

ADDENDUM.

Masonic Papers.

I.

JOHN T. THORP.

Presented by the Secretary.

Masonic Papers.

I.

George, 2nd Lord Rancliffe. With Portrait.

The Masonic Benefit Society of 1799. With Plate.

Andrew, 5th Lord Rollo. With Plate.

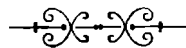
The Grand Lodge "Royal York of Friendship."
With Plate.

Rev. Samuel Oliver.

By JOHN T. THORP, F.R.Hist.S.,

P.M. 523 & 2429; 2076; P.P.S.G.W. of Leicestershire and Rutland;
Hon. Mem. of Lodges No. 50, 1391 and 2433.

*Author of "Fifty Years' Records of the 'John of Gaunt' Lodge, No. 523";
"Annals of the Chapter of 'Fortitude,' No. 279"; "Memorials of Lodge
No. 91 Antients"; "The Early History of the 'Knights of Malta'
Lodge, No. 50"; "French Prisoners' Lodges," &c., &c.*



LEICESTER: PRINTED BY BRO. GEORGE GIBBONS, KING STREET.

1901.

George, 2nd Lord Rancliffe,

Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire

(1812 : 1850).

PORTRAIT—*VIDE* FRONTISPIECE.

THE first Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Leicestershire was Sir Thomas Fowke,* who was appointed to the office by Lord Petre, Grand Master, in the year 1774, and held it until his death in 1786.

Two years later, in 1788, he was succeeded by Thomas Boothby Parkyns, Esq.,† afterwards 1st Lord Rancliffe—who was M.P. for the Borough of Leicester for many years, and who continued to preside over the Province until his death in 1800.

The third Provincial Grand Master was George 2nd Lord Rancliffe, the following short account of whom may prove of interest, especially to Leicestershire Freemasons.

* For further particulars of Sir Thomas Fowke, *vide* "Lodge of Research" Transactions, 1896-7, p. 14.

† A detailed account of this Brother's Masonic career is given in the "Lodge of Research" Transactions, 1893-4, p. 23.

George Augustus Henry Anne Parkyns was born on June 10th, 1785. He succeeded his father as second Baron Rancliffe in the peerage of Ireland on November 17th, 1800, and on the death of his grandfather in March, 1806, he succeeded to the baronetcy created on 18th May, 1681.

The first Lord Rancliffe, before being raised to the peerage, had been an officer in the Guards, together with Sir Thomas Fowke, and both had also been equerries at the same time to H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, brother of George III., who was Grand Master of the Freemasons from 1782 to 1790. This in all probability was the reason of their both becoming Masons, and subsequently Provincial Grand Masters of Leicestershire. The Duke and Duchess of Cumberland were sponsors to a son of one of the above-named equerries, and to a daughter of the other, and each child took the Christian names of their sponsors, namely George Augustus *Henry Anne* Parkyns, afterwards second Lord Rancliffe, and *Henry Anne* Fowke, sister of Sir Frederick Gustavus Fowke, and afterwards Mrs. Colonel Burnaby, the boy taking a lady's name and the girl a gentleman's.

Like his father, the second Lord Rancliffe followed a military career for some years, holding a commission in the 10th Hussars, serving for a time as aide-de-camp to the Earl of Moira, when Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's forces in Scotland, and as equerry to his godfather H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland. He represented Minehead in the House of Commons in 1806 and 1807, and Nottingham from 1812 to 1820 and again from 1826 to 1830.*

* Between 1820 and 1826 Lord Rancliffe was residing abroad.

After the decease of the first Lord Rancliffe in 1800, the Province of Leicestershire was for some years without a Provincial Grand Master,—wherefore on December 2nd, 1807, the members of St. John's Lodge, No. 471 (now No. 279) Leicester, passed the following resolution, on the proposition of Bro. Smith, seconded by the R.W.M., viz. :—

“That Lord Rancliffe be solicited to become Provincial Grand Master; he the said Lord Rancliffe stated himself to be a Mason,* and that the Grand Lodge be written on the subject.”

Nothing however appears to have been done, St. John's Lodge at that time being very indifferently supported, and it was not until February 5th, 1812, that any further steps were taken, to bring the wishes of the Leicester Brethren to the notice of his Lordship. On that date the following letter was sent to Lord Rancliffe “by ye consent of ye Lodge.”

“St. John's Lodge, No. 471.

“My Lord

“The office of Provincial Grand Master for ye County of Leicester, having been vacant since ye death of your noble Father, who for many years filled that high and honourable office with ye greatest satisfaction to this Lodge. Being now called upon, my Lord, by ye Grand Lodge of England to fill

* Lord Rancliffe was initiated in “The Canongate Kilwinning” Lodge, No. 2 Edinburgh, on November 29th, 1803. (*Vide* History of that Lodge by Allan Mackenzie, p. 146.)

“ up that vacancy without delay, and this Lodge under-
 “ standing your Lordship is a Mason, have chosen you
 “ to fill up that high and honourable office if agreeable
 “ to ye wishes of your Lordship. We refer your Lord-
 “ ship for particulars respecting it to ye Earl Moira
 “ Acting Grand Master of England.”

To this letter Lord Rancliffe replied promptly as follows :—

“ Bunney Park, Feby. 8th 1812.

“ Sir

“ I have just been favoured with your letter con-
 “ taining ye very flattering intelligence that my worthy
 “ Brethren have been pleased to choose me to fill the
 “ high and honourable office of Provincial Grand Master
 “ for ye County of Leicester, accompanied with so pleas-
 “ ing a testimony of their regard to my late Father.

“ I feel myself much honoured by their choice, and
 “ will endeavour by following ye steps of my Father
 “ to merit a continuance of their goodwill. I beg you
 “ will present my best thanks to ye R.W.M., W.S.W.,
 “ J.W. and brethren of ye Lodge and have ye honour
 “ to be

“ Sir, your most humble Serv^t

“ (Signed.) Rancliffe.”

This reply was gratefully acknowledged by the Lei-
 cester Brethren, and duly notified to Bro. Wm. White,
 the Grand Secretary in London, and by November 4th
 following the announcement was made, that Lord
 Rancliffe had been duly appointed Provincial Grand
 Master for the County of Leicester.

Unfortunately for Masonry in Leicestershire, Lord Rancliffe was at the time very much occupied with politics, and it seems to have been the case then, as in the present day, that those whose time is much devoted to political affairs, have little left to study the best interests of the Craft, or to do much for its permanent advantage.

Up to 1816 no Provincial Grand Officers had been appointed, but in that year, at the special request of St. John's Lodge, Bro. John Fox was appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who thereupon summoned a meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge for March 6th, and appointed and invested the various Officers.

Four more years passed by, and the Leicester Brethren were still neglected for the political duties of the Provincial Grand Master, when in 1820, a petition was prepared and forwarded to the Grand Lodge, calling attention to the fact, that during the whole of the eight years Lord Rancliffe had held the distinguished appointment, "he has not upon any occasion whatever visited a Lodge, or in any measure contributed to its harmony and welfare," and requesting His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, who was then Grand Master, to take the case into his Royal consideration.

This petition, as well as a subsequent one forwarded in 1821, and a personal interview of Sir F. G. Fowke with the Grand Master on the subject in April, 1822, produced no good results, and it was not until the termination of his political career in 1831, that Lord Rancliffe was able to spare time, for the discharge of the duties of his office of Provincial Grand Master.

An event which indirectly led to the permanent establishment of the Provincial Grand Lodge of

Leicestershire, is thus narrated by R.W. Bro. William Kelly, P.P.G.M., in his "History of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire," (page 49):—

"In September, 1833, His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, M.W. Grand Master, being on a visit to Colonel Wildman, Provincial Grand Master for Notts., at Newstead Abbey, was graciously pleased to honour the Lodges at Nottingham with a visit, for which purpose a Grand Lodge was convened, being numerously attended by Brethren from the adjoining Provinces. Amongst other Brethren present on the occasion were Lord Rancliffe, Sir F. G. Fowke, and many members of St. John's Lodge, Leicester.*

"The Grand Master intimated his pleasure, that the Officers of the various Provincial Grand Lodges present should be presented to him by their Provincial Grand Masters; and the writer recollects hearing a graphic description, of the ludicrous state of distress into which Lord Rancliffe was thrown by this announcement, he having neither a Provincial Grand Lodge nor Provincial Grand Officers to present. His Lordship evaded the difficult position in which he was placed, by then and there, in the ante-room, constituting Sir F. G. Fowke his Deputy, and the other Leicester Brethren present the Officers of his Provincial Grand Lodge, and as such they were severally introduced to His Royal Highness."

This event appears, for a time, to have effectually roused Lord Rancliffe to a sense of his official duties,

* An account of this Meeting is given in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review* for 1834, pp. 53-54.

for on the 29th of the following month the Provincial Grand Lodge met at Leicester, and his Lordship, after a nominal rule of twenty-one years, for the first time attended a Masonic Lodge in his own Province, and was duly installed into office as Provincial Grand Master, by Brother Lawrence Thompson, the famous Prestonian Lecturer of London.

Having retired from the political arena, and received from his late constituents in Nottingham, a handsome testimonial of Plate in acknowledgment of his services, Lord Rancliffe seems at length to have devoted himself with some energy to his Masonic duties. In November, 1833, he joined St. John's Lodge, Leicester, and occupied the position of Worshipful Master of the Lodge in 1835, whilst on March 13th of the latter year, he presided over a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, at the "King's Head" Inn, Loughborough, especially called for the consecration of the "Rancliffe" Lodge, No. 608.* On this occasion his Lordship performed the Ceremony of Consecration and Dedication, and subsequently installed the Worshipful Master.

Meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge were held in 1838, and annually after 1841, but Lord Rancliffe was frequently absent "from indisposition," although on two occasions he arrived in time to preside at the banquet,—a duty in which, as Bro. Kelly declares, he was thoroughly efficient.

He was present, in company with Sir F. G. Fowke, at the Festival of St. John's Lodge on December 27th, 1847, which seems to have been the last Masonic Meeting he attended in the Province. Lord Rancliffe

* This Lodge had a very short career. The Meetings were discontinued in 1848, and the Lodge was erased in 1853. (*Vide* "Lodge of Research" Transactions for 1892-3)

died at the family seat, Bunney Park, Nottinghamshire, on November 1st, 1850. He had married on October 15th, 1807, Lady Elizabeth Maria Forbes, eldest daughter of George, Sixth Earl of Granard, by whom he had, however, no issue; the peerage consequently became extinct, while the baronetcy devolved upon his cousin, Sir Thomas George Augustus Parkyns.

Lord Rancliffe was succeeded in the office of Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire by Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., who was installed on April 23rd, 1851. At the Banquet following the ceremony, Sir Frederick alluded to Lord Rancliffe as follows:—

“I should wish, before I conclude, to say one word
 “in respectful memory of our late Provincial Grand
 “Master, for whom I had a sincere regard. There was
 “an openness, a sociability and liveliness, and what I
 “may term a *bonhomie* of character about him, that
 “made him popular amongst a large circle of friends
 “and acquaintances, by whom he was much beloved,
 “and especially so by those who best knew him. He
 “had often said to me that he was conscious of his
 “many deficiencies and omissions as Provincial Grand
 “Master; of this, however, I am certain, that he was
 “proud of the honor, and anxious to do all in his
 “power to perform the duties of his office.”*

Such, then, was the Brother who occupied the position of Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire for a period of thirty-eight years; but although he occupied the position, it cannot be said that he fulfilled its duties.

* *Vide* Kelly's "History of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire," p. 63.

That he did yeoman service in the House of Commons is still gratefully remembered in Nottingham, and it is very probable, that if he had been *less* faithful to his Parliamentary duties, he would have been *more* faithful to his Masonic duties.

Devotion to Masonry and to Politics can never go hand in hand, each is an all-absorbing occupation, and those who devote themselves to the latter to any considerable extent, will never be looked up to as Pillars of the Craft, or become in any sense bright and shining lights in Freemasonry.

J. T. T.



The Masonic Benefit Society of 1799.

AT the Meeting of Grand Lodge, held on April 10th, 1799, the Rt. Hon. the *Earl of Moira* acquainted the Grand Lodge that several Brethren had established a *Masonic Benefit Society*, by a small quarterly Contribution, through which the Members would be entitled to a weekly Allowance, in Case of Sickness or Disability of Labour, on a Scale of greater Advantage than attends other Benefit-Societies; representing that the Plan appeared to merit not only the Countenance of Individuals, but of the Grand Lodge, as it would eventually be the Means of preventing many Applications for Relief to the Fund of Charity, wherefore it was

“RESOLVED, That the *Masonic Benefit-Society* “meets with the Approbation of the Grand Lodge, “and that Notice thereof be inserted in the printed “Account of the Grand Lodge.”*

Accordingly the following Circular, an original of which is preserved in the Leicester Freemasons' Hall

* *Vide* Grand Lodge Reports in the Leicester Freemasons' Hall Library.

Library, was addressed by the Actuary of the Society to the Masters of the various Lodges in England:—

“MASONIC BENEFIT-SOCIETY. OFFICE,

“*No. 50, Frith-street, Soho.*

“SIR,

“I HEREWITH send you the Outlines of the
 “Plan of this Society, agreeably to the Resolution
 “of the Committee, held the 29th. day of April, at
 “Freemasons’ Tavern, the EARL of MOIRA in the
 “Chair; and to request you will consult the Brethren
 “of your Lodge, as early as possible, on the most
 “effectual means for corresponding with this Society,
 “and to transmit your Resolutions thereupon, in order
 “that a permanent communication may be secured,
 “such as may facilitate, to any deserving Brother, the
 “means of availing himself of the benefits of the
 “Society. Relying on your zeal,

“I am, SIR,

“Your most obedient

“Humble servant,

“*W. Hannam*, ACTUARY.

“*May 14th. 1799.*

“THE

“MASONIC BENEFIT SOCIETY,

“*Established under the Authority of an Act of Parlia-
 “ment, made and passed in the 33rd. Year of the Reign
 “of King George the Third;*

“AND UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

“*His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES, G.M.*

“ TRUSTEES.

“ THE EARL OF MOIRA, A.G.M. PRESIDENT.

“ The Right Hon. LORD PETRE, P.G.M.

“ Sir PETER PARKER, Bart. D.G.M.

“ The Right Hon. LORD RANCLIFFE, Prov.G.M. for
Leicester and Nottingham.

“ JAMES HESELTINE, Esq. P.S.G.W. and G.T.

“ Sir JOHN EAMER, S.G.W.

“ GEORGE HARRISON, Esq. P.J.G.W.

“ M. J. LEVI, Esq. P.S.G.W.

“ Sir LIONEL DARELL, Bart. M.P. and P.J.G.W.

“ NATH. NEWNHAM, Esq. M.P. Ald. and P.J.G.W.

“ JAMES GALLOWAY, Esq. P.J.G.W.

“ GEORGE SHUM, Esq. M.P. and P.S.G.W.

“ JOHN DENT, Esq. M.P. and P.S.G.W.

“ Sir RALPH MILBANK, Bart. Prov.G.M. for Durham.

“ GEORGE DOWNING, Esq. Prov.G.M. for Essex.

“ WILLIAM FORSSTEEN, Esq. Prov.G.M. for Hertfordsh.

“ ADAM GORDON, Esq. Prov.G.M. for Herefordsh.

“ JOHN MACDONALD, Esq. Prov.G.M. for Sumatra.

“ Sir JOHN MACNAMARA HAYES, Bart. Prov.G.M. for
Oxfordshire.

“ HENRY HUGH HOARE, Esq.

“ THOMAS HALIFAX, Esq.

“ THOMAS HAMMERSLEY, Esq. *Treasurer.*

“ WILLIAM HANNAM, *Actuary.*

“AN ABSTRACT OF THE RULES AND
“ORDERS OF THE SOCIETY.

“ANY Brother of fair character and in good health,
“being a subscribing member of a regular lodge under
“the constitution of England, or recommended by the
“master of the lodge in which he has been initiated,
“is capable of admission.

“THE subscription is six shillings and sixpence
“quarterly, or one guinea per annum paid in advance ;
“and at the end of twelve months the subscriber be-
“comes a free member and entitled to all the benefits
“of the society.

“MEMBERS when sick, lame, or blind, will be en-
“titled to fourteen shillings per week.

“MEMBERS, in reduced circumstances and im-
“prisoned for debt, are to be allowed a sum not
“exceeding four shillings per week, if found not un-
“worthy of aid.

“MEMBERS, who through old age become in-
“capable of earning their living, to be allowed six
“shillings per week, till the first general court, and
“afterwards such a pension for life as his situation
“may require.

“THE widows of members will, if their circum-
“stances require it, be allowed the sum of four
“shillings per week, and two shillings per week for
“every lawful child under twelve years of age.

“THE widows of members, whose circumstances
 “shall require it, to be allowed a sum not exceeding
 “five pounds towards the funeral expenses.

“THE orphans of members not otherwise provided
 “for, to be entitled to the sum of four shillings per
 “week for their maintenance, and a further sum at a
 “proper age as an apprentice fee.

“A general court of all subscribers to be held once
 “a year, who shall fill up any vacancy which may
 “have happened among the trustees, choose committee-
 “men, make bye-laws, &c. The other affairs of the
 “Society to be managed by a quarterly and monthly
 “Committee, a Committee of Auditors, and an Actuary.

“A book is kept at the society’s office for any
 “member to enter his name, when out of employ-
 “ment, which may be examined during office hours.

“*Subscriptions for the Society received at the following*
 “*Bankers.*

“Messrs. HOARE, Fleet-street ;

“Messrs. HAMMERSLEYS, MONTOLIEU,
 “BROOKSBANK, GREENWOOD, and DREWE,
 “Pall-Mall ;

“SIR RICHARD CARR GLYN, MILLS, HALLIFAX,
 “and Co. Birch-in-Lane ;

“And at the SOCIETY’S OFFICE,
 “No. 50, FRITH-STREET, Soho-square, to be open, from
 “eleven o’Clock ’till three every Day, to register
 “Members and to receive Subscriptions.

“No person to be admitted a member after the expiration of twelve months from the establishment of the Society, without paying an admission fee of ten shillings and sixpence.

“The Rules, Orders, and Regulations at large, may be had at the Society’s office ; and of Mr. Hatchard, Piccadilly ; G. Cawthorn, Strand ; R. Middleton, Strand ; H. D. Symonds, Paternoster-row ; and J. Bell, Royal-Exchange, price one shilling.”

In the following year—April 9th, 1800—a further resolution was passed by the Grand Lodge, recommending the Provincial Grand Masters “to give every Aid and Assistance in their Power, within their respective Provinces, to promote the Object and Intentions of the *Masonic Benefit Society*.”*

William Preston, in his “Illustrations of Masonry,”† refers to the institution of this Society as an event of real importance to the Craft in England, inasmuch as those who have enrolled themselves members, and are in embarrassed circumstances, “have every reason to expect more ample aid than is usually given in other benefit societies, as the greater part of the subscribers to the common stock are respectable characters, who have not the most distant idea of becoming burdensome to the fund.”

* *Vide* Gould's “History of Freemasonry,” Vol. II., p. 488.

† Tenth Edition, 1801, p. 349.

Preston then proceeds to describe the Society as follows:—

“The mode of selecting the members is also highly
 “judicious and proper, as no one can be admitted
 “unless he be recommended by the Master of a Lodge,
 “who must vouch for him as being a man of irre-
 “proachable character and regular habits; and so
 “strictly is this rule observed, and so cautious have
 “been the original institutors of the Charity that no
 “improper persons be enrolled, we are informed that
 “several hundred names have been already rejected.
 “This institution therefore may operate toward the
 “improvement of morals and strict regularity of con-
 “duct, while the subscribers are gratified with the
 “pleasing prospect of extending relief to the truly
 “industrious and deserving. Above 2500 names are en-
 “rolled, and the subscriptions already received amount
 “to several thousand pounds. The funds have also
 “considerably increased, not only by many voluntary
 “donations from a number of eminent brethren who
 “have patronised the Charity, but by the addition of
 “one guinea to the first annual subscription having
 “been paid by every member admitted since the 25th
 “of June, 1800. Thus has been established, under a
 “very respectable banner, the Masonic Benefit Society,
 “which, under wise and prudent regulations, may be
 “productive of the most beneficial effects.”

In his abstract of the Rules and Regulations of the Society, Preston includes the following, which was no doubt adopted subsequent to the issue of the original Circular already quoted:—

“No person above 45 years of age is admitted
 “a member of this Society, unless he give proper

“security that he will not become chargeable in his own person to the fund ; which, though under this restriction, shall always be liable to the provisions for his widow and children, after his decease.”

A Certificate of Membership was issued to those who joined the Society, the document being signed by the President the Earl of Moira, and the Actuary. The design consists of an Arch surmounted by figures of Faith, Hope and Charity. As probably but few of these Certificates have been preserved, a copy of one dated June 21st, 1800, is given as an illustration.* It was issued to Bro. William Gardner, the grandfather of Bro. Fred. Gardner of Abergavenny, a Member of the Correspondence Circle of the Lodge of Research, No. 2429 Leicester, by whose permission it is reproduced.

By the end of the year 1803 it was found necessary to undertake a revision of the Rules, &c., of the Society, and at a Meeting held on January 30th, 1804, a Committee was appointed “to revise, amend and alter the Rules and Regulations, and to report at a General Court, especially convened for that purpose, such alterations and additions which to them may appear necessary to be made therein.”

After frequent meetings and deliberations, the Revision Committee submitted their Report to a Special General Court of Trustees and Subscribers, held at Freemasons’ Tavern on May 14th, 1804, presided over by the Earl of Kingston, in the absence of the Earl of Moira.

* *Vide* Plate II.

A code of amended Rules, an abstract of which is given below, were adopted, and the thanks of the General Court were accorded to the Committee "for their great attention and trouble."

AMENDED RULES.*

"The Subscription to the First Class is Two Guineas per annum, by half-yearly payments.

"The admission Fee is one Guinea, under the age of Thirty-six, and one Guinea for every year above that age. Members must be Three Years Subscribers before they or their families can participate in the advantages of the Society.

"Any one desirous of being a Life-Subscriber, must pay Twenty Guineas, and one Guinea for every year above the age of Thirty-six.

"Any person paying Ten Guineas at a time, or annually one Guinea, will be an Honorary Member, and entitled to a seat and voice at all General Meetings.

"Members who wish their Wives and Children to receive the allowance after their decease, must pay the following registering sums, viz. for the Wife Ten Shillings and Sixpence, for each Child, under twelve years of age, Five Shillings.

"Members, when free, in Sickness, to be allowed Fourteen Shillings weekly.

"Members incapable of earning their living, to be allowed Six Shillings per week.

* Taken from a 4to pamphlet of 27 pages, issued in 1804, a copy of which is preserved among the archives of the "Witham" Lodge, No. 297 Lincoln.

“Any Member in reduced circumstances, imprisoned for debt, to be allowed Four Shillings weekly, provided such confinement be not occasioned by any act reflecting on his character.

“Widows of Members to be allowed Four Shillings per week, and Two Shillings for each Child under Twelve years of age.

“Orphans of Members to be allowed Six Shillings per week, till they attain the age of fourteen, and then apprenticed.

“Honorary Members reduced in circumstances, to be allowed a sum not exceeding Ten Guineas, to be settled by the General Committee.

“Subscribers to the SECOND CLASS to pay One Guinea annually, by half-yearly payments, and they and their families to receive one half of the above weekly allowances under each respective head.”

At the same Meeting the following distinguished Brethren were elected Trustees of the Society, viz. :—

Brother The Right Honourable the Earl of Moira.

BROTHERS

The Marquis of Worcester,
The Earl of Mountnorris,
The Earl of Kingston,
The Earl of Harrington,
Lord Wentworth,
Lord Petre,
Lord Dudley Ward,
Sir Peter Parker, Bart.,
Sir Ralph Milbanke, Bart. M.P.,
Sir Wm. Middleton, Bart. M.P.,
Sir R. S. Cotton, Bart. M.P.,

BROTHERS

Sir John Eamer,
John Dent, M.P.,
Henry Hugh Hoare,
Thomas Halifax,
James Heseltine,
George Harrison,
William Forssteen,
William Wix
and
George Porter, M.P.

The Society's operations seem to have been rapidly extending throughout the Country, for by the middle of the year 1804 the following had been appointed Agents. As only a few of the names in the list are preceded by the word "Brother," it is probable that the majority of them were not members of the Fraternity.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

Bro. John Golland, Cambridge.

CHESHIRE.

Timothy Jones, Macclesfield.

CORNWALL.

John Tresider, Falmouth.

CUMBERLAND.

Jonathan Dalston, P.A.,* Carlisle.

DEVON.

Bro. Lawrence Williams, P.A., Exeter. Bro. John King,
Brixham. William Hernaman, Bideford.

DURHAM.

Robert Bone, P.A., Durham. Patison Dixon, Sunderland.
Benjamin Ridley, Gateshead.

ESSEX.

William Reed, P.A., Chelmsford. George C. Bishop,
Grays.

HAMPSHIRE.

John Watkins, Ringwood. John Jolliffe, Southampton.

* The letters "P.A." probably stand for "Public Accountant."

KENT.

Charles Bernard, P.A., Margate. Edward Chambers,
Deal. John Gurr, Chatham. William Blankley,
Gravesend. Edward Pillow, Canterbury.

LANCASHIRE.

William Lolley, P.A., Liverpool. James Anderson,
Wigan. Joel Bretland, Manchester. Thomas
Houghton, Ormskirk.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Bro. The Rev. Matthew Barnett, P.A., Barton. Bro.
Gervas Parnell, Gainsborough. John Brotherton,
Lincoln.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Charles Richardson, P.A., Newcastle. George Clayton,
North Shields.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

The Rev. Thomas Nelson, Newark.

SUFFOLK.

Benjamin Bolton, Ipswich. William Wiffen, Long
Melford.

SOMERSET.

Henry Jenner, P.A., Bristol. George Morris, Bath.

SUSSEX.

James Nicholson, P.A., Lewes. Thomas Till, Arundel.
John Ashby, Seaford. Edmond Scott, Brighton.
John Edwards, Shoreham.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

William Bond, Lichfield.

WARWICKSHIRE.

James Crump, P.A., Coventry. Joseph Brandish,
Alcester.

YORKSHIRE.

John Smalpage, P.A., Leeds. Quarten Levitt, Hull.
Charles Tatham, Keighley. James Wollen, Sheffield.
Joseph Bradley, Huddersfield. George Ewband,
Richmond. George Trueman, Whitby. David
Mitchell, Halifax. John Watson, York.

Actuary's Address : Piazza Chambers, Covent Garden.

In May, 1804, the Society's invested capital was
£8,000 3 per cent. stock, and at the same date the
weekly disbursements were as follows :

103 Widows,	...	...	£20	12	0
140 Children,	...	...	12	0	0
9 Orphans,	...	...	2	5	0
7 Aged Brethren,	...	...	2	2	0
67 Brethren in Sickness,	...	...	46	18	0
			<hr/>		
Total	...	...	£83	17	0
			<hr/>		

weekly, under the above heads, besides other payments.

By the end of the same year the beneficiaries had
increased to—

129 Widows,
195 Children,
23 Orphans,
13 Aged Brethren,
58 Brethren in Sickness,
2 Brethren in Imprisonment.

The young Society must have suffered much from these heavy claims, which seem out of all proportion to its accumulated capital. They may all have been quite legitimate and genuine claims, for it is well known, that during the early years of the nineteenth century, in consequence mainly of the long war with France, there was a terrible amount of poverty and destitution among the people, which must have tried most severely every benefit and philanthropic Society in the country.

In addition to the heavy claims for benefits, the expenses of the Society for Agents, &c., were very great, requiring additional subscriptions from time to time in the form of levies, a natural consequence being a falling off in the number of subscribers, and by deaths of members an accumulation of widows. The widows in time outnumbered the subscribers, and unavoidably caused a reduction of benefits to the members in sickness.

In order to remedy this evil, and to do justice to all parties, it was resolved unanimously, at a Special General Meeting, held for that purpose, at Freemasons' Tavern, on October 29th, 1827, and by adjournment to November 12th, 1827, that a scale be submitted to the widows and annuitants, according to age, &c., to purchase their interest in the Society. This was freely and voluntarily accepted, and they were paid off and finally settled with in the month of January, 1828.

The funded capital being thus much reduced, it was resolved on March 3rd, 1829, that the present free members shall take date of registry in the Society's books from January 1st, 1817.

New rules and laws, together with a revised scale

of payments, were framed later in the year 1829, extending the benefits of the Society not only to members in sickness, but also to them and their wives at death. These were printed in 1830, and a copy is still preserved in the Library at Freemasons' Hall, London, from which some of the details here given are taken.*

“TRUSTEES.†

“ Sir Wm. Middleton, Bart.,
 “ Mr. Parmenas Higgins,
 “ Mr. Henry Harvey,
 “ Mr. William Harris.

“ *Treasurer.*—Mr. Parmenas Higgins,
 “ *61 Frith Street, Soho.*

“ *Secretary.*—Mr. Maurice Hastie,
 “ *14 Wellesley Street, Euston Square.*”

A list of members is appended, eighty in number, most of whom were resident in London and suburbs.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Entrance Fee. Two Guineas.

Annual Subscription. Two Guineas, besides small payments at the death of members or their wives.

* “REVISED ARTICLES of the MASONIC BENEFIT SOCIETY, Established 1799. . . . London, 1830.”

† A very meagre list compared with those published in 1799 and 1804.

BENEFITS.

Sickness. One Pound weekly for 26 weeks. Ten Shillings weekly for a further 52 weeks, and afterwards Seven Shillings weekly during the continuance of such illness.

Permanent Disablement. Five Shillings weekly for life.

Death of wife. Ten Pounds.

Death of member. Fifteen to Eighty Pounds according to number of years subscribed.

By 1830 the funded capital had been reduced to £3,000 3 per cent. Consols, and it is quite clear the Society had lost the generous support of the Fraternity, which at one time it enjoyed.

Very shortly after the issue of the Rules in 1830, the Secretary, Mr. Hastie, died, and was succeeded in the office by

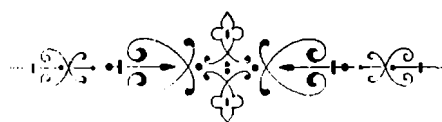
“John F. Reymann,

“*28 Frederick Street, Regent's Park.*”

How long the Masonic Benefit Society continued its operations, and what was the cause of its downfall, it is now quite impossible to ascertain. Its institution is included in the “Remarkable Occurrences in Masonry” printed in the Freemasons' Calendar, down to the year 1814, but is omitted entirely from the list in the

post-Union editions.* It is indeed highly probable that the Society never really flourished, and after a few more years it must have become generally recognised, that Freemasonry never was a Benefit Society, and any attempt to make it such was certain to end in failure and disaster. Its establishment, however, is another instance of the readiness of the wealthier members of the Fraternity, to extend help and assistance to their less favoured Brethren, and as such is well deserving of being kept in grateful remembrance.

J. T. T.



* *Vide* Gould's "History of Freemasonry," Vol. II., p. 488.

Andrew, 5th Lord Rollo.

IN the North portion of the Churchyard of St. Margaret's, Leicester, stands a large square Monument, surrounded by low iron railings, which was erected about the middle of the 18th century, to the memory of a very worthy and distinguished soldier and Freemason.*

This soldier-Freemason was Andrew, Master of, and afterwards 5th Lord Rollo of Duncrub, Perthshire, who presided as Master over the Ancient Masonic Lodge of Scoon and Perth, No. 3 (S.C.) on three separate occasions, viz. 1728-29, 1730-31 and 1734-35. The following particulars of his Masonic and Military career are principally taken from the "History of the Ancient Masonic Lodge of Scoon and Perth" published by D. Crawford Smith in the year 1898.

Lord Rollo was a man of character and ability, and a keen and enthusiastic Mason, and although only five and twenty years of age when he was first elected to fill the Chair of the Lodge, his influence was

* *Vide* Plate III.

immediately felt in the management of its affairs. During his first year of office, the Rules and Laws of the Lodge were revised, and he seems to have exerted himself generally to improve and maintain the efficiency of the Lodge.

Shortly after his third term of office, Lord Rollo had the misfortune to lose his wife; he then turned his attention to the Army, which he entered in his fortieth year. Having taken this step, he seems to have found his proper vocation. His success was marked, and his promotion rapid. His gallantry at the Battle of Dettingen, in 1743, where he received his captaincy, pointed him out thus early in his military career as a brave and capable soldier. He obtained his Majority in 1750, and six years later was promoted to the rank of Lieut.-Col. Commandant of the 22nd Regiment, with which corps he embarked for North America. He commanded in the expedition to Louisburg (1758), and after the surrender of that place the same year, he was sent to take possession of the French island of St. John (now Prince Edward's Island). Afterwards (1760) he assisted General Murray in the attack on Montreal, which secured Canada to the British Crown. In 1761 he sailed from North America to the West Indies with 2,600 men. He landed on the island of Dominica, under cover of fire from the ships of Sir James Douglas' squadron, and night coming on, he resolved to attack the French immediately. In this he was eminently successful. His soldiers captured the batteries and drove the enemy from their entrenchments. Taking advantage of the utter confusion of the French, he occupied their headquarters. In the whole engagement he had only two killed and four wounded. Next

day the whole island submitted to his lordship. He joined General Monkton at Barbadoes later in the same year, and in the following year he shared in the siege of Martinique. That island surrendered on the 4th of February, 1762, but to the gallant Lord Rollo that victory was clouded by the death of his only son, a young officer of great promise. The General in his despatches said, that "Lord Rollo and all the officers deserve the highest approbation for their animated and soldier-like conduct." From Martinique he proceeded to Havannah, where he for some time acted as Brigadier-General; but his wars were now ended; his health failed, although his spirit remained unbroken. He was forced to retire, in the hope that he might recover to be yet of service to his country. He left Cuba late in 1762, never to return; the baleful climate had undermined his constitution, and the fatigues of a life of extraordinary activity had told on his health.

From the West Indies he returned to England, and vainly sought to recover the robust health which he had sacrificed for his King and country. It was whilst on a journey towards the West of England that he died at the "Three Crowns" Inn, Leicester, on the 2nd of June, 1765. "His funeral took place in St. Margaret's Churchyard, being accompanied by military honours, and attended by the Leicestershire Militia and all the military then in Leicester. It was said that Lord Rollo, before his decease, requested his lady to have his body laid in the churchyard in as open a place as could be found, and as much in soldier-like style as possible."*

* Thompson's "History of Leicester in the Eighteenth Century," p. 125.

The monument erected to his memory is a very striking one. It is square, with four panels, one of which contains a Trophy of Arms, with Skull, Arrow and Falling Pyramid. A second panel contains a similar Trophy of Arms, with Coat of Mail hanging on a Column; all of these emblems are exceedingly significant. The third panel is blank, while the fourth contains the following inscription in eighteen lines, surmounted by the Coat of Arms of the deceased peer, viz. :—

“*Arms.* Or, a chevron, between three boars’ heads, erased, azure. *Crest.* A stag’s head, coupé, proper. “*Supporters.* Two stags, proper. *Motto.* La fortune “*passé par tout.**”

“HERE are deposited by his express desire the “Remains of the Right Honorable | ANDREW “LORD ROLLO, a Scots Peer who betaking himself “tho: late to | a Military Life, soon became distin- “guished by the exertion of every Talent which | “constitutes the Spirited Commander, the Humane “Officer, the Complete Gentleman. |

“As Lieutenant Colonel Commandant, he embarked “with the 22nd. Regiment | in the year 1756 for “North America, from whence after a Series of the | “severest and most dangerous Services, in the year “1761 as Brigadier General | he was detached by “General Amherst to reduce the Island of Dominique | “which with 700 Men he happily effected. |

“He soon after shared in the Siege of Martinique, “where he lost his only | Son, a Youth of the most

* Taken from Burke’s “Peerage, &c.,” 1898,—although the Motto on the Monument reads “La fortune pass par toute.”

“promising hopes who had served the Generals |
 “Amherst and Monkton, as Brigade Major. He after-
 “wards landed at the | Havannah, where he served
 “at the head of a Brigade till within ten | days of
 “the reduction of Fort Moro, when the pressure of
 “present Duty, | the fatigues of past Services, a broken
 “Constitution, and the Importunity of | his General
 “and Physicians, obliged him to retire. He died at
 “Leicester | the 2^d of June 1765 in the 61st year of
 “his Age, on his way to Bristol | where he had been
 “advised to go for the recovery of his Health.”

The existence of this monument appears to be quite unknown to the present generation of Leicester Freemasons, so that this brief account of it, and of the distinguished Brother whose memory it perpetuates and whose gallant deeds it records, will probably prove of interest.

J. T. T.



The Grand Lodge “Royal York of Friendship.”

Lodge of “The Iron Cross,” Mainz.

IT is so rarely that old Certificates of German Grand Lodges are seen in England, even Collectors seldom succeeding in securing them, that when one is obtained, and turns out to be full of interest, it seems worth while to have it reproduced and described.

The document here reproduced* was issued in the year 1816, by the Lodge of the “Iron Cross” (zum eisernen Creutze) of Mainz, working under a Constitution from the Grand Lodge “Royal York of Friendship” (Royale York zur Freundschaft), whose head-quarters were then, and still are, at Berlin.

In consequence, probably, of the frequent political changes that have taken place in Germany during the last two hundred years, and the various States into which the country has always been divided, there have been, and still are, a great number of Grand and Independent Lodges in Germany. Most of these

* *Vide* Plate IV.

Lodges have been subject to numerous changes, some of them commencing as private Lodges under various jurisdictions, transferring their allegiance from time to time, eventually becoming independent of all authority, and warranting Daughter-lodges on their own account.

The following list of the principal extinct and active ruling Masonic Bodies in Germany is taken from Bro. R. F. Gould's "History of Freemasonry," Vol. III., p. 232 :—

1. Grand Lodge of Hamburg. Originally founded as an English Provincial Grand Lodge in 1740. Independent since 1811.
2. Grand National Mother-lodge of the "Three Globes," Berlin, established by Frederick the Great in 1740.
3. Grand Lodge of the "Sun" at Baireuth, founded by the Markgrave of Brandenburg in 1741.
4. Independent Lodge "Minerva of the Three Palms" at Leipzig, founded as a private Lodge in 1741.
5. Independent Lodge "Archimedes of the Three Tracing Boards" at Altenburg, which dates from 1742.
6. Mother Grand Lodge of "The Eclectic Union" of Frankfort a. M., originally an English Lodge in 1742.
7. Grand Lodge of the Kingdom of Hanover, which commenced as a private Lodge in 1746, and was closed in 1867 by order of the King of Prussia.
8. Grand Lodge of Prussia, "Royal York of Friendship," established as a private Lodge in 1760; a Grand Lodge since 1798.

9. Grand Lodge of Ratisbon, working from 1768 to 1840, when it became extinct.
10. The National Grand Lodge of all German Freemasons, at Berlin, founded about 1770.
11. Independent Lodge "Baldwin of the Linden," Leipzig, dating from 1776.
12. Independent Lodge "Charles of the Rue-wreath," Hildburgshausen, established by the Grand Lodge of England in 1787.
13. National Grand Lodge of Saxony at Dresden, working since 1811.
14. Prussian Grand Masters' Union, established in 1839.
15. Grand Lodge "Concord" at Darmstadt, founded in 1846.
16. German Grand Lodges' Union, established in 1868.

From the foregoing list it will be seen, that the Grand Lodge "Royal York of Friendship" is not by any means the oldest Grand Lodge in Germany, nor is it at the present time the largest and most important, but it seems always to have held an honorable position amongst them, and to have attracted a great number of worthy men as members of its Daughter-lodges.

The document, to which reference has been made, is of paper, 16 inches by 10½ inches, and appears to have been printed from an engraved plate. At the head is a very fine irradiated Seal;* the legend round

* The description of the Seal is taken from *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*, Vol. VIII., p. 3.

the rim reads "SIGILLUM MAGNI LATOMORUM COETUS R. Y. DE AMICITIA DICTI BEROLINI." Within this at top, a crowned eagle flying, holding in sinister claw an orb, and in dexter, a sceptre. At bottom, "III. IDUS. JUNII. MDCCXCVIII." in two lines. Between the eagle and the date a shield, blazoned, *Asure*, between three doves with olive-branches, one and two, a pair of compasses with three legs extended, on a Y, *or*. Supporters, dexter, a griffin; sinister, a sphinx. The date, June, 1798, is that of the establishment of the Lodge as a Grand Lodge, and the three doves, no doubt, have reference to the original name of the Lodge in 1761.

On the back of the document is the following endorsement:—

"Gesehen in der □ Ferdinand zur Glueckseligkeit,
"Magdeburg, am 19^{ten} April 1826. Hallé, Secr."

(Seen in the Lodge Ferdinand of Happiness, Magdeburg, on April 19th, 1826.)

The following is the text of the Certificate:

"Wir Meister vom Stuhl, Aufseher und Secretair
"der unter Constitution und Direction der Grossen
"Freimaurer Loge Royale York zur Freundschaft
"arbeitenden S. E. G. und V. Sct. Joh. □* *sum*
"eisernen Creutze im Or. von *Maynz* Bezeugen und
"beurkunden hierdurch dass nach den Gesetzen und
"Statuten der K. K. der Bruder *Peter Isac Meyer*,

* Sehr ehrwuerdige, gerechte und vollkommene St. Johannis-Loge. *

“*Kaufmann* in die Freimaurer Bruderschaft *im erten*
 “*(ersten) Grade* aufgenommen und als *Lehrling* in das
 “Verzeichniss der Mitglieder Unserer Loge eingetra-
 “gen worden ist.

“Wir empfehlen daher Ihn, den gedachten Bruder
 “*Meyer* dessen Signatur hierneben befindlich ist, allen
 “S. E. G. und V. Logen als einen aechten Freimaurer
 “und guten Bruder, und bitten dieselben, Ihn bei
 “ihren Arbeiten in dem vorbenannten Grade zuzu-
 “lassen, und ihm brüderliche Freundschaft zu erzeigen,
 “die Wir zu erwidern Uns stets bestreben werden.

“Gegeben in Unserer G. u. V. Sct. Joh. □ *zum*
 “*eisernen Creutze* im Oriente von *Maynz* den *1ⁿ Maertz*
 “*1816.*”

“Nous Maitre en Chaire, Surveillans et Secretaire
 “de la T. R. J. & P. □ de S^t Jean à la croix de fer
 “contituée (constituée) et dirigée à l’Orient de *Mayence*
 “par la Grande Loge des Franc-maçons la Royale
 “York de l’Amitié, Certifions et attestons par le pré-
 “sent, que selon les loix et statuts de l’A. R. le Frere
 “*Pierre Isac Meyer, Negotiant* a été initié au *premier*
 “*Grade* à la Confraternité des Franc-maçons, et inscrit
 “en qualité d’*Apprentif Maçon* dans le tableau des
 “membres de Notre Loge.

“En Consequence Nous recommandons le dit Frere
 “*Meyer* dont la Signature est en marge, à toutes les
 “T. R. J. & P. Loges comme un vrai Franc-maçon
 “et bon Frere, et Nous Les prions, de l’admettre aux
 “travaux du grade susmentionné, et de lui témoigner
 “des amitiés fraternelles, que Nous serons toujours
 “empressés de reciproquer.

“Donné dans Notre J. & P. □ de St^t Jean à *la croix*
 “*de fer Seaute* à l’Orient de *Mayence* le *1^{er} Mars*
 “*1816.*”

“*Le Bauld de Nans.* { Meister vom Stuhl.
 { Maitre en Chaire.

“*v. Sacken.* { Erster Aufseher.
 { Premier Surveillant.

“*von Busse.* { Zweiter Aufseher.
 { Second Surveillant.

“*Meise.* { Secretarius.
 { Secretaire.

“*P. I. Meyer.* Ne Varietur. *Meise.* Secretair.

“Par Mandement de la S. Grande □ la R. Y. de l’A.
 “*Huulbeck.** Grand Secretaire. *d: 1^{er} Sptb. 1816.*”

[TRANSLATION.]

“We Worshipful Master, Wardens and Secretary
 “of the Very Worshipful Just and Perfect Lodge of
 “St. John, called ‘The Iron Cross,’ held at the Orient
 “of Maintz, and working under the Constitution and
 “direction of the Grand Lodge ‘Royal York of Friend-
 “ship,’ certify and declare that Brother Peter Isaac
 “Meyer, Merchant, has been admitted to the first
 “Degree of the Fraternity of Freemasons, according

* Huulbeck was Grand Secretary from 1809 to 1816.

“to the laws and regulations of the Royal Art, and
 “entered as an Apprentice on the Roll of Members
 “belonging to our Lodge.

“We therefore recommend the said Brother Meyer,
 “who has signed his name in the margin, to all
 “Worshipful, Just and Perfect Lodges, as a true Free-
 “mason and good Brother, and beg them to admit
 “him to their Lodges when working in the above-
 “mentioned Degree, and to show him all brotherly
 “friendship, which we shall always endeavour to
 “reciprocate.

“Given in our Just and Perfect Lodge of St. John,
 “called ‘The Iron Cross,’ held at the Orient of Maintz,
 “March 1st, 1816.”

At the foot is a red wax Seal, in the centre of
 which is a Pentalpha containing a Cross Patee, with
 the motto “SIGILLUM LATOMORUM COETUS CRUCIS
 FERREÆ. 1815.”

It will be noticed that the body of the Certificate
 is given in the French as well as in the German
 language, for the reason, probably, that during a con-
 siderable portion of the eighteenth century, the ritual,
 correspondence and general business of many German
 Lodges were conducted in the French language, and
 it was only after the overthrow of Napoleon in 1815,
 and the final emancipation of Germany from the
 French domination, that the German language came
 generally into use in the Lodges of that country.

The following short account of the Grand Lodge "Royal York of Friendship" and the Lodge of "The Iron Cross" is taken principally from a work recently published in Berlin.*

The history of the Grand Lodge "Royal York of Friendship" is particularly interesting to English Freemasons, because of its English name, and of the connection it had at different times in its career with the Grand Lodge of England.

In May, 1760, a petition was presented to the German Grand Lodge of "The Three Globes" (aux trois Globes), established in 1740, by certain French Brethren resident in Berlin, for a Warrant of Constitution, to enable them to meet as a Lodge under the title of "Peace and Joy" (de la paix et de la joie). This Lodge was constituted later in the same year or early in 1761, but under a different name, viz. "The Three Doves" (des trois Colombes), subsequently altered to "Friendship of the Three Doves" (de l'Amitié aux trois Colombes). This Lodge soon took a prominent position in Berlin, and on July 27th, 1765, H.R.H. Edward Augustus,† Duke of York, eldest brother of George III., King of Great Britain and Ireland, was initiated, passed and raised therein, together with his adjutant, Col. St. John, both being proposed by Graf von Bohlen, Ambassador of the King of Sweden. On the Duke's departure from Berlin in August, 1765, the members decided to alter

* "Geschichte der Grossen Loge von Preussen, genannt Royal York zur Freundschaft im Oriente von Berlin," by Bro. August Flohr, Past Deputy Grand Master.

† Born March 25th, 1739 ; died September 17th, 1767.

the name of the Lodge to "Royal York of Friendship" (La Loge Royale d'York de l'Amitié), and at their request, the Duke assumed the title of Patron of the Lodge. Later in the same year, the Lodge applied, through Col. St. John, to the Grand Lodge of England, for a Warrant of Affiliation. The application was favourably received, but it was not until St. John's Day, 1768, that the Warrant for the "Royal York" Lodge, No. 417, was handed over to the Berlin Brethren. Difficulties arose almost at the outset, and although the Lodge was kept on the English Register until 1813, it had already, as early as 1772, virtually relinquished its English Warrant, severed its connection with the Grand Lodge of England, and set up as an Independent Lodge.

Being composed at the outset almost exclusively of French Brethren, the whole of the ceremonies were for some years conducted in the French language, but in 1778 some portion of the ritual was given in German, whilst by the year 1794, the French language had been almost entirely discontinued, and a German ritual adopted for general use.

Early in the year 1798, the Lodge, which had already become a large and important one, split up into four separate Lodges, viz.: "Frederick William of Crowned Justice" (Friedrich Wilhelm zur gekrönten Gerechtigkeit), "Victorious Truth" (zur ziegenden Wahrheit), "Urania of Immortality" (Urania zur Unsterblichkeit), and "Pythagoras of the Blazing Star" (Pythagoras zum flammenden Stern), all of which met in Berlin. In June of the same year these four Lodges, together with three Daughter-lodges in Schweidnitz, Bromberg and Kalisch, joined together, and formed the Grand Lodge of Prussia, called "Royal York of

Friendship," being subsequently recognised by a Royal edict as the Just, Perfect and Independent Grand Mother-lodge "Royal York of Friendship" (die gerechte, vollkommene und vollendete Grosse Mutter-loge Royale York zur Freundschaft), by which name it is still known.

On December 20th, 1798, another English Royal Duke became a member of the Grand Lodge "Royal York of Friendship"; this was H.R.H. Frederick Augustus, Duke of Sussex,* sixth son of George III., who was initiated in one of the Lodges referred to above, viz.: "Victorious Truth." He was "passed" on January 19th of the following year, "raised" on February 4th, received the degrees of Perfect Scots Architect on March 6th, Master of Mount Heredom on March 10th, the Cross and Eagle on March 22nd, and Elect of the New Jerusalem on December 23rd,† these being the degrees then usually worked in the Lodge. The Duke seems to have taken an active part in the management of the Lodge, for he was elected Junior Warden in 1799, presided as Master, *pro. tem.*, at an Apprentice-lodge in July of that year, whilst on February 24th, 1800, he signed certain documents, by request, as Grand Master *ad interim*. On his return to England in the year 1800, the Duke brought about a closer union between the Grand Lodge "Royal York" and the Grand Lodge of England, accepting the position of Representative‡ of

* Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England from 1813 to 1843.

† This list of degrees is taken from Bro. R. F. Gould's "History of Freemasonry," Vol. III., p. 263.

‡ The Duke's Patent of Appointment as Representative from the Grand Lodge "Royal York of Friendship" to the Grand Lodge of England, is now in the possession of Bro. G. W. Bain of Sunderland. It is an exceedingly interesting document, and was described and transcribed in *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*, Vol. VIII., p. 3.

the German Grand Lodge to that body, and resuscitating the old friendship between the two Grand Lodges. He continued to act as Representative of the Grand Lodge "Royal York" until the year 1839, when upon his resigning the position, he was elected an Honorary Member of the German Lodge. In the following year, in writing to the Berlin Brethren, he referred to the many happy hours he had spent in their Lodge, and in 1842 presented them with a signed portrait of himself.

The Grand Lodge continued to prosper, representatives were exchanged with other Grand Lodges, its membership increased year by year, while by the year 1828 its Daughter-lodges already numbered forty-two.

In 1840 Prince William, afterwards King of Prussia and Emperor William I. of Germany, honored the Grand Lodge by accepting the title of Patron, and continued to extend his protection to it until his death in 1888, when his son Frederick III., husband of the Princess Royal of England, who had been joint-Patron with his father since 1861, continued Patron of the Grand Lodge for the few remaining weeks of his life.

For many years Prince Louis William August of Baden, brother of the reigning Grand Duke Frederick, was Honorary Grand Master, while the same honorable office has been held subsequently by Prince Heinrich zu Schoenaich-Carolath, a member of the Prussian Upper House. At the present time H.R.H. Prince Frederick Leopold of Prussia is Protector and Patron of the Grand Lodge.

During the one hundred years of its existence—1798-1898—the Grand Lodge "Royal York of Friend-

ship" has warranted ninety-six Daughter-lodges, of which sixty-six are still in active work. Its career throughout seems to have been marked by increasing prosperity, and the Lodge appears to be established on a firm and lasting basis.

The history of the Lodge of the "Iron Cross" (zum eisernen Creutze) Maintz, is briefly as follows. In the year 1815, Bro. Le Bauld de Nans Junior, son of a former Master of the "Royal York of Friendship,"* an officer and subsequently a General of Engineers in the Prussian service, being temporarily located in the city of Maintz, was instrumental in establishing a Lodge under the name of the "Iron Cross" in the third Prussian Army-corps then stationed in that city. Like his father, Bro. Le Bauld de Nans Junior was a most enthusiastic Mason, and besides the one at Maintz, also took part in the establishment of the following Lodges, viz.: "Victorious Truth" (zur siegenden Wahrheit), Kosel, in 1813, the "Three Wreaths" (zu den drei Kränzen), Torgau, in 1818, "Harpocrates," Magdeburg, in 1826, and the "Faithful Union" (zum treuen Verein), Wittenberg, in 1828.

The Lodge of the "Iron Cross" was opened on July 22nd, 1815, Bro. Le Bauld de Nans Junior being the first Master. In 1817 the Lodge severed its connection with the army, and resolved itself into

* Bro. Le Bauld, or as he subsequently called himself, Bro. Le Bauld de Nans the elder, was a most energetic member of the Lodge "Royal York of Friendship." He was a French comedian, and came from Mannheim to Berlin in the year 1776, where he became subsequently a teacher of languages and editor of a French literary paper. He was Master of the Lodge from 1788 to 1792.

a permanent Lodge for the city of Maintz, but its career was full of changes for the following thirty years. In 1822 it amalgamated with Lodge "Ludwig of Concord" (Ludwig zur Eintracht), which from 1819 had belonged to the "Eclectic Union";* by permission of the Grand Duke of Hesse, it continued the latter name, but still worked under the Grand Lodge "Royal York of Friendship." Fifteen years later, it again combined with the Lodge of "United Friends" (der vereinigten Freunde), and severed its connection with the "Royal York" on September 4th, 1837. From the year 1838 to the year 1844, this combined Lodge was attached to the "Eclectic Union," under the name given to it by the Grand Duke, of the "Friends of Concord" (die Freunde zur Eintracht), whilst in 1846 it joined the new Grand Lodge of "Concord," Darmstadt, on its establishment, and under which name and authority it still works.

The foregoing sketch will give to English Brethren a brief account of a foreign Grand Lodge, which from its relations with English Royal Masons, and the Grand Lodge of England, cannot fail to prove of some interest.

J. T. T.



* Mother Grand Lodge of the "Eclectic Union" at Frankfort a. M., was originally an English private Lodge in 1742.

Rev. Samuel Oliver.

EVERY reading Mason knows something of the works of Dr. George Oliver, one of the most prolific Masonic writers of his time, but very few, probably, have heard of his father, Rev. Samuel Oliver, from whom he derived his love for the Craft, and who was initiated in St. John's Lodge, Leicester, towards the end of the eighteenth century. A short account of this Masonic worthy may therefore prove acceptable.*

Rev. Samuel Oliver was descended from an old Scotch family, and was born about the year 1751. He was partly educated by the celebrated mathematician, Thomas Simpson, the higher branches of science being so much to his taste, that he studied them with an ardour that placed him nearly on a level with his master. He also devoted himself to the study and practice of astrology, and frequently astonished the natives by erecting horoscopic figures, calculating nativities, and performing experiments in chemistry.

Nothing further is known of his early years, except that in February, 1782, he married Elizabeth, the daughter of George Whitehead, Esq., of Bestwood Hall, in the County of Nottingham.

* This account is partly taken from the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review*, 1847, p. 301 *et seq.*

In the year 1788, he was appointed by Lord Denbigh to the head-mastership of Lutterworth Grammar School, and entered on his duties with such zeal and earnestness, that he soon filled his house with boarders, sometimes having upwards of fifty under his care, and established a reputation for learning and scientific acquirements, which was of the greatest service to him. About this time Oliver exhibited tokens of stability and endurance, which would astonish many at the present day. He attended his school with great diligence and assiduity, including the management and tuition of his fifty boarders, six days in the week; on Saturday evenings he rode forty miles to his curacies, on Sundays performed three full duties, and returned home in the evening, generally arriving about midnight; at seven o'clock on Monday mornings he was again in his desk at school.

Oliver was initiated into Freemasonry in St. John's Lodge, No. 471 (now 279) Leicester, on July 12th, 1797, being "passed" and "raised" on September 6th following. On Lodge-nights he set off from Lutterworth after his day's work, usually on foot, to Leicester, thirteen miles distant, returning after Lodge business was over, and notwithstanding the distance, attended the Lodge as regularly as any of the other Members.

As early as the year 1780 Oliver had turned his attention to poetry, a Pastoral Hymn written by him being printed in the *Gentlemen's Diary* of that year,—and subsequently set to music. After his initiation, he wrote "Twelve Masonic Songs (one for every Lodge Night between St. John Baptist's day 1797, and St. John Baptist's day 1798)," and presented them "to the worthy Brethren of St. John's Lodge Leicester No. 471," one especially written for the

Installation Festival being subsequently added. In June, 1860, the original manuscript of these thirteen songs, was presented to the Leicester Freemasons' Hall Library by his eldest son, the well-known Dr. George Oliver, on his election as Honorary Member of St. John's Lodge. Several of these songs have already been printed in old Masonic Magazines, but as half a century has since elapsed, and they are quite unknown to the present generation of Freemasons, a few of them are printed with this article, to show the style of song in vogue at that period.

About the year 1800 he left Lutterworth, and resided at Gotham in Nottinghamshire, as curate of that place and Ruddington, removing the following year to Whaplode* in Lincolnshire. After leaving Leicestershire he joined the Union Lodge, No. 199 Nottingham, now extinct, but continued to evince his interest in St. John's Lodge, by occasional visits in various years after his removal from the County.

He remained at Whaplode, as curate, for forty years,—preaching three times every Sunday, although paid for preaching once only—until the death of the vicar in 1842. When a new incumbent was appointed, he was removed from the curacy without the slightest remuneration, at the advanced age of ninety years. Fortunately, a few months afterwards, he was presented to the living of Lambley near Nottingham,—value £700—which became a comfortable retreat for his latter days. Here he died, after a short illness, on August 9th, 1847, aged 96 years, greatly respected by his parishioners, three generations of his posterity following him to the grave.

* This village is near Holbeach; the tithe, which is stated to exceed £1,000 a year, goes principally to Oakham and Uppingham Schools.

The following are some specimens of his verses :—

Origin of Masonry.

Tune : “ Anacreon in Heaven.”

Once the Gods in full council petition'd old Jove,
 That he would establish, in Synod divine,
 An ORDER of purity, friendship and love,
 Where the full blaze of light should eternally shine.
 Where bab'ling and tale
 And discord should fail,
 Nor wrangling, nor clamour, nor falsehood prevail.

Chorus :—

But peace, truth and harmony constantly sway
 The minds of its members by night and by day.

Jove smil'd his consent, and approv'd of the scheme,
 Swore by Styx he would patronize Concord for
 life :

Ex pede Alcides—says Momus—you dream ;
 Where is Concord, dread sire, with your termagant
 Wife ?

Fulminator content
 Was, to give his consent,
 That the Goddesses should from its meetings be sent.

Chorus :—So should peace, truth, &c.

The Muses, the Graces, the Sciences seven,
 Ne'er harbour'd resentment against this decree ;
 But join'd to endow this new offspring of Heaven
 With celestial perfections, in ev'ry degree.

Whilst Olympus did gaze on,
 They seiz'd the occasion,
 To hail this rich ORDER, and name it FREE-MASON.

Chorus :—Now peace, truth, &c.

First Mars was dubb'd TYLER, Bacchus fill'd WARDEN'S
 station,

SENIOR DEACON next Mercury quickly did prove,
 With Neptune the MASTER, Phœbus ROYAL ARCH
 Mason,

KNIGHT TEMPLAR and Patron of Masons was Jove.
 The LECTURE went round,
 Then did Nectar abound,
 Good Fellowship first with FREE-MASONS was found.

Chorus :—Now peace, truth, &c.

Then Mercury straight was commanded to bear
 The secrets of MASONRY down to the Earth,
 With instructions grand Columns and Temples to rear,
 And Palaces, thus had FREE-MASONRY birth.

“Come let us prepare,
 “We brothers that are”

To rend, with loud Pæans, Earth, Sky, Sea and Air.

Chorus :—

Let peace, truth and harmony constantly sway
 Our minds and our actions by night and by day.

TOAST :—“Peace, Truth and Harmony.”
 With ye honours of Masonry.

*Another version of this song was printed in the
 “Freemasons' Quarterly Review” for 1841.*

The Chaplain's Song.

Tune: Eve's Hymn in the Oratorio of "Abel."

Descend, guardian Angels, descend,
 Let Masonry still be your care;
 From impious profaneness defend
 All Masons who act on the square.
 A Mason possess'd of his tools,
 Obeys the Grand Architect's nod,
 His actions he constantly rules
 By the precepts and mandates of GOD.

Should false friends, or false brethren assail,
 Should misfortunes collect in a crowd,
 Their wickedness ne'er can prevail,
 The pillar protects him, and cloud.
 To him is true happiness given,
 In paths of pure peace he has trod,
 In the road to a structure in Heaven,
 Whose builder and maker is GOD.

Set apart from the rest of mankind,
 He is view'd with astonishment's gaze,
 Approaching perfection, you'll find,
 He still keeps the world in amaze.
 Three cardinal virtues unite,
 Form the mystical rounds to be trod;
 By a ladder most gloriously bright,
 Masons mount from this world to their GOD.

Though he wander'd forlorn in the night,
 In original darkness immur'd ;
 How refulgent the new beams of light
 Now dispel'd the thick gloom he endur'd.
 In knowledge and virtue when ripe,
 Comfort springs like the herb from each sod,
 Of that glory eternal a type,
 Which streams from the throne of his GOD.

TOAST:—"The light and truth of Masonry."
 With the honours of Masonry.

*Another version of this song was printed in the
 "Freemasons' Quarterly Review" for 1842.*

The newly initiated Master's Song.

Tune: "Ballinamona oro."

As journeying in darkness thro' life's toilsome way,
 The cheerful light darting not one feeble ray,
 No friendly companion my sorrows to smother,
 Kind fortune at last sent a true-hearted Brother.

His words smooth as oil, and as honey were sweet,
 He guided my path and directed my feet :
 He myst'ries and dangers with me did explore,
 Thro' a lab'rynth of horrors I ne'er trod before.

The terrors of darkness encompass'd me round,
 But light, truth and friendship I speedily found :
 No suspicion of falsehood can ever appear
 To proceed from a Mason who acts on the square.

By signs and words guarded, like Arguses eyes ;
 All guile and deceit a Free Mason defies :
 He lives within compass, he works with his tools,
 And levels his ways by the Grand Master's rules.

At length quite enlighten'd ; experience and truth
 Beam'd rays of refulgence from East, West and South,
 I never beheld so resplendent a scene,
 And none but a Mason can tell what I mean.

Indued with the badge of my glorious station,
 And honours exceeding the grand installation,
 With pageantry pompous, of orient Kings,
 No mortals but Masons could give me such things.

No longer in darkness I now grope my way,
 Illum'd by the beauty and glory of Day :
 The dense mists of error that clouded my sight
 Are dispers'd and destroy'd by the science of Light.

So now being fearful I trespass too long,
 I beg to conclude with my thanks and my song ;
 Your praises, dear Brethren, I'll sing while I've breath,
 In the Grand Lodge above may we meet after death.

TOAST :—"May all true Masons meet in the Grand
 Lodge above."

*Another version of this song was printed in
 Dr. Geo. Oliver's "Revelations of a Square."*

Universal Charity.

Pythagoras once, on emergent occasion,
 As records of Masonry tell us,
 He summon'd to meet, at his Lodge of Free Masons
 All worthy good Brothers and Fellows.

Chorus :—

For Masons are worthy, and Masons are free ;
 Love and Friendship for ever their motto shall be.

Being met in due form, the Lodge properly tyl'd,
 In the lowest of vallies in Greece ;
 From the heights of Olympus, contemptuous, Jove
 smil'd,
 Saying, when will men's whimsies decrease ?

Chorus :—But Masons &c.

He view'd with attention their actions below,
 And his face was deform'd with a frown ;
 Impatient the secret of Masons to know,
 On a rainbow sent Mercury down.

Chorus :—For Masons &c.

Quick Hermes return'd with this answer to Jove,
 (Having Masonry trac'd from its birth),
 They're cemented by harmony, friendship and love,
 Their Lodge is Elysium on Earth.

Chorus :—For Masons &c.

Their scheme comprehends the whole race of mankind,
 Universal their Charity flows ;
 With Sympathy's feeling, with Liberty's mind,
 The bosom of Masonry glows.

Chorus :—For Masons &c.

Jove brighten'd his face to complacency's smile,
 Search'd with candour the pages of Fate ;
 He found it recorded—"in Britain's fair Isle
 "Shall Masonry flourish in state."

Chorus :—For Masons &c.

When all other Orders shall vanish away,
 And earth to its centre be riven ;
 When Time, and all human inventions decay,
 Still the Science shall flourish in Heaven.

Chorus :—For Masons &c.

Then Masons be steady, united and true,
 Persevere—you've the sanction of Fate ;
 Mount the Ladder of Science, with virtue in view,
 Envy never can discord create.

Chorus :—For Masons &c.

TOAST :—"Universal Charity"—with the
 Honours of Masonry.

*Another version of this song was printed with the Music
 (also composed by the Rev. Samuel Oliver) in the
 "Freemasons' Quarterly Review," 1849, p. 344.*

Song for April 1798.

Tune: "Bow wow wow."

Come listen round the Lodge to a young brother
 Mason,
 Who now, because it is your wish, will put a singing
 face on ;
 Who always honour'd Lodges free, his Bottle ne'er
 neglected,
 And now gives out a Sentiment, "may merit be
 respected."

Chorus :—Whilst Life wears away,
 Let Friendship Love and Mirth improve,
 With each succeeding Day.

Come charge again my brothers all, your glasses quick
 be filling,
 I'll quickly give another toast, supposing you are
 willing :
 And now, *allons*, "the King and Craft," come pledge
 me round the table,
 For to support a cause like this we'll drink whilst we
 are able.

Chorus :—Whilst Life &c.

You all are empty once again ; come fill your
 bumpers faster,
 Let's drink "His Highness George of Wales, our
 Grand and Royal Master!"

No Mortals upon earth e'er did, or ever shall take
 place on's,
 So now we'll toast "the Princes all," they're free,
 accepted Masons.

Chorus :—As Life &c.

Such Nobles being now my theme, I can't omit
 another,
 "May he who represents the Prince continue still a
 Brother :"
 A higher title can't be given, no higher does he
 claim, Sir,
 So take a swimming brimmer unto Moira's glorious
 name, Sir.

Chorus :—As Life &c.

Now toast "Our Grand Provincials all," give each a
 sep'rate charger,
 We'd take 'em off and fill again, tho' they were ten
 times larger ;
 Yet Temperance shall be our guide, enjoying fit
 occasion,
 "May failings all divested be, at each initiation."

Chorus :—As Life &c.

Being safe immur'd in Lodge secure, and being safely
 tyled,
 Here confidence and secrecy are of all fears
 beguiled ;

I'll give "the Lining of the Lodge," deriv'd from
 powers above, Sir,
 That's—what each Master Mason knows—join'd with
 fraternal love, Sir.

Chorus :—As Life &c.

"All worthy Masons" next we'll toast ; next "all that
 are distress'd ;"
 "May modest merit meet reward, and never be
 oppress'd ;"
 "May every Mason prove thro' life a Man in ev'ry
 part," Sir,
 "Distinguish'd by integrity and rectitude of heart,"
 Sir.

Chorus :—Whilst Life &c.

What,—are you tir'd? Well, so am I :—I'll quickly
 cease my bawling :
 No longer will I interrupt my Brethren in their
 calling ;
 Sententiously I thus conclude, nor doubt but you'll
 approve, Sir,
 "May Masons all the Password have into the Lodge
 above," Sir.

Chorus :—Whilst Life &c.

TOAST :—"Masonic Excellence"—with the
 Honours of Masonry.

Song for the Festival.

Tune : " Highland Laddie."

Now seated round the festive board,
 Illum'd with friendship, wit and reason ;
 With Justice, Strength and Prudence stored,
 And Temperance our mirth shall season.

Chorus :—

Oh! the happy happy festive meeting!
 The happy friendly festive meeting!
 Where mirth and Glee and Song are free,
 Each Brother kindly Brother greeting.

The power supreme we all regard,
 With truth and secrecy unbroken ;
 Who'll Faith and Hope and Love reward
 And in whose sight all hearts are open.

*Chorus :—*Oh! the happy &c.

Each Mason here his duty knows,
 I dare presume, without rehearsal :
 As Ocean round the Globe still flows,
 Our Charity is universal.

*Chorus :—*Oh! the happy &c.

Morality, fraternal love,
 And fervent friendship, rule our actions ;
 In pleasant paths of peace we move,
 Nor jealousy e'er breeds distractions.

*Chorus :—*Oh! the happy &c.

Progressive thus in virtue's light
 We walk, befriending and befriended :
 To Lodge above, in regions bright,
 We hope to mount when Time is ended.

Chorus :—Oh! the happy &c.

All zealous Masons I commend
 To persevere in social duty ;
 Your lights will glorious Sol transcend
 Adorn'd with Wisdom, Strength and Beauty.

Chorus :—Oh! the happy &c.

Several other songs could be added, but those already given will suffice to show the kind of verse bequeathed by the Rev. Samuel Oliver to a later generation of Freemasons.

J. T. T.



PLATE I.



GEORGE, 2ND LORD RANCLIFFE.

(FROM A PAINTING BY T. BARBER, NOTTINGHAM, 1838.)

Vide p. 3.

PLATE II.



MASONIC BENEFIT SOCIETY.

CERTIFICATE.

Vide p. 20.

PLATE III.



MONUMENT IN ST. MARGARET'S CHURCHYARD, LEICESTER.

Erected to the memory of Andrew, 5th Lord Rollo.



Wir, Meister vom Stuhl, Aufseher und Secretair
 der unter Constitution und Direction der Grossen Freimaurer Loge
 Royale York zur Freundschaft bestehenden F. E. S. und V.
 im Ort von Mainz
 Bezugsen und langhunden Biederkeit das nach den Gesetzen und Statuten der F. E.
 der Bruder *Felix Bue Meyer* eingeworren
 in die Freimaurer Bruderschaft im ersten Grade aufgenommen und als Lehrling
 in die Versammlung der Mitglieder unserer Loge zugelassen worden ist
 Wir empfehlen daher Ihn, den geduldeten Bruder *Meyer*
 dessen Signatur hierneben befindlich ist, allen F. E. S. und V. Logen als einen
 rechten Freimaurer und guten Bruder, und bitten dieselben, Ihn bei ihrem Arbeiten
 in dem vorbestimmten Grade zuzulassen, und ihm brüderliche Freundschaft zu
 erzeigen, die Wir zu erwirken Ihn sehr begehren werden.
 Gegeben im Hofen F. E. S. und V. im Ort von Mainz den 12. März 1816.

Nous Maître en Chaire, Surveillans et Secretaire
 de la F. R. S. P. de la Croix de Fer
 constituée et dirigée à l'Orient de Mayence
 par la Grande Loge des Franc-maçons la Royale York de l'Amicitie
 Certifions et attestons par le présent, que selon les loix et statuts de la F. R. S. P.
 de la Croix de Fer, le frère *Felix Bue Meyer* a été admis au premier Grade à la Confraternité des Franc-maçons, et inscrit
 en qualité d'apprentif Maçon dans le tableau des membres de Notre Loge.
 En conséquence Nous recommandons à dit Frère *Meyer*
 dont la Signature est en marge, à toutes les F. R. S. P. Loges comme un vrai
 Franc-maçon et bon Frère, et Nous Le prions, de l'admettre aux travaux
 du grade susmentionné, et de lui témoigner des amitiés fraternelles,
 que Nous ferons toujours empeser de reconnaître.
 Donné dans Notre F. R. S. P. de la Croix de Fer le 12 Mars 1816.

Meyer
N. V. A. M. S. S.
 Secretaire

Karl Goldschmidt
 Meister vom Stuhl
 Maître en Chaire

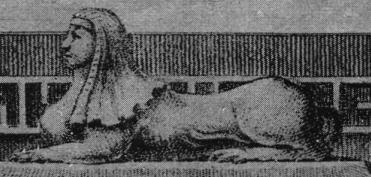
L. S. S.
 Aufseher
 Premier Surveillant



von Busse
 Zweiter Aufseher
 Second Surveillant

J. S. S.
 Secretaire

Par Mandement
 de la S. G. M. S. S.
 du G. M. S. S.
 du G. M. S. S.
 du G. M. S. S.
 du G. M. S. S.



LODGE OF "THE IRON CROSS," MAINTZ.

CERTIFICATE.