefs covered with Masonic Emblems; most probably used as Tracing-boards in an emergency.

Case of Magnificent Jewels, worn by the Officers of the defunct Argyle Lodge, Glasgow, *circa* 1756.

A Series of antique pierced silver Jewels, of quaint designs, *circa* 1760 to 1824

The Twenty-Third Meeting

of the Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Monday, January 25th, 1897. The Worshipful Master, W. Bro. S. S. PARTIDGE, D.P.G.M., presided, and there was a good attendance of Members and Visitors.

The Minutes of the last Meeting having been confirmed, the following Brethren were unanimously elected Members of the Correspondence Circle of the Lodge, viz. :—

Bro. FRAS. C. CROSSLE, M.B., P.M. 18 (I.C.) ; Prov. G. Sec. Down.
 Bro. J. MACNAUGHT CAMPBELL, C.E., F.Z.S.; F.R.S.G.S. ; P.M. 0,
 408, 553, 817, P.P.J.G.W. Glasgow ; P.G. Bible Bearer G.L. Scot.
 Bro. HY. F. NEWMAN, P.M. 117, Prov. G.A.D.C. Shropshire.

The following Paper was then read :—

Cagliostro, the Masonic Impostor.

By Bro. L. STAINES, P.P.G. Org.

In all of the Old Masonic Charges the key-note of Masonry is struck with no uncertain sound at the very beginning. A Mason, these Charges point out, ought to be a man who lives to worship and honour his Creator, a man true to the King, and "in brotherly love" with all men.

That many thousands of Masons have carried out these grand precepts, is a matter over which every true lover of the Craft will rejoice ; at the same time it cannot be denied, that many have sought admission to our ranks from unworthy motives ; of this latter class Joseph Balsamo, *alias* Count Cagliostro, seems to have been a notorious example.

This man, who posed as a great Mason and a benefactor to mankind, was everything that a Mason should not be : a charlatan—a base and immoral rogue. The following sketch is from his life, published in France in the year 1791, and in parts is a rough but almost verbatim translation of that work.

Joseph Balsamo was born at Palermo on June 8th, 1743 ; his father, Pierre Balsamo, a merchant in a small way of business, died

during his son's infancy, and the care of Joseph seems to have devolved upon his maternal uncles, who had him instructed in the rudiments of science, religion and letters; they afterwards placed him in the seminary of the convent of St. Roche, but he showed great disinclination for learning, and eventually ran away.

At the age of thirteen Joseph was committed to the care of the "Père Generale" of the "Benfratelli" (a religious order), who took him to a monastery of the Order at Carthage; here he assumed the garb of a novice, and was placed under the apothecary to be instructed in chemistry and medicine.

He seems soon to have returned to Palermo, where he turned his attention to drawing and printing, but only for the sake of making money by forging theatre tickets; about this time he also robbed one of his uncles of a considerable amount of money.

Having made his native place too hot to hold him, Balsamo, at the age of 26, went to Messina, where he made the acquaintance of a man named Altotas, who spoke several languages, possessed writings in Arabic, and had a knowledge of chemistry. These two worthies sailed for Egypt, where they pretended to have the power of producing silk from flax and hemp, and during their stay there of forty days, they made a good deal of money.

From Alexandria they crossed over to Rhodes, still making money by their chemical operations, and thence to Malta, where Balsamo made the acquaintance of Pinto, the Grand Master of the Knights of St. John, and spent some time in his laboratory. Altotas, having left Balsamo, the latter travelled to Naples in the company of a certain Chevalier, recommended to him by Pinto, and during the voyage lived on money supplied by the Grand Master, and what he could get out of his companion.

Passing over to Rome, by means of letters of introduction from Naples, he obtained access to some of the wealthy people, and gained a livelihood by preparing and selling spurious pictures. In Rome too, he met Lorenza Feliciani, whom he subsequently married.

One of the first lessons the young wife received from her husband, shows the utter depravity of the man: she was to pursue a certain course in conversation with men, and to dress in a certain style for the purpose of inspiring passion, and there is no doubt that for some time Balsamo lived upon the proceeds of his wife's shame.

Balsamo then travelled through Italy and Germany, posing as physician, philosopher, alchemist, freemason and necromancer. In

Germany he occupied himself in selling his "Elixir of Life," assuring his patients that he was a hundred years old, while his charming young wife spoke of her son as a "Commander in the Dutch Navy."

In the year 1772 he arrived in London; this period, judging from the newspapers of the day, was very prone to patronise any amount of trickery, provided it promised youth and beauty to the aged and haggard, and health and strength to the wearied roué of fashion. To support the character he assumed, it was necessary to live in grand style, and the mode of fashionable life at that time was inconceivably expensive. As a consequence Balsamo eventually found himself in the prison of the King's Bench for debt. While there, his wife seems to have won over to her side a wealthy gentleman, who paid her husband's debts and obtained his release, after which he returned to France.

He paid a second visit to London in 1776, and wishing to institute a fresh series of impostures, he found nothing better suited to his purpose than Freemasonry. In adopting this he dropped the name of Balsamo, calling himself Count di Alessandro Cagliostro, also Marquis Pellegrini, and other high-sounding foreign names.

It is asserted that he received the first three degrees of Masonry in the month of April, 1776, in the "Espérance" Lodge, No. 369, held at the "King's Head" Tavern, London, but there is no actual evidence in support of the assertion; on the other hand it is known that he had professed Freemasonry on the Continent years before, and is supposed to have joined the fraternity at Clermont.

In instituting his system of Egyptian Masonry, he is said to have obtained certain papers from a George Kofton, or Coston, of London; with the information obtained from these papers, he mixed up things acquired from the Jesuits, things stolen by them from the Rosicrucians, and things based upon ideas then current of the Egyptian rites. He assigned to himself the post of Grand Kophta, a title borrowed from the High Priests of Egypt.

He taught his disciples that the Philosopher's Stone was no fable, and promised to endow them with the Pentagon, which would restore man to a state of primitive innocence, forfeited by Adam at the Fall. He asserted that his Egyptian Masonry was originally instituted by Enoch and Elijah, and by his position of Grand Kophta, he possessed the power of commanding the angels, being endowed with miraculous powers wherewith to accomplish his objects. He made the system so as to admit both men and women, the sole qualifications being a belief in God, and being in possession of the three Craft degrees. Three other degrees were added to these, and the initiates, if men, assumed the names of the ancient prophets, if women, those of the ancient sibyls.

Cagliostro seems to have left England in 1778 or early in 1779, and to have travelled extensively on the Continent. His first Egyptian Lodge was opened at Strasburg in 1779, where he made the acquaintance of Cardinal Rohan, and in 1782 another Lodge was opened with great pomp at Lyons, under the title of "Triumphant Wisdom" (*La Sagesse Triomphante*), a Lodge of the new Order being founded in Paris in 1785.

Cagliostro and his system were roughly handled at a Masonic Conference held in Paris, in February, 1785. The Lodge of Philalethes, or Lovers of Truth, held a Convention for the purpose of obtaining answers to a number of questions, amongst which were the following :— What is the essential nature of Masonic science and its distinctive characteristic? To what epoch and origin may it be rationally attributed? Which of the present rites would it be best to adopt? and many others of a similar character. Cagliostro was summoned to this Convention, and at first promised to attend, but afterwards declined. He wrote a letter, desiring that all members of the Convention should adopt the Egyptian rite and be initiated at Lyons, and that the archives of the Philalethes should be burnt. The request of Cagliostro was not complied with, and the Philalethes did not burn their archives and join him.

Closely following this, came the affair of the "Diamond Necklace," in which Cagliostro was implicated, and for which he was arrested and thrown into prison; by means of bribes to the keepers, he got into communication with those charged with him for the same offence, and concocted answers to the questions they knew would be put to them, with the result that Cagliostro was acquitted.

After this narrow escape, he once more came over to England, but his prestige was gone, and he was unmasked and exposed at a Meeting of the Lodge of Antiquity, London, in 1786. A very rare print shewing this incident, with descriptive letterpress, is still in existence, and is interesting as giving some idea of the dress, masonic clothing and customs of the period.*

In May, 1787, Cagliostro left England and led a wandering life with his wife, until he dared to set up a lodge of Egyptian Masonry in Rome in 1789. He was thereupon arrested and thrown into the Castle of San Angelo, tried by the Inquisition as a foe of the Roman Catholic religion, and condemned to death; his sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life, and it is believed he died of apoplexy in 1795, in the prison of St. Leo, in the Duchy of Urbino.

* A copy of this print, belonging to Bro. Thorp, Sec., was exhibited at the Meeting.

Such is a brief account of Cagliostro, probably the greatest impostor ever associated with Freemasonry, and, whilst making all allowances for the faults of the age in which he lived, all Freemasons will utterly repudiate and disavow Joseph Balsamo, as a true Brother of the Order; his Egyptian Masonry has perished with him, and the "androgynous" Masonry he tried to set up, has long since gone the way of all similar absurdities.

A short discussion followed the reading of the Paper, in which the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, Bro. Dr. R. PRATT, S.W., and the SECRETARY took part.

The SECRETARY announced the following presentations to the Lodge for the Hall Library :—

1. Handsomely-bound Menu-card and Toast-list of the Commercial Lodge (1391) Festival, in April, 1893, presented by Bro. R. B. STARKEY.
2. An original plate of Hogarth's "The Mystery of Masonry brought to Light by ye Gormagons." *Circa* 1742. Presented by Bro. G. W. BAIN.

A vote of thanks was duly accorded to the donors.

The following interesting local Masonic Curios were exhibited by Bro. Rev. H. S. BIGGS, S.D., viz. :—

1. A Grand Chapter (Antients R.A.) Certificate, granted to Comp. Henry Davey, of Leicester, dated 1801. This Companion was a great-grandfather of the Exhibitor, a member of the old Atholl Lodge, No. 91, Leicester, and a founder of St. John's Lodge (now No. 279), Leicester, in 1790. This document is framed and in excellent preservation.
2. An oval silver pierced Jewel, belonging at one time to the above-named Henry Davey. The design is an eight-pointed star, with a K.T. cross in the centre.

Apologies for non-attendance were duly notified, and Hearty Good Wishes expressed, after which the Lodge was closed.

The Twenty-Fourth Meeting

of the Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Monday, March 22nd, 1897. The Worshipful Master, Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, D.P.G.M., presided, and there was a very large attendance of Members and Visitors.

The Minutes of the last Meeting having been confirmed, the following Paper was read :—

Freemasonry in the 17th (Leicestershire) Regiment of Foot.

By Bro. G. NEIGHBOUR, P.M. 523, Prov. G.D.C.

THE rapid spread of the British system of Freemasonry through the world during the 18th century, was very largely due to Military Lodges. These were Lodges duly warranted to be attached to certain regiments of the army, the warrant and paraphernalia being carried about from place to place, and the Lodge opened and degrees conferred, wherever the regiment was for the time being quartered. It was in this manner that Freemasonry was introduced into India, and into many other parts of the world.

Upwards of four hundred Warrants have been issued, at one time or another, by British Grand Lodges, to "regular" and "militia" regiments. Most of the "crack" regiments of the service have at different times held Lodge Warrants, and the history of many of these Military Lodges forms a most interesting branch of Masonic study.

The earliest Military Lodge was established in the year 1732 by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in the 1st British Regiment of Foot; the first warranted by the Grand Lodge of Scotland was in 1743, and the first (the 8th Foot*) by the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) in 1755. The Irish jurisdiction has always included the greater number of British Army Lodges, and in 1813 possessed a military following of 123; at the same date the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) numbered 15 the Grand Lodge of England (Antients) 62, and the Grand Lodge of

* A Certificate issued by this old Military Lodge in 1785 is in the Leicester Collection.

Scotland 18. In 1886 the total of Military Lodges had declined to 15 (9 Irish and 6 English). At the present time (1897) the English Military Lodges stand at 3, viz. :—

- No. 316, "Unity, Peace and Concord," 2nd Bat. Royal Scots, 1798.
 „ 497, "Social Friendship," 2nd Bat. Royal Irish, 1844.
 „ 743, "Meridian," 1st Bat. East Surrey, 1858.

The distinguished military career of the 17th (Leicestershire) Regiment in all parts of the world is well known; its colours bear the names, "Louisburg," "Hindustan," "Afghanistan," "Ghuznee," "Khelat," "Sevastopol," "Ali Musjid," "Afghanistan, 1878-79," and it received the name of the "Royal Tiger" from George IV. in 1825.

But in addition to its distinguished military achievements, the regiment can also boast of having, at different times, no less than seven Masonic Lodges warranted in its ranks.

The first warrant was granted to the regiment when stationed in the Island of Minorca, in the year 1748. This warrant was No. 136, on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and, as usual at that period, had no distinctive name.

In 1759, when stationed in Canada, it accepted a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland; this Lodge, which was called "Hooker St. John," No. 97, probably worked but a very short time, although it was only erased in 1809.

It took a second Warrant (No. 169 "Unity") from the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1771, being then on home service, and it is probable that this warrant was taken by the regiment, when it is ordered to America in 1775, landing at Boston on January 1st, 1776.

A year after, on the 4th of January, 1777, whilst under the command of Lieut.-Col. Chas. Mawhood, the regiment fell in with the van-guard of the American army under Washington, and was very roughly handled; later in the same year it formed part of the British force occupying Philadelphia.

It was during their stay in Philadelphia, in the year 1777 or early in 1778, that the brethren of the regiment took a Warrant of Constitution from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which at that time worked under the authority of an English Warrant (Antients) of 1764, but which in the year 1786 blossomed into an independent Grand Lodge. This new Lodge was called "Unity" No. 18, the brethren retaining their old Lodge name, but with the new local number. In the Ahiman Rezens of 1807 and 1813 this Lodge appears on the General List in

error, but it is correctly entered in Downe's Dublin Ahiman Rezon of 1804.

The regiment remained only a short time in Philadelphia, evacuating the city with the rest of the British troops on June 18th, 1778.

In 1779 the 17th was at New York, and on the 15th of July in that year, a detachment of the regiment, quartered at "Stoney Point," a fortified post on the river Hudson, was suddenly beset by nearly four thousand Americans; after a gallant resistance, the survivors surrendered themselves prisoners of war. They were subsequently exchanged, and placed under the orders of Col. Watson of the Foot Guards. By this surrender the Lodge Warrant and Regalia fell into the hands of the American general Parsons, who, actuated by the genuine principles of Masonry, immediately returned them to the British Commander at New York, with the following letter:—

West Jersey Highlands, 23rd July, 1779.

Brethren,

When the ambition of monarchs, or jarring interest of states, call forth their subjects to war, as Masons we are disarmed of that resentment which stimulates to undistinguished desolation; and however our political sentiments may impel us in the public dispute, we are still Brethren, and (our professional duty apart) ought to promote the happiness and advance the weal of each other.

Accept therefore, at the hands of a Brother, the Constitution of the Lodge "Unity, No. 18," to be held in the 17th British Regiment, which your late misfortunes have put in my power to restore to you.

I am,

Your Brother and obedient servant,

SAMUEL H. PARSONS.

To Master and Wardens of Lodge Unity, No. 18 upon the Registry of England.

This generous action is not an isolated one in Masonic History. The following are recorded in Bro. R. F. Gould's "History of Freemasonry":—

"All the working-tools and jewels of the Gibraltar Lodge, No. 128, in the 39th Foot fell into the hands of the enemy during the Peninsular War, but were subsequently returned to the regiment. The same fate befell the Lodge-chest of the 6th Dragoon Guards (Lo. 577), which was returned under a flag of truce with a guard of honor. The 46th Foot (Lo. 227) twice lost its chest, which was sent back on the first occasion by order of Gen. Washington, and on the second by the French Military authorities three years after its capture at Dominica in 1805."

At York Town in 1781 the 17th again became prisoners of war, but were exchanged the following year and stationed in Virginia.

In 1783 the regiment was quartered in New York, and upon conclusion of peace in the same year, was removed to Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

The Degree of Knights of the Red Cross was worked under the Craft Warrant No. 18 Unity, when the regiment was stationed at Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1784; a diploma is still in existence, dated May 1st, 1784, issued by an assembly of the Knights of the Red Cross, held under the sanction of Warrant, No. 18, Lodge Unity, in H.M. 17th Regiment of Foot, and on the Registry of Pennsylvania, to "our trusty and well beloved Brother Sir John North, &c., &c.," and signed by George Cockburn, K., Henry Cassaday, 1st, and Daniel Webb, 2nd G., and William Davidson, Secretary.*

In June, 1786, the regiment was located at Shelburne, Nova Scotia, returning the same year to England.

On arriving in England, application for a new Warrant seems soon to have been made to the "Antients" Grand Lodge of England, the American Warrant having probably been left behind. The petition was granted, and a Warrant, No. 237, dated 24th January, 1787, was issued for the Lodge to be held at Chatham, Kent, where the regiment was probably at that time in garrison. This Warrant lapsed about 1792.

Whilst stationed in Ireland, in 1802, another Lodge Warrant, No. 921, was granted to the 17th Regiment by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, subsequently exchanged in 1824 for a fresh one, numbered 258; this was returned in 1847, since which time there has not been a Lodge attached to the regiment.

The vicissitudes of the various Lodges held in the 17th regiment, can be matched by the experience of many others in the British army; many warrants were left behind in foreign parts, becoming the nucleus of colonial and foreign Lodges, whose descendants to-day are still inculcating the genuine tenets and principles of Freemasonry.

LODGES HELD IN THE 17TH REGIMENT.

				Constituted.	Cancelled.
Irish.	No. 136 ...	...	...	1748	—
Scotch.	„ 97, "Hooker St. John"			1759 ...	1809.
„	„ 166, "Unity"		...	1771 ...	1816.
Penna.	„ 18, "Unity"		...	1777-8 ...	—
English (A.).	„ 237 ...	...	...	1787 ...	1792.
Irish.	„ 921 ...	...	...	1802 ...	1824.
„	„ 258 (taken in exchange for 921)			1824 ...	1847.

* *Vide* Brennan's edition of Rebold (Boston, 1875) p. 430.

AUTHORITIES CONSULTED.

Gould's "History of Freemasonry." "Freemasons' Chronicle," 1880. Lane's "Masonic Records." Read's "Modern Leicester." Constitutions, G. L. Scotland, 1848. Proceedings, G. L. Pennsylvania. Grand Lo. of England Calendars. Local Almanacs.

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At the conclusion of the Paper, Bro. G. J. RODWAY explained that Military Lodges were no longer necessary, inasmuch as wherever regiments happened to be quartered, at home or abroad, there was sure to be a Lodge held in the same town, or in the immediate neighbourhood.

The SECRETARY explained the origin of Military Lodges, their objects and use, and stated, he thought that to these Lodges must be attributed in great measure, the rapid spread of the British system of Freemasonry throughout the world.

The W.M. referred to the advantages of Freemasonry in time of war, and narrated an incident, which occurred during the Franco-Prussian war, and of which a friend of his was an eye-witness.

Bros. F. W. BILLSON, J. W., and J. B. WARING (P.M. 523) also spoke.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER exhibited

(a) A very fine R.A. Jewel, dated 1822, which at one time belonged to Comp. Saml. Alston, a Member of St. John's Lodge, who was exalted in the Chapter of Fortitude, Leicester, in the year 1822. The name and date are engraved on the Jewel.

(b) Four Certificates, belonging to the late John Smith, of Leicester, who served as an engineer through the Crimean war, afterwards settling in Constantinople under the Turkish government, viz. : Gd. Lo. of Ireland Craft Cert. ; Gd. Lo. of England Craft ; Gd. Lo. of Mark Masons of England : Gd. R.A. Chapter of Ireland. All the degrees were taken in Constantinople Lodges.

The SECRETARY also exhibited the following curios from his own collection :—

(c) An old Drinking-horn, covered with Masonic emblems, and the name "Wm. Baker" ; said to be a hundred years old.

(d) A French Manuscript Parchment Certificate issued in Marseilles in 1761.

(e) A French Engraved Parchment Certificate, issued in 1781 by the famous Paris Lodge "St. Charles du Triomphe de la Parfaite Harmonie."

(f) Gd. Lodge of England Certificate granted to Stephen Chapman, who was initiated in St. John's Lodge (then No. 348) Leicester, in 1846.

(g) A very fine Master Mason's Jewel of last century in the form of a sixteen-pointed star ; a large number of emblems under glass in the centre.

Apologies for absence having been notified from Bros. E. HOLMES, P.M., W. VIAL, I.G., and others, the Lodge was duly closed.

The Twenty-Fifth Meeting

of the Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on May 24th, 1897. There was a good attendance of Officers and Brethren, the Worshipful Master, Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, D.P.G.M., presiding.

After the Minutes of the last Meeting had been confirmed, the following Brethren were unanimously elected Members of the Correspondence Circle of the Lodge, viz. :—

Bro. F. GARDNER, Secretary of the Philanthropic Lodge, No. 818, Abergavenny.

W. Bro. S. B. WILKINSON, W.M. of the Pomfret Lodge, No. 360, Northampton; Prov. S.G.W., Norths. and Hunts.

The following Paper was then read :—

Masonry—Operative and Speculative.

By Bro. Rev. H. S. BIGGS, B.A. (P.P.G. Chap.), S.D.

THE Paper was occasioned by Bro. Biggs reading in the columns of a leading London "daily," a long article on the book "The Hole Crafts and Fellowship of Masons," by Edwd. Conder, jun. In this article the following passage occurred—"at a very early date in the Company's history, adherents of *speculative* Masonry, or *accepted members*, as distinguished from *operative* brethren, seem to have been admitted to the Company"; and it is further added that "it was the Speculative seceders (*sic*) from the Mason's Company, who in 1717 founded the First Grand Lodge of Freemasons."

A very interesting account of Bro. Conder's book was given. Masonry was traced from its home in Egypt, through Phœnicia to Rome, where it attained a high state of efficiency; in all these countries it was shown that *speculative* and *operative* Masonry were most closely connected.

The Romans, as masters of the world, introduced Masonry into England, and on their departure the art of building declined. The arrival of Augustine, and the building of monasteries, with the consequent association of Monks and Masons, produced the union of *operative* and *speculative* Masonry in this country.

The origin of Gilds was then touched upon, and it was shown that these had a religious as well as a secular side. The various Gilds of

Masons were dealt with, and shown to be at length merged in the Masons' Company of London. The documentary records of this Company were quoted at some length, which proved that there had been not only *operative* but also *speculative* members, the latter being known as "Free and Accepted."

Bro. BIGGS also exhibited and described the following books from the private library of the Secretary, which are interesting as showing the connection between *operative* and *speculative* Masonry, in the first half of the eighteenth century.

1. A work entitled "The Builder's Jewel: or The Youth's Instructor, and Workman's Remembrancer, &c., &c., &c.," by B. and T. Langley. London, 1746. This work, of which ten or more editions were published, was written by Batty Langley, an architect and builder, for the instruction of Workmen and Students in the Building trade; it contains ninety-nine plates of Examples, most of which are subscribed "B. Langley Invent. 1741." The Frontispiece to the work (reproduced as the Frontispiece of the present Vol. of Transactions) is undoubtedly *speculative*, and will be easily understood by the Master-mason, who is familiar with the Lodge-symbols of to-day. Langley was himself a Freemason, as might be expected from this symbolical frontispiece. In 1736 appeared his "Ancient Masonry," dedicated to Francis, Duke of Lorraine, and forty British Noblemen; also to "all others the Right Honorable and Right Worshipful Masters of Masonry, by their humble servant and affectionate brother, Batty Langley."

2. A work called "The Builders Compleat Chest-Book, or Library of Arts and Sciences, &c., &c., &c.," by B. Langley; London, 1738. 2 Vols. 8vo. In Vol. 1, Part 2, p. 61, "Of Geometry," the Masonic Legend is given in some fulness, probably taken from Anderson's 1723 Constitutions. Vol. 2 consists of seventy-seven plates, the majority of them subscribed "Batty Langley, Invent. Delin. & Sculp. 1738."

3. A work called "The Builders Compleat Assistant, or a Library of Arts and Sciences, &c., &c., &c.," by B. Langley, 4th Edition. Plates. London, 1766. 2 Vols. in 1. In this work, which is an almost exact counterpart of the one last described, the Masonic Legend is also given at p. 61, under "Geometry."

The fact of the legendary history of the Craft being given at such length by a practical architect and builder, affords evidence of the close and intimate connection which existed between *operative* and *speculative* masonry, for many years after the establishment of the Grand Lodge of England.

After the reading of the Paper, several Brethren asked questions, which Bro. BIGGS subsequently answered.

The following Brethren were unanimously elected for the ensuing year, viz. :—

Worshipful Master : W. Bro. R. PRATT, M.D. ; S.W. (W.M. 1560).
 Treasurer (re-elected) : W. Bro. W. D. GRANT (P.M. 279).
 Tyler (re-elected) : Bro. JAS. TANSER.

The Albert Hall Tickets were ballotted for, and fell to Bros. W. H. STAYNES, W. D. GRANT, J. J. W. KNOWLES and W. M. WILLIAMS, one having been previously allotted to the SECRETARY.

It was resolved that the Frontispiece of Langley's "Builder's Jewel" should form the frontispiece of the present Transactions.

The SECRETARY exhibited the following :—

1-2. Two Red Wax Impressions of Masonic Seals, presented to the Lodge for the Museum by W. Bro. J. MacNaught Campbell, Glasgow.

3-7. Five Red Wax Impressions of Masonic Seals, several of them being very old and curious.

8. Rose Croix Certificate, Dutch Constitution, "De Goede Trouw" Chapter, Cape Town, with three fine seals; dated 1875. Nos. 3 to 8 presented to the Lodge for the Museum by W. Bro. Dr. H. W. Dieperink, Cape of Good Hope.

9. A large Bronze Medal, struck by Kenning in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee in 1887, three inches in diameter. Obverse: bust of Queen Victoria. Reverse: Arms of the Grand Lodge of England. This Medal belongs to the Secretary's collection.

It was resolved, on the proposition of the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, "that the best thanks of the Lodge to Bros. J. MACNAUGHT CAMPBELL and Dr. H. W. DIEPERINK be recorded on the Minutes."

Apologies were notified from W. Bros. W. H. STAYNES, I.P.M. (on account of an accident), E. HOLMES, P.M., J. J. W. KNOWLES, J.D., W. VIAL, I.G., and R. B. STARKEY.

Hearty Good Wishes having been tendered by visiting Brethren, the Lodge was duly closed.



N O T E .

By special wish of the Permanent Committee of the Lodge, the following Addenda are included in the present year's Transactions.

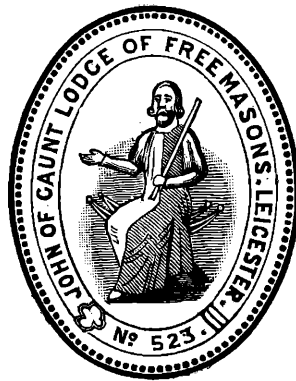
1.—Extracts from the Fifty Years' Records of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 523, Leicester.

2.—Annals of The Chapter of Fortitude, No. 279, Leicester.

In the list of names appended to the former, there are the following errors in the date of admission :—

BELL, WILLIAM	...	...	...	1846.
BREWIN, ROBERT, JUNIOR	...	...	...	1856.
BRETT, Captain JOHN	...	...	...	1858.
BUNNEY, WILLIAM	...	...	...	1870.
CAMERON, EWEN	...	...	...	1896.
CHAMBERLIN, CHARLES FRED	...	...	...	1878.
CHAMBERLIN, WILLIAM HENRY	...	...	...	1875.
COCKRAN, SUTTON	...	...	...	1860.
HAZLERIGG, Sir ARTHUR GREY, Bart.	...	...	...	1856.
HOWE, Right Hon. the Earl	...	...	...	1846.
MADDOCK, JAMES	...	...	...	1886.
MORETON, Capt., the Hon. REYNOLDS	...	...	...	1861.
NEWSOME, GEORGE	...	...	...	1879.
WOODCOCK, CHRISTOPHER CLEEVER	...	...	...	1873

EXTRACTS
FROM THE
FIFTY YEARS' RECORDS
OF THE
John of Gaunt Lodge, Leicester,
No. 523,
(Formerly 766).



Compiled by W. Bro. J. T. Thorp, P.M., P.M. 2429,
P.P.S.G.W., Leicestershire and Rutland, and read at the Jubilee
Festival, May 21st, 1896.

LEICESTER:
Printed by BRO. ALFRED TACEY, 17, Town Hall Lane.
1897.

The Seal of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 523, Leicester, on the Title Page, is taken from a contemporary illumination preserved in the British Museum (Cotton, MS., D.6). It represents John of Gaunt sitting to decide claims on the coronation of his Nephew, Richard the Second; the Earl is depicted as clothed in a long robe divided exactly in half, one side being blue the other white, these being the colours of the House of Lancaster.

EXTRACTS
FROM THE
FIFTY YEARS' RECORDS
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John of Gaunt Lodge, Leicester,

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(Formerly 766).

Compiled by W. Bro. J. T. Thorp, P.M., P.M. 2429,
P.P.S.G.W., Leicestershire and Rutland, and read at the
Jubilee Festival, May 21st, 1896.

The Records of the Lodge are contained in four Minute Books, viz.,

No. 1. March 26th, 1846, to September 20th, 1866.

No. 2. October 18th, 1866, to October 16th, 1879.

No. 3. November 6th, 1879, to May 15th, 1890.

No. 4. June 24th, 1890, now in use.

In perusing these Records a few things are especially noteworthy.

Firstly. The Minute Books have been well kept, and considering that in no single year has the Secretary been a P.M., the work during the whole of the fifty years has been well done.

Secondly. Throughout the whole period of the Lodge's existence, there appears to have been undisturbed harmony. Slight differences there may have been, but no serious quarrels or dissensions seem to have interfered with the fraternal intercourse and Masonic work of the members.

Thirdly. The grand Masonic principle of Charity has been cultivated and developed by the brethren of the Lodge in a most praiseworthy manner. The great Masonic Institutions have been liberally supported; subscriptions have been paid to many local charities; while the sums of money voted, and the cases of distress relieved, may well make the present members proud of the honourable traditions of the Lodge.

When early in the year 1846 it was decided to establish a new Lodge in Leicester, two of the brethren visited the Knights of Malta Lodge, Hinckley, which was reported to be almost defunct, to enquire if the members would be willing for their Warrant to be transferred to Leicester. The request being refused, a petition for a new Lodge, to be called "The John of Gaunt" Lodge, was immediately prepared, the following being the petitioners:—

Wm. Kelly, P.M. St. John's, 348, Prov. S.G.W.

Wm. Williamson, Past S.W. St. John's, No. 348.

Edmund Robt. Crouch, P.M. of a Lodge at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The Rt. Hon. Earl Howe, P.M. St. John's, 348, D.G.M. of Eng.

Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., P.M. St. John's, 348, D.P.G.M., and P.S.G.W. (Eng.).

Richard Leyburn Burne, P.M. of a Bristol Lodge.

Rev. Gervase Wright, M.A., P.M. Tyrian Lodge, 315, Derby, and Prov. G. Chap. Derbyshire.

Jas. Brabazon Murphy, P.M. Tyrian Lodge, 315, Derby.

Richard Allen, W.M. Commercial Lodge, 594, Nottingham, and Prov. G. Sec. Notts.

The petition was granted, and a Warrant under the hands of "Zetland, G.M.," and "Howe, D.G.M.," was early received. The date of the Warrant is March 15th, 1846, and the number of the Lodge 766. It will be noticed that Lord Howe, who was one of the petitioners, also countersigned the Warrant as D.G.M. of England.

A few of the old members of St. John's Lodge were somewhat jealous of the formation of a second Lodge, but the feeling was soon eradicated, and the most harmonious and brotherly intercourse between the members of the two Lodges has continued up to the present time.

The members of the new Lodge being anxious, if possible, not to hold their meetings at an hotel, received permission from the Mayor, Bro. Alderman Edward Weston, an old member of St. John's Lodge, to assemble in the Magistrates' Room at the Exchange, and the meetings of the Lodge were accordingly held there, until necessity occasioned its removal elsewhere.

As soon as the Warrant was received, a meeting of the founders was called for March 26th, 1846, when six gentlemen were initiated by dispensation (still preserved) of Sir F. G. Fowke, D.P.G.M. Valuable assistance in the ceremony was rendered by the W.M. and some of the members of St. John's Lodge, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded. A code of By-Laws, which had been previously prepared, was afterwards read and adopted.

A further meeting was held on April 23rd, when there were two initiations and six passings. The By-Laws adopted at the previous meeting were confirmed, and ordered to be printed. A copy of these By-Laws is preserved in the Hall Library. The following extracts are worth noting:—

III.—The Lodge shall be held on the second Monday in every calendar month.

IV.—The Master, Wardens and Tyler to be fined one shilling each for non-attendance, and the other officers sixpence.

XIII.—The fee for initiation to be four guineas, and joining fee a guinea and a half.

XIV.—The annual subscription to be twelve shillings, paid half-yearly.

The Consecration Meeting of the Lodge was held on May 11th, 1846, when about fifty Brethren assembled at the Exchange, amongst whom were: R.W. Bro. Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., D.P.G.M.; W. Bro. W. Kelly, Prov. S.G.W.; W. Bro.

John Pratt, Prov. J.G.W. ; all the Founders of the Lodge and several members of St. John's Lodge. Amongst the visitors present were R.W. Bro. Jno. B. Pigot, M.D., D.P.G.M., Notts ; W. Bro. Rev. J. O. Dakeyne, Prov. S.G.W., Lincolnshire ; W. Bro. Thos. Danks, Prov. S.G.W., Notts ; W. Bro. Rev. Thos. Burnaby, Prov. G. Chapl., Leicestershire ; W. Bro. Rev. Oct. F. Owen, Chapl. 425, Oxford ; W. Bro. Thos. H. Wheeler, W.M. 348, Leicester ; W. Bro. W. Grimes Palmer, W.M. 608, Loughborough ; W. Bro. Laurence Thompson, Lodge of Antiquity, London.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master presided, and performed the ceremony of consecration and constitution of the Lodge, subsequently installing Bro. Wm. Kelly as the first Master, who appointed and invested the following Brethren as his officers, viz., Bro. Wm. Williamson, S.W. ; Bro. Edmund Robt. Crouch, J.W. and Treas. ; Bro. Wm. Napier Reeve, Secretary. The roll was completed by the appointment, at the next meeting, of Bro. Rev. Oct. F. Owen, M.A., Chaplain ; Bros. W. Turner and Jas. Thompson, Deacons ; Bros. T. Cooper and F. Goodyer, Stewards ; Bro. T. C. Browne, I.G.

There is no mention of a banquet following the consecration of the Lodge, so that the post-prandial speeches of the Brethren remain unrecorded.

1846. *June 8.*—The Black Letter Bible, dated 1610, and still in use, presented to the Lodge by the W.M., Bro. W. Kelly.

July 13.—A Committee elected "to look out for a room or rooms suitable for a Lodge, and to report thereon at the next meeting."

A Lodge of Instruction founded by the members of the Lodge.

Aug. 10.—Resolve to purchase from Bro. E. Mammatt, for the sum of £19 4s., the furniture of the recently extinct Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 631, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. This furniture consisted of three pedestals, three chairs and three lights, and are those now used at all the Lodge meetings.

Oct. 12.—The Lodge removed to the "long room" at the Three Crowns, where the meetings continued to be held until the erection of the Freemasons' Hall in 1859. During the year 1846 there were 19 "initiations" and 12 "joinings."

1847. *Feb. 15.*—Unanimously resolved to alter the night of meeting from the second Monday to the third Wednesday.

May 19.—The W.M. reported a balance in the treasurer's hands of £40 17s. 8d.

June 24.—The first Annual Festival of the Lodge. Bro. W. Williamson installed Master. Amongst the visitors present was Bro. Jno. Savage, W.M. 19, Vice-President of the Board of Gen. Purposes, London.

Dec. 15.—Mr. Chas. Hall, of King Street, Leicester, gentleman, a "Lewis," initiated ; the dispensation, signed by the Prov. G.M., Lord Rancliffe, is preserved in the minute book.

1848. *June 23.*—A P.M.'s jewel presented to Bro. W. Kelly by the brethren of the Lodge, "as a token of fraternal regard and in grateful remembrance of the benefits derived from his valuable services as first Master of the Lodge." This jewel now belongs to the Freemasons' Hall Museum.

Presentation to the Lodge, by Bro. Benj. Broadbent, of a model in stone of the Newarke (John of Gaunt's) Gateway. This model now hangs over the entrance staircase of Freemasons' Hall.

Dec. 1.—The W.M. of the Lodge, Bro. Hy. Harding, Prov. J.G.W., having died, after a very brief illness, of typhus fever, caught in the discharge of his duties as house surgeon of the Leicester Infirmary, a special meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge was held at the Three Crowns on the day of the funeral (Dec. 1st). A large number of the brethren attended and joined the funeral procession to St. Margaret's Church, the deceased brother having been held in the highest esteem by the brethren of both the Lodges, as well as by the inhabitants of the town generally. A Gothic monument, with Masonic emblems, surmounted by a statue of Faith, was afterwards erected to Bro. Harding's memory in the Leicester Cemetery, by a subscription amongst the members of the Lodge.

1849. *April 19.*—Resolved "that the Lodge of Instruction, hitherto held in connection with this Lodge, be discontinued, but brethren desirous of instruction are requested to meet in the Lodge room half an hour before each Lodge commences."

July 19.—A visiting brother, a P.M. of 413, Bodmin, having applied for the loan of thirty shillings to enable him to reach Tamworth, it was resolved "that the loan be granted on the condition that his Lodge certificate, his appointment as officer in the Cornwall Militia, and a testimonial to enable him to obtain the situation of a police officer, be left with the Lodge as security." These documents were never redeemed, but ten years subsequently were returned to him, at his urgent request, being about to emigrate to Canada. This brother, upon enquiry, was found to be in every respect deserving, and not one of the numerous "Masonic vagrants."

1850. *Feb. 21.*—Annual subscription raised from twelve shillings to one guinea.

June 27.—Resolved unanimously "that the Lodge be held on the third Thursday in each month instead of Wednesday."

Oct. 19.—Letter received from Bro. Chas. Gill, soliciting the Lodge to bespeak a play at the Theatre. It is subsequently recorded (Nov. 21) "that the bespeak of the brethren of St. John's and John of Gaunt at the Theatre was well attended. The pieces selected were "The Serious Family" and "The Fish out of Water," and the programme gave great satisfaction."

Nov. 14.—The Lodge goes into mourning for Lord Rancliffe, the Prov. Grand Master.

1852. *Jan. 14.*—W. Bro. W. Beaumont Smith, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., initiated. Bro. Smith is the oldest subscribing member of the Lodge.

A committee formed to confer with St. John's Lodge as to the desirability of originating a course of lectures on "The System of Freemasonry, its Ceremonies, &c."

July 24.—Mr. Jas. Bankart, a minor, initiated by dispensation of Bro. Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., Prov. Grand Master, he being about to emigrate to Australia.

Oct. 21.—The copy portrait of the Prov. Grand Master, Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., painted by Mrs. Buck, wife of Bro. John Buck, W.M. of St. John's Lodge, presented by her to this Lodge. A hearty vote of thanks for this handsome present was passed, and having been engrossed on vellum, was presented, together with a brooch, to Mrs. Buck. This portrait now hangs in the clothing room.

Nov. 25.—The Lodge met at the Bell Hotel, having been postponed from the 17th in consequence of the funeral of the Duke of Wellington.

1854. *Nov. 16.*—The members of the Lodge subscribe £25 to the Patriotic Fund "for the relief of the widows and orphans of soldiers and sailors who are so gloriously defending the interests of their country in the East." (This refers to the Crimean War.) The members of St. John's Lodge subscribed a similar amount.

1855. *Jan. 18.*—A letter conveying the best wishes of the brethren for his health and safety was ordered to be addressed to Captain the Hon. Leicester Curzon, son of Lord Howe, Assistant Military Secretary in the Crimea. A reply was subsequently received and read at the meeting held on March 15th, 1855, bearing witness to the patient endurance and heroic valour of the soldiers before Sebastopol, and concluding with the following: "The weather, and inefficiency of departments not under military rule, have been their great enemies, but I hope and trust that a change has now taken place for the better, and that the army will rise triumphant from its difficulties, in spite of the exertions of newspaper and anonymous writers to sap its discipline, to cry down its officers, and give every information to encourage the enemy to increased exertions against it."

April 19.—The Prov. Grand Master, Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., being seriously ill, it was resolved to forward an address of condolence and sympathy. The address was engrossed and presented to the R.W. Brother, who acknowledged it in a very cordial and fraternal letter of thanks, which is preserved in the Minute Book.

May 26.—Lodge of Emergency held for the purpose of initiating Edward Finch Dawson, Esq., late of Whetton House, Leicestershire, Lieutenant 6th Enniskillen Dragoons, who was about to join his regiment with the allied forces in the Crimea. Being only nineteen years of age, a dispensation was obtained, and affixed in the Minute Book.

1855. *Sept. 18.*—Festival held on this date. A very interesting letter (copy preserved) was read from Bro. Hugh G. Colvill, Captain 29th Regiment, initiated in the Lodge in 1847, dated from Thayetmo, Burmah, giving his Masonic experiences in India and Burmah, and conveying hearty good wishes to his mother Lodge. The following is the concluding paragraph of the letter: "I have also heard from undoubted authority that a Royal Arch brother can enter the holy places of the Brahmins, whilst an unauthorised brother would be driven away with insults and abuse, or perhaps death (? killed) if he attempted to enter."
 Resolved "that a loving cup be purchased, to be used at all social meetings of the members of the Lodge." This cup has the names of all the Masters engraved upon it.
Nov. 15.—Reply to Captain Colvill's letter signed and sealed for transmission to Burmah.
 Committee elected to consider the By-laws. An additional By-law on the subject of "relief" recommended.
1856. *Jan. 17.*—An interesting letter read from Captain Edward Finch Dawson (initiated May, 1855), dated "Scutari, Christmas Day, 1855," in which the following paragraph occurs: "I shall never forget what the Malakhoff and the Redan presented at the taking of Sebastopol; it was more awful than can be described. The dead bodies lay so thickly that you could hardly help stepping on them as you walked about."
Feb. 28.—Resolved to present an address of congratulation to Bro. W. Kelly, on his appointment as D.P.G.M. of the Province.
April 17.—Further letter from Bro. Captain H. G. Colvill, dated Thayetmo, Burmah.
 Subscription raised for the widow of the late Bro. Sergeant Major Jas. Brown, late Tyler of the Lodge.
June 24.—The Lodge goes into mourning on account of the death of Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., Prov. Grand Master.
Oct. 16.—Bro. W. Kelly announced the appointment of Lord Howe as Prov. Grand Master of Leicestershire.
Nov. 3.—Lodge of Emergency held for the initiation of Mr. Harby Barber, gentleman, of Leicester, who is about to proceed to India. This gentleman being only eighteen years of age, was initiated by a special dispensation.
Nov. 26.—Sir Arthur Grey Hazelrigg, Bart., of Noseley Hall (an E.A.), elected a joining member of the Lodge.
1857. *Feb. 19.*—Mr. Samuel Rowe, F.R.C.S., East Street, Leicester, initiated. This brother afterwards became Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, and who also greatly distinguished himself at Sierra Leone. He died at Madeira, August 28th, 1888.
Oct. 1.—Prov. Grand Lodge held under the banner of the John of Gaunt Lodge, the Rt. Hon. and R.W. Bro. Lord Howe presiding.

1857. *Oct. 1.*—A small coloured portrait of the Prov. Gd. Master presented to the Lodge by Bro. Jno. Beattie, artist.
1858. *Mar. 4.*—Chas. Geo. Merewether, Barrister-at-law, of the Midland Circuit, initiated. This brother afterwards became Recorder of Northampton and M.P.
May 20.—Another interesting letter read from Bro. Capt. H. G. Colvill, of the 29th Regt., who is still in Burmah.

Letter also read from Capt. Harby Barber, of the 15th Madras Native Infantry, also in Burmah, who was initiated in the Lodge in 1856. Amongst other interesting news he states that, in conjunction with eight other Masons of his Regiment, he is about to petition for a Lodge, to be called "John of Gaunt in the East." In consequence of this the members sent out to India, as a present to the new Lodge, a handsomely bound copy of the Vol. of the S. L., with an illuminated address; but changes, consequent on the Indian Mutiny, caused the new Lodge to be stillborn, and the volume was, by permission (*vide Minutes of Oct. 17, 1861*), handed over for the use of the District Gd. Lodge of Madras, where it doubtless still remains. (See Appendix.)

Feb. 15.—Bro. E. Clephan installed W.M. of the Lodge for the second time.

Sept. 16.—The Rt. Hon. Washington Sewallis Shirley, Earl Ferrers, member of Lodge 728, Ireland, and father of the present Prov. Gd. Master, elected a joining member of the Lodge, having attended as a visitor at the last meeting. Six months afterwards, on March 13, 1859, this Brother died suddenly at Staunton Harold, at the age of thirty-eight years.

1859. *Jan. 20.*—The first instalment of fifty pounds paid from the funds of the Lodge towards the erection of the present Freemasons' Hall. Bros. E. Clephan and G. Bankart elected Trustees for the Lodge.

Feb. 15.—Foundation stone of Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, laid with full Masonic honours by Lord Howe, Prov. G. Master, assisted by the D.P.G.M. and other Officers of the Prov. G. Lodge. The Architect of the building was Bro. W. Millican, P.M. of Lodge 766 (now 523), Prov. G. Supt. of Works.

April 18.—Lodge of Emergency held at the Bell Hotel. Resolved, "that the Warrant of the Chapter of St. Augustine attached to this Lodge be transferred to the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 1081 (now 779), Ashby-de-la-Zouch."

May 19.—Letter read from the Secretary of the Leicester District of the M.U. of Oddfellows, inviting a deputation from the Lodge to the annual banquet of the delegates of that Society, to be held in Leicester on Whit Tuesday. The invitation was accepted, and several members attended. This action of the Brethren was severely criticised in the Masonic Press, and a lengthy paper warfare ensued.

June 27.—Resolved that "the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, be removed from the Three Crowns Hotel to the Freemasons' Hall, Halford Street."

1859. *Sept. 15.*—First meeting of the Lodge at the Freemasons' Hall. The building Consecrated and Dedicated by Lord Howe, Prov. G. Master, on this day. £15 voted towards furnishing the Hall, and an annual rental of £15 agreed to.
- Oct. 19.*—The sanction of the Lodge given to the formation of a Joint Lodge of Instruction in Leicester. This Lodge has worked continuously up to the present time, and is in a very prosperous condition.
- Dec. 20.*—Resolved, "that a Board be provided, and the names of the Brethren placed thereon whose subscriptions are in arrears."
1860. *June 25.*—The Freemasons' Hall Library established, with a total of 80 books and 26 pamphlets, the following being the principal donors:—St. John's Lodge, 10 books; John of Gaunt Lodge, 33 books and 3 pamphlets; Dr. Geo. Oliver, 9 books and 10 pamphlets; Bro. W. Kelly, 13 books and 18 pamphlets. This is now one of the best Masonic Libraries in the provinces.
1863. The number of the Lodge was altered from No. 766 to No. 523. During this year there were sixteen initiations and five joinings.
1864. *Feb. 26.*—The petition for the Howe and Charnwood Lodge (No. 1007), Loughborough, signed by the principal officers. The Lodge also agreed to lend the furniture and jewels for the Consecration.
- May 19.*—Lodge held at the Bell Hotel, in consequence of the Tyler (Bro. Chas. Bembridge) being seriously ill with smallpox. Resolved, "that the Installation Festival be held at the Bell Hotel, and that the Hall and premises be thoroughly cleansed during the summer months."
1865. *June 27.*—Ten guineas voted to the R.M.I.B., and a similar sum to the R.M.I.G.
1866. *March 15.*—R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, D.P.G.M., acts as Steward for the Province to the R.M.I.B. His list amounted to £200 11s., towards which the Brethren of this Lodge subscribed £91 7s.
- June 28.*—Bro. Henry Peake Green installed as W.M. of the Lodge. In consequence of his death, early in the following month, the Lodge was ruled during the year by the S.W. Bro. Geo. H. Hodges.
- Dec. 20.*—The sum of one hundred pounds voted from the funds of the Lodge in reduction of the debt on the Freemasons' Hall property.
1867. *Feb. 21.*—Increased rent of £21 per annum agreed to.
1869. *Sept. 16.*—Resolved "to lend the Lodge furniture to the members of the Vale of Catmos Lodge, No. 1265, Oakham, for the Consecration of the Lodge, and until they should be in a position to purchase a set of their own."
- Oct. 21.*—The Lodge adopts a Petition to Lord Howe, requesting him to recommend R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, D.P.G.M., as his successor, on his retiring from the office of Prov. G. Master.
1870. *Jan. 3.*—R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, D.P.G.M., a member of the Lodge, appointed Prov. G. Master of Leicestershire and Rutland.

1870. *Feb. 4.*—Lodge of Emergency for the initiation of Sir Hy. St. John Halford, Bart., of Wistow Hall, and Albert Pell, Esq., Hazlebeach, Northampton, M.P.
March 17.—Mr. Chas. Stuart Thomson, a "Lewis," initiated by dispensation.
May 23.—The Lodge goes into mourning for Rt. Hon. and R.W. Bro. Earl Howe, P.P.G.M., and one of the founders of the Lodge.
June 24.—A Past Master's Jewel presented to the retiring W.M., Bro. Geo. Toller. Similar presentations have since, with few exceptions, been made annually.
 The Lodge supports the Petition for a new Lodge at Market Harborough, to be called the "St. Peter's" Lodge.
Aug. 8.—Alexander Howard, a Syrian, a native of Beyrout, initiated. This brother subsequently (Dec., 1873) presented his portrait to the Lodge, accompanied by four Gavels made of olive wood from the Mount of Olives. This portrait now hangs in the banqueting room.
Oct. 20.—By-laws revised, and ordered to be printed.
 During the year 1870 there were eighteen initiations and one joining.
1871. *Feb. 16.*—Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.M. 131, Truro, Prov. G. Sec. of Cornwall, elected an honorary member of the Lodge.
June 23.—Presentation of silver cup to Bro. G. B. Atkins on his retirement from the office of Steward, which he had held for seven years.
1872. *Sept. 19.*—First election of a Preceptor for the Union Lodge of Instruction. The W.M., Bro. Dr. Haycroft, elected.
Oct. 17.—The sum of £95 subscribed by the members of the Lodge towards the 150 guineas required, to purchase the admission to the R.M.I.B. of the son of a recently deceased member of St. John's Lodge.
Nov. 14.—Prov. G. Lodge held under the banner of the Lodge; a very large attendance.
1873. *Feb. 20.*—Bro. Rev. N. Haycroft, D.D., the W.M. of the Lodge, died after a very short illness. The Lodge goes into mourning till the next Festival.
April 17.—The sum of ten guineas voted to the fund being raised for the widow and family of the late Dr. Haycroft.
May 7.—Commencement of the Leicestershire and Rutland Masonic Calendar, the Editor being Bro. S. S. Partridge, the J.W. of the Lodge.
1874. *April 16.*—Ten guineas voted to the Howe Memorial Window in St. Peter's Church.
June 24.—The R.W. the Prov. G. Master, Earl Ferrers, accompanied by the D.P.G.M., Sir Hy. St. John Halford, Bart., attended the Festival for the purpose of installing Bro. S. S. Partridge into the Chair of the Lodge.
Aug.—The Memorial Stone of the new Municipal Buildings laid with Masonic honours by R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, P.P.G.M., many members of this Lodge being present to support him.

1875. *April 28.*—The following members of the Lodge attended the Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, at the Royal Albert Hall, viz. : Bros. W. Kelly, P.M., P.P.G.M. ; S. S. Partridge, W.M. ; F. J. Baines, I.P.M. ; A. M. Duff, P.M. ; F. Goodyer, P.M. ; C. Johnson, P.M. ; G. Toller, P.M. ; J. T. Thorp, S.W. ; W. T. Rowlett, J.W. ; and T. A. Wykes, Sec.
July 19.—Emergency Lodge to support the Petition for the Albert Edward Lodge.
1876. *Nov. 22.*—The Prov. G. Lodge held under the banner of the Lodge, the Prov. G. Master, Earl Ferrers, presiding.
1877. *April.*—W. Bro. Geo. Toller, P.M., appointed Grand Sword Bearer of England.
1879. *Oct. 16.*—Presentation of a jewel to W. Bro. W. B. Smith, P.M., on his retirement after eleven years' service as Treasurer.
1880. *March 18.*—Twenty pounds paid for the restoration of the late Bro. H. Harding's monument in the Cemetery.
1882. *May.*—Bro. Major C. T. Freer, of Billesdon Coplow, died. This Bro. was a subscribing member of the Lodge from 1846 till his death, a period of 36 years.
June.—New Lodge Banner provided, at a cost of ten guineas.
1884. *Jan. 17.*—Five guineas voted to the Kelly Portrait Fund.
April 19.—The Lodge goes into mourning for the late Duke of Albany.
March 20.—The Lodge supports the Petition for the Lodge of the Golden Fleece.
Nov.—W. Bro. S. S. Partridge, P.M., appointed D.P.G.M. of the Province.
1887. *June.*—W. Bro. S. S. Partridge appointed P.A.G.D.C. of England, on the occasion of Her Majesty's Jubilee. A suit of Grand Lodge clothing was subsequently presented to him by the Brethren of the Lodge.
1888. *Sept. 20.*—Jewel presented to W. Bro. F. J. Baines, P.M., in recognition of eleven years' service as Treasurer.
1889. *Feb. 21.*—By-laws revised.
1892. *May 19.*—R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, P.P.G.M., resigned his membership of the Lodge, and elected an honorary member.
1894. *Aug.*—R.W. Bro. W. Kelly dies. The Lodge goes into mourning.
1895. *Sept. 19.*—The Annual Subscription raised from a guinea to twenty-six shillings.
1896. *May 21.*—Celebration of the Jubilee of the Lodge. Fifty guineas subscribed by the members of the Lodge as a Jubilee offering to the William Kelly Memorial Fund, a fund established to perpetuate the memory of William Kelly, P.P.G.M. of the Province, a Founder and the first W.M. of the Lodge.

STATISTICS.

During the fifty years, 1846 to 1896, there have been 291 Initiations and 65 Joinings, a total of 356. Out of this number 96 names are now on the books as subscribing members, 21 of whom have already filled the chair of the Lodge.

Of the present members of the Lodge,

One Brother has subscribed for 44 years.			
One	"	"	37 "
One	"	"	34 "
Two	"	"	33 "
Four	"	"	30 "
Five	"	"	26 "
Two	"	"	25 "
One	"	"	23 "
One	"	"	21 "
Three	"	"	20 "

a total of 21 Brethren now on the roll who have subscribed continuously for 20 years and upwards.

During the Lodge's existence one member of the Lodge has been D.G.M. of England, three have been Officers of the Grand Lodge of England, three have been Provincial Grand Master, five have been Deputy Provincial Grand Master, sixteen have been Prov. S.G. Warden, twelve have been Prov. J.G. Warden.

These Extracts bear witness to a prosperous career. That this prosperity may continue, is the earnest wish of every member of the Lodge.

EXHIBITS.

Copy of the first By-laws, 1846.

Firing glass, belonging to the early years of the Lodge, numbered 766.

Presentation Jewel to W. Bro. Wm. Kelly, the first W.M., 1848.

Two Theatre Programmes, bespeaks of the Brethren of St. John's and John of Gaunt Lodges, Oct. 19, 1847, and Nov. 19, 1856.

Early Circulars of the Lodge, showing forms previously in use, 1858 (two), 1866, 1872, 1880, and 1881.

Extract from the proceedings of a Regular Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Coast of Coromandel, holden at the Lodge of Perfect Unanimity, Vepery, on Wednesday, 30th April, 1862, A.C. 5862 :—

“ The R.W.P.G.M. announced that the P.G. Lodge had received a present of a very handsome Masonic Bible from Bro. Barber, of the 15th Regt. N.I. This Bible had been presented by the ‘John of Gaunt’ Lodge, Leicester, to the ‘John of Gaunt in the East’ Lodge, 15th Regt., but as the Lodge had never been constituted, Bro. Barber had presented the Volume of the Sacred Law to the P.G. Lodge, accompanied with the condition that should a Lodge ever be formed in the 15th Regt. it was to be returned. In the name of the P.G. Lodge the R.W.P.G.M. thanked W. Bro. Barber for this very handsome and acceptable present.”

(A true extract.)

J. T. GREATOREX, P.A.G.D.C.,

District Grand Secretary.

PRESIDING OFFICERS
OF
JOHN OF GAUNT LODGE ;

No. 523.

From its Foundation, March 26th, 1846.

YEAR	WORSHIPFUL MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.
1846	William Kelly	William Williamson	Edmund R. Crouch
1847	William Williamson	William Turner	Henry Harding
1848	Henry Harding	Thomas Cooper	John J. Kinton
1849	Thomas Cooper	John J. Kinton	Edwin Clephan
1850	John J. Kinton	Edwin Clephan	William Hardy
1851	Edwin Clephan	William Hardy	Charles Hall
1852	William Hardy	Charles Hall	Frederick Goodyer
1853	Charles Hall	Frederick Goodyer	William Harris
1854	Frederick Goodyer	W. B. Smith	William Millican
1855	William B. Smith	William Millican	George Bankart
1856	William Millican	George Bankart	George F. Lloyd
1857	George Bankart	George F. Lloyd	Samuel Bromhead
1858	Edwin Clephan	Charles Jos. Willey	John Dennis Paul
1859	Charles Jos. Willey	Robert Brewin	Thomas Sheppard
1860	Robert Brewin	Thomas Sheppard	William Johnson
1861	Thomas Sheppard	William Johnson	Harry James Davis
1862	William Johnson	Harry James Davis	John Spencer
1863	Harry James Davis	G. Fieldhouse Lloyd	John Spencer
1864	Harry James Davis	Rev. J. Spittal, M.A.	Henry Peake Green
1865	Rev. J. Spittal, M.A.	Henry Peake Green	George Hy. Hodges
1866	Henry Peake Green	George Hy. Hodges	John Ed. Hodges
1867	George Hy. Hodges	William Barfoot	George Toller
1868	Alex. Marshall Duff	George Toller	Thomas H. Buzzard
1869	George Toller	Thomas H. Buzzard	William Sculthorpe
1870	Thomas H. Buzzard	William Sculthorpe	Rev. N. Haycroft, D.D.
1871	William Sculthorpe	Rev. N. Haycroft, D.D.	Frederick J. Baines
1872	Rev. N. Haycroft, D.D.	Frederick J. Baines	Samuel S. Partridge
1873	Frederick J. Baines	Samuel S. Partridge	John Thomas Thorp
1874	Samuel S. Partridge	John Thomas Thorp	William T. Rowlett
1875	John Thomas Thorp	William T. Rowlett	Thomas A. Wykes
1876	William T. Rowlett	Thomas A. Wykes	Richard Taylor
1877	Thomas A. Wykes	Richard Taylor	George Odell
1878	Richard Taylor	George Odell	Joseph Young
1879	George Odell	Joseph Young	Edgar Taylor
1880	Joseph Young	Edgar Taylor	Richard J. Clark
1881	Edgar Taylor	C. E. Willoughby	W. H. Chamberlin
1882	John Thomas Thorp	David Challis	B.A. Smith, M.A.; L.L.M.
1883	David Challis	P.A. Smith, M.A.; L.L.M.	H. Pickard Brown
1884	B.A. Smith, M.A.; L.L.M.	H. Pickard Brown	George Newsome
1885	H. Pickard Brown	George Newsome	John G. Murdin
1886	George Newsome	John G. Murdin	Thos. G. Charlesworth
1887	John G. Murdin	Thos. G. Charlesworth	John B. Waring
1888	Thos. G. Charlesworth	John B. Waring	W. H. Barrow, Mus. D.
1889	John B. Waring	W. H. Barrow, Mus. D.	Alexander E. Brice
1890	W. H. Barrow, Mus. D.	William J. Curtis	Alexander Laurence
1891	William J. Curtis	Alexander Laurence	Thomas B. Neale
1892	Alexander Laurence	Thomas B. Neale	Frank G. Pierpoint
1893	Thomas B. Neale	Frank G. Pierpoint	George Neighbour
1894	George Neighbour	William A. Spencer	Rev. H. S. Biggs, B.A.
1895	William A. Spencer	Rev. H. S. Biggs, B.A.	Alfred Field Holland
1896	Rev. H. S. Biggs, B.A.	Richard J. Lulham	William Adams Lea

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1846-1897.

Present Members are in Italics.

Joining Members are marked *

MEMBERS' NAMES.	WHEN INITIATED OR JOINED.
* <i>Aldridge, Edward</i>	Nov. 15, 1894.
* Allen, Richard	March 26, 1846.
Allen, Edward, junior	Nov. 15, 1848.
Andrew, James George	Jan. 15, 1891.
Atkins, George Beale	June 27, 1865.
Atkins, Hugh	Sept. 19, 1872.
Bailey, Henry	Nov. 20, 1851.
Baines, Arthur Knott	June 19, 1873.
<i>Baines, Frederick James</i>	June 28, 1866.
Bankart, George	July 24, 1852.
§§ Bankart, James	July 24, 1852.
§ Barber, Harby	Nov. 3, 1856.
Barbour, Joseph Moseley	March 17, 1864.
Barfield, Samuel	Jan. 20, 1881.
Barfoot, William	May 18, 1865.
Barrow, Reuben Vincent	Feb. 16, 1871.
<i>Barrow, William Henry</i>	Feb. 15, 1883.
Bates, John Oscar	Sept. 19, 1851.
Barwell, Thomas	Dec. 20, 1860.
Bashford, Rev. Herbert Lionel, B.A. ..	March 15, 1894.
Beattie, John	March 19, 1857.
Bell, William	March 8, 1847.
Bell, Joseph	Nov. 21, 1839.
Bell, Thomas	July 13, 1855.
Beeson, Richard	Nov. 14, 1850.
* Berrington, Joseph	Feb. 21, 1849.
<i>Biggs, Rev. Henry Sylvanus, B.A.</i> ..	March 20, 1890.
Bithrey, William Sylvester	April 16, 1857.
Blackwell, James Thompson	April 17, 1862.
Bolton, John Adams, M.D.	Feb. 20, 1862.
<i>Bonner, George</i>	Jan. 17, 1895.
* Booker, William Henry	Jan. 16, 1873.
Boucher, Benjamin	Jan. 19, 1893.
Boulton, William	Nov. 19, 1863.
<i>Bowles, Charles John</i>	Jan. 18, 1883.
Boyd, John Frederick	Jan. 15, 1891.
<i>Boyling George William</i>	Sept. 20, 1894.
* <i>Bramley, William</i>	March 18, 1897.
Bream, John	March 7, 1864.
<i>Bream, William</i>	April 17, 1877.
Brewin, Robert, junior	Nov. 18, 1858.
Brett, Captain John	Nov. 3, 1856.
Broadbent, Benjamin	Oct. 12, 1846.
Brice, Alexander Edward	March 16, 1882.
Brocklebank, George	Nov. 20, 1884.
Bromhead, Samuel Dixon	July 4, 1854.
Brown, James	Jan. 24, 1848.

§ A "Lewis," initiated by dispensation.

§§ A Minor, initiated by dispensation.

Brown, Lawrence	June 18, 1863.
Brown, Rev. John Carter	June 27, 1865.
<i>Brown, Hercules Pickard</i>	March 20, 1879.
*Browne, Thomas Chapman	March 26, 1846.
Bryan, John Robert	Dec. 14, 1864.
Bunney, William	June 16, 1873.
*Burne, Richard Leyburn	March 26, 1846.
Buzzard, Thomas Hardy	June 24, 1864.
<i>Cameron, Ewen</i>	April 16, 1826.
Carter, Samuel	Oct. 15, 1856.
Cartwright, Frederick	Feb. 20, 1890.
*Chadwick, Mentor Augustus.. ..	Nov. 20, 1879.
<i>Challis, David</i>	May 19, 1859.
*Chamberlin, Alfred	Oct. 21, 1875.
Chamberlin, Charles Fred	Oct. 21, 1875.
* <i>Chamberlin, William Henry</i>	April 18, 1878.
Charlesworth, Thomas	June 16, 1870.
<i>Charlesworth, Thomas Gillott</i>	March 20, 1879.
Chichester, Henry Fitzwarrine	Aug. 14, 1858.
Church, William Henry	Oct. 15, 1874.
Church, Joseph Allen	Oct. 15, 1874.
<i>Clark, Thomas Scotton</i>	April 20, 1893.
Clarke, Joseph Crisp	June 27, 1865.
Clarke, Richard James	May 18, 1876.
<i>Clayton, Henry Edward</i>	Sept. 19, 1895.
Clephan, Edwin	Jan. 11, 1847.
Clifton, George	Feb. 16, 1871.
* <i>Coltman, William Thomas</i>	Feb. 19, 1891.
Colvill, Lieut. Hugh George	June 17, 1847.
*Comport, George Henry	June 24, 1864.
Cooke, James	Sept. 28, 1848.
Cooper, Thomas	March 26, 1846.
Cooper, Henry	Oct. 19, 1882.
<i>Cooper, John Harris</i>	Nov. 20, 1884.
Corah, John Arthur.. ..	Feb. 18, 1886.
*Cockran, Sutton	Dec. 20, 1861.
<i>Corkett, Frederick Thomas</i>	March 18, 1897.
Cort, Joseph	Dec. 14, 1846.
<i>Cowdell, William Morton</i>	April 19, 1894.
Cox, William Penn	March 17, 1870.
Crawford, Rev. John Charles	Jan. 17, 1884.
* <i>Crick, William Throne</i>	Feb. 19, 1891.
Crofts, John	Dec. 17, 1863.
<i>Crossley, Arthur</i>	May 18, 1893.
*Crouch, Edmund Robert	March 26, 1846.
<i>Curtis, John Joseph</i>	Oct. 20, 1887.
<i>Curtis, Robert</i>	Feb. 20, 1879.
<i>Curtis, William James</i>	April 17, 1879.
Dalby, Edward	March 17, 1864.
Dale, Arthur Shallott	Nov. 18, 1875.
Davies, Jemson	Nov. 15, 1860.
Davis, Harry James	Dec. 17, 1857.
§§ Dawson, Edward Finch	May 26, 1855.
Dolby, Stephen	Sept. 18, 1890.
Dougherty, Henry	Dec. 17, 1863.
*Duff, Alexander Marshall	March 15, 1866.
<i>Dunn, Thomas (†)</i>	July 22, 1869.

§§ A Minor, initiated by dispensation.

(†) Serving Brother.

Dutton, Edmund	Nov. 20,	1879.
<i>Eagle, Henry</i>	Feb. 17,	1876.
Eaglesfield, William Applebee	June 17,	1847.
Ellgood, Joseph	Dec. 19,	1868.
Emmerson, William Lindsay	April 19,	1877.
Farren, Francis Morgan	Dec. 14,	1846.
*Ferrers, Right Hon. the Earl	Sept. 16,	1858.
Fielding, William	Aug. 18,	1847.
<i>Fitch, Thomas Birch</i>	May 15,	1873.
Fletcher, George	June 24,	1869.
Flower, Joseph	Nov. 24,	1848.
Foster, Edward Sladen	Aug. 14,	1858.
Foster, William	June 25,	1860.
*Foster,	Oct. 20,	1870.
*Fowke, Sir Frederick Gustavus, Bart.,	March 26,	1846.
*Freer, Major Charles Thomas	May 21,	1846.
Freer, Thomas	June 4,	1847.
Frisby, William Smith	June 8,	1846.
Fry, Rev. William Targett, M.A.	Dec. 16,	1869.
Fuller, Ambrose Otway	March 15,	1894.
<i>Fuller, William Reeves</i>	April 19,	1894.
Garnar, Frank	Feb. 19,	1885.
*Garnar, John Henry	Sept. 16,	1858.
Goe, Harry Simpson	Oct. 17,	1872.
*Gibson, Captain John	Nov. 19,	1863.
Goodall, Stephen	March 15,	1877.
<i>Goodman, Charles Arthur</i>	Sept. 17,	1891.
Goodman, John Wills	June 12,	1849.
Goodyer, Frederick	March 26,	1846.
Graham, William Bloomfield	March 15,	1877.
Green, Henry Peake	June 27,	1861.
*Grieve, John Coleman	Nov. 19,	1896.
*Grover, John	Dec. 18,	1851.
Gunn, Thomas James	Jan. 21,	1875.
Hack, John Thomas	Dec. 17,	1863.
Hack, Matthew	Jan. 18,	1866.
Halford, Rev. John F., M.A.	Jan. 14,	1870.
Halford, Sir Henry St. John, Bart.,	Feb. 4,	1870.
§Hall, Charles	Dec. 15,	1847.
Hamil, Richard Burns	May 2,	1853.
<i>Hampson, Albert Henry</i>	Dec. 20,	1894.
<i>Hancock, John Henry</i>	Feb. 19,	1891.
Harding, Henry	April 23,	1846.
Hardy, William	June 8,	1846.
Harradine, Robert John	June 15,	1876.
<i>Harris, Joseph</i>	Dec. 17,	1863.
*Harris, Samuel	Oct. 16,	1851.
Harris, William Smith	Sept. 19,	1851.
*Harris, William Hames	Feb. 18,	1897.
Harrold, George	Feb. 16,	1882.
<i>Harvey, Reuben Warden</i>	Sept. 20,	1894.
*Hayeroff, Rev. Nathaniel, D.D.	June 24,	1869.
Haynes, William	Jan. 21,	1864.
*Hazelrigg, Sir Arthur Grey, Bart.,	Feb. 25,	1858.
*Henry, J. G.	Feb. 18,	1864.
Hewitt, Henry	Sept. 18,	1879.
<i>Hincks, James Thorp</i>	Dec. 18,	1877.
Hincks, Henry Thorp	Feb. 15,	1883.

§ A "Lewis," initiated by dispensation.

*Hingston, Fred	Nov. 15, 1872.
Hives, Tom Gamble	June 24, 1867.
Hodges, George Henry	Sept. 18, 1862.
Hodges, John Edward	Dec. 17, 1863.
Hodgkin, Samuel	Nov. 16, 1876.
<i>Holland, Alfred Field</i>	April 19, 1888.
<i>Horn, John Dyson</i>	Nov. 23, 1884.
Howard, Alexander; Beyrout, Syria ..	Aug. 8, 1870.
*Howe, Right Hon. the Earl	March 26, 1896.
*Hudson, Rev. Thomas	June 28, 1894.
Hunt, Fred	July 4, 1848.
Hunt, John	Oct. 20, 1865.
<i>Hyde Henry</i>	Jan. 21, 1897.
Ingram, William	Oct. 17, 1872.
Jackson, Alfred George	June 16, 1870.
Johnson, William, jun.	Oct. 15, 1866.
*Johnson, Charles	April 18, 1867.
* <i>Johnson, Joseph</i>	May 21, 1891.
*Johnson, John Joseph	Oct. 18, 1871.
<i>Johnson, Joseph</i>	March 18, 1897.
<i>Judd, William Warner</i>	March 18, 1886.
Kealey, James	Sept. 6, 1870.
<i>Keites, Harry</i>	April 16, 1891.
*Kelly, William, P.P.G.M., P.M. ..	March 26, 1846.
*Kemp, Francis	Nov. 15, 1877.
<i>Kerb, R.</i>	Jan. 18, 1877.
<i>Kershaw, Joseph</i>	March 16, 1893.
<i>Kilby, Cornelius W.</i>	Nov. 19, 1896.
<i>King, Charles Ross</i>	Feb. 19, 1891.
<i>King, Jabez, M.A.</i>	March 18, 1897.
Kinton, John Joseph	April 23, 1846.
Knight, Walter Chaplin Grundy ..	Oct. 17, 1861.
Knight, Francis Henry	Oct. 24, 1861.
Ladkin, Philip James Wale	Feb. 18, 1864.
<i>Laing, Thomas Elcoat</i>	March 19, 1891.
<i>Lait, Alfred</i>	Jan. 18, 1894.
<i>Lancaster, Rev. Robert Wharton, M.A.</i>	Sept. 17, 1891.
<i>Lange, Charles Bernard</i>	Sept. 6, 1870.
Langan, Captain John	Dec. 7, 1863.
*Langton, Samuel	Jan. 21, 1897.
<i>Laurence, Alexander</i>	April 15, 1886.
Layle, Ward	June 27, 1865.
<i>Lea, William Adams</i>	May 16, 1889.
Leavaux, Isidore	Nov. 16, 1854.
Lea, Barnard	March 19, 1857.
*Lever Robert	Sept. 15, 1887.
<i>Lewin, Morley Hodges</i>	Jan. 16, 1862.
Lewin, William Harrison	Jan. 21, 1864.
Little, George	Mar. 26, 1846.
Lloyd, George Fieldhouse	Dec. 15, 1853.
Lohr, George Augustus	April 21, 1847.
Lomax, Arthur Robert	Aug. 18, 1847.
Lorrimer, John	Sept. 19, 1872.
Lowe, William	Dec. 7, 1863.
<i>Lulham, Richard James</i>	April 21, 1870.
Mace, Edward	Oct. 18, 1866.
Maddock, James	May 20, 1866.
Manning, Charles	Sept. 16, 1858.
*Manning, Frederick	Oct. 16, 1862.

*Marks, Levy Johnson	.. ..	March 19, 1863.
*Martin, Charles Bosworth	.. ..	Sept. 18, 1862.
*Maxsted, John Morley	.. ..	Feb. 21, 1861.
McCall, John Henry	.. ..	Feb. 19, 1880.
McCormack, Michael Patric Cormac	.. ..	May 20, 1875.
<i>McRobie, James</i>	.. ..	Sept. 18, 1890.
*Meadows, Henry	.. ..	April 17, 1877.
Merewether, Charles George	.. ..	March 4, 1858.
Miller, Joseph James	.. ..	May 28, 1869.
Millican, William	.. ..	Nov. 20, 1851.
Moor, William	.. ..	June 18, 1863.
*Moreton, Captain, the Hon. Reynolds	.. ..	Nov. 21, 1861.
Murdin, John Gilbert	.. ..	Feb. 19, 1880.
*Murphy, James Brabazon	.. ..	March 26, 1846.
Nall James	.. ..	Feb. 21, 1849.
<i>Neale, Thomas Bennett</i>	.. ..	March 18, 1886.
<i>Neighbour, George</i>	.. ..	Feb. 21, 1889.
<i>Neville, George Clayton</i>	.. ..	Sept. 20, 1894.
<i>Newsome, George</i>	.. ..	Feb. 20, 1874.
Nicholson, Henry	.. ..	Nov. 19, 1863.
Nicholson, William Henry	.. ..	Sept. 17, 1874.
Noon, Charles	.. ..	March 17, 1852.
Odell, George	.. ..	Aug. 15, 1872.
Oliver, William	.. ..	Dec. 18, 1879.
Oram, Daniel W.	.. ..	Nov. 12, 1861.
Orrock, James	.. ..	Jan. 18, 1865.
*Owen, Rev. Octavius, F., M.A., F.S.A.	.. ..	May 12, 1846.
Padmore, James Mitchell	.. ..	Nov. 18, 1875.
<i>Padmore, George, jun.,</i>	.. ..	Dec. 16, 1886.
Pares, Thomas Henry	.. ..	Oct. 18, 1855.
Pares, John	.. ..	July 13, 1855.
Parr, John George	.. ..	Oct. 18, 1883.
<i>Parry, Henry Harrison</i>	.. ..	March 19, 1891.
Parsons, Frederick	.. ..	May 16, 1867.
<i>Parsons, Joseph</i>	.. ..	Oct. 19, 1893.
<i>Partridge, Samuel Steads</i>	.. ..	Nov. 16, 1866.
Paul, John Dennis	.. ..	Dec. 20, 1855.
Payne, James	.. ..	May 16, 1849.
<i>Payne, James Alfred</i>	.. ..	Jan. 17, 1884.
<i>Pegg, George Ison</i>	.. ..	Sept. 18, 1890.
Pell, Albert	.. ..	Feb. 4, 1870.
Pelluet, Augustus Paul	.. ..	May 17, 1883.
*Perry, William	.. ..	May 21, 1891.
*Petty, Francis Swinbourne	.. ..	April 15, 1880.
<i>Pickard, William</i>	.. ..	Nov. 17, 1881.
Pickering, Thomas Rowland	.. ..	Sept. 16, 1875.
Picton, Rev. John Owen, B.A.	.. ..	May 20, 1858.
Pierpoint, Frank Grist	.. ..	April 18, 1889.
Potter, Edwin William	.. ..	Sept. 16, 1875.
<i>Poynor, Charles</i>	.. ..	Sept. 15, 1892.
<i>Poynor, Septimus Frank</i>	.. ..	Sept. 15, 1892.
Praeger, Emil Arnold	.. ..	Feb. 21, 1878.
<i>Pretty, Clement</i>	.. ..	Dec. 21, 1876.
Price, Charles Dundas	.. ..	April 20, 1882.
<i>Price, Wallace Frank</i>	.. ..	Feb. 20, 1896.
Quinn, Thomas Miller	.. ..	June 19, 1873.
Ratliffe, Rev. Thomas, M.A.	.. ..	March 20, 1856.
Redfern, Francis	.. ..	Feb. 21, 1889.
Reeve, William Napier	.. ..	March 26, 1846.

Richards, William	Nov. 16,	1876.
Richardson, John George Frederick ..	May 16,	1867.
<i>Robins, Alfred Henry</i>	Nov. 19,	1896.
Rome, James	Dec. 21,	1865.
Ross, Alexander	Mar. 17,	1870.
Rowe, Samuel, F.R.C.S.	Feb. 19,	1857.
<i>Rowlett, William Tertius</i>	June 16,	1870.
*Ruddock, Nevile	April 19,	1855.
Rule, William Barrow Edward	Sept. 15,	1892.
Rushin, William, junr.	May 15,	1873.
<i>Rycroft, Thomas Dyson</i>	Feb. 21,	1889.
Sargeant, Alfred	June 28,	1866.
Sculthorpe, William	Nov. 15,	1866.
<i>Seaton, William</i>	Oct. 18,	1894.
*Shaw, George, M.D.	Sept. 16,	1852.
Shaw, James	Nov. 19,	1863.
Sheppard, Thomas	Nov. 3,	1856.
*Shout, William Coolley	Sept. 19,	1872.
<i>Smith, Benjamin Arthur</i>	April 18,	1878.
Smith, James Frederick	Nov. 18,	1869.
Smith, Thomas William	March 15,	1860.
<i>Smith, William Beaumont</i>	Jan. 14,	1852.
* <i>Sollitt, William Henry</i>	June 20,	1878.
*Sowter, William Baxter	May 28,	1857.
Spearpoint, Thomas	Oct. 7,	1879.
Spencer, William	June 8,	1846.
Spencer, John	Nov. 3,	1856.
<i>Spencer, Charles Alfred</i>	Jan. 18,	1866.
<i>Spencer, William Aldridge</i>	Dec. 20,	1888.
*Spittal, Rev. John, M.A.	Dec. 17,	1863.
Spooner, Thomas	Oct. 20,	1847.
* <i>Staines, Laurence</i>	March 17,	1892.
Stallard, Joshua Harrison	April 21,	1847.
Stallard, Samuel Slack	Nov. 25,	1852.
Staples, James	Nov. 9,	1846.
Staynes, Henry	May 19,	1859.
Staynes, George	Dec. 21,	1871.
Stubbs, William John	Dec. 14,	1846.
Tabberer, Osmond	Oct. 7,	1879.
* <i>Taylor, Edgar</i>	April 19,	1877.
<i>Taylor, Richard</i>	June 15,	1871.
<i>Taylor, Stephen</i>	Nov. 20,	1884.
Thomas, William	June 8,	1846.
Thompson, James	March 26,	1846.
*Thompson, John Henry	March 16,	1882.
Thompson, Thomas Harrower	Dec. 14,	1846.
§ <i>Thompson, Charles Stuart</i>	March 17,	1870.
<i>Thorp, John Thomas</i>	Nov. 17,	1870.
Tibbetts, Charles	June 15,	1871.
* <i>Tibbitts, Rev. Frank, M.A.</i>	Jan. 16,	1890.
<i>Toller, George</i>	June 28,	1866.
Toone, Frederick	March 17,	1870.
Turner, William	March 26,	1846.
Turner, Luke	Nov. 19,	1863.
Underwood, Weldon	March 19,	1863.
*Valpy, Rev. Thomas Rowell	Dec. 15,	1856.
Vaughan, George Louis	June 24,	1873.
Vickery, James	Dec. 18,	1890.

§ A "Lewis," initiated by dispensation.

Von Sturmer, Rev. Henry Eaton	..	June 24,	1869.
Wardle, Peter	.. ..	June 28,	1866.
<i>Waring, John Barker</i>	.. ..	May 18,	1882.
Warner, Robert	.. ..	Dec. 17,	1863.
Watson, David	.. ..	Feb. 15,	1866.
<i>Webb, John Rowsell</i>	.. ..	May 18,	1882.
<i>West, John Leaver</i>	.. ..	Oct. 19,	1882.
Whitaker, Charles	.. ..	Nov. 18,	1869.
Willey, Charles Joseph	.. ..	April 19,	1855.
*Williamson, William	.. ..	March 26,	1846.
Willoughby, Charles Edwin	.. ..	Jan. 18,	1877.
Wilson, John	.. ..	Dec. 7,	1863.
<i>Withers, William John</i>	.. ..	Oct. 16,	1890.
Wolf, Bertram	.. ..	Nov. 19,	1874.
Wood, Edward	.. ..	Nov. 17,	1870.
*Wood, Benjamin	.. ..	May 15,	1879.
*Woodcock, Charles	.. ..	Dec. 17,	1863.
Woodcock, Christopher Cleever	.. ..	April 17,	1863.
Worthington, Robert Henry	.. ..	Jan 19,	1871.
*Wood, Thomas	.. ..	Feb. 18,	1875.
*Wright, Rev. Gervase	.. ..	Mar. 26,	1846.
*Wright, Thomas	.. ..	June 15,	1876.
Wykes, Tom Atkins	.. ..	May 16,	1872.
Wynne, Lewis George	.. ..	June 16,	1870.
<i>Young, Joseph</i>	.. ..	June 15,	1871.

ANNALS
OF THE
CHAPTER OF FORTITUDE

No. 279, LEICESTER.

1796-1896.

Prepared for the Centenary Meeting of the Chapter,
February 5th, 1897,

BY

E. COMP. JOHN T. THORP, P.Z.; P.P.G.J.

PRINTED BY REQUEST.

LEICESTER:
PRINTED BY BRO. G. GIBBONS, KING STREET.
1897.

Annals of the Chapter of Fortitude,

ATTACHED TO ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 279, LEICESTER.

1796 to 1896.

RECENT investigations into the origin of BRITISH ROYAL ARCH MASONRY, point to the year 1740 as the probable date when that ceremony was arranged, but whether first in England or Scotland, evidence is lacking; and though of late years we appear to have come much nearer to a solution of this question, even now it is impossible to fix either the precise year, the locality or the circumstances of its origin.

The earliest typographical reference to the Royal Arch Degree, is to be found in Dr. Dassigny's "Serious and Impartial Enquiry into the Cause of the present Decay of Freemasonry in Ireland," published in Dublin in the year 1744. In this very rare pamphlet, of which only two or three copies are known, the author refers to the Royal Arch Degree as being worked in London, York and Dublin, it is therefore obviously absurd to credit the "Antients" or "Atholl" Masons, as has sometimes been done, with the fabrication of the Degree, or with its first introduction into England, inasmuch as their organization dates only from the year 1751; this body was, however, the first to recognize the ceremony as an integral part of Freemasonry, although it is very doubtful whether their members did more for the Degree than the "Moderns."

(Partly taken from Hughan's Introduction to Bain's Reprint of "Dassigny.")

The Chapter of Fortitude, attached to St. John's Lodge, No. 279, Leicester, was constituted in the year 1796, and has therefore just completed the hundredth year of its existence. The celebration of the Centenary of a Royal Arch Chapter is an event of rare occurrence, as according to the Grand Lodge Calendar of 1897, only twenty Chapters on the English Register have received Centenary warrants, of which four are located in London, and sixteen in the provinces.

The Royal Arch Degree had been worked in Leicester previous to the establishment of the Chapter of Fortitude, by the old "Atholl" Lodge, No. 91, which was warranted in 1761 and erased in 1821. The R.A. Seal of this Lodge, as well as the Jewel of Comp. Robt. Wylie, dated 1805, are now in the Leicester Freemasons' Hall Collection.

The Grand Chapter Records shew that the Charter was granted on August 25th, 1796, to Edwd. Hodges, as Z, Wm. Burley, as H, and William Ingle as J, all Members of St. John's Lodge, then No. 471; the No. of the Chapter Warrant was 102. From 1769 to 1817 there was a separate enumeration for Chapters, but since the latter date, they bear the same Nos. as the Lodges to which they are attached.

The original Warrant was lost or destroyed in the early years of the century, and the Chapter now works under a Warrant, dated May 9th, 1821.

Unfortunately the Minutes prior to the year 1814 are also lost, so that the history of the first eighteen years of the Chapter's existence, can only be obtained from a number of documents—manuscripts and circulars—which, by the care and forethought of the late esteemed Comp. W. Kelly, Prov. Gd. Supt. for twenty-four years, had been inserted, either in the first existing Minute-book of the Chapter, or in the Book of Gd. Lo. Reports belonging to St. John's Lodge. It is by the preservation of these papers, that the Chapter was able to prove the continuity of its existence, and obtain the Centenary Warrant. A few references to the Chapter in the Minutes of St. John's Lodge, are also of use in completing the early history.

The following are the documents and extracts referred to :—

1. Extract from St. John's Lodge Minutes of January 6th, 1792.

“Lodge met at 9 a.m. Emergency. Bros. Ingle, Freer, Hodges and Fox passed the Chair. Same day, at 7 p.m. Met again. Emergency. Bros. Burley and Brewin passed the Chair.”

It is quite evident that these Brethren went through this ceremony, a necessary preliminary at that time, to qualify them for the Royal Arch Degree, preparatory to petitioning for a Chapter in Leicester, of which the next extract is further proof.

2. “January 14th, 1792. Emergency to hear and consider Bro. Horton's objection to the proceedings of the two last Meetings. After a discussion . . . it was Resolved That in order to prevent the intrusion of unqualified Brethren into the R.A. Degree (for the purpose of attaining which the late P.M.s were made, who are allowed to possess every requisite qualification) no P.M. be made in future without the unanimous consent of the P.M.s of the Lodge present in a Lodge to be summoned for that purpose.”

3. Extracts from St. John's Minutes :

“February 1st, 1792. Bros. Harris and Valentine passed the Chair. June 25th, 1792. Bro. Dean passed the Chair.”

4. Printed Summons, dated November 26th, 1798, to attend Gd. Chapter, signed by Benjamin Cooper, Grand Recorder, who adds as a foot-note “By some accident the enclosed was not sent. I hope this will reach you, but I have not your address or either Hodges or Ingle.”

The Summons was addressed to “Mr. Wm. Burley, Leicester.”

5. Printed Summons, dated Nov. 26th, 1800, to attend Gd. Chapter, signed by Benjamin Cooper, Grand Recorder, who writes at foot, "In 4½ years we should have expected good returns, especially as our late worthy Principal, Lord Rancliffe, was your member."*

6. Extract from St. John's Minutes:

"January 7th, 1801. Bro. T. R. Smart was passed the Chair."

7. Printed Summons to attend Gd. Chapter, dated January 16th, 1801, signed by Benjamin Cooper, Grand Recorder, and addressed to "Mr. Edward Hodges, Leicester." Foot-note as follows: "By some accident the enclosed was not sent."

8. Extract from St. John's Lodge Minutes of March 30th, 1802.

"Brother J. B. Smith then moved that Bro. Burley (one of the Principals of the H.R.A. Chapter) be requested to inform the Brethren the lowest sum they are permitted to take for the exaltation of a Brother in that degree, which sum such Master Masons as wish to be exalted, or to forward the interests of R.A. Masonry, shall be required to subscribe for the purchase of the paraphernalia necessary for the working of the Chapter; and if the sum so subscribed be insufficient for the purpose, such deficiency shall be made up by loan from the funds of Craft Masonry; and for the better payment of such subscription, the Brethren who have subscribed shall be exalted for their original subscription, and the loan from the fund of Craft Masonry, (if any) together with the sum of £3. 6. 0, now due for the purchase of the Warrant to hold such Chapter, shall be repaid by such subsequent exaltations as may take place. This motion being seconded by Bro. Burley, it was ordered that the Secretary (as a preliminary step to carrying it into effect) shall write to Bro. Goodbairn to enquire the lowest expence such paraphernalia may be had for, and to request his assistance in the business."†

9. A manuscript memorandum as follows:

"Royal Arch Chapter, held March 30, 1802. Expences £2. 2. 0."

"Royal Arch Chapter, held April 6, 1802. Expences defray^d out of the Craft fund."

10. A manuscript memorandum as follows:

" Phipps, Thomas	March 16, 1803.	58. Grazier.	Leicester.	5/-
Luck, George	"	45. Gent.	"	5/-
Cornish, William	"	49. Victualler	"	5/-
Smith, John Bower	"	33. Cork-cutter	"	5/-
Richardson, William	"	47. Carpenter	"	5/-
Caparn, James	"	37. Brazier	"	5/-
Abbey, John	"	24. Hosier	"	5/-

The above register^d in the S.G. & R.A.C. July 7th, 1803."

11. Printed Summons to attend Grand Chapter, Dated May 2, 1808, signed by John Foulston, and addressed "To the Three Principals of the Chapter of Fortitude, at the Lion & Dolphin, Leicester."

* Lord Rancliffe was Prov. Gd. Supt. of Leicestershire from 1793 till his death in 1800, and Grand First Principal of England from 1794 to 1800.

† It would appear from this extract that the Companions had not repaid the amount borrowed from the Lodge for the purchase of the Chapter Warrant, and also that up to the year 1802, no suitable furniture had been obtained, for the proper working of the degree.

The following reply was sent to this Summons, a copy being written on the fly-leaf:—

“Copy Sent, May 5, 1808.

Most Excellent Companion

Being nearly 100 Miles from London prevents any of us attending the General Convocation.

We have not Exalted a Brother during the last year.

I am desired to make the Companions (belonging the Chapter of Fortitude) Most Respectfull Compliments and I remain

Most Excellent Companion
Your Most Obedient Humble Servant
J. SMITH.

Leicester May 5, 1808.

John Foulston Esq. 24 St. Albans Street, London.
Post Paid 8d.”

12. A Printed Request, dated March 17, 1809, for a full list of Companions exalted from September, 1796, signed John Foulston, Grand Recorder, and addressed to “The Principals of the Chapter of Fortitude, Lion and Dolphin, Leicester.”
13. A Printed Application, dated April 25, 1809, for transmission of Registers, signed by John Foulston, and addressed to “The Principals of the Chapter of Fortitude, at the Lion and Dolphin, Leicester.”
14. Printed Summons to attend Grand Chapter, dated April 29, 1809, signed by John Foulston, and addressed to “The Principals of the Chapter of Fortitude, Lion & Dolphin, Leicester.” At the foot of this Circular, the Leicester Scribe has written the following note. “Answered the above, July 7th, 1809.
J. SMITH. Paid post—8d.”
15. Printed Abstract of Proceedings in Grand Chapter, dated August, 1810, signed by John Foulston, and addressed to “The Principals, Chapter of Fortitude, Lion & Dolphin, Leicester.” At the foot is the following memo. by the Grand Recorder: “Send as correct a List of Comps. exalted as you possibly can.”
16. Printed Circular, dated November 27, 1811, signed by John Foulston, notifying election of Officers, and requesting list of Companions recently exalted. The Circular is addressed “To the Principals of the Chapter of Fortitude, Lion & Dolphin, Leicester.” At the foot of the Circular the Grand Recorder writes: “No arrears appear due to the Grand Chapter. Last name John Abby.”
17. Printed Summons to attend Grand Chapter, dated April 21, 1812, and signed Samuel Newman, Grand Recorder. At the foot is the following Note: “Last Companion registered, John Abby ex^d Sept. 1796. On enquiry I learn you do not proceed for want of information. Pray state the nature of what you require and I will do my best to satisfy you and set you going. S. N.”
18. Printed Circular, dated May 8, 1812, notifying postponement of Grand Chapter, signed by Samuel Newman, Grand Recorder, and addressed to “The Principals of the Chapter of Fortitude, White Swann, Leicester.”
19. Printed Abstract of Proceedings in Grand Chapter, May 17th, 1813, signed by William H. White, G. Recorder, and addressed to “The Principals of the Chapter of Fortitude, Lion & Dolphin, Leicester.”

The nineteen documents and extracts thus briefly described, may be fairly considered as bridging over the years between the foundation of the Chapter in 1796, and the earliest existing Minute-book, which commences in May, 1814. This Minute-book is a folio volume, with the following manuscript Title-page :—

“RECORD OF TRANSACTIONS OF THE HOLY
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF FORTITUDE,
No. 102, LEICESTER.”

One or more leaves have been torn out, and the first existing page, begins in the middle of the Minutes of May 14th, 1814, of which the following is a copy :—

“It was then further agreed, that the discussion of the future regular meetings of the Chapter stand over till the next Assembly of the Companions, which was fixed for the Evening of the 22nd Instant & Companions warned to attend.

Compⁿ. Smart then proposed Bro. Nicholas Higginson for exaltation on the next Chapter, seconded by Cⁿ. Smith & unanimously approved.

Compⁿ. Caparn in like manner proposed Bro. Richard Rawson, seconded by Cⁿ. Smith & unanimously approved.

Chapter closed with order & decorum in due form.

T. R. SMART, P.Z. pro temp^e.”

The following are the first complete Minutes :—

“Chapter of Fortitude, No. 102, held at the White Swan Inn, Leicester, May 22nd, 1814 ; Companions met agreeable to notice.

Comp.	Smart,	P.Z.
„	Smith,	P.H.
„	Luck,	P.J.
„	Caparn,	P.S.
„	Cooke,	S.N.
„	Barney,	S.E.
„	Osborne,	Janitor.

M.M. Lodge open'd in the *Anti*-room* and Bros. Higginson & Rawson pass^d the Chair. †

Lodge closed, and Chapter opened in ample form, and the above Brethren exalted and paid their fees accordingly.

The Chapter then agreed as follows :—

That Comp. Smart should be elected to the Chair of P.Z. ‡

* All extracts are given *verbatim et literatim*.

† This ceremony was at that time essential before a Brother could proceed to the Royal Arch.

‡ This means Principal Z, not Past Z.

That Comp. Burley be elected P.H.
 ,, ,, Smith ,, P.J.
 ,, ,, Cooke ,, S.N.
 ,, ,, Barney ,, S.E.

The office of P.S. be postponed.

That Comp. Caparn be Treasurer.

The first assistant S. Comp. Luck.

,, second ,, S. ,, Richardson.

That in addition to the regular Chapter nights it is proposed by the P.Z. that this Chapter be assembled the third Wednesday in every Month. . . .

That the exaltation fee be for each companion one Pound Ten shillings and for the Janitor 2/6.

* * * * *

TIM^r BARNEY, S.E.
 THOMAS COOKE, S.N.*

For some time the Chapter continued to meet monthly, the attendance, however, was generally very small, and very little business seems to have been done. Eleven members were added to the Chapter roll during the three years 1814-1816.

1814. June 22. Eleven members present. Installation of Principals. Vote of thanks passed to Companion J. Smith "for the very handsome and liberal manner in which he came forward and supplied the Chapter with Five Pounds in a time of necessity."

August 17. Resolved "that no Brother of Craft Masonry shall be admitted a companion of this Chapter until they shall have paid all arrears due to their respective Lodges."

September 14. Resolved "in the absence of Bye-laws, that the fine for every comp. not attending at the time of opening Chapter shall forfeit sixpence."

October 19. "The Chapter having taken into consideration the proposal for the admission of Bro. Ross into the Chapter, unanimously agreed that in his case the previous steps in Craft Masonry must be taken." It can only be surmised what this refers to.

December 21. Resolved "that the outstanding arrears be collected next Chapter night, accounts balanced and the necessary steps taken to establish the Chapter in its funds."

1815. February. Rules and Regulations of the R.A. Grand Chapter read by the M.E.Z.

* For many years the Minutes are signed by the two Scribes and not by the First Principal.

April 19. Resolved "that a Quarterly Subscription of 2/6 be paid by every Comp. from Ladyday last," also "that the fine for the second night be 1/-, the third night 2/-, the fourth night 4/-, and so on in proportion for each succeeding night in which any member shall be absent."

Thus if a Companion failed to attend for a whole year, his fines would amount to the sum of £102. 7s. 6d. It would be interesting to know if these fines were ever enforced, but there is now no means of ascertaining.

May 17. "The M.E.Z. promised (Health & Business permitting) that he will give a Lecture and a general Historical outline of the Science." There is no account in the Minutes of this promise being fulfilled.

September 24. At this Meeting the Chair was occupied by a Companion of the name of Sanderson,* probably a visitor, as his name never appears in the minutes of any other meeting; he was evidently familiar with the degree, for at the request of the members he "gave the Elucidations of the *Principals* of this our Royal and Holy Order in 3 Sections."

December 20. Election of all the Officers for the ensuing year. "Lecture went round."

1816. March 20. Joining Fee "to be one Guinea, out of which one shilling shall be paid to the Janitor."

November 20. From the Minutes of this Meeting, it appears that no Companion could remain a member of the Chapter, unless he subscribed to the Lodge also, for Principal H. "was excluded this Chapter in consequence of his having declined being a member of 525." †

December 6. Inventory taken of the property of the Chapter; a copy is entered at the end of the earliest Minute book.

1817. January 30. The Chapter removed to the "Three Cranes" Inn, Gallowtree Gate.

April 29. The Minutes of this Meeting are headed "United Chapter of Fortitude and Chapter 114, George Inn, Leicester"; the same heading was used until December, 1819. The Chapter 114 here alluded to, was one working under the old "Atholl" Lodge (No. 91) Warrant, the Number of which was altered to 114 at the Union in 1813.

* A brother named Robert Sanderson, Trinity Lodge, No. 3-2, Coventry, was a frequent visitor at St. John's Lodge from 1804 to 1814, and on several occasions delivered a Lecture;—this is probably the same brother.

† The No. of St. John's Lodge, in the year 1816.

Although the two Grand Lodges "Antients" and "Moderns" combined to form the "United Grand Lodge of England" in the year 1813, it was not until August 18th, 1817, that the United Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was started, the Grand Master, the Duke of Sussex being elected the First Grand Principal.

At this Meeting of the Leicester Chapters, ten Companions were present, of whom four (Comps. Wm. Brown, Wm. Mansell, Hurst and Henry Davey *) appear to have belonged to No. 114 Chapter. Bro. Palin Simms of Lodge 114 was exalted, and "Companions Smart & Brown explained the diff^t Signs &c. &c. in the first degree."

December 4. Amongst other business it was resolved "that our late Comp. B— be *commanded* to deliver up the warrant belonging to the Chapter & in case it was not done that he be reported to the Grand Chapter."

December 29. "Bro. Ridgway, an ancient R.A.M. was exalted"; this seems to point to a difference between the two ceremonies. At this Meeting Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., late Second Principal of the St. James' Chapter, London, who was present, was elected a Joining Member.

December 30. "Bro. Hodgson, a M.A. & S. exalted." The Degree of "Master of Arts and Sciences" was a preliminary step at this time to the Royal Arch.

1818. December 29. At this Meeting Sir F. G. Fowke occupied the chair of Second Principal. "Crafts Lodge open^d when Bro. Gregory was install^d Master for the ensuing year. Lodge clos^d & Chapter open^d . . . when Bro. Gregory was admitted to the degree of this sublime & R.A. Chapter."

The affiliation of Sir F. G. Fowke to the Chapter seems to have immediately produced good results; the Meetings were more numerous attended, a greater interest was manifested in the proceedings, and at nearly every Meeting candidates came forward for exaltation.

1819. December 14. The Minutes of this Meeting are headed "Chapter of Fortitude, No. 102." This heading was retained till the year 1823, although the Chapters received the same Nos. as the Lodges to which they were attached, some years prior to that date.

The Warrant of the Chapter being still withheld by Comp. B—, the following resolution was passed at this Meeting:—"That a deputa-

* The Grand Chapter Certificate (Antients) of Henry Davey, dated 1801, is still preserved by his descendants.

tion of not less than 2 shall wait on Bro. B— respecting the warrant he now unjustly holds, and that in case he refuses to deliver it up, the S. E. shall lay it before the Grand Chapter . . . and that Comps. Smith, Cook and Brown do wait on him accordingly in order to obtain such document from him” The Warrant was however never recovered, and it was generally believed that it was wilfully destroyed by Comp. B—, together with the Warrant of St. John’s Lodge, which disappeared about the same time.

December 28. Installation of Principals. “Agreed that a Chapter of Instruction shall be held every third Wednesday during the winter months.”

May 11. A letter is preserved in the earliest existing Minute-book, under this date, signed William H. White, E. Supr. G. Chap., requesting returns of all Companions exalted since John Abby, with fees for the same. A list was therefore prepared, copy of which is affixed in the Minute-book, giving the names of twenty-one Companions, with their ages and professions, and a fee of 5s. paid for all those exalted prior to June, 1817, and 7s. 6d. for all subsequent to that date. The fees amounted to £6. 12s. 6d.

1820. June 21. Resolved “that as the name of Comp. R. Rawson is withdrawn from the Craft Books, that his name be erased from the books of the Chapter.” Also resolved “that the name of Comp. J. H—be erased from the Chapter in consequence of his exclusion from the Lodge of St. John.” These two resolutions show the close connection between the Lodge and Chapter.

It was further resolved at the same Meeting “that the necessary *Paraphynalia* for the Chapter of Fortitude be procured by Comp. Sir Frederick Gustavus Fowke, agreeable to his kind offer.” The necessary furniture was duly purchased, and the account for the same is preserved in the Minute-book and is as follows:—

“Sir F. G. FOWKE, Bart., to J. BOWRING.

1821.		
March 9.	To the following articles for the R. A. Chapter. Leicester.	
	To a Pedestal, and case lined with baize	4. 4. 0.
	To a Floor Cloth. 9 ft. by 6.	4. 14. 6.
	To four Banners, poles &c.	8. 8. 0.
	To fourteen ensigns of Tribes &c. at 5/0	3. 10. 0.
	To three Sceptres carved & Gilded &c.	2. 10. 0.
	To Eighteen laquered Brass letters & characters.	
	Modelling, &c. &c. at 1/3	1. 2. 6.
	To fourteen Wands for small ensigns.	14. 0.
	To a neat Box with compartments &c.	8. 0.
	To packing Matts &c. &c.	7. 6.
		£25. 18. 6.”

Towards this amount Sir F. G. Fowke subscribed two guineas, eleven other members of the Chapter, a guinea and a half each, the balance of £6. 10s. 0d. being paid out of the Chapter funds. In addition to his subscription Sir F. G. Fowke presented a First Principal's banner, at a cost of four guineas. Some of this furniture is still in use in the Chapter, the First Principal's banner being placed at the back of the Canopy on the Dais.

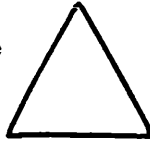
December 28. Sir F. G. Fowke elected First Principal of the Chapter.

1821. April 18. The Chapter removed to the Bell Hotel, where it continued to meet, until the completion of the Freemasons' Hall in the year 1859.

May 9. The Warrant being irrecoverably lost, as previously stated, a fresh one was applied for and duly received, and is the one under which the Chapter now works. This Warrant is as follows:—

Dundas. H. Augustus Frederick. Z. John Aldridge. J.

In the Name of the

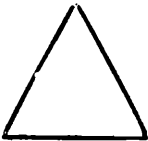


Grand Architect of the Universe.

To all the Enlightened OUR Brethren of the several DEGREES of the Royal Craft; but more especially, those Citizens of the World, and Servants of the Omnipotent, who have been, or hereafter may be, honoured by Exaltation to our Sublime Degree.

HEALTH. PEACE. GOOD WILL.

BE IT KNOWN That Our Excellent Companions *Thomas Cook, John Fox, Joseph Smith, William Cooke, Timothy Barney, William Brown, James Caparn, Nich^s. Higginson & Abr^m. Smith,* having made known to Our Supreme Grand Chapter, their Desire of holding a Chapter of Our ORDER, for the Cultivation of this Grand and Universal Science, in Hopes thereby, the more to extend their Aid to, and promote the Happiness of all our Brethren, and link Mankind together by indissoluble Bonds of Friendship, Peace and Harmony. And that Our Grand Chapter having taken their Petition into Considera-



tion and finding it concordant with Our Grand System of Universal Benevolence, We do hereby with the Consent of our said Grand Chapter, grant unto the said Companions, this our CHARTER OF CONSTITUTION, to be held with and attached to the Warrant of the Lodge No. 525 called *the Saint John's Lodge*, with full Power for Them, their Companions and Successors, to open and hold a Chapter of Our Order at *the George Inn, in the City of Leicester*, or at such other Place, and at such Time, as Our said Companions and their Successors shall, with the Consent of Us and OUR Successors, Grand Officers for the Time being, think meet. The first Chapter to be opened on *Monday, the 1st. Day of October* now next ensuing by the Title of

The Chapter of Fortitude

with such Privileges, Powers and Immunities, as do of Right, belong to regular established Chapters and Companions of OUR said Most Excellent Order, SUBJECT NEVERTHELESS to the General Laws and ORDINANCES already, or to be hereafter enacted, by OUR Most Excellent Grand and Royal Chapter.

GIVEN at LONDON, under OUR Hands and the Seal of OUR GRAND and ROYAL CHAPTER, this *9th.* Day of *May*, A.L. 5821, A.D. 1821.

William H. White. E.



Edw. Harper. N.



It will be noticed that in this document, no mention is made of the existence of an earlier Warrant belonging to the Chapter; this is somewhat strange, as in the case of the present St. John's Lodge Warrant, issued in April, 1820, reference is made therein to a former Warrant of the Lodge having been destroyed.

October 9. A special Meeting of the Chapter for the Installation of Principals. The Chairs were filled by the following distinguished visitors from London, viz. :—

John Hair, P.Z. Cyrus Chapter, 165, as Z.
 Laurence Thompson, P.Z. Moira Chapter, as H.
 James Deans, Junr., Z. Cyrus Chapter, 165, as J.

Sir F. G. Fowke and one other companion were installed as Z., two companions as H., and four as J. Several companions from the Brunswick Chapter of Paradise, Sheffield, also attended for installation, one of whom was installed as Z., two as H., and three as J.

One exaltation followed, after which the newly-installed Z. gave the Historical Lecture, Comp. Deans the Mystical Lecture, and Comp. Hair the Symbolical Lecture.

Sir F. G. Fowke presided over the Chapter as First Principal from 1820 to 1833. The Meetings were held very irregularly, in some years, as in 1825 and 1827, none being held during the year; this was probably due to the fact, that no member of the Chapter, except Sir Frederick, could perform the ceremony, so that if he were away from the province, and the services of Comp. Laurence Thompson, of London, could not be obtained, it was useless to call the members together. However, in spite of the irregular Meetings, the Chapter was prosperous and influential, a great number of Brethren belonging to Lodges in the Midland towns, seeking admission to the Chapter; amongst these Lodges the following contributed a large number of members to the Chapter, viz. :—

The Corinthian Lodge, No. 524, Newark.
 The Pomfret Lodge, No. 714, Northampton.
 The Trinity Lodge, No. 476, Coventry.
 Guy's Lodge, No. 828, Leamington.
 The Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 847, Nottingham.
 The Shakespeare Lodge, No. 536, Warwick.

1822. October 21. Comp. Laurence Thompson, of London, presided, exalting two brethren, and delivering the three Lectures.

October 22. Bro. the Rt. Hon. The Earl Howe exalted, Comp. Lau. Thompson again presiding.

November 11. Comp. Lau. Thompson elected an Honorary Member of the Chapter, and a Vote of Thanks accorded to him, for his kindness in attending and presiding over the Chapter. At this Meeting a visiting Comp. named Whyley was present; it would be interesting to know if this is the Robert Wylie, who was a member of the old Atholl Chapter, No. 91, and whose R.A. Jewel, dated 1805, is in the Leicester collection.

1823. September 23. Minutes headed "Chapter of Fortitude, No. 525." Sir F.G. Fowke presided, and was re-elected First Principal, Earl Howe, who was also present, being elected Second Principal. A List of Members taken this day, and entered in the first Minute-book, gives the names and professions of twenty-six Companions.

1824. December 28. Comp. Lau. Thompson presided. A Committee elected to frame a Code of By-laws.

1826. March 15. First and Second Principals re-elected.

1831. October 3. E. Comp. William H. White, Grand Scribe E., present as a Visitor. The Rt. Hon. Earl Howe elected First Principal, but was not installed until two years later.

1832. Number of the Chapter altered from No. 525 to No. 348.

1833. September 24. Installation of Earl Howe as First Principal of the Chapter; Col. Wildman, of Newstead Abbey, Prov. G.M. and Prov. Gd. Supt. of Nottinghamshire was present as a Visitor.

October 29. The Rt. Hon. Lord Raneliffe, Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire, exalted.

1835. March 12. Lord Raneliffe installed as Third Principal; Comps. Lau. Thompson, and J. C. Burckhardt of London present.

1836 to 1840. During these years Meetings were held very irregularly, none being recorded for the years 1839 and 1840.

1841. September 21. The Minutes of this Meeting commence the second Minute-book. Sir F. G. Fowke presided and Comp. Lau. Thompson acted as P.S.; Bro. W. Kelly, S.W. of St. John's Lodge was exalted, and immediately afterwards invested as P.S. of the Chapter. The Lectures were all delivered by Sir Frederick.

Comp. Kelly seems to have infused new life into the Chapter, the Meetings were more numerous attended, and have been held regularly up to the present time, a period of more than fifty years; very much of this continued prosperity is due to the watchful care and devotion of Comp. Kelly, who was First Principal in 1843, and Prov. Gd. Supt. of the Province from 1870 until his death in 1894.

1842. May 26. Bro. Jas. Sharp, jun., exalted; this brother was at the time W.M. of the Shakespeare Lodge, No. 356, Warwick, and is referred to in the Minutes as "distinguished for his learning and research."

November 9. On this date an inventory was taken of the furniture and property of the Chapter, and a copy entered at the commencement of the second Minute-book. In this list are entered copies of the "R. A. Rules and Regulations of 1786* and 1823," both of which are now missing.

1843. August 31. Comp. W. Kelly installed as M.E.Z. A new code of By-laws adopted.

November 27.—From this date the Minutes are signed by the First Principal of the Chapter, on being confirmed; they had previously been signed by the two Scribes.

1846. May 11. Installation Meeting; thirty Companions present, including Sir F. G. Fowke and Lau. Thompson.

1848. March 13. Two members of St. Augustine's Chapter, No. 766, paid a visit to the Chapter of Fortitude. St. Augustine's Chapter was attached to the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, Leicester, but was transferred to Ashby-de-la-Zouch in 1859.

1849. May 22. On this occasion the Principals were installed by Comp. Jos. Bennett, of Worcester,† to whom a vote of thanks was accorded "for his kindness in coming to perform the ceremony of installation at various times," and who was elected an Honorary Member. The fees for exaltation reduced on this date from three and a half guineas to three guineas.

1853. November 21. The Prov. Gd. Supt. Sir F. G. Fowke having recommended the amalgamation of the two Leicester Chapters, a committee was appointed this day to confer with the members of St. Augustine's Chapter.

1855. December 20. A Chapter of Emergency held at the Three Crowns Hotel; the amalgamation of the two Leicester Chapters further discussed.

1856. May 17 (?September ‡). The Union of the two Leicester Chapters having been arranged, the Minutes of this Meeting are headed "The United Chapters of Fortitude and St. Augustines, attached to St. John's Lodge, No. 348"; this name was in use for about three years only. The Dispensation approving the amalgamation, dated April 22nd, 1856, and signed by Sir F. G. Fowke, Prov. Gd. Supt., is preserved in

* This was probably 1796, as none were published in 1786.

† Comp. Bennett was exalted in this Chapter in the year 1844.

‡ This Meeting appears from the Minute-book to have been held on *Wednesday, May 17th*, but as in the year 1856 that date fell upon a *Saturday*, it should probably be *September 17th*.

the Minute-book. The Members of St. Augustine's Chapter were balloted for at this Meeting, and unanimously elected Joining Members. At this Meeting also a new Code of By-Laws was approved and ordered to be printed; and an expression of sorrow and regret at the decease of the Prov. Gd. Supt. Sir F. G. Fowke, was ordered to be recorded on the Minutes; this distinguished brother died on May 17th, 1856, having held the office of Prov. Gd. Supt. of Leicestershire for a period of six years.

1858. April 20. Resolved "That the expense of a set of Collars for the Provincial Grand Chapter, be defrayed out of the funds of this Chapter, as soon as the Treasurer shall have a sufficient balance in hand."

1859. March 21. By a unanimous vote the Chapter was re-named "The Chapter of Fortitude," which name it still bears.

October 24. The Chapter meets for the first time in the Freemasons' Hall, Halford Street, Leicester.

1861. January 21. Brother Charles Bembridge exalted by Dispensation as Serving Companion;—the Dispensation, signed by Lord Howe, Prov. Gd. Supt., is preserved in the Minute-book.

1863. The number of the Chapter altered from No. 348 to No. 279.

1865. March 29. New By-Laws approved, and ordered to be printed.

June 1. "Bro. Jos. Ride (who was exalted at the previous Chapter before he was entitled to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason, he not having at that time been a M.M. twelve months as required by the Book of Constitutions) went again through the ceremony of exaltation."

November 30. Comp. Kelly announced that the surplus robes and furniture (belonging to the St. Augustine's Chapter) had been disposed of to the members of a newly-formed Chapter at Truro, for the sum of £12. Ten guineas of this amount was thereupon voted to the R.M.I.B., in order to constitute the M.E.Z. for the time being, a Life Governor of that Charity.

1866. November 30. Fifty pounds voted from the funds of the Chapter, in reduction of the debt on Freemasons' Hall.

Since the amalgamation of the two Chapters, considerable interest had been manifested in the working of the R.A. Degree; there were Candidates at each Meeting, and the three Chair Lectures were given upon nearly every occasion.

1868. January 10. At this meeting twelve brethren were elected for exaltation and joining.

February 28. A further sum of £50 voted from the funds of the Chapter to the Freemasons' Hall fund; the Rt. Hon. Earl Howe, Prov. Gd. Supt. subscribed a similar amount. Presentation of a Silver Claret Jug, costing over £22, to E. Comp. Robt. Brewin, "as a token of esteem and gratitude for his valuable services as M.E.Z. during the years 1865, 1866 and 1867." During Comp. Brewin's presidency twenty-three brethren were exalted to the R.A. Degree.

May 29. E. Comp. S. S. Partridge, Prov. G.H., P.G. Swd. B. (Eng.), exalted on this date.

November 12. Two guineas voted to the Zetland fund and one guinea to the Palestine Exploration Fund.

1870. July 1. An expression of regret recorded in the Minutes, at the decease of Earl Howe, Prov. Gd. Supt.

1871. March 9. Five brethren of the Lodge of Rectitude, No. 502, Rugby, exalted in the Chapter.

April 27. The Rt. Hon. Earl Ferrers exalted.

October 26. Sir Hy. St. John Halford, Bart., exalted.

1872. March 14. The sum of Five guineas voted to R.M.I.G.; from this date, the Chapter votes five, ten or fifteen guineas to one or other of the Masonic Charities, nearly every year.

October 24. Resolved, "That this Chapter advance the amount required for the purchase of the Gd. Chap. Collars for the Officers, and also any Jewels that may be wanted, such amount to be repaid when the Gd. Chapter Funds shall be formed and be in a position to repay it." This refers to the revival of the Provincial Grand Chapter for Leicestershire which took place in 1873.

1873. February 27. Hearty vote of thanks accorded to E. Comp. W. Kelly, for his services as Treasurer to the Chapter for the last twelve years. Twenty-five pounds voted to the fund being raised for the widow of Comp. Rev. N. Haycroft, D.D.

1874. February 26. Twenty-five pounds voted towards the amount required, for placing a Stained Glass Window in St. Peter's Church, Leicester, as a Masonic Memorial to the late Earl Howe, Prov. Gd. Supt.

1875-1879. During these years the Chapter enjoyed the greatest prosperity; the attendance at the Meetings was large, and Candidates came forward at every Meeting of the Chapter. Fifty-five members were added to the roll during the five years, whilst many of the Principals of the County Chapters came to the Chapter of Fortitude to be installed.

1882. June 22. Resolved "that the Furniture, &c., belonging to the Chapter be put in proper repair and re-decorated." This was done at a cost of £40.

1885. June 25. Resolved "that the Furniture, &c., be lent to the proposed New Chapter, till they can afford to buy furniture of their own." This refers to the St. George's Chapter, attached to the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1560, which was consecrated March 2nd, 1886.

1887. December 22. Resolved "that the future Meetings of the Chapter be held on the first Friday in the months of February, April, October and December."

1888. March 23. New Code of By-Laws passed and ordered to be printed, together with a full list of all the Members and presiding Principals from the foundation of the Chapter.

December 7. Inventory taken of the Furniture, &c., belonging to the Chapter, and entered with the Minutes of this Meeting.

1890. April 3. A Past Provincial Third Principal's Jewel presented to E. Comp. J. T. Thorp, P.Z.

1893. February 3. The sum of Five Pounds voted to the Fund now being raised in the Province, for a Testimonial to E. Comp. Rev. C. H. Wood, P.Z. "as a slight acknowledgment of the services he has rendered to Freemasonry generally."

1894. October 5. The Minutes of this Meeting include an expression of sincere regret at the decease of E. Comp. W. Kelly, since 1870 the Gd. Supt. of the Province.

1895. During this year the Records of the Chapter were thoroughly investigated by E. Comps. S. S. Partridge, Prov. Gd. H., and Rev. C. H. Wood, Prov. Gd. S.E., with a view to a Petition from the Chapter for a Centenary Warrant; much anxious thought had been devoted to the matter, many letters had passed between the Provincial and Grand R.A. Chapters, and interviews held, and documents, minute-books, &c., submitted to the G.S.E., but as the earliest existing Minute-book commences in the year 1814 *only*, there seemed but a poor chance of a Petition being successful.

1896. March 31. The following letter from the Grand Scribe E., dated March 23rd, 1896, was read at this Meeting :—

“Adverting to your letter of the 19th inst., I have caused the Register of Grand Chapter to be carefully examined, with the result that the Chapter of Fortitude, No. 279, (then No. 102) is found to have been in a dormant state for a period of eighteen years, from 1796 to 1814. The Charter for the Constitution of the Chapter was issued on the 25th of August, 1796, and no names of members were returned to Grand Chapter after September of that year until 1814, when the names of six Companions were returned as having been exalted on the 22nd of May. The Chapter appears to have worked regularly since 1814. If the Chapter has any Records that will help to bridge over the period referred to, further consideration may be given to the matter, otherwise the conclusion seems perfectly clear, that the Chapter cannot claim to have had an uninterrupted existence for a hundred years.”

This letter seemed to put an end to all the hopes of the Companions, that the Chapter might be able to obtain a Centenary Warrant during the present year, when quite accidentally, some of the Documents referred to in the earlier portion of these Annals, were discovered in the Library by E. Comp. J. T. Thorp, P.Z. (Hon. Librarian). E. Comps. Partridge and Wood, who had for some time been investigating the Records, were quite of the opinion that these documents would bridge over the eighteen years referred to in the Gd. Scribe E.’s letter. A petition was therefore prepared, setting out the various recently discovered documents, and praying for a Centenary Warrant, permitting the Members of the Chapter to wear a Centenary Jewel; the Petition closed with the following words “that in all the recognized printed lists and Grand Lodge Calendars during the period from the year 1796, the name of the Chapter of Fortitude has always appeared as an existing working Chapter.”

October 2. The Petition to Grand Chapter, a copy of which is preserved in the Minute-book, was signed in open Chapter.

November 4. At a Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Gd. R.A. Chapter, held at Freemasons’ Hall, London, the General Purposes Committee reported that “A Memorial with particulars had been received from the Companions of the Fortitude Chapter, No. 279, Leicester, praying for a Charter authorising them to wear a Centenary Jewel. This Memorial being in form, and the Chapter having proved an uninterrupted existence for one hundred years, the Committee recommended that the prayer thereof be granted.” The recommendation was put and carried.

December 4. E. Comp. S. S. Partridge, Prov. Gd. H. reported, “that the Petition for a Centenary Warrant had been granted.”

1897. February 5. Celebration of the Centenary of the Chapter. Extracts from the Records of the Chapter were read by E. Comp. J. T.

Thorp, P.Z., and the Centenary Warrant was handed over by E. Comp. S. S. Partridge, P.Z., Prov. G.H., into the charge of the M.E.Z.

During the existence of the Chapter, 418 brethren have had their names placed upon its Roll of Membership, and among them may be found most of the prominent Masons of Leicester, for the past hundred years. The Records present no especial features, but they are interesting to local Masous, as evidences of zealous labour for the good of R.A. Masonry in the province, and of generous support to local as well as to the Masonic charities. That its career of usefulness may be long continued, is the earnest wish of all its members.

A complete list of the presiding Principals, as far as they can be ascertained, is added, and the last edition of the Chapter By-laws, printed in 1888, contains a list of members up to the end of 1887.

SUMMARY OF MEMBERS.

1796	Founders	...	...	9
1814-19	Exalted or	Joined	...	30
1820-29	"		...	29
1830-39	"		...	16
1840-49	"		...	37
1850-59	"		...	32
1860-69	"		...	56
1870-79	"		...	96
1880-89	"		...	55
1890-96	"		...	58
		Total	...	<u>418</u>
Subscribing Members in 1896			...	98

PRINCIPALS OF THE CHAPTER OF FORTITUDE, No. 279.

FROM ITS FOUNDATION IN SEPTEMBER, 1796.

ELECTED.	1ST PRINCIPALS.	2ND PRINCIPALS.	3RD PRINCIPALS.
1796, Aug. 25	Edward Hodges * *	William Burley * *	William Ingle * *
1814, May 22	Thos. Raynor Smart	William Burley	Joseph Smith
1815, Dec. 20	" "	John Fox "	" "
1816, Nov. 20	" "	Joseph Smith	John Fox "
1817, Nov. 20	" "	" "	" "
1819, Dec. 28	Thomas Cooke	John Fox "	Christopher Musson
1820, Dec. 28	Sir F. G. Fowke, Bt.	Rt. Hon. Earl Howe	George Pochin
1823, Sept. 28	" "	" "	William Cooke
1826, Mar. 26	" "	George Pochin "	" "
1828, June 7	" "	" "	" "
1829, May 14	" "	" "	" "
1831, Oct. 3	Rt. Hon. Earl Howe	William Cooke	James Elverson
1833, Sept. 24	William Cooke	James Elverson	S. C. Morris
1835, Feb. 12	James Elverson	S. C. Morris	Rt. Hon. Ld. Rancliffe
1836, Dec. 7	S. C. Morris	Christopher Musson	John Mortin
1838, Sept. 26	C. Musson	John Mortin	Peter Thos. Lang
1841, Sept. 21	John Mortin	T. B. Miller	W. C. Irwin, M.D.
1842, July 11	T. B. Miller	P. T. Lang	" "
" Dec. 27	P. T. Lang	W. C. Irwin, M.D.*	William Kelly
1843, Aug. 31	William Kelly	Thomas Moxon	Charles Green
1844, Nov. 27	Thos. Moxon	Chas. Green	Robert Crawford
1845, Nov. 27	Chas. Green	Robert Crawford	W. G. Palmer
1846, Nov. 16	Robt. Crawford	W. G. Palmer	T. H. Wheeler
1847, Nov. 15	W. G. Palmer	T. H. Wheeler	W. A. Dolby
1848, Nov. 22	T. H. Wheeler	W. A. Dolby	Wm. Pettifor
1849, Nov. 19	W. A. Dolby	W. Pettifor	W. J. Windram
1851, Feb. 24	W. Pettifor	W. J. Windram	James Gibson
1852, Nov. 22	W. J. Windram	James Gibson	Joseph Underwood
1856, May 17	James Gibson	Edwin Clephan	" "
1858, Feb. 15	Edwin Clephan	Joseph Underwood	Henry Kinder
1859, Nov. 21	Joseph Underwood	Henry Kinder	George Bankart
1861, Feb. 14	" "	" "	" "
" Nov. 14	Henry Kinder	George Bankart	Robert Brewin
1863, Nov. 13	George Bankart	Robert Brewin	Alfred Cummings
1864, Nov. 10	Robt. Brewin	Fredk. Goodyer †	Wm. Weare
1865, Mar. 29	" "	" "	" "
1866, Feb. 8	" "	" "	" "
1867, Feb. 15	" "	Wm. Weare	Rev. Jno. Spittal
1868, Feb. 25	Wm. Weare	Rev. Jno. Spittal	L. A. Clarke
1869, Feb. 9	Rev. Jno. Spittal	L. A. Clarke	G. H. Hodges
1870, Feb. 28	L. A. Clarke	G. H. Hodges	Geo. Toller
1871, Feb. 23	G. H. Hodges	Geo. Toller	Rev. C. J. S. Smith
1872, Mar. 1	Geo. Toller	Clement Stretton	E. J. Crow

* At the Convocation of the Chapter, on Aug. 31, 1843, the rank of M.E.Z. was conferred on Comp. Irwin by Sir F. G. Fowke, Grand Sup., and he was duly installed.

† Elected 29th March, 1865, vice Comp. Alfred Cummings, deceased.

PRINCIPALS OF THE CHAPTER OF FORTITUDE—(CONTINUED).

ELECTED.	1ST PRINCIPALS.	2ND PRINCIPALS.	3RD PRINCIPALS.
1873, Feb. 27	Clement Stretton	E. J. Crow	S. P. Ekin
1874, Feb. 26	E. J. Crow	S. P. Ekin	Wm. Sculthorpe
1875, Feb. 25	S. P. Ekin	Wm. Sculthorpe	S. S. Partridge
1876, Feb. 24	Wm. Sculthorpe	S. S. Partridge	J. T. Thorp
1877, Feb. 22	S. S. Partridge	J. T. Thorp	R. Waite
1878, Feb. 28	R. Waite	" "	J. W. Smith
1879, Feb. 27	J. T. Thorp	J. W. Smith	F. Grant
1880, Feb. 26	J. W. Smith	F. Grant	C. E. Stretton
1881, Feb. 24	F. Grant	C. E. Stretton	Thos. Worthington
1882, Feb. 23	Thos. Worthington	" "	Jos. Young
1883, Feb. 22	C. E. Stretton	Jos. Young	Rev. C. H. Wood
1884, Feb. 28	Jos. Young	Rev. C. H. Wood	C. S. Preston
1885, Feb. 26	Rev. C. H. Wood	C. S. Preston	Edgar Taylor
1886, Feb. 24	C. S. Preston	Edgar Taylor	John Dove Harris
1887, Feb. 24	Edgar Taylor	John Dove Harris	J. H. Thompson
1888, Feb. 23	John Dove Harris	J. H. Thompson	John Harrison
1889, Feb. 1	J. H. Thompson	John Harrison	Thomas Coltman
1890, Feb. 7	John Harrison	Thomas Coltman	Samuel Knight
1891, Feb. 6	Thomas Coltman	Samuel Knight	Robert Michie
1892, Feb. 5	Samuel Knight	Robert Michie	W. J. Curtis
1893, Feb. 3	Robert Michie	W. J. Curtis	T. S. H. Ashwell
1894, Feb. 2	W. J. Curtis	T. S. H. Ashwell	J. B. Waring
1895, Feb. 1	T. S. H. Ashwell	J. B. Waring	W. D. Grant
1896, Feb. 7	J. B. Waring	W. D. Grant	W. H. Staynes
1897, Feb. 5	W. D. Grant	W. H. Staynes	R. B. Starkey

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF LEICESTERSHIRE
AND RUTLAND.

PROVINCIAL GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

LORD RANOLIFFE	...	...	...	1793-1800
***				***
SIR F. G. FOWKE, BART.	...	...	...	1850-1856
THE RIGHT HON. EARL HOWE	...	...	...	1856-1870
W. KELLY	...	...	...	1870-1894
THE RIGHT HON. EARL FERRERS	...	...	...	1895